



## The Free Flag of Cuba: The Lost Novel of Lucy Holcombe Pickens

By Lucy Petaway Holcomb Pickens

Lsu Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 224 pages. Dimensions: 8.4in. x 5.5in. x 0.6in. The wife of South Carolina secessionist governor Francis W. Pickens and known as the Queen of the Confederacy, Lucy Holcombe Pickens (1832-1899) was during her lifetime one of the most famous women in the South. Rumor was that in her youth she published a novel under a pseudonym. Recently discovered as *The Free Flag of Cuba*; or, *The Martyrdom of Lopez: A Tale of the Liberating Expedition of 1851*, her 1854 book is a romanticized account of the 1851 filibustering expedition to Cuba by Narciso Lopez. With this new edition, Orville Vernon Burton and Georganne B. Burton resurrect Holcomb's lost work and prove it to be a window on many pressing nineteenth-century issues. A not-so-subtle plea for U. S. support for Cuban independence from Spain, Holcomb's novel vindicates Lopez and his men—who were officially regarded as mercenaries—and declares them to be martyred heroes. The tale clearly reflects the values southern aristocratic women expected in men, even if preserving those values meant death and defeat—a harbinger of ardent support for the Confederacy by women like Lucy. With an illuminating introduction detailing the life of Lucy Petaway Holcomb...



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