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Lincoln and the Border States: Preserving the Union (Hardback)

By William C. Harris

University Press of Kansas, United States, 2011. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 234 x 157 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Adopting a new approach to an American icon, an award-winning scholar reexamines the life of Abraham Lincoln to demonstrate how his remarkable political acumen and leadership skills evolved during the intense partisan conflict in pre-Civil War Illinois. By describing Lincoln's rise from obscurity to the presidency, William Harris shows that Lincoln's road to political success was far from easy and that his reaction to events wasn't always wise or his racial attitudes free of prejudice. Although most scholars have labeled Lincoln a moderate, Harris reveals that he was by his own admission a conservative who revered the Founders and advocated adherence to the old and tried. By emphasizing the conservative bent that guided Lincoln's political evolution his background as a Henry Clay Whig, his rural ties, his cautious nature, and the racial and political realities of central Illinois Harris provides fresh insight into Lincoln's political ideas and activities and portrays him as morally opposed to slavery but fundamentally conservative in his political strategy against it. Interweaving aspects of Lincoln's life and character that...



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