



# **The Caning of Charles Sumner: Honor, Idealism, and the Origins of the Civil War (Witness to History)**

*Williamjames Hull Hoffer*

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

# The Caning of Charles Sumner: Honor, Idealism, and the Origins of the Civil War (Witness to History)

*Williamjames Hull Hoffer*

## **The Caning of Charles Sumner: Honor, Idealism, and the Origins of the Civil War (Witness to History) Williamjames Hull Hoffer**

A signal, violent event in the history of the United States Congress, the caning of Charles Sumner on the Senate floor embodied the complex North-South cultural divide of the mid-nineteenth century. Williamjames Hull Hoffer's vivid account of the brutal act demonstrates just how far the sections had drifted apart and explains why the coming war was so difficult to avoid.

Sumner, a noted abolitionist and gifted speaker, was seated at his Senate desk on May 22, 1856, when Democratic Congressman Preston S. Brooks approached, pulled out a gutta-percha walking stick, and struck him on the head. Brooks continued to beat the stunned Sumner, forcing him to the ground and repeatedly striking him even as the cane shattered. He then pursued the bloodied, staggering Republican senator up the Senate aisle until Sumner collapsed at the feet of Congressman Edwin B. Morgan. Colleagues of the two intervened only after Brooks appeared intent on beating the unconscious Sumner severely?and, perhaps, to death.

Sumner's crime? Speaking passionately about the evils of slavery, which dishonored both the South and Brooks's relative, Senator Andrew P. Butler. Celebrated in the South for the act, Brooks was fined only three hundred dollars, dying a year later of a throat infection. Sumner recovered and served out a distinguished Senate career until his death in 1873.

Hoffer's narrative recounts the caning and its aftermath, explores the depths of the differences between free and slave states in 1856, and explains the workings of the Southern honor culture as opposed to Yankee idealism. Hoffer helps us understand why Brooks would take such great offense at a political speech and why he chose a cane?instead of dueling with pistols or swords?to meet his obligation under the South's prevailing code of honor. He discusses why the courts meted out a comparatively light sentence. He addresses the importance of the event in the national crisis and shows why such actions are not quite as alien to today's politics as they might at first seem.

 [Download The Caning of Charles Sumner: Honor, Idealism, and the ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Caning of Charles Sumner: Honor, Idealism, and th ...pdf](#)

**Download and Read Free Online The Caning of Charles Sumner: Honor, Idealism, and the Origins of the Civil War (Witness to History) Williamjames Hull Hoffer**

---

## **Download and Read Free Online The Caning of Charles Sumner: Honor, Idealism, and the Origins of the Civil War (Witness to History) Williamjames Hull Hoffer**

---

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Owen Ray:**

In this 21st century, people become competitive in each and every way. By being competitive today, people have to do something to make these people survive, being in the middle of the particular crowded place and notice through surrounding. One thing that oftentimes many people have underestimated this for a while is reading. Yeah, by reading a reserve your ability to survive raise then having chance to endure than other is high. For yourself who want to start reading the book, we give you this kind of The Caning of Charles Sumner: Honor, Idealism, and the Origins of the Civil War (Witness to History) book as beginner and daily reading book. Why, because this book is more than just a book.

#### **Margaret Head:**

This book entitled The Caning of Charles Sumner: Honor, Idealism, and the Origins of the Civil War (Witness to History) to be one of several books which best seller in this year, that's because when you read this book you can get a lot of benefit in it. You will easily to buy this kind of book in the book retail store or you can order it via online. The publisher on this book sells the e-book too. It makes you quicker to read this book, since you can read this book in your Touch screen phone. So there is no reason to your account to past this reserve from your list.

#### **James Bassler:**

Do you have something that you prefer such as book? The book lovers usually prefer to pick book like comic, brief story and the biggest one is novel. Now, why not hoping The Caning of Charles Sumner: Honor, Idealism, and the Origins of the Civil War (Witness to History) that give your pleasure preference will be satisfied through reading this book. Reading routine all over the world can be said as the way for people to know world far better then how they react in the direction of the world. It can't be stated constantly that reading practice only for the geeky individual but for all of you who wants to always be success person. So , for all you who want to start looking at as your good habit, you may pick The Caning of Charles Sumner: Honor, Idealism, and the Origins of the Civil War (Witness to History) become your personal starter.

#### **Mary Linkous:**

What is your hobby? Have you heard this question when you got scholars? We believe that that concern was given by teacher for their students. Many kinds of hobby, Every person has different hobby. And you know that little person such as reading or as looking at become their hobby. You need to know that reading is very important in addition to book as to be the point. Book is important thing to provide you knowledge, except your teacher or lecturer. You will find good news or update in relation to something by book. A substantial number of sorts of books that can you go onto be your object. One of them is niagra The Caning of Charles Sumner: Honor, Idealism, and the Origins of the Civil War (Witness to History).

**Download and Read Online The Caning of Charles Sumner: Honor,  
Idealism, and the Origins of the Civil War (Witness to History)  
Williamjames Hull Hoffer #J3QX7AGHKRU**

## **Read The Caning of Charles Sumner: Honor, Idealism, and the Origins of the Civil War (Witness to History) by Williamjames Hull Hoffer for online ebook**

The Caning of Charles Sumner: Honor, Idealism, and the Origins of the Civil War (Witness to History) by Williamjames Hull Hoffer 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 Caning of Charles Sumner: Honor, Idealism, and the Origins of the Civil War (Witness to History) by Williamjames Hull Hoffer books to read online.

### **Online The Caning of Charles Sumner: Honor, Idealism, and the Origins of the Civil War (Witness to History) by Williamjames Hull Hoffer ebook PDF download**

**The Caning of Charles Sumner: Honor, Idealism, and the Origins of the Civil War (Witness to History) by Williamjames Hull Hoffer Doc**

**The Caning of Charles Sumner: Honor, Idealism, and the Origins of the Civil War (Witness to History) by Williamjames Hull Hoffer Mobipocket**

**The Caning of Charles Sumner: Honor, Idealism, and the Origins of the Civil War (Witness to History) by Williamjames Hull Hoffer EPub**