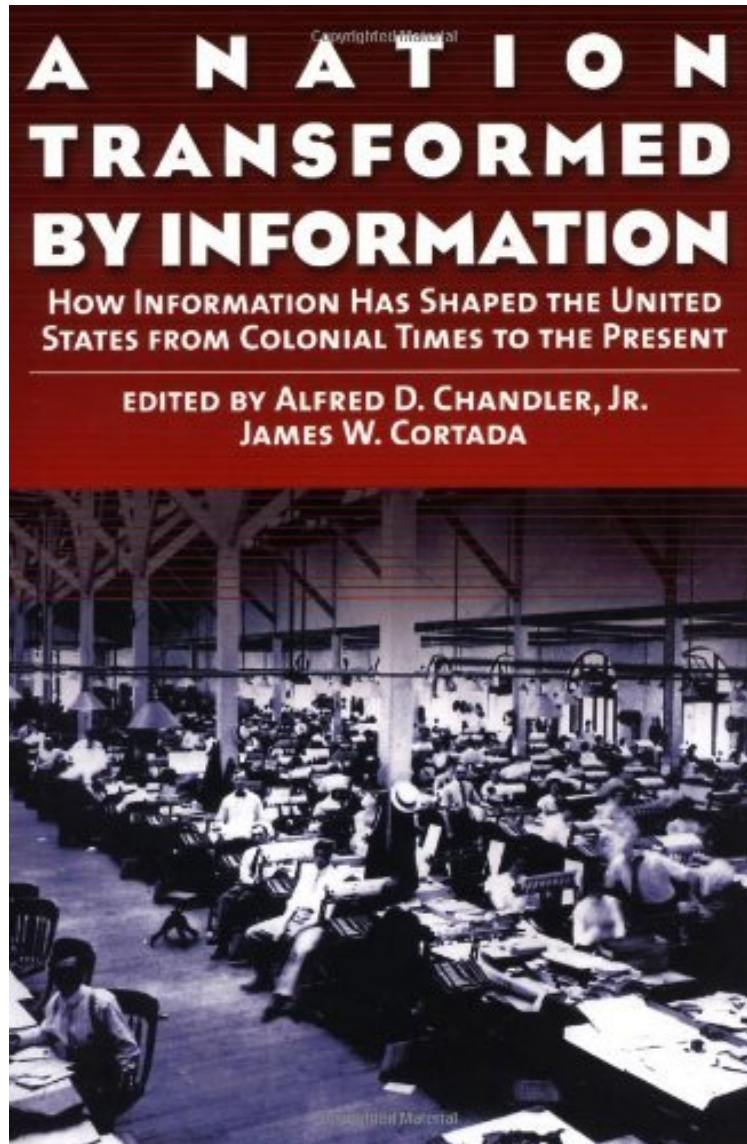


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# A Nation Transformed by Information: How Information Has Shaped the United States from Colonial Times to the Present

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From Oxford University Press : A Nation Transformed by Information: How Information Has Shaped the United States from Colonial Times to the Present before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Nation Transformed by Information: How Information Has Shaped the United States from Colonial Times to the Present:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy CustomerI am very happy with this book16 of 26 people found the following review helpful. Poor editingBy Richard J. CullenThis book was interesting, but the editing was so poor that I started to mistrust what I was reading. For instance the famous first telegraph message "What hath God wrought" was printed as "What God hath wrought." The book is full of typos.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. An exciting history of information mediaBy The Reviewer Formerly Known as Kurt JohnsonWinter is turning to Spring, and it is time for Orion, the God of the Wood Elves to be reborn. However, there are many disturbing things going on in the forest this year, and someone is working to overthrow Orion and his eternal queen Ariel. In a state of near-madness, Orion must defeat all of the threats to his reign and his forest, if that is even possible!This is an excellent fantasy book of elves. I have always like the Tolkien-esque elves that populate most modern fantasy literature, but I must say that this book goes a long way towards returning elves to being the magical forest creatures of William Shakespeare and Lord Dunsany, not to mention the forest legends of ancient times.This is a great start to a new trilogy, and I must say that I can't wait for the next book to come out. Three cheers for Darius Hicks!If you like good fantasy, then check out Orion: The Vaults of Winter, you won't be disappointed!

This book makes the startling case that North Americans were getting on the "information highway" as early as the 1700's, and have been using it as a critical building block of their social, economic, and political world ever since. By the time of the founding of the United States, there was a postal system and roads for the distribution of mail, copyright laws to protect intellectual property, and newspapers, books, and broadsides to bring information to a populace that was building a nation on the basis of an informed electorate. In the 19th century, Americans developed the telegraph, telephone, and motion pictures, inventions that further expanded the reach of information. In the 20th century they added television, computers, and the Internet, ultimately connecting themselves to a whole world of information. From the beginning North Americans were willing to invest in the infrastructure to make such connectivity possible. This book explores what the deployment of these technologies says about American society. The editors assembled a group of contributors who are experts in their particular fields and worked with them to create a book that is fully integrated and cross-referenced.

.com Does the Information Age predate computers? Does it, in fact, predate the Industrial Age? Though this thesis isn't explicitly examined in A Nation Transformed by Information: How Information Has Shaped the United States from Colonial Times to the Present, the reader can't help but think about it throughout. Editors Alfred D. Chandler Jr. and James W. Cortada assembled a healthy mix of historians and management consultants to write the history of information services in America, and the very mild pro-business bias is more than balanced by the deeper insight into the companies and corporations that did much to spur technological change. Fascinating nuggets of post-McLuhan media history lie within this sober analysis; it's startling to read of the antebellum U.S. Post Office refusing to deliver abolitionist materials to slave states, for example. These help to contextualize the information architecture we take for granted, as well as the innovations made possible by this architecture--imagine 50-story buildings without telephones. Though the editors profess no gift of prophecy for themselves or their authors, A Nation Transformed by Information will still give canny readers something to think about as they make their way through the Information Age. --Rob Lightner This is a pioneering effort to illustrate a simple fact-that the American information 'revolution' is anything but new.About the AuthorAlfred D. Chandler is Straus Emeritus Professor of Business History at Harvard University.