Record Nr. UNINA9910817170703321 Autore Hutchison Coleman <1977-> Titolo Apples and ashes: literature, nationalism, and the Confederate States of America / / Coleman Hutchison Athens, : University of Georgia Press, c2012 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-280-49164-7 9786613586872 0-8203-4365-X Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (294 p.) The new Southern studies Collana Disciplina 810.9/35875 Soggetti American literature - Southern States - History and criticism Politics and literature - Southern States - History - 19th century Regionalism - Southern States - History - 19th century Group identity - Southern States - History - 19th century Confederate States of America Intellectual life United States History Civil War, 1861-1865 Social aspects Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Great expectations: the imaginative literature of the Confederate States of America -- A history of the future: Southern literary nationalism before the Confederacy -- A new experiment in the art of bookmaking: engendering the Confederate national novel -- Southern amaranths: popularity, occasion, and media in a Confederate poetics of place -- The music of Mars: Confederate song, North and South -- In dreamland: the Confederate memoir at home and abroad. Sommario/riassunto Apples and Ashes offers the first literary history of the Civil War South. The product of extensive archival research, it tells an expansive story about a nation struggling to write itself into existence. Confederate literature was in intimate conversation with other contemporary literary cultures, especially those of the United States and Britain. Thus, Coleman Hutchison argues, it has profound implications for our understanding of American literary nationalism and the relationship between literature and nationalism more broadly. Apples and Ashes is

organized by genre, with each chapter using a single text or a small set

of texts to limn a broader aspect of Confederate literary culture. Hutchison discusses an understudied and diverse archive of literary texts including the literary criticism of Edgar Allan Poe; southern responses to Uncle Tom's Cabin; the novels of Augusta Jane Evans; Confederate popular poetry; the de facto Confederate national anthem, "Dixie"; and several postwar southern memoirs. In addition to emphasizing the centrality of slavery to the Confederate literary imagination, the book also considers a series of novel topics: the reprinting of European novels in the Confederate South, including Charles Dickens's Great Expectations and Victor Hugo's Les Miserables; Confederate propaganda in Europe; and postwar Confederate emigration to Latin America. In discussing literary criticism, fiction, poetry, popular song, and memoir, Apples and Ashes reminds us of Confederate literature's once-great expectations. Before their defeat and abjection-before apples turned to ashes in their mouths-many Confederates thought they were in the process of creating a nation and a national literature that would endure.