

CIVIL WAR & RECONSTRUCTION

1850-1877



SLAVERY & COMPROMISE OF 1850

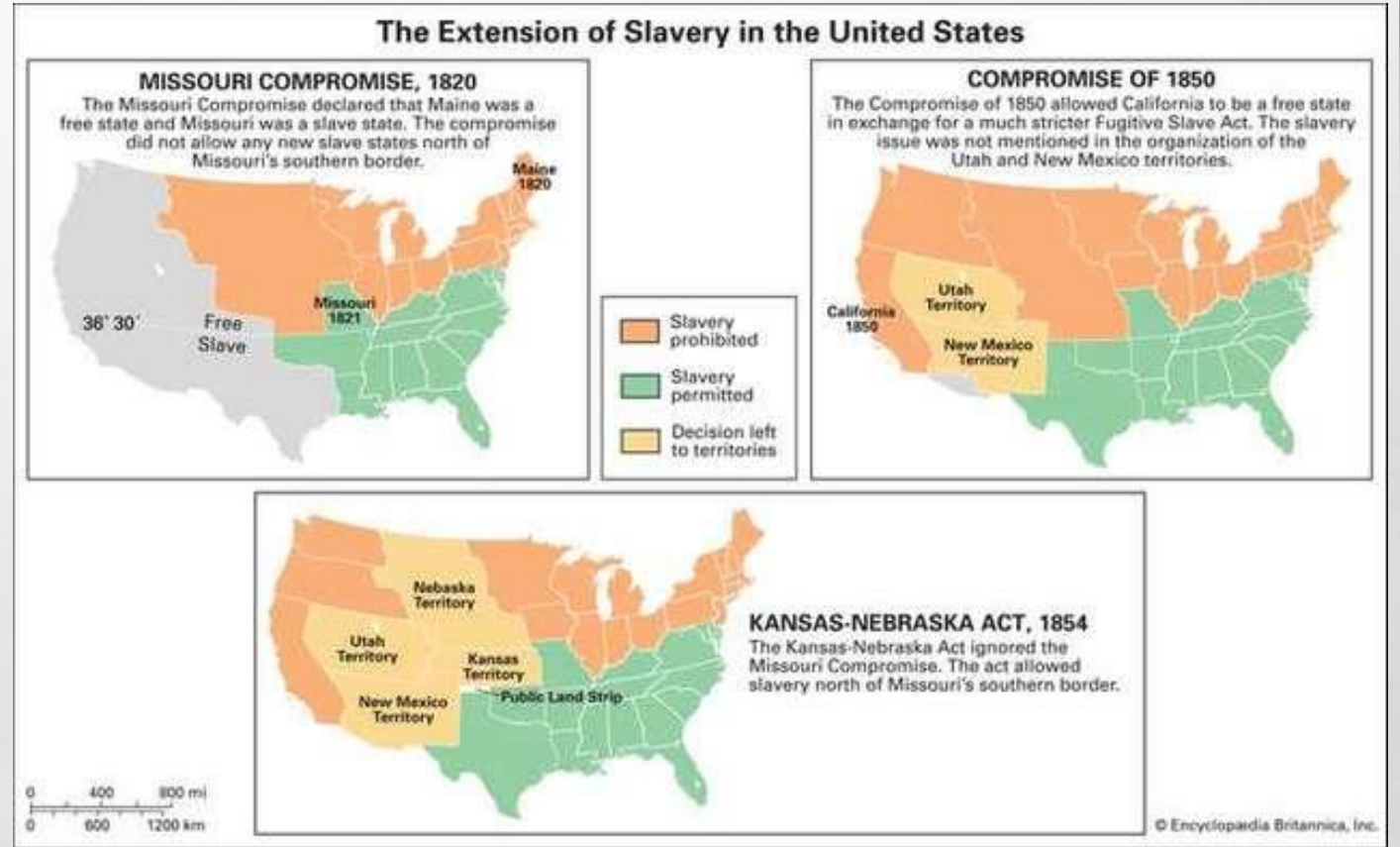
- Slavery had been in use for over **200** years in America, primarily in the South, and the debate over ending this practice became one of **property** rights vs **human** rights
- The Missouri Compromise of 1820 had banned slavery in the **northern** part of the Louisiana Purchase, but with the new land acquired from the **War** with Mexico, decisions on slavery had to be made again
- When **California** applied for statehood in 1850, adding two new senators would upset the **balance** in Congress and a fierce debate between North and South began
- The Compromise of **1850** was finally passed:
 - Admitted California as a **free** state
 - Set border between Texas and New Mexico allowing residents to decide on slavery in New Mexico Territory
 - Utah Territory created allowing residents to **decide** on slavery in Utah Territory
 - Fugitive Slave Act imposed heavy **penalties** on anyone helping slaves escape or refusing to help capture runaways
 - Slave trade **abolished** in Washington, DC (slavery still allowed, but no buying or selling slaves)

FUGITIVE SLAVE ACT CREATES TENSION

- The Fugitive Slave Act made it a federal crime to assist runaway slaves and allowed for the **arrest** of escaped slaves in states where slavery was illegal
- Anyone **accused** of being a slave had to **prove** that they were not which was often impossible, or face being returned to slavery in the South
- Any slaves that had escaped to the North were also to be **returned** to slavery if caught
- This law resulted in people that were previously **quiet** about the slavery issue to become **abolitionists** which angered the southern slaveholders
- Harriet Beecher Stowe wrote Uncle Tom's Cabin from stories she had heard from escaping slaves along the Underground Railroad and it became a major source of **tension** between the North and South

KANSAS-NEBRASKA ACT

- Senator Stephen Douglas wanted to connect **California** to Illinois with a **railroad** instead of putting the tracks in the South fearing that would increase **slavery** in the new territories, but needed to open the land for settlement first
- He proposed opening the Kansas and Nebraska Territories for residents to **vote** on slavery in the area (**popular sovereignty**)
- Kansas-Nebraska Act **repealed** the Missouri Compromise opening land for **potential** slavery that was supposed to be free and the railroad was not approved until 1862
- The rush of pro-slavery and anti-slavery people into the Kansas and Nebraska Territories to **settle** and vote on slavery leads to a **bloody** struggle known as Bleeding Kansas



REACTIONS LEAD TO POLITICAL SHIFTS

- Northerners were very upset about the Kansas-Nebraska Act **opening** up territory to possible slavery where it had been previously protected as **free** by the Missouri Compromise
- Political parties began to shift as the issue of **slavery** became the center of debate in Congress
- The **Whig** party, which had already split into two groups over slavery (the **Conscience Whigs** in the North and the **Cotton Whigs** in the South), all but disappeared
- The pro-slavery Cotton Whigs joined the **Democratic Party**, while the anti-slavery Conscience Whigs and northern Democrats joined together with members of the **Free-Soil Party** to create a new political party called the **Republican Party**

POPULAR SOVEREIGNTY IN KANSAS

- Anti-slavery groups raised money to **send** volunteers to the area and pro-slavery states formed groups of people to **move** to the territory to try to **outnumber** each other in the votes for a territorial legislature who would pass laws on the **slavery** issue and then write a state **constitution** that either allowed or banned **slavery** in the new state
- Voter **fraud** was a major issue (armed people from Missouri demanded to be allowed to vote, and in some voting districts the number of **ballots** was twice the number of registered voters)
- A pro-slavery legislature was **elected** and quickly passed a strict **slave** code
- **Free-soilers** refused to accept the new pro-slavery government so they elected their own **governor** and legislature and passed laws
- **Two** governments were operating out of Kansas, both claiming to be the “official” government in **1856**

STRUGGLE FOR KANSAS TURNS VIOLENT

Sack of Lawrence:

- Lawrence, Kansas became the **center** for anti-slavery and a shooting of pro-slavery settlers near the town brought armed people from Missouri over to Lawrence but they did not attack after they realized that Lawrence was **defended** by heavily-armed free-soilers
- President Franklin Pierce condemned the **free-soil** government in Kansas as **rebels** and this led to a pro-slavery sheriff and a posse of 800 men going into Lawrence to arrest the free-soil leaders, they burned buildings, destroyed offices, and **looted** stores and homes; anti-slavery newspapers in Kansas reported this as “The Sack of Lawrence” to stir up **support** in the North

