



The Rogue Republic: How Would-Be Patriots Waged the Shortest Revolution in Ameri

By Davis, William C.

Houghton Mifflin. 1 Cloth(s), 2011. hard. Book Condition: New. In 1810 the wilds of West Floridatoday parts of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama, as well as Florida's panhandlewere populated by a mix of former British colonials, Spanish royalists, and American frontier settlers. Britain had ceded the territory to Spain, but in the Napoleonic era Spain's increasing mismanagement of the region impelled a band of American settlers, led by boatman and storekeeper Reuben Kemper and his brothers, to institute a vigilante force, revolt against Spain, and draft their own constitution. Peopled throughout with such lively and enterprising figures, this book by the author of *The Pirates Laffite* is a colorful history of a forgotten rebellion. By the time President Madison sent troops to occupy the territory after the Louisiana Purchase, the independent Republic of West Florida had already been in existence for 78 days."A significant study of an obscure but highly revealing moment in American history. Not only does [William] Davis cast a bright light into these murky corners of our national past, he does so with a grace and clarity equal to the best historical writing today."Kirkus Reviews (starred review) 400.

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