



Fuller E. Callaway:
Portrait of a New South Citizen
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Hardcover; 320 pages;
200+ illustrations; \$40.00

“It is a must-read for anyone interested in the story of American business, in the power of transformational leadership and in how modern Georgia was created.”

W. Todd Groce, Ph.D.,
President & CEO, Georgia
Historical Society

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In many ways, Georgia textile magnate and philanthropist Fuller E. Callaway was larger than life.

For Immediate Release

Beginning with almost nothing, Callaway succeeded at everything, rising in the span of four remarkable decades from lightly educated farm boy to powerful, nationally prominent business leader whose extraordinary energy and entrepreneurial verve helped propel LaGrange and Georgia out of the economic devastation of the post-Civil War period.

Now, for the first time, an engaging biography tells the whole, fascinating story of this self-made industrialist. Historians Buck and Carol Melton trace Callaway’s improbable rise to fame and fortune in their deeply-researched and eminently readable book, *Fuller E. Callaway: Portrait of a New South Citizen*.

It’s also a mesmerizing human interest story. In rich narrative style, the Meltons capture Callaway’s outsized personality and unmatched work ethic, his knack for innovation, flair for marketing spectacle, innate business brilliance and bold eye for opportunity, all leading him to a major role on the turbulent stage of the rapidly changing “New South.”

The work is filled with memorable characters, from Callaway’s colorful hometown cohorts to famous friends, like muckraking journalist Ida Tarbell, who once asked the legendary businessman, “What do you do in LaGrange?” and reported Callaway’s reply: “We make American citizens, and run cotton mills to pay the expenses.”

About the Authors

Buckner F. Melton, Jr. (Ph.D., History, Duke University; J.D., The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) is the author of a number of books including *Aaron Burr: Conspiracy to Treason*; *A Hanging Offense: The Strange Affair of the Warship Somers*; and *Sea Cobra: Admiral Halsey’s Task Force and the Great Pacific Typhoon*. A former Distinguished Writer-in-Residence at Mercer University, he currently teaches at Middle Georgia State University.

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