



# A Brief Moment in the Sun

Francis Cardozo and Reconstruction in South Carolina

**NEIL KINGHAN**

## PRAISE FOR *WHEN BAD MEN COMBINE*

"A biracial Charlestonian with a once-enslaved mother, Francis Cardozo distinguished himself in South Carolina's government through his high ethics and devotion to duty. He single-handedly belied the false 'tragic era' narrative that white Redeemers first foisted on the public and then on historians. Neil Kinghan restores Cardozo to the prominence he deserves and gives readers a deeply satisfying portrayal of his life and times."—Glenda Elizabeth Gilmore, author of *Gender and Jim Crow: Women and the Politics of White Supremacy in North Carolina, 1896–1920*

"*A Brief Moment in the Sun* explains why Francis Cardozo's life and career mattered so much. His struggles and achievements, and the injustices he faced, are searing reminders of both what was achieved during Reconstruction and how it was overthrown."—Adam I. P. Smith, author of *The Stormy Present: Conservatism and the Problem of Slavery in Northern Politics, 1846–1865*

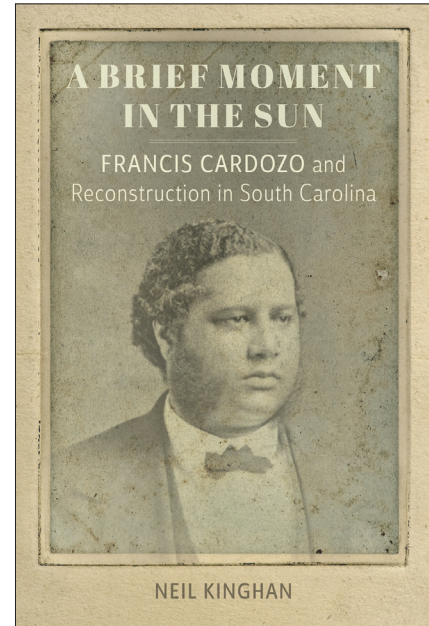
"Determined to correct the historical neglect of Francis Cardozo, Neil Kinghan delivers a powerful tribute to this vital player in the Reconstruction era."—Orville Vernon Burton, coauthor of *Justice Deferred: Race and the Supreme Court*

"Kinghan has crafted a masterful biography of one of Reconstruction's foremost leaders and restored Francis Cardozo to his rightful and meaningful place in the history of Reconstruction America."—William C. Hine, author of *South Carolina State University: A Black Land-Grant College in Jim Crow America*

"*A Brief Moment in the Sun* is long, long overdue. From 1865 until 1878, Francis Cardozo was the most important and influential Black leader in South Carolina."—W. Lewis Burke, author of *All for Civil Rights: African American Lawyers in South Carolina, 1868–1968*

"Born to a formerly enslaved woman of color and a Jewish father, Francis Cardozo became one of South Carolina's most famous—and famously honest—Republicans of the Reconstruction era. *A Brief Moment in the Sun* is crucial to our understanding of a period when the stakes could not have been higher."—Dale Rosengarten, founding director of the Jewish Heritage Collection at the College of Charleston Library

**NEIL KINGHAN** holds a doctorate in history from University College London. He is a former director general for local and regional government in the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister of England and a former director general of the U.K.'s Equality and Human Rights Commission.



**MARCH 2023**

272 pages, 6 x 9, 9 halftones

978-0-8071-7899-7

Hardcover \$45.00s, ebook available

African American Studies / Southern History

Southern Biography Series

Published with the assistance of the

V. Ray Cardozier Fund



338 JOHNSTON HALL | BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70803

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