Pottawatomie Massacre:

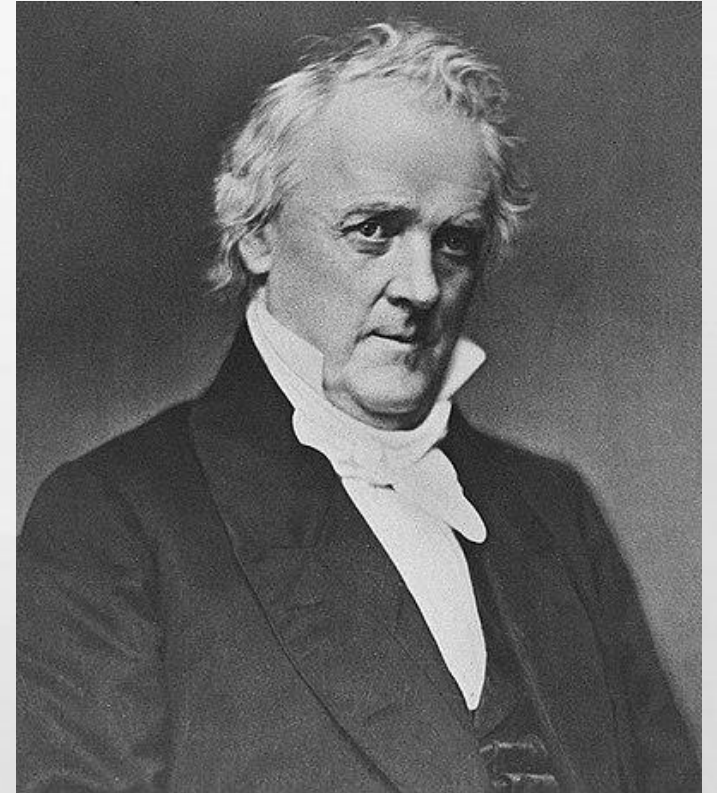
- John Brown, an established abolitionist, moved to **Kansas** in 1855 with his sons to help make the territory a **free** state
- In 1856 John Brown and a small group, angry over the Sack of Lawrence, dragged **five** pro-slavery settlers out of their homes by the Pottawatomie Creek and **executed** them, this event became known as the Pottawatomie Massacre and outraged **southerners**

BLEEDING KANSAS

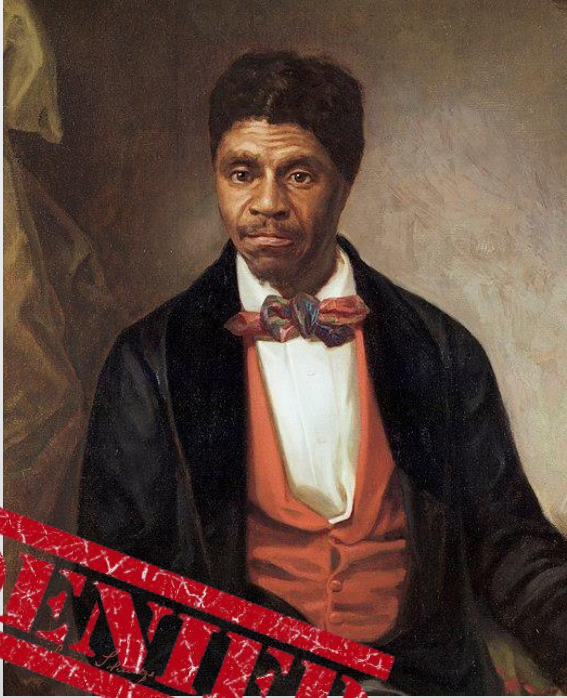
- “Bleeding Kansas” refers to the **violent** lawlessness and civil war occurring in the Kansas Territory as pro-slavery and free-soilers fight for **control** of the territory’s **elections**
- Federal troops end the major fighting after several months, but guerrilla war continued
- The fighting in Kansas spilled over into **Congress** in 1856 when Charles Sumner, a senator from Massachusetts delivered an angry two-day speech to Congress attacking southern senators for their role in the Kansas-Nebraska Act and specifically South Carolina Senator Andrew **Butler** who was not there for the speech
- Butler’s nephew, Senator Preston **Brooks**, beat Charles Sumner with a walking stick in the nearly empty Senate chamber room after the speech which left him badly **injured** and unable to return to the Senate for **three** years
- Northerners were very angry about the **attack** and outraged that the House of Representatives refused to **expel** Brooks from the Senate for his actions, while southerners sent Brooks hundreds of new walking sticks to **replace** the one he had broken during the assault

ELECTION OF 1856

- Controversy over **Kansas** was a major factor in the presidential election of **1856**
- **Democrats** in the north and south disagreed on a candidate and eventually settled on James **Buchanan** since he had been overseas during the Kansas issue
- The newly formed **Republican** Party chose Mexican-American War hero John **Frémont**
- The American Party (or **Know-Nothings**) chose former president Millard **Fillmore**
- James Buchanan won because the south had hinted at **secession** if Frémont won as some saw the Republicans to be extremists on the **slavery** issue, and the high **immigrant** population in the North disagreed with the **Nativism** of the Know-Nothing Party



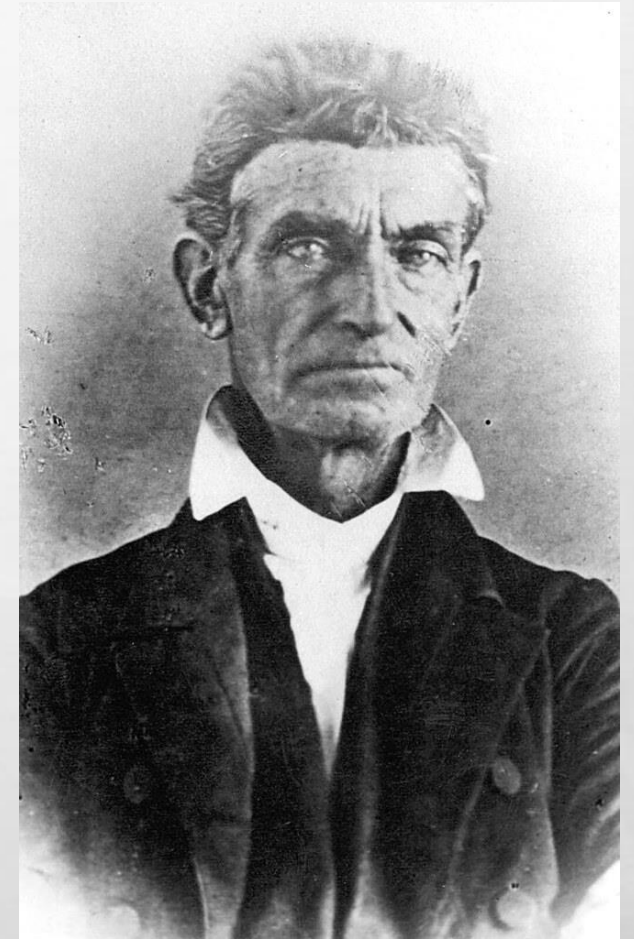
DRED SCOTT DECISION



- Dred Scott, a **slave**, sued for his freedom arguing that he was a slave living on **free** soil during most of the **1830s** and therefore ought to be free
- The Supreme Court ruled on the *Scott v. **Sandford*** case in 1857, **denying** Dred Scott his freedom and declaring that he was **not** a citizen and therefore could not sue in federal court
- The *Dred Scott* Decision created an even wider **division** between the North and South – the South viewed it as a victory while the North feared that slavery could be **expanded** into any free territory

