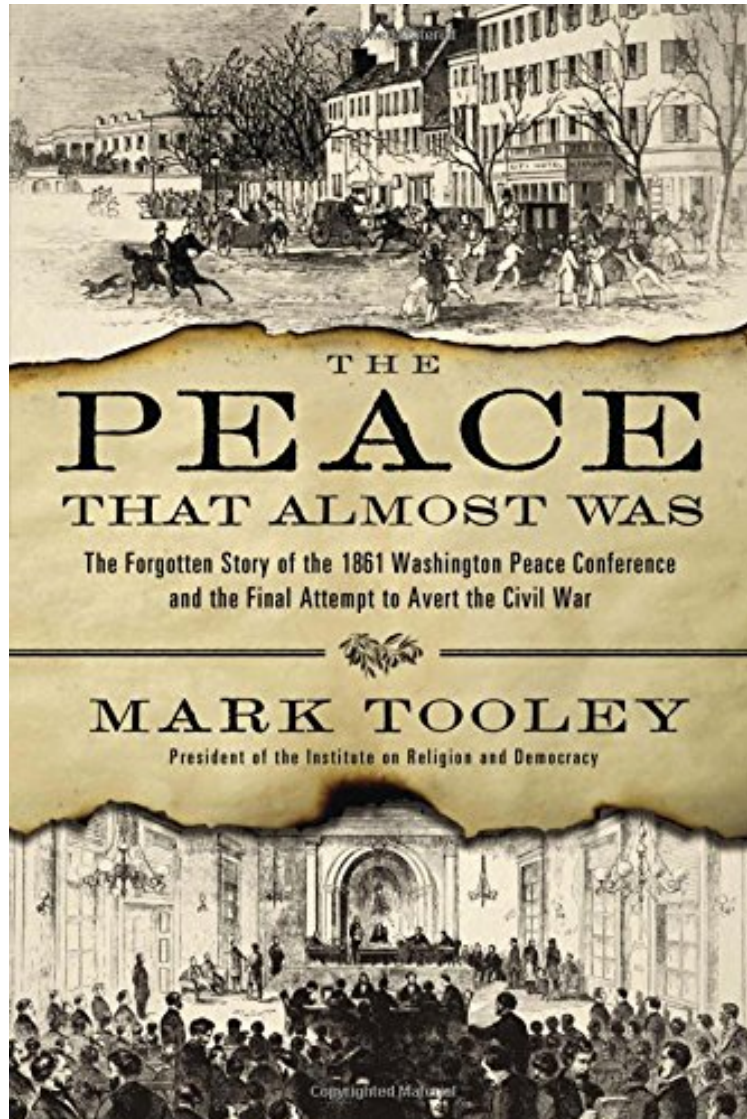


[Ebook free] The Peace That Almost Was: The Forgotten Story of the 1861 Washington Peace Conference and the Final Attempt to Avert the Civil War

# The Peace That Almost Was: The Forgotten Story of the 1861 Washington Peace Conference and the Final Attempt to Avert the Civil War

Mark Tooley

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Mark Tooley : **The Peace That Almost Was: The Forgotten Story of the 1861 Washington Peace Conference and the Final Attempt to Avert the Civil War** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Peace That Almost Was: The Forgotten Story of the 1861 Washington Peace

## Conference and the Final Attempt to Avert the Civil War:

10 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Lots of boring information about the various churches in the D.C. area. By Mitchell. Interesting subject matter but rather odd way of writing about it. Lots of tedious information about the various churches and pastors in the Washington D.C. area, goes into way too much detail, maybe he wrote his Ph.D thesis on these various churches. He also doesn't specify which newspaper he is quoting, it is always a New York newspaper, or a St. Louis newspaper, or a Memphis newspaper. Don't these newspapers have names? Strange. An interesting book could have been much better, I would have to say I am disappointed with the book. 17 of 19 people found the following review helpful. The Peace That Thankfully Wasn't. By John Bicknell. Mark Tooley's *The Peace That Almost Was: The Forgotten Story of the 1861 Washington Peace Conference and the Final Attempt to Avert the Civil War* is one of those books just begging to be written. It has been more than 60 years since anyone tackled the subject at length, and the wait was worth it. Tooley's book is entertaining, informative and – most importantly – an object lesson on the limits of compromise. Robert Gunderson's *Old Gentlemen's Convention: The Washington Peace Conference of 1861*, was until now the standard edition of the story. It has been surpassed. Read more: <http://johnbicknell1844.com/2015/07/30/the-peace-that-thankfully-wasnt/> 4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. People and circumstances affecting last attempt to stop Civil War. By 61 August 15. Fascinating. Humorous. Compelling. Gripping. An historical account for the layperson and history buff (come on it is not meant to be a textbook; there are plenty of those). This is a serious overview of the people and influences that determine the outcome of serious political conventions. It is a "can't put it down" account of those circumstances and people that influence the outcomes of history. Friendships. Loyalties. Faith. Background. Home state. All play huge roles in making people and shaping events. This book offers gripping insights into the interplay of all those factors in one very significant historical attempt to stop a bloody Civil War.

A narrative history of the 1861 Washington Peace Conference, the bipartisan, last-ditch effort to prevent the Civil War, an effort that nearly averted the carnage that followed. In February 1861, most of America's great statesmen—including a former president, dozens of current and former senators, Supreme Court justices, governors, and congressmen—came together at the historic Willard Hotel in a desperate attempt to stave off Civil War. Seven southern states had already seceded, and the conferees battled against time to craft a compromise to protect slavery and thus preserve the union and prevent war. Participants included former President John Tyler, General William Sherman's Catholic step-father, General Winfield Scott, and Lincoln's future Treasury Secretary, Salmon Chase—and from a room upstairs at the hotel, Lincoln himself. Revelatory and definitive, *The Peace That Almost Was* demonstrates that slavery was the main issue of the conference—and thus of the war itself—and that no matter the shared faith, family, and friendships of the participants, ultimately no compromise could be reached.

About the Author Mark Tooley is president of the Institute on Religion and Democracy in Washington, DC. His writing has appeared in *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, *National Online*, *The Washington Examiner*, *The Chicago Tribune*, *The St. Louis Post Dispatch*, *Christianity Today*, *World*, and *Gettysburg*. He writes regularly for *The American Spectator* and *The Weekly Standard* and lives outside of northern Virginia.