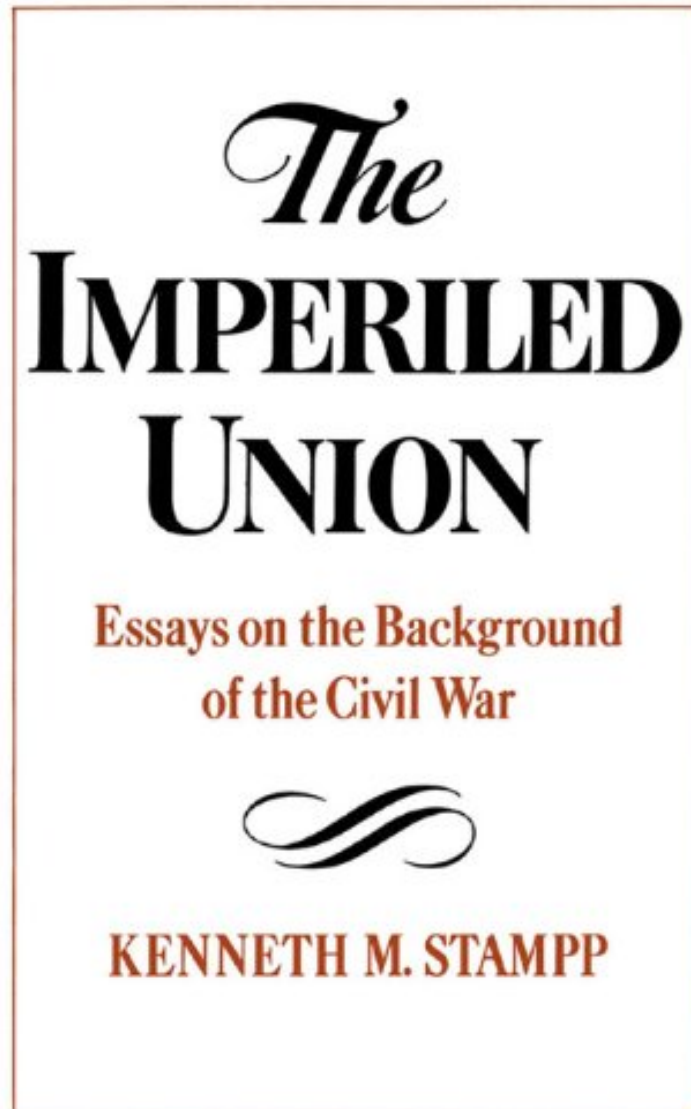


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The Imperiled Union: Essays on the Background of the Civil War

Kenneth M. Stampp

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aplomb. "The Southern Road to Appomattox" promotes the idea that a lack of will killed the confederacy. Stamppp places too much emphasis on guilt, but the idea of a lack of will was useful for other works, notably "Why the South Lost the Civil War". The other essays are a mix of historiography and analysis of such questions as Lincoln's motivation in resupplying Fort Sumter, the use and misuse of psychology in assessing slaves, and the meaning of racism in the Republican Party. Recommended.

A collection of essays by a master historian. Amongst the subjects that Stamppp tackles are the inevitability of the Civil War and the truth about why the confederacy actually died. The other essays are a mix of historiography and analysis of issues including Lincoln's role in reinforcing Fort Sumter, the impact of psychology in trading slaves, and the role of racism in the Republican Party.

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About the Author Kenneth M. Stamppp is at University of California, Berkeley.