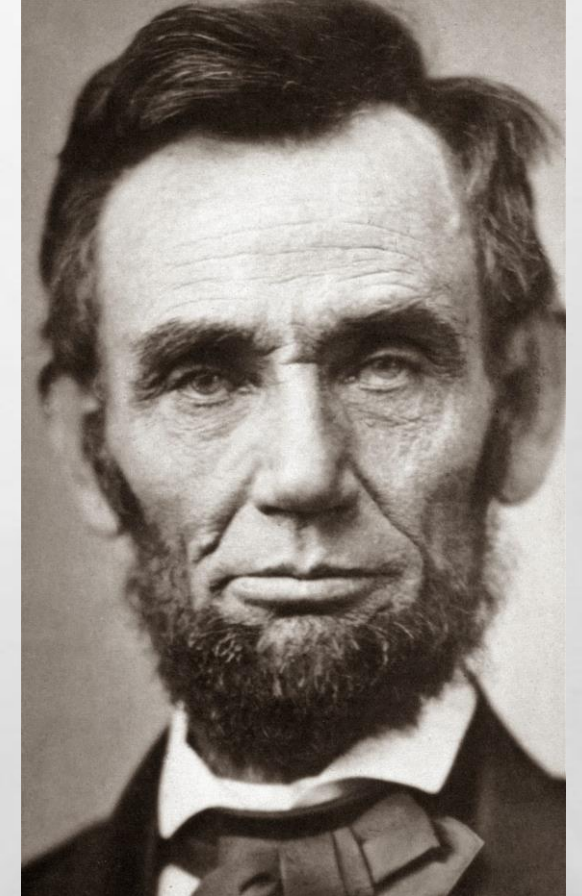
JOHN BROWN'S RAID

- John Brown did not believe that non-violence would **end** slavery and planned to **attack** a federal arsenal and arm nearby slaves for a **revolt**
- Brown and 21 followers easily captured the **arsenal** in October 1859 but no local slaves were willing to run away and **join** his revolt
- Local townspeople **trapped** Brown and his followers in the arsenal, killing several during the fight, until Col. Robert E. Lee and his Marines showed up to **storm** the arsenal
- John Brown and the **six** survivors of his group were captured, tried, and sentenced to **hang**
- Southerners were unified against northern **abolitionists** and their attempts to **inspire** revolts while northerners saw Brown as a hero, although many questioned his **sanity**



LINCOLN, POLITICS, & SLAVERY

- Abraham Lincoln was born in Kentucky in 1809 to a **poor** family and moved to **Indiana** in 1816 where he took a job on the river moving produce from Indiana to New Orleans, there he witnessed a slave **auction** and was horrified
- Lincoln was **self-educated**, becoming a lawyer, and served in several political positions from **state** legislator to Congress where he voted for laws that would **ban** slavery in new territories, although he did not believe that **Congress** had the power to decide on the slavery issue **within** a state's borders
- He retired from politics on **several** occasions but kept coming back and proposed a law to end slavery by **paying** slaveholders to free their slaves, called "**compensated** emancipation" although this idea was too radical for many in Congress and did **not** pass



LINCOLN & DOUGLAS DEBATES

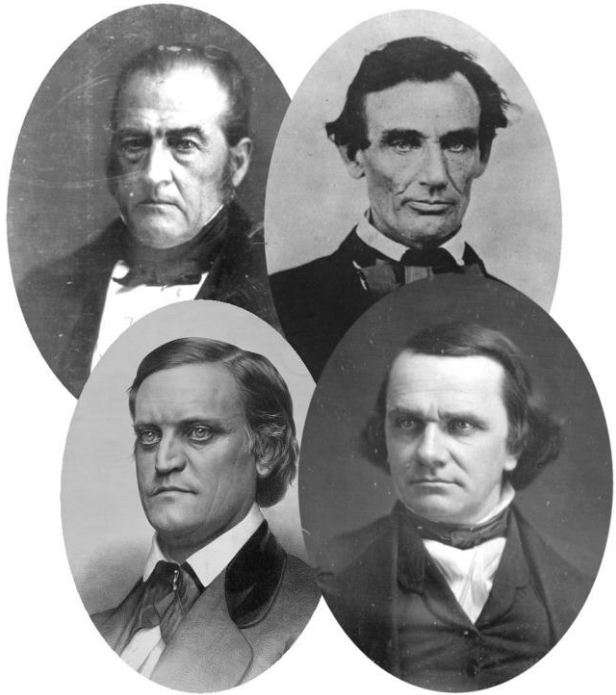
- Lincoln joined the **Republican Party** (since his previous party the **Whigs** were all but gone) and ran against Stephen Douglas for the US **Senate** in 1858 and gave a speech that would launch his political career and create a **challenge** for him to overcome

“‘A house divided against itself cannot stand.’ I believe this government cannot endure, permanently half *slave* and half *free*. I do not expect the Union to be *dissolved*— I do not expect the house to *fall*— but I do expect it will cease to be divided. It will become *all* one thing or *all* the other.” – Lincoln, June 16, 1858
- This speech was viewed as **radical** and the seven **debates** that followed between Lincoln and **Douglas** were published in newspapers across the country gaining him national **recognition**
- During the second debate, Lincoln challenged Douglas about the *Dred Scott* decision and Douglas’ **response** became known as the **Freeport Doctrine**, where locals would elect locals that they agreed with to enforce their laws
- Lincoln attacked the **morality** of slavery but said that he was not in favor of **equality** between the races
- Although Lincoln **lost** the Senate election, he would rise in national popularity and run for **president** two years later

ELECTION OF 1860

Bell

Lincoln



Breckinridge

Douglas

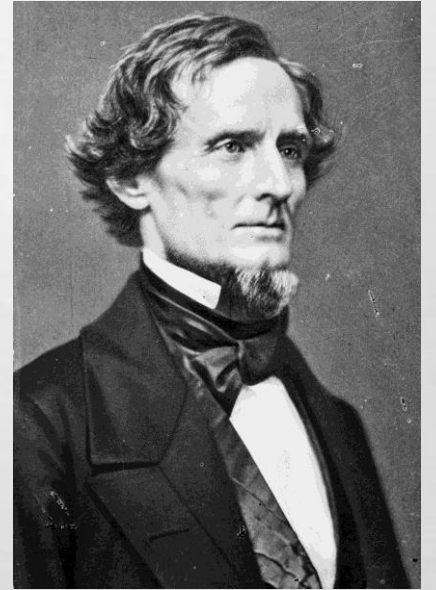
- Democratic Party was divided, southern Democrats chose Vice President John C. **Breckinridge** as their candidate with a platform to protect slavery and its **spread** while northern Democrats chose Stephen **Douglas** as their candidate with a platform of **popular** sovereignty
- Southern **moderates** created the Constitutional Union Party and chose Senator John **Bell** for their candidate
- **Republican** Party chose Abraham **Lincoln** as their candidate with a platform of opposing the **spread** of slavery and preserving the Union – William **Seward** has been the Republican leader but was seen as too **radical**
- The election became two **sectional** elections with Lincoln vs. Douglas in the **North** and Breckinridge vs Bell in the **South**, with the South being split and “Honest Abe” being popular, Lincoln won the presidential election with only **40%** of the popular vote – northerners celebrated while southerners feared what Lincoln would do about slavery as president

SECESSION

- One week after Abraham Lincoln was elected president, **South Carolina** voted unanimously in a state convention to **secede** from (or leave) the Union
- South Carolina stated that the Declaration of Independence gave them the right to **abolish** an abusive government and the federal government had not protected slavery and the **property** rights of slaveholders
- Within two months, Mississippi, Florida, **Alabama**, Georgia, Louisiana, and **Texas** had all seceded from the United States while Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Arkansas all warned that if the federal government attempted to use any **force** against a state, they would also secede
- Not everyone in the South **supported** secession, as many as **40%** of people disagreed
- Northern responses **varied** between joy that the slave states were gone to fear that all government was useless if any group could leave when they did not get their way
- Current President Buchanan did not believe that secession was **legal** but also did not attempt to stop South Carolina from taking over federal forts within the state while President-Elect Lincoln was firmly committed to **preserving** the Union

