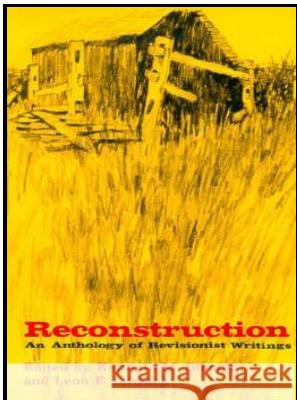


# America in 1857 - anation on the brink

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**Nonfiction Book Review: America in 1857: A Nation on the Brink by Kenneth M. Stampp, Author Oxford University Press, USA \$35 (416p) ISBN 978**

As a last resort others proposed Lewis Cass of Michigan, who was about to retire from the Senate and would welcome an opportunity to remain in Washington. Fremont, they noted, had carried only eleven of thirty-one states; he had polled less than one-third of the popular vote. Try as I might, I could not get into this work, save for the history surrounding the financial Panic of 1857.

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Finally with the issue of Popular Sovereignty in the territory of Kansas, the Democratic party began to break apart. It was a year packed with unsettling events.

**America in 1857: A Nation on the Brink**

. Banks of Massachusetts, whose fairness and parliamentary skill soon won the respect of nearly everyone. Sandford decision, parts of the proslavery half of the Union had seceded and the nation was engaged in civil war.

**A Hard Shove for a on the The Impact of Dred Scott**

If fame were to be measured by the attention a person received in the national press, Mrs.

**America in 1857: A Nation on the Brink by Kenneth M. Stampp, Paperback**

His brief also exploited the fears of slaveholders and referred darkly to the designs of abolitionists and the dangers of a large free black population. On March 4, James Buchanan began his administration with a commitment to resolve the Kansas question and restore harmony between the sections. Stampp gives us a fascinating account of the attempt by William Walker and his band of filibusters to conquer Nicaragua and make it a slave state, of crime and corruption, and of street riots by urban gangs such as New York's Dead Rabbits and Bowery Boys and Baltimore's Plug Uglies and Blood Tubs.

### **America in 1857: A Nation on the Brink**

Field's next task was to find a Washington attorney to argue Scott's case, as well as the money to pay his fee and other expenses. Efforts to preserve political power on the part of the administration ran afoul of the tensions and pressure to defend the insecure foundations of plantation slavery in an insecure South.

### **America in 1857 on Apple Books**

Sandford, with Sanford's name misspelled and never corrected. However, the vast majority of dailies and weeklies were intensely partisan publications whose editors depended for survival on government printing contracts, or postmasterships, or some other form of party subsidy.

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