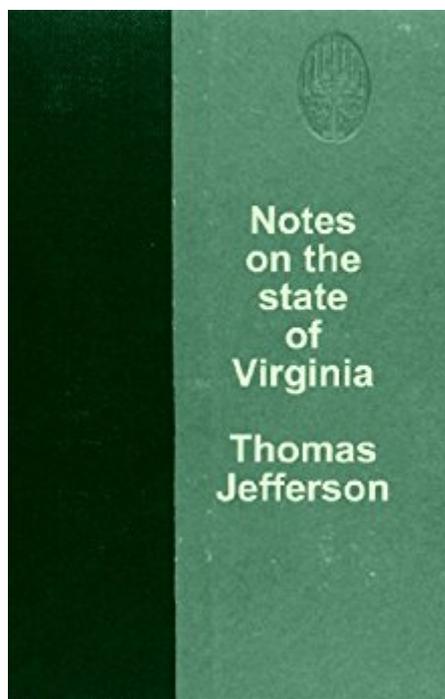


The book was found

Notes On The State Of Virginia



Synopsis

Excerpt: The following Notes were written in Virginia in the year 1781, and somewhat corrected and enlarged in the winter of 1782, in answer to Queries proposed to the Author, by a Foreigner of Distinction, then residing among us. The subjects are all treated imperfectly; some scarcely touched on. To apologize for this by developing the circumstances of the time and place of their composition, would be to open wounds which have already bled enough. To these circumstances some of their imperfections may with truth be ascribed; the great mass to the want of information and want of talents in the writer. He had a few copies printed, which he gave among his friends: and a translation of them has been lately published in France, but with such alterations as the laws of the press in that country rendered necessary. They are now offered to the public in their original form and language.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The book is written much like an epic poem- with lists of river, towns, economic conditions etc in 1780s. But also much more: His feeling on race. He obviously did not hate blacks, proposed a theory that they were less intelligent, had an aesthetic view of man akin to Gulliver's Travels and the horses. Theory of education is much akin to European model of today, much better than current theories in use. He opposed multiculturalism and opposed teaching children religion in schools or

anyplace else, preferring Greek, Roman and European histories and philosophy for guidance of children. The difference between the America he wanted and the reality of today is striking. Which is better? Each must judge, but this is a must read book.

For those who are fascinated with the life and genius of Thomas Jefferson, this Kindle edition is invaluable. In his letters, Jefferson mentions the Notes several times. Written during the Revolutionary War, it gives his perspective on the state of commerce, wild life, relations with Native Americans, and his personal thoughts on slavery. As an original-source document, it is without a doubt one of the best ways of getting to know Jefferson the man. The only issue the Kindle edition has is that charts show up very small, unlike the text, but they are decipherable.

Thomas Jefferson's "Notes on the State of Virginia" is a brilliant piece of history, sociology, law, geology, government, and science. This work, Jefferson's only book, shows his powerful, brilliant mind at its best. Jefferson shows the depth of his knowledge, not just on his own beautiful state, but on human nature itself. Some of the gems in this work are his views on education, advocating free public education for all, free government, advocating a revision of the defective original Virginia Constitution. His knowledge of slavery, and the Indian races before his eyes are from personal experience and observation. Although painted by the deconstructionist left as a "racist" Jefferson was a dangerous radical to the Virginia gentry due to his advocacy of emancipation and deportation of slaves. His views on black inferiority are exaggerated since he placed them forth as a scientific hypothesis based on personal observation. Jefferson could not see a "multicultural" society in America made up of former masters and slaves with resentment and prejudice still in the hearts of both. Many of his predictions about race relations have come true: hate, resentment, power struggles, and a continuing obsession which he foresaw would destroy the America Republic. The best edited version of the is Koch and Peden's edited on in "The Life and Selected Writings of Thomas Jefferson", but the full Notes is very good, but the reader must be prepared for numerous charts and tables. Overall a great book, and buy!

The more I read about Jefferson and by Jefferson the more I understand just how complicated he was. There are some aspects of his life and personality that seem impossible to reside within one person. Lots more reading to do but this is a must read.

I love it for many reasons. The first one is that it was free for me! Secondly, it is in my time period of

study. It is a primary source of a President and of properties, etc. There are things that we may not think of as accurate now, but for his time, he was not only accurate in thought, but also scientifically. This is his opinions bound up for us. Even if you do not like his politics, it is an interesting read. You will find out that he really was a Diest! Gasp! Not what is being said about him now. Go ahead and read it, I dare you.

There wasn't anything really special about this book. In fact, most of the interesting and telling information occurs in the last few chapters. But, if you're looking for a historical book that lists every nook and cranny almost of Virginia, then this is it.

I recomend The book which was edited with an introduction and notes by William Peden. I have an original copy of "Notes on the State of Virginia" Second American edition Printed in 1797, on loan to the Monticello, (of which I am willing to part with at the right price). This was a hard book to understand, once I read the one edited by William Peden, I had a much better understanding of what Mr. Jefferson wrote, as well as the history of Mr. Jefferson's efforts in acheaving it's final contents.

This document testifies to Thomas Jefferson's true opinions on Africans as a race of people, which was denigrating and coarse. One can compare his writing on the freedoms in the new American republic and his pride in them as a founding patriot, with what he thought of slaves and their intellectual and cultural capacities to function as free people in a free society. He offers a solution to issues around emancipation that would involve deporting all people of African descent, and replacing them by attracting people of the white race to leave their countries and come to America. Jefferson also writes that he fears for the effects that the brutality of the practice of slavery will have on the future of America, as well as God's wrath.

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