FORMING THE CONFEDERACY

- The **seven** seceded states met to form a new government and wanted leaders and a new constitution in place **before** Lincoln took office in March 1861
- Jefferson **Davis**, a former Mississippi senator, was chosen as the temporary president and Alexander **Stephens** from Georgia as vice president while a new constitution was being written that **protected** slavery and formed a new country called the Confederate States of America with “sovereign and independent” states
- Jefferson Davis did not want to be president of the new country, but felt a duty to accept the job – he worried that the **CSA** was outmatched in **manufacturing** and strength to win a **war** if it came to one
- The South had no printing press to begin printing their own **currency** and faced many disagreements among the new government members about how to proceed



COMPROMISE FAILS

- The US Congress worked to keep the Union **intact** and had several **ideas** for compromise
- Crittenden Compromise
 - Slavery would be **illegal** north of old Missouri Compromise line and not interfered with **south** of that line
 - Slaveholders would be **paid** for losses if officers were **prevented** from arresting runaway slaves
 - Congress could not interfere with the transport of slaves from one **state** to another
 - No amendment could ever **repeal** any of these terms
- Lincoln did not agree with this compromise as it would allow for the **expansion** of slavery, the compromise was shot down in a close vote in Congress
- A **Peace** Convention was held in Washington, D.C. to attempt to find another solution, but none were agreeable to the **Republicans** and Lincoln was inaugurated two days later and said that he would not “interfere with the institution of slavery in the states where it existed”

1. FORT SUMTER

- The **seceded** states had taken over many federal forts, arsenals, and buildings within their states' boundaries, however Fort **Sumter** in South Carolina's Charleston Harbor was still occupied by US soldiers
- Fort Sumter's Commander Robert Anderson had sent a message to Lincoln asking for **support** and supplies, Lincoln did not want to **surrender** the fort and give the South confidence, nor did he want to resupply the soldiers at the fort and risk **war** – he told Confederates he would only send **food** to the trapped soldiers
- Jefferson Davis responded by ordering Fort Sumter to be **evacuated** and if the soldiers did not leave, gave orders to destroy the fort
- April 12, 1861 Confederate artillery opened **fire** on Fort Sumter and it was surrendered the next day – marking the first military violence of the Civil War

TOP 10 CIVIL WAR BATTLES

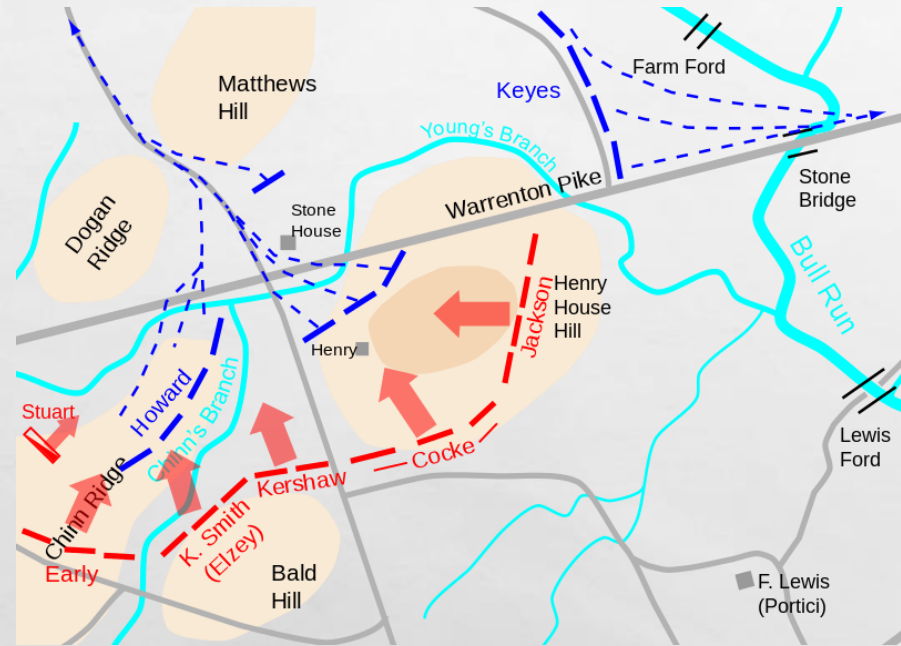


Battle	Winner	Significance
1. Fort Sumter	Confederate	First battle, no casualties
2. 1 st Bull Run	Confederate	First bloodshed of the war
3. Shiloh	Union	Union advances into Confederate territory
4. 2 nd Bull Run	Confederate	Lee wins being outnumbered, morale boosted
5. Antietam	Union	Bloodiest single day, Lincoln issues Emancipation Proclamation
6. Fredericksburg	Confederate	Boosted Confederate confidence and morale
7. Chancellorsville	Confederate	Lee wins being outnumbered, Stonewall Jackson killed
8. Gettysburg	Union	Turning point of the war
9. Vicksburg	Union	Union gains control of Mississippi River, splits South
10. Sherman's March	Union	Sherman's "Total War" tactic devastated the South

PREPARING TO FIGHT

- Lincoln called for 75,000 volunteers to put down the **rebellion** after the attack on Fort Sumter, Northerners rushed to enlist in the military but the **border** states (slave states that did not secede) refused to send men to fight
- Border states (Delaware, Kentucky, **Maryland**, and Missouri) posed another problem, if they seceded, they would take with them land that would be a **tactical** advantage to the Union so Lincoln worked hard to keep them in the Union – even sending federal troops in to help the pro-Union governments maintain control
- The Union had the advantage in **population**, money, transportation, and manufacturing, but they would need to launch an **offensive** to bring the rebellion states back into the Union – they planned to blockade the Confederate coastline and take control of the Mississippi River to cut its forces in half known as the Anaconda Plan
- The South did not hold many advantages, but all they had to do was plan for a **defensive** strategy and wait for the Union to get tired of the war and quit, hoping for support from France and Great Britain as a major importer of Southern Cotton, this policy was known as “**cotton** diplomacy”

