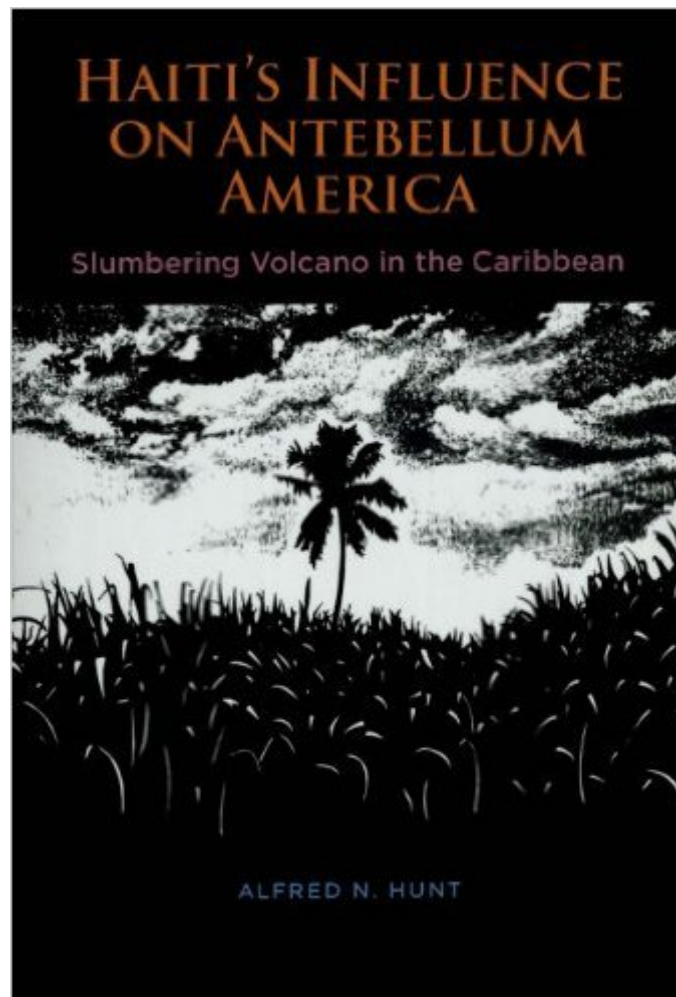


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# Haiti's Influence On Antebellum America: Slumbering Volcano In The Caribbean



## Synopsis

The Haitian Revolution began in 1791 as a slave revolt on the French colonial island of Saint Domingue and ended thirteen years later with the founding of an independent black republic. Waves of French West Indians -- slaves, white colonists, and free blacks -- fled the upheaval and flooded southern U.S. ports -- most notably New Orleans -- bringing with them everything from French opera to voodoo. Alfred N. Hunt discusses the ways these immigrants affected southern agriculture, architecture, language, politics, medicine, religion, and the arts. He also considers how the events in Haiti influenced the American slavery-emancipation debate and spurred developments in black militancy and Pan-Africanism in the United States. By effecting the development of racial ideology in antebellum America, Hunt concludes, the Haitian Revolution was a major contributing factor to the attitudes that led to the Civil War.

## Book Information

File Size: 951 KB

Print Length: 213 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: 0807113700

Publisher: LSU Press; 1 edition (August 1, 2006)

Publication Date: August 1, 2006

Sold by:Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00B10JGO4

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #734,377 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #120

inÂ Books > History > Americas > Caribbean & West Indies > Haiti #268 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > History > Americas > Caribbean & West Indies #848 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > History > Americas > United States > State & Local > South

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