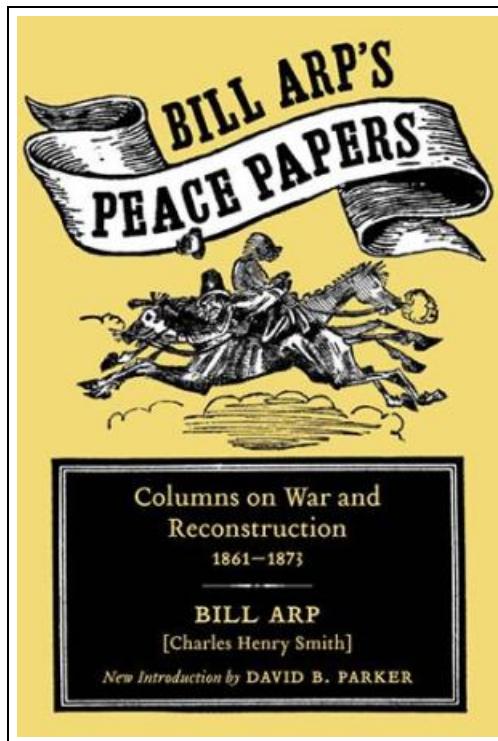


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University of South Carolina Press, United States, 2009. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. This is a compendium of Southern witticisms by the Confederacy s most famous humorist. First published in 1873 Bill Arp s Peace Papers collects some of the Southern humorist s best writings from the Civil War and Reconstruction era. Charles Henry Smith (1826-1903), a lawyer in Rome, Georgia, took the penname Bill Arp following the firing on Fort Sumter in April 1861, when he wrote a satiric response to Abraham Lincoln s proclamation ordering the Southern rebels to disperse. In his letter addressed to Mister Linkhorn and written in a semiliterate backwoods dialect, Smith advised the president, I tried my darndest yesterday to disperse and retire.but it was no go . The Linkhorn letter was reprinted in many Southern newspapers, and Smith followed it with dozens of other similarly comic pieces, all signed by Bill Arp . During the war he mocked Lincoln and praised the bravery and sacrifice of the Confederates, but he also turned a disapproving eye on those Southerners - from draft dodgers to Georgia governor Joe Brown - whose actions he viewed as detrimental to the war effort. Afterward he turned his attention to criticizing Reconstruction efforts. This Southern Classics edition makes Smith s witticisms as Arp available once more, augmented with a new introduction by David B. Parker, which places the writings and their author in historical and literary context.

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