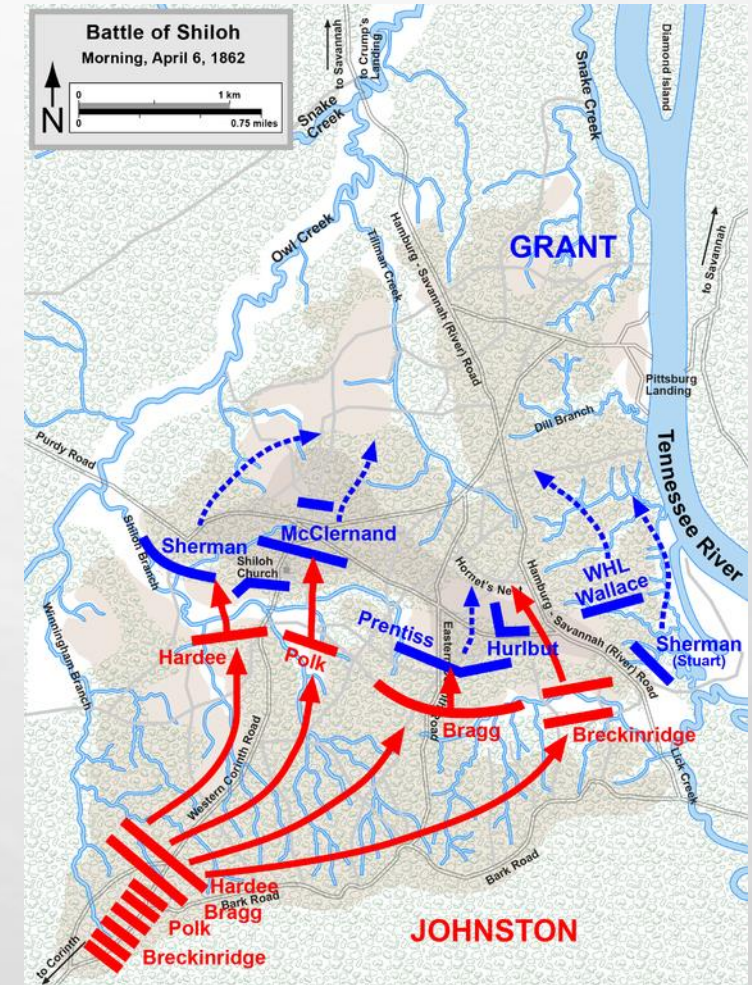
2. FIRST BATTLE OF BULL RUN



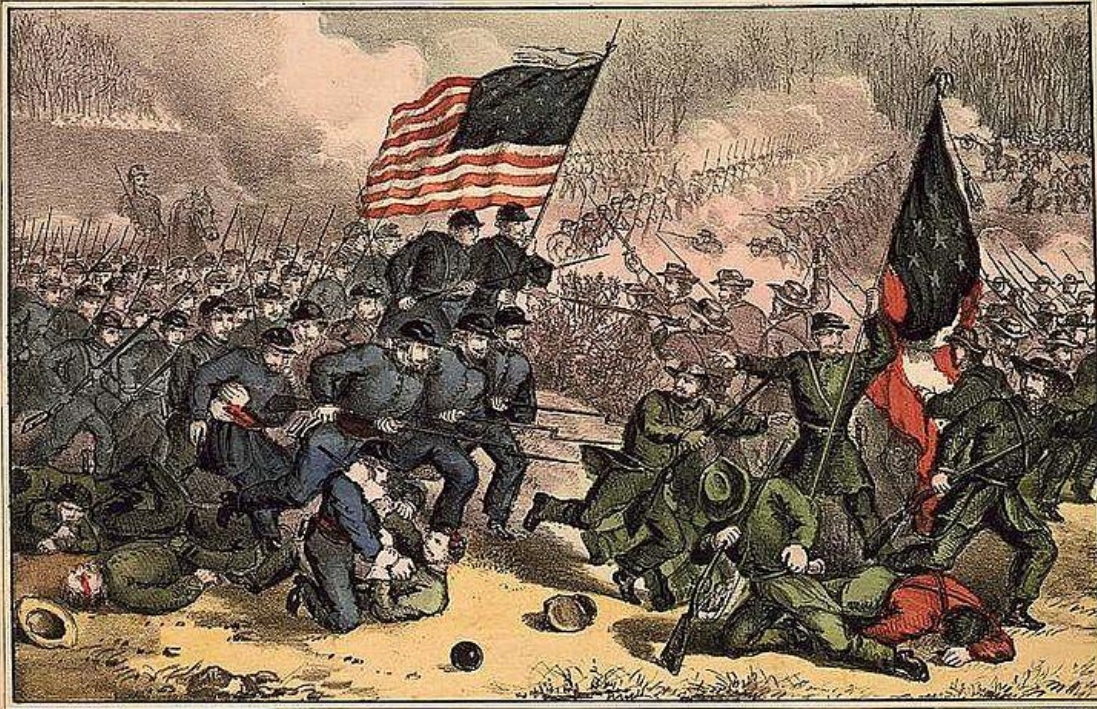
- Union General McDowell advanced his troops into **Virginia** near the stream called Bull Run where the Confederate troops were waiting under General Beauregard
- As the untrained soldiers fell into **chaos**, General Thomas Jackson moved his men toward the Union forces and was nicknamed “**Stonewall**” Jackson after another General said he was standing like a stonewall on the battlefield
- Many townspeople and even Congress members had taken a **picnic** out to a nearby hill to watch the battle – thinking this war would only last a few months – and ran off in the commotion that followed the Union’s **retreat**
- Confederate victory, nearly **5,000** total casualties

3. BATTLE OF SHILOH

- Union General **Grant** waited for reinforcements in Tennessee but was **surprise** attacked by Confederate forces and were not looking good by the end of the first day
- Grant decided not to retreat and would fight again in the morning, **overnight** his reinforcements arrived and was able to send the Confederate Army into **retreat**
- Union victory, nearly **23,000** total casualties



4. SECOND BATTLE OF BULL RUN



THE SECOND BATTLE OF BULL RUN, FOUGHT AUGT 29TH 1862.

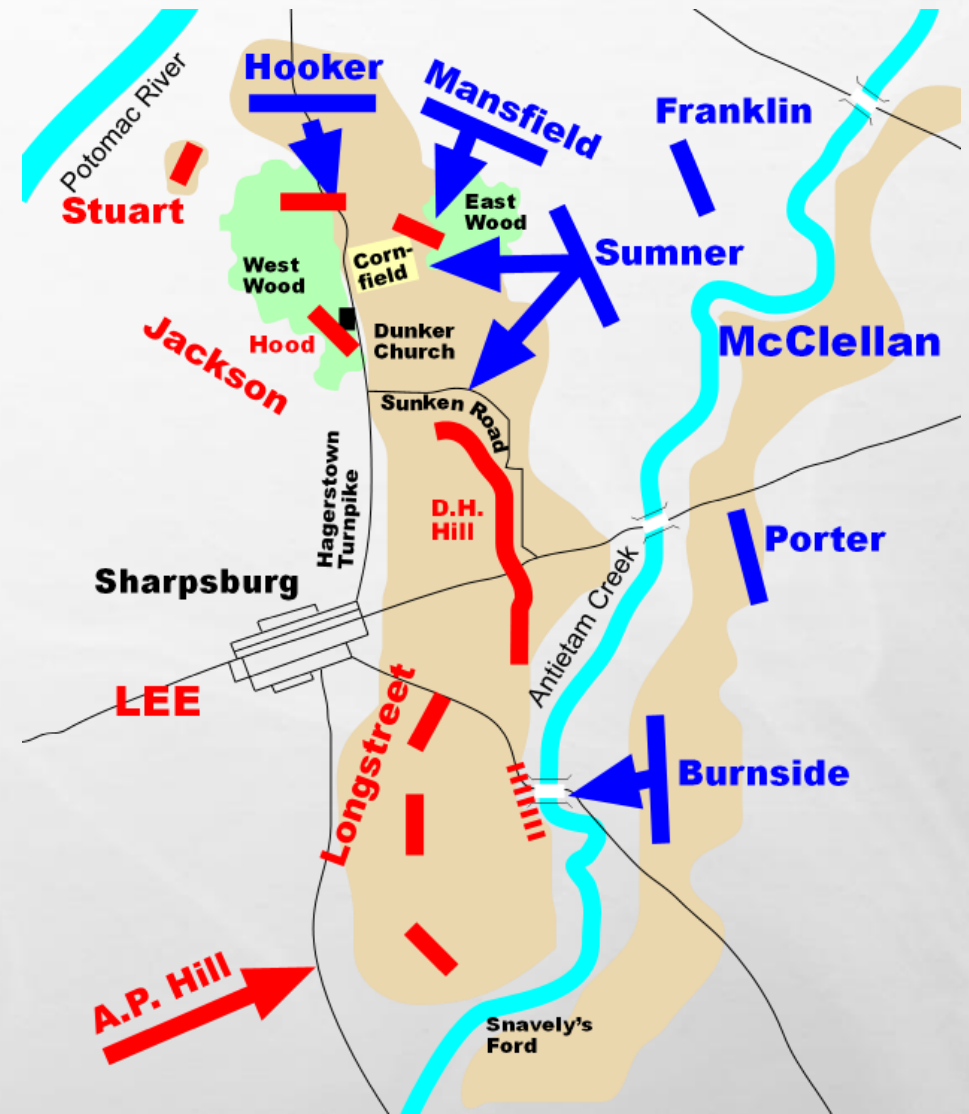
Between the "Army of Virginia" under Maj. Gen. John Pope, and the combined forces of the Rebel Army under Lee, Jackson and others. This terrific battle was fought on the identical battle field of Bull run, and lasted with great fury from daylight until after dark, when the rebels were driven back, and the Union Army rested in triumph on the field.

