

emancipation experiences. Briefly comparing the former with that of Soviet nation-building, he observes that southern slavery provided “a poor cornerstone on which to build national commitment at home or national support abroad” (p. 92). Finally, Kolchin shares some of his current research into emancipation in the nineteenth-century South and Russia. He describes the striking contrasts in the emancipation process in the two societies and is intrigued as to how the outcomes were nonetheless similar. In providing some tentative answers, Kolchin, here as elsewhere in this engaging volume, reveals himself to be not only a shrewd practitioner of the comparativist’s art but also a historian of unusual perceptiveness and accessibility.

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MARTIN CRAWFORD

Anna Madgigine Jai Kingsley: African Princess, Florida Slave, Plantation Slaveowner. By Daniel L. Schafer. (Gainesville and other cities: University Press of Florida, c. 2003. Pp. xiv, 177. \$24.95, ISBN 0-8130-2616-4.)

Daniel L. Schafer first became “haunted” by Anna Kingsley when he visited the Kingsley Plantation in 1975 (p. xi). Over the next several decades, research in Florida, England, and Senegal helped Schafer “know the Kingsley family well enough to separate legend from fact,” produce this biography, and compile data for a biography of Zephaniah Kingsley in the process (p. xi). Born in Senegambia in the late eighteenth century, Anta Majigeen Ndaiye (later called Anna) became a slave sometime around 1806. It was then that she arrived in Havana, where Zephaniah Kingsley bought her and two other women, later taking them to his home near St. Augustine, Florida. Although Zephaniah acquired Anna like any other slave, he regarded her as his wife throughout his life. After nearly five years as Zephaniah’s slave—and wife and deputy plantation manager—Anna received her freedom, as did the couple’s several small children and a number of other slaves with personal or kinship ties to Anna. As a free woman, Anna became a substantial property owner. She retained both freedom and property even after Florida’s transfer to American rule and despite her white sister-in-law’s effort to disinherit Zephaniah’s black and mixed-race family. By the time of Anna’s death in 1870, however, her estate had neither property nor debts. Anna’s property had dwindled into nothingness during the Civil War. Her children and grandchildren also lost most of their wealth, but they remained small-scale property owners and heirs to an unusual legacy of pre-war freedom and consequence.

Anna Kingsley’s life spawned legends on both sides of the Atlantic, and Schafer seeks to prove one aspect of the legend, that Anna was the daughter of a noble Wolof family. He makes a plausible case for her ancestry from contemporary African scholarship and Senegalese griots’ oral histories. Schafer is equally careful in using a variety of sources to trace Anna’s life and link it to macrohistorical events across the African diaspora. In addition, by making Anna’s story the anchor for a multigenerational extended family history, he can both explore her independence and show that she succeeded with, through, and for her family. Schafer also makes an important comment about southern whites’ view of family by demonstrating how Zephaniah Kingsley’s white sons-in-law and two of his nephews helped the black Kingsleys, their

friends, and their clients form a free black community in Florida's Duval County before the Civil War. Last but not least, the narrative's brevity and drama will make it a useful text in undergraduate courses on slavery, the South, and women's history, where its strengths and weaknesses alike should provoke animated discussion.

Perhaps the greatest of those weaknesses is that the narrative of an "African princess" becoming a slave, a planter's wife, and then a planter in her own right lends itself to romanticization. This tendency might have been avoided by situating Anna's story within southern women's historiography. Schafer's perspective stems from African and diaspora history, and he largely ignores southern women's history and gender analysis. Instead of drawing larger conclusions about Anna, her daughters, and the other propertied women in her vicinity, he argues simply that Anna and her family led "meaningful lives . . . worthy of commemoration" (p. 122). Nevertheless, attentive readers will recognize that Schafer's research contributes to a growing literature on the possibilities for slave women's emancipation, especially in Spanish territory, and for propertied women's social and economic power in the Old South.

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The Naval War of 1812: A Documentary History. Volume III: 1814–1815, Chesapeake Bay, Northern Lakes, and Pacific Ocean. Edited by Michael J. Crawford and others. Foreword by William S. Dudley. (Washington, D.C.: Naval Historical Center, Department of the Navy, 2002. Pp. xlviii, 874. \$70.00, ISBN 0-16-051224-7.)

This is the third of four volumes of documents assembled by the Naval Historical Center in Washington treating naval aspects of the War of 1812. The first volume covered the origins of the war through December 1812, while the second dealt with events in 1813. The remaining period of the war (January 1814–May 1815) is to be covered in two volumes, proceeding by theater of war rather than chronologically. Thus, the volume reviewed here is divided into three sections that treat the Chesapeake Bay, northern lakes, and Pacific Ocean theaters. Volume IV will cover the same time frame for the Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico, and Indian Ocean.

Volume III opens with a discussion of the period by Director of Naval History William S. Dudley. In his preface, the general editor of the volume, Michael J. Crawford, head of the Early History Branch, discusses the general approach and sources utilized. This is followed by a list of documents and page numbers, lists of illustrations and maps, a discussion of the editorial method, and lists of repository symbols and abbreviations used to describe documents. The vast majority of the documents are of an official nature, such as letters to and from the secretary of the navy and captains, entries from logs and journals, and letters from private citizens to the secretary of the navy. In an effort to provide greater balance, Crawford has included more documents from the British perspective than were contained in the two previous volumes. In the presentation of the documents, numbered footnotes provide clarification or additional information about people, places, and events mentioned in the text.