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America’s Other Slave Market: Business and Politics in the Plantation Economy

Abstract
Seth Rockman, Associate Professor in the Department of History at Brown University, follows the trade of commodities during the Civil War era and offers an interesting perspective on the economic relationship between the North and the South of the United States during that period.

Rockman shows that many communities in the North were still trading with and profiting from the plantation economy of the South long after the slave trade was abolished in the Union. According to Rockman, this goes to show that there existed a relationship across the divide of the United States after the nation had been split in two, and before it was reunited after the Civil War.