MICROFILMED

- Union General **McClellan** was not moving fast enough for Lincoln so he ordered General **Pope** to march troops into Virginia and for McClellan to join him, but he did not
- General Pope's men were forced to **retreat** just as in the First Battle of Bull Run
- Confederate victory, nearly **22,000** total casualties

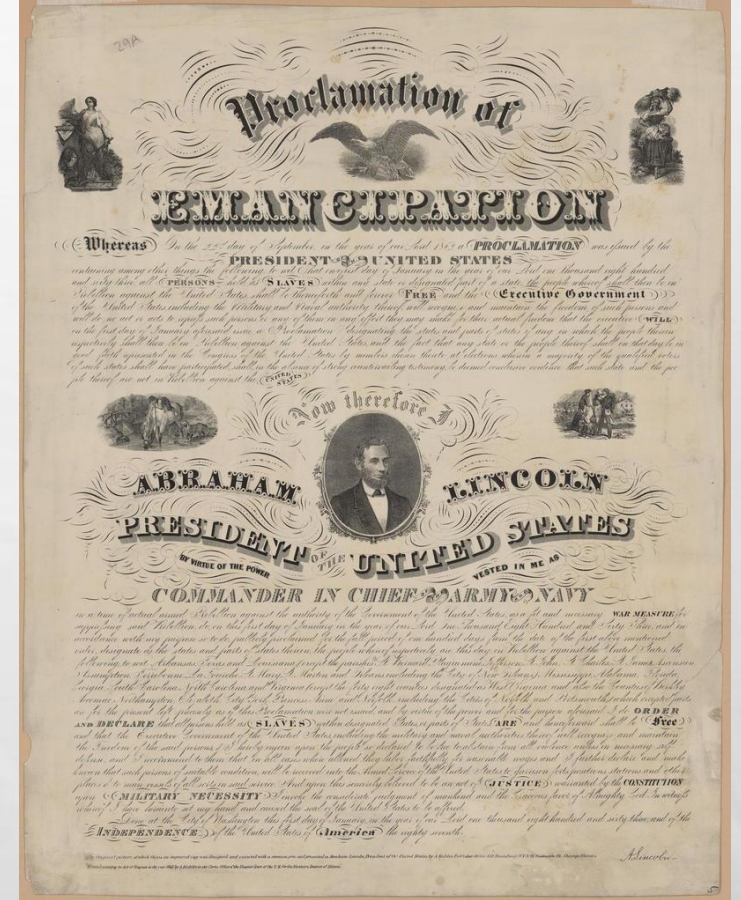
5. BATTLE OF ANTIETAM

- Union General McClellan attacked General **Lee** near Antietam Creek after Lee's orders had been found by Union soldiers at a nearby **campsite**, but he moved too slowly giving Lee and Jackson time to organize their **defensive** strategy
- After the battle, Lee and his men **retreated** to Virginia and Lincoln ordered McClellan to follow them and “**destroy** the rebel army” but he did not – which got him fired as General of the Union Armies
- Union victory, bloodiest **single** day in American history, over **23,000** total casualties

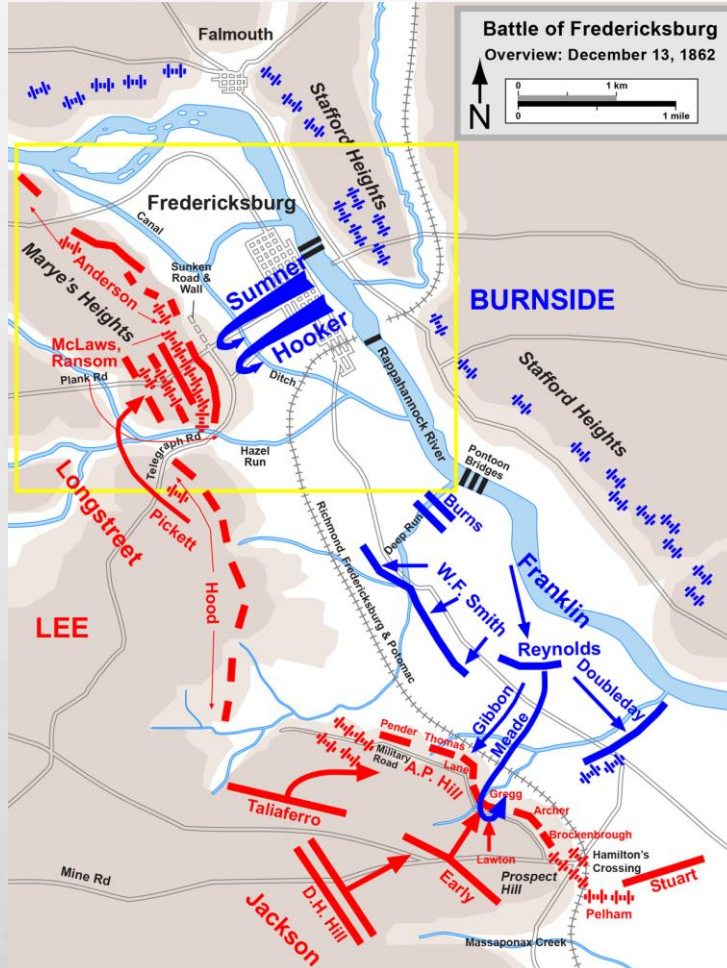


EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION

- The Union victory at the Battle of Antietam, although it waged heavy death tolls on both sides, gave Lincoln the opportunity to issue the Emancipation Proclamation which would free slaves in the Confederate States and allow them to join the Union Army, further weakening the South's ability to continue fighting
- This turned the war, for many, into a war of human rights rather than states' rights, but the advantage of having reinforcements was enticing to the Northerners and further devastated the South's economy by pulling enslaved laborers away from the fields
- Some Northerners were concerned over the potential job competition if the freed slaves came North looking for jobs – though this proclamation did not free slaves in the North (or the border states)



6. BATTLE OF FREDERICKSBURG



- Union General McClellan was replaced by General **Burnside** who marched his men straight into the town of Fredericksburg where Lee and his men were
- Burnside ordered bridges to be made and his men to **attack** 14 times, before nightfall, the Union had lost more than **twice** as many soldiers as the Confederates and left the Northerners without much **confidence** that they could win the war
- Confederate victory, almost **17,000** total casualties

7. BATTLE OF CHANCELLORSVILLE

- Union General **Hooker** tried to surprise attack General Lee by sneaking a portion of his men **away** from Fredericksburg, but Lee expected this move and secretly moved his own men out as well with orders to light **more** fires than necessary at night to **trick** the Union Army into thinking they were still there
- In a multi-day battle of attempting to **out-flank** each other, General Lee defeats an army twice the size of his, his best battle victory, but **Stonewall** Jackson is killed by friendly fire on the way back from a scouting run
- Confederate victory, General Lee's "right hand man" was killed by friendly fire – major **devastation** for the South, almost **29,000** total casualties



8. BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG...



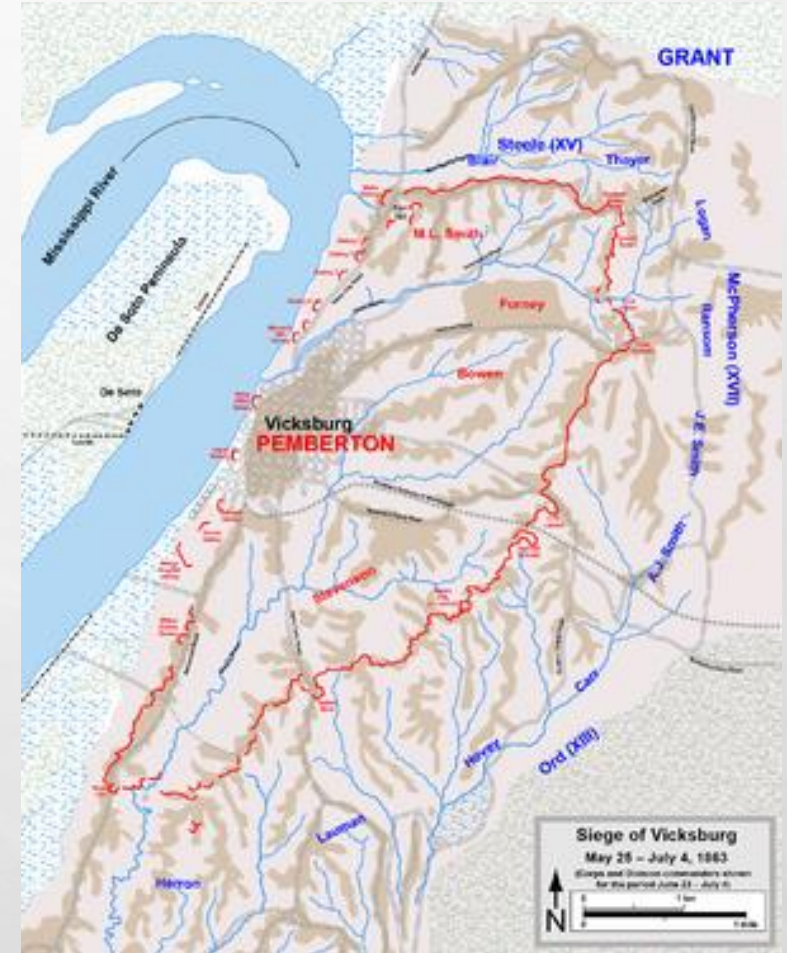
...OVER SHOES?



