



The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s (The American Crisis Series: Books on the Civil War Era)

By Eric H. Walther

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s (The American Crisis Series: Books on the Civil War Era) By Eric H. Walther

The 1850s offered the last remotely feasible chance for the United States to steer clear of Civil War. Yet fundamental differences between North and South about slavery and the meaning of freedom caused political conflicts to erupt again and again throughout the decade as the country lurched toward secession and war.

With their grudging acceptance of the Compromise of 1850 and the election of Franklin Pierce as president in 1852, most Americans hoped that sectional strife and political upheaval had come to an end. Extremists in both North and South, abolitionists and secessionists, testified to the prevailing air of complacency by their shared frustration over having failed to bring on some sort of conflict. Both sets of zealots wondered what it would take to convince the masses that the other side still menaced their respective visions of liberty. And, as new divisive issues emerged in national politics—with slavery still standing as the major obstacle—compromise seemed more elusive than ever.

As the decade progressed, battle lines hardened. The North grew more hostile to slavery while the South seized every opportunity to spread it. "Immigrant Aid Societies" flourished in the North, raising money, men, and military supplies to secure a free soil majority in Kansas. Southerners flocked to the territory in an effort to fight off antislavery. After his stirring vilification of the institution of slavery, Massachusetts senator Charles Sumner was brutally attacked on the floor of the United States Senate. Congress, whose function was to peacefully resolve disputes, became an armed camp, with men in both houses and from both sections arming themselves within the capitol building. In October 1858, Senator William Henry Seward said that the nation was headed for an "irrepressible conflict." In spite of the progress ushered in by the decade's enormous economic growth, the country was self-destructing.

The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s is a concise, readable analysis and survey of t

 [Download The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850 ...pdf](#)

The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s (The American Crisis Series: Books on the Civil War Era)

By Eric H. Walther

The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s (The American Crisis Series: Books on the Civil War Era) By Eric H. Walther

The 1850s offered the last remotely feasible chance for the United States to steer clear of Civil War. Yet fundamental differences between North and South about slavery and the meaning of freedom caused political conflicts to erupt again and again throughout the decade as the country lurched toward secession and war.

With their grudging acceptance of the Compromise of 1850 and the election of Franklin Pierce as president in 1852, most Americans hoped that sectional strife and political upheaval had come to an end. Extremists in both North and South, abolitionists and secessionists, testified to the prevailing air of complacency by their shared frustration over having failed to bring on some sort of conflict. Both sets of zealots wondered what it would take to convince the masses that the other side still menaced their respective visions of liberty. And, as new divisive issues emerged in national politics—with slavery still standing as the major obstacle—compromise seemed more elusive than ever.

As the decade progressed, battle lines hardened. The North grew more hostile to slavery while the South seized every opportunity to spread it. "Immigrant Aid Societies" flourished in the North, raising money, men, and military supplies to secure a free soil majority in Kansas. Southerners flocked to the territory in an effort to fight off antislavery. After his stirring vilification of the institution of slavery, Massachusetts senator Charles Sumner was brutally attacked on the floor of the United States Senate. Congress, whose function was to peacefully resolve disputes, became an armed camp, with men in both houses and from both sections arming themselves within the capitol building. In October 1858, Senator William Henry Seward said that the nation was headed for an "irrepressible conflict." In spite of the progress ushered in by the decade's enormous economic growth, the country was self-destructing.

The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s is a concise, readable analysis and survey of t

The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s (The American Crisis Series: Books on the Civil War Era) By Eric H. Walther Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #814338 in Books
- Brand: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers
- Published on: 2003-10-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.08" h x .57" w x 6.08" l, .84 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 224 pages

 [Download](#) The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s ...pdf

 [Read Online](#) The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850 ...pdf

Download and Read Free Online The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s (The American Crisis Series: Books on the Civil War Era) By Eric H. Walther

Editorial Review

Review

Eric Walther's *The Shattering of the Union* is an accessible, very readable account of the turbulent 1850s. This lively survey juxtaposes political, social, and cultural history with the voices and stories of the famous and the obscure in ways that should appeal to many different kinds of readers. (George C. Rable)

In this vivid narrative, Eric Walther brings to life the passionate and violent debate over slavery that shook the American Republic to its foundations in the 1850s. Rendering understandable the complex events of this period while avoiding simplification, Walther's lively and compelling text recaptures the tenor of the political upheaval of this most critical decade. (Brooks D. Simpson)

