Rebellion, Reconstruction, and Redemption, 1861–1893
The History of Beaufort County, South Carolina, Volume 2
Stephen R. Wise and Lawrence S. Rowland
With Gerhard Spieler
Foreword by Alexander Moore

In Rebellion, Reconstruction, and Redemption, 1861–1893, the second of three volumes on the history of Beaufort County, Stephen R. Wise and Lawrence S. Rowland offer details about the district from 1861 to 1893, also incorporating the development of South Carolina and the nation. During a span of thirty years, the region was transformed by the crucible of war from a wealthy, slave-based white oligarchy to a county where former slaves dominated a new, radically democratic political economy.

This volume begins where volume 1 concludes, the November 1861 Union capture and occupation of the Sea Islands clustered around Port Royal Sound and the Confederate retreat and reentrenchment on Beaufort District’s mainland, where they fended off federal attacks for three and a half years and vainly attempted to maintain their prewar life. In addition to chronicling military actions that revolutionized warfare, Wise and Rowland offer an original, sophisticated study of the famous Port Royal Experiment in which United States military officers, government officials, civilian Northerners, African American soldiers, and liberated slaves transformed the Union-occupied corner of the Palmetto State into a laboratory for liberty and a working model of the post–Civil War New South.

The revolution wrought by Union victory and the Reconstruction of South Carolina was followed by a counterrevolution called Redemption, the organized campaign of Southern whites, defeated in the war, to regain hegemony over African Americans. While former slave-owning, antiblack “Redeemers” took control of mainland Beaufort County, they were thwarted on the Sea Islands, where African Americans retained power and kept reaction at bay.

July 2015, 736 pages, 77 b&w illustrations
Aug 23, 2015 - Rebellion, Reconstruction, and Redemption, 1861-1893: The History of Beaufort County, South Carolina, Volume 2 | Stephen R. Wise and Lawrence S. Rowland With Gerhard Spieler | Foreword by Alexander Moore | The continued history of Beaufort County, South Carolina, during and following the Civil War. #SCLowcountry #SCCivilWar #SCReconstruction. Rebellion, Reconstruction, and Redemption, 1861-1893: The History of Beaufort County, South Carolina, Volume 2 | Stephen R. Wise and Lawrence S. Rowland With Gerhard Spieler | Foreword by Alexander Moore | The continued history of Beaufort County, South Carolina, during and following the Civil War. #SCLowcountry #SCCivilWar #SCReconstruction.