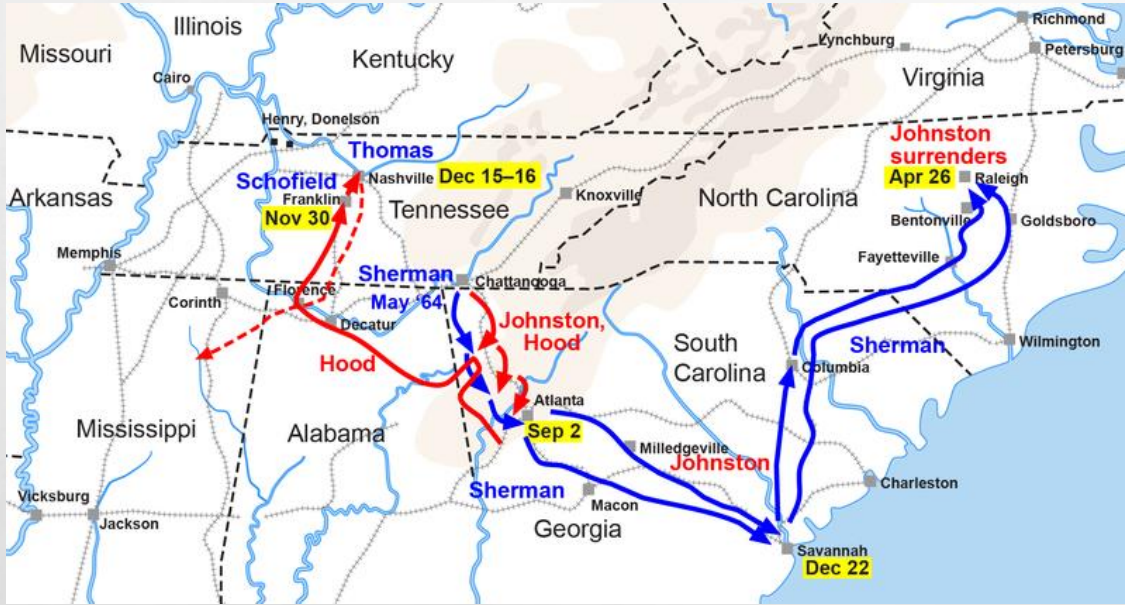
- General Lee decided to attack the **Union** territory after their victory streak and sent his troops north, a Confederate General heard there was a supply of **shoes** in the town of Gettysburg and ordered a small group of men to go find the shoes for his soldiers in **desperate** need of new shoes
- Lincoln replaced General McClellan with General **Meade** who found the Confederate soldiers in Gettysburg, this small fight turned into the **largest** battle of the war over the next **three** days including the unsuccessful **Pickett's** Charge by Confederate troops
- Union victory, **turning point** of the war and bloodiest battle, almost **51,000** total casualties, Lincoln gives famous speech at battlefield dedication of cemetery: [Gettysburg Address](#)

9. BATTLE OF VICKSBURG

- General Grant began a **48-day** siege of the town of Vicksburg, one of the last Confederate **strongholds** along the Mississippi River, trying to blast cannons to **starve** out the Confederate defenders
- Four days after the surrender of **Vicksburg**, the only other port city also surrendered to Union forces, gaining the **Union** full access to the Mississippi River and cutting the Confederate forces in half between the eastern and western fronts
- Union victory, gained control of the **Mississippi River**



10. SHERMAN'S MARCH TO THE SEA



- General Sherman attacked **Atlanta** and then proceeded to march toward **Savannah**, some 300 miles away, in a path 60 miles wide burning and destroying **everything** in his way from crops to livestock, railroads to businesses
- Once he had captured Savannah, he turned his men north into South Carolina (the first state to **secede**) and destroyed nearly every **home** in their path – this strategy of “**total war**” on the environment, people, and economy proved to be very successful
- Union victory, “total war” strategy devastated Southern landscape and economy

LEE SURRENDERS TO GRANT

- General Lee and General Grant met at the McLean's home in **Appomattox** Court House, Virginia to sign the surrender paperwork on April 9, **1865**
- Surrender requirements were to lay down **arms** and return **home** to await further instructions
- It was a very cordial meeting and Grant offered **food** to Lee's men before they left for home
- It would take over a **month** for the news to spread to all of the men across the country that the war was over and the Southerners needed to lay down arms



LIFE IN THE MILITARY

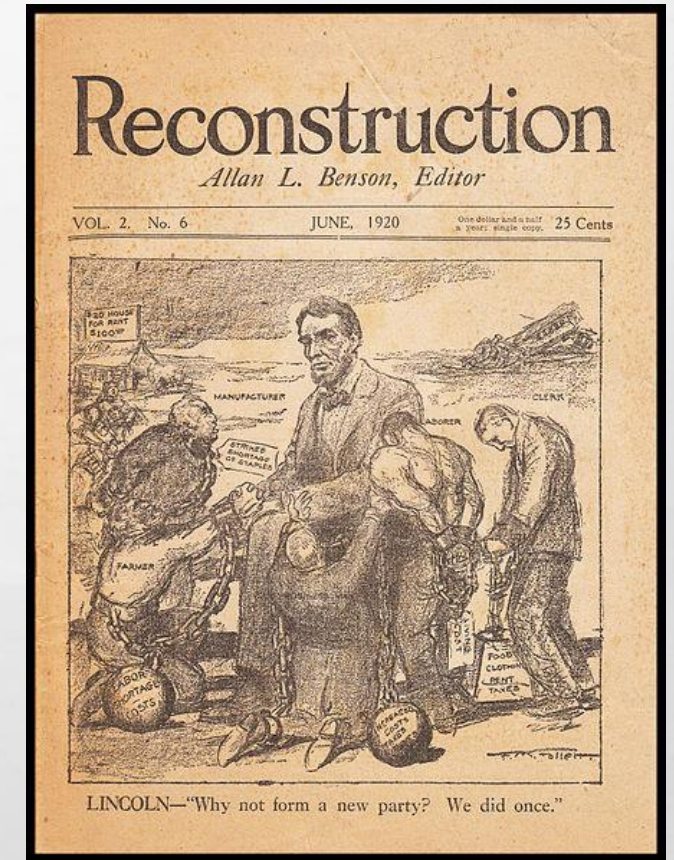
- Most soldiers that died during the Civil War did not die from battlefield injuries, but from **disease** and infection as medical knowledge was severely lacking at the time, doctors often going **days** without washing their instruments or their **hands** out in the field
- Soldiers spent up to **75%** of their time in the military in camp waiting for the next battle and these camps were often undersupplied and overcrowded, several hours per day were spent drilling for battlefield maneuvers but the rest was spent cleaning, **writing** letters home, or **playing** games
- Prison camps were minimal in the early years of the war, prisoners often being exchanged or let go if they **promised** not to rejoin their army – though after **freedmen** started joining the army and the Confederacy threatened to execute or enslave any black soldiers caught, the numbers of **prisoners** increased dramatically while their treatment decreased