With *The Shattering of the Union*, Eric Walther has given us an engaging, fast-paced narrative covering the last decade of the American journey to Civil War. Drawing on the best recent scholarship and his own insights, Walther's volume is a quick read that is perfect for classroom use. It is a compelling tale, well told. (Lacy Ford)

Walther's narrative and analysis of the growing sectional crisis of the 1850s is a masterful blend of the general and particular, and although the events in the book are familiar, Walther's telling of the story is fresh, insightful, and cogent. This is a major contribution to the history and historiography of the coming of the Civil War. Highly recommended. All levels and collections. (*Choice*)

About the Author

Eric H. Walther is associate professor of history at the University of Houston. Walther served as an editorial assistant for *The Papers of Jefferson Davis*, is the author of *The Fire Eaters*, and is director of the Texas Slavery Project.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Joseph Asher:

Here thing why this kind of The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s (The American Crisis Series: Books on the Civil War Era) are different and trustworthy to be yours. First of all studying a book is good nevertheless it depends in the content than it which is the content is as scrumptious as food or not. The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s (The American Crisis Series: Books on the Civil War Era) giving you information deeper since different ways, you can find any guide out there but there is no reserve that similar with The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s (The American Crisis Series: Books on the Civil War Era). It gives you thrill reading journey, its open up your personal eyes about the thing that happened in the world which is possibly can be happened around you. It is possible to bring everywhere like in park your car, café, or even in your technique home by train. When you are having difficulties in bringing the paper book maybe the form of The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s (The American Crisis Series: Books on the Civil War Era) in e-book can be your alternative.

Charles Montiel:

This The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s (The American Crisis Series: Books on the Civil War Era) tend to be reliable for you who want to be considered a successful person, why. The reason of this The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s (The American Crisis Series: Books on the Civil War Era) can be one of many great books you must have will be giving you more than just simple examining food but feed you actually with information that might be will shock your before knowledge. This book is usually handy, you can bring it everywhere and whenever your conditions in e-book and printed people. Beside that this The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s (The American Crisis Series: Books on the Civil War Era) forcing you to have an enormous of experience including rich vocabulary, giving you trial run of critical thinking that we know it useful in your day action. So , let's have it and enjoy reading.

Larry Morris:

Hey guys, do you wishes to finds a new book you just read? May be the book with the concept The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s (The American Crisis Series: Books on the Civil War Era) suitable to you? Often the book was written by well-known writer in this era. The book untitled The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s (The American Crisis Series: Books on the Civil War Era) is the main one of several books that everyone read now. This particular book was inspired many people in the world. When you read this e-book you will enter the new dimension that you ever know ahead of. The author explained their strategy in the simple way, thus all of people can easily to understand the core of this publication. This book will give you a large amount of information about this world now. So you can see the represented of the world within this book.

Kathleen Huckaby:

The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s (The American Crisis Series: Books on the Civil War Era) can be one of your basic books that are good idea. We recommend that straight away because this guide has good vocabulary that can increase your knowledge in vocab, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nonetheless delivering the information. The article author giving his/her effort to get every word into pleasure arrangement in writing The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s (The American Crisis Series: Books on the Civil War Era) however doesn't forget the main position, giving the reader the hottest in addition to based confirm resource facts that maybe you can be one among it. This great information can easily drawn you into fresh stage of crucial considering.

Download and Read Online The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s (The American Crisis Series: Books on the Civil War Era) By Eric H. Walther #AD8YNHWIE0V

Read The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s (The American Crisis Series: Books on the Civil War Era) By Eric H. Walther for online ebook

The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s (The American Crisis Series: Books on the Civil War Era) By Eric H. Walther Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s (The American Crisis Series: Books on the Civil War Era) By Eric H. Walther books to read online.

Online The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s (The American Crisis Series: Books on the Civil War Era) By Eric H. Walther ebook PDF download

The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s (The American Crisis Series: Books on the Civil War Era) By Eric H. Walther Doc

The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s (The American Crisis Series: Books on the Civil War Era) By Eric H. Walther MobiPocket

The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s (The American Crisis Series: Books on the Civil War Era) By Eric H. Walther EPub

AD8YNHWIE0V: The Shattering of the Union: America in the 1850s (The American Crisis Series: Books on the Civil War Era) By Eric H. Walther