LIFE ON THE HOME FRONT

- Life at home in the South became extremely **difficult** during the war as supply shortages and **inflation** caused prices to skyrocket (a pair of shoes was \$18 in 1862 and \$800 in 1865, a loaf of bread was \$25) and many soldiers **deserted** the war to return home and provide for their families
- The Confederacy enacted the first **draft** in American history in 1862 by requiring an extension to the original one year of service from the volunteers and then **conscription** (or forced military service) to all males 18-35, which was later extended to 17-50 year old's – only plantation owners and those that held more than 20 slaves were excused from service, causing the poor to **rebel** and avoid the draft
- The Union also utilized a draft to increase numbers, but you could pay a fee of **\$300** to be excused which caused anti-draft and anti-war protests in the North and many were arrested and jailed without trial when Lincoln suspended **habeas corpus** (the right of the accused to appear in court) during the war
- **Women** took on the roles that men left behind during the war such as maintaining farms, businesses, working in factories, staffing government offices, and nursing the wounded on the battlefield like Clara Barton who later founded the American Red Cross
- Some women **disguised** themselves as men during the war to fight, some were spies; after the war, hundreds of teachers went south to **educate** former slaves

PLANS FOR AFTER THE WAR

- The **Freedmen's Bureau** was created before the end of the war to assist freed slaves and whites that were uprooted by the war – services included helping to **reunite** separated families, **provide** food, clothing, shelter, medical assistance, and education to those in need
- Lincoln's plan was to re-admit the Southern states to the Union as soon as they met his requirements, which became known as the **Ten Percent Plan**:
 1. 10% of their voters had pledged their loyalty to the Union and support for **emancipation**
 2. New state government would be organized
 3. State constitution rewritten to **ban** slavery
- Many in Congress felt this was too lenient and wrote the Wade-Davis Bill which would require a **majority** of the white male voters to pledge loyalty to the Union prior to being able to hold elections for a new government, but Lincoln ignored this bill and the time ran out on making it a law – called a **pocket veto**



LINCOLN ASSASSINATED

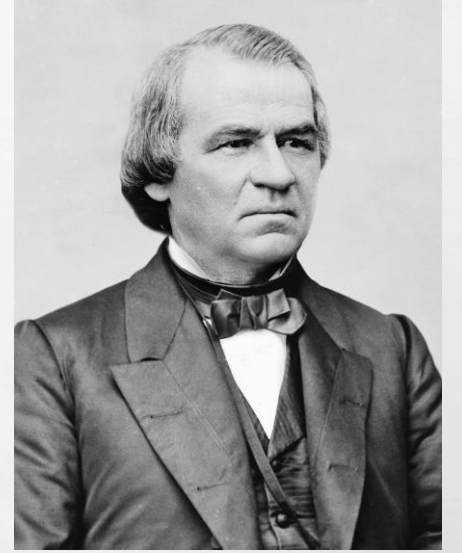


[Ford's Theatre Museum Virtual Tour](#)

- President Lincoln attended a play at **Ford's** Theatre with his wife and another couple on April 14, 1865, only five days after Lee's surrender, when a famous actor, John Wilkes **Booth**, made his way into the Presidential Box and shot Lincoln in the back of the head
- Booth proceeded to jump down from the balcony, turn to the crowd and yelled "Sic **semper** tyrannis" (death to the tyrant) and then exited the theatre through a backstage door and escaped into **Virginia** where he was tracked down and killed by Union soldiers on a farm **twelve** days later

JOHNSON TAKES OVER

- Vice-President Andrew **Johnson** took over after Lincoln's assassination
- Johnson's plan for re-admitting Southern states into the Union was a little bit different than Lincoln's
 1. Oath of loyalty to the United States
 2. Owners of property worth over \$20,000 were required to ask the president for a pardon
 3. No percentage of voters required to form state convention, instead those that pledged loyalty could call a state **convention** to amend their state constitution to **abolish** slavery
- Within 6 months, all former Confederate states except **Texas** had met Johnson's requirements to re-enter the US, Congress was not very happy about being **excluded** in this process and decided to take over **Reconstruction**



BLACK CODES AND SOUTHERN DEFIANCE

- President Johnson was very **lenient** with the Southerners as they rejoined the Union and many of those states put their pre-war **leaders** back into political offices
- Although slavery was officially abolished with the **13th Amendment** in December of 1865, **Black Codes** were created to keep freedmen from having equality with white men (although some rights were granted to freedmen such as the right to marry and own property) and to create a **dependence** on freedmen working on plantations to maintain the social order in the South
- Many Southern sheriffs and Civil War veterans supported the Black Codes and worked to **enforce** them, inspiring other white citizens in the South to form groups such as the Ku Klux Klan, to enforce the Black Codes and Jim Crow laws that would enforce the **segregation** of African American and white citizens

CONGRESS & RADICAL REPUBLICANS

- Congress took over the Reconstruction process from Johnson and wrote two laws right away
 1. Extended and expanded the Freedmen's Bureau's ability to assist freedmen and their families
 2. Civil Rights Act of 1866 – **equality** in laws and protections for African Americans
- When President Johnson **vetoed** the Freedmen's Bureau bill, Congress voted to pass both laws anyway and Republicans in Congress decided to help the **Radical** Republicans (those that wanted strict rules for Southern states to rejoin the US and restructuring of Southern society) take over Reconstruction
- Afraid that the Supreme Court might **overturn** the Civil Rights Act law, the **14th Amendment** was proposed and passed in Congress in 1866 to grant **citizenship** and the protection of the law to all persons born in the US
- With the Election of 1866, Radical Republicans gained more seats in Congress and could now **control** the path of Reconstruction

JOHNSON IS IMPEACHED

- Radical Republicans issued the **Reconstruction Acts** in **1867** and 1868
 1. Divided the South into **five** military districts and demanded that all Southern states: **ratify** the 14th Amendment, write new state constitutions that guarantee freemen the right to vote, and form new state governments before individual states would be re-admitted to the Union
 2. Authorized the Army to **register** African American men to vote
 3. Military commanders could remove elected officials that did not cooperate
 4. Tenure of Office Act – required Senate **approval** for the dismissal of any official that had required Senate approval
- The House of Representatives voted to **impeach** President Johnson when he fired one of Lincoln's appointed advisors (violating the Tenure of Office Act), when Senate held the impeachment trial, the vote was one short of removing Johnson from office – he **remained** in office, but was unpopular and was replaced by General Grant in 1868
- In 1870, the **15th Amendment** was passed which states that people could not be denied the right to **vote** based on **race**, but did not include women or say anything about denying the right to vote based on something other than race

SHARECROPPING



- **Scalawags** (Southerners that joined the Republican party) and **Carpetbaggers** (Northerners that went into the South to help **rebuild** the economy) were opposed to the old slave owners rebuilding the South the way it had been, and some tried to help freedmen gain economic and educational **opportunities**
- Since few African American families had enough money to buy all of the supplies necessary, the Southern **Homestead** Act that set aside 45 million acres of land across the southern states for freedmen to farm, was not widely utilized and was **repealed**
- Many freedmen begin **sharecropping**, where the worker receives a portion (or share) of their employer's crop instead of receiving **wages**, as did many poor white southerners
- The employer would provide land, seed, tools, a mule, and a cabin while the sharecropper would provide the **labor**, although sharecroppers were often not allowed to grow food crops to ensure that the employer would get higher **profits** by selling all of the crop
- Only being paid at harvest time created a cycle of **debt** for many sharecroppers as they had to buy groceries on credit and when the harvest did not pay as much as expected, they went into to **debt**

RECONSTRUCTION COLLAPSES

- Ku Klux Klan and similar groups' **violence** across the South encouraged Congress to pass the Enforcement Acts which set heavy penalties on anyone attempting to **prevent** a qualified citizen from **voting** or to wear a **disguise** in an attempt to deprive someone of their rights
- Support for Reconstruction faded by the mid 1870s as the two loudest Radical Republicans had died, and the Supreme Court made rulings that **limited** the power and reach of the 14th and 15th Amendments
- With the disagreement over the Election of 1876 between Republican Rutherford B. Hayes and Democrat Samuel Tilden, Congress held a special **Electoral** Commission to decide the winner in the election and offered the Compromise of **1877** to appease both sides
- Compromise of 1877: **Hayes** would be elected president and Republicans would withdraw the remaining federal troops from **Southern** states (Republican governments collapsed in the South)