

Chapter 3

Crisis, Civil War and Reconstruction

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I. THE ROAD TO SECESSION

LEGISLATION REGARDING SLAVERY

The debate over slavery grew more heated as controversy continued over which territories should be slave states and which ones should be free. Congress passed the Missouri Compromise in 1820 with the hope of maintaining the balance of power between slave and free states. With the acquisition of land from Mexico, however, conflict surfaced once again. Henry Clay of Kentucky helped maintain national unity by proposing the **Compromise of 1850**. Under this agreement, Congress admitted California as a free state and declared the unorganized western territories free as well. The Utah and New Mexico territories, however, were allowed to decide the issue by **popular sovereignty**. In other words, the people living in these areas would vote on whether or not to allow slavery. Attached to the Compromise was the **Fugitive Slave Law**. This law required that northern states forcibly return escaped slaves to their owners in the South. Because the law was unpopular in the North, many northern citizens refused to obey it.

In 1854, Congress passed the **Kansas-Nebraska Act**. This act allowed the previously free and unorganized territories of Kansas and Nebraska to choose whether or not to permit slavery (popular sovereignty). This act effectively repealed the Missouri Compromise and reignited the slavery issue, yet again. Settlers rushed into Kansas from both the North and the South. Kansas became known as “**Bleeding Kansas**” as armed clashes between pro-slavery forces and abolitionist settlers became commonplace. In Washington, the act caused heated debate. A fiery Senator from Massachusetts named **Charles Sumner** strongly denounced the act in a speech that spanned two days. Sumner attacked the act and the senators who authored it (**Stephen A. Douglas** and **Andrew Butler**). A couple of days after



SOUTHERN CHIVALRY - ARGUMENT CLUB

Brooks Attacks Sumner

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the speech, Sumner was approached on the Senate floor by South Carolina Congressman, **Preston Brooks**. Brooks was insulted by Sumner's words both because he was from the South and because he was related to **Butler**. Brooks beat Sumner with a heavy cane, almost killing him and causing him to be absent from the Senate for three years while he recovered from the attack. The **Sumner-Brooks incident** was a brutal example of how inflamed passions had become over the slavery issue. Meanwhile, two rival governments (one slave and the other free) formed in Kansas, leaving the territory in a state of civil war.

THE DRED SCOTT DECISION

The 1857 case of *Dred Scott v. Sanford* threw the nation further into turmoil. Dred Scott, a slave in Missouri, was taken by his owner into free territory where he lived for four years. The owner later returned to Missouri, where he died. After his death, Dred Scott sued for his freedom. The Supreme Court ruled that Scott had no right to sue because, as a slave, he was not a citizen. It also declared that a slave owner could not be deprived of his "property" without due process of law. The decision also struck down the Missouri Compromise because it declared that it was a violation of the Fifth Amendment to declare slaves free of their owners without due process of law — even if that slave had entered a free state. The decision outraged both abolitionists and those who favored popular sovereignty.



Dred Scott

BIRTH OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

In 1854, a coalition of Democrats, Whigs, and Free Soilers (a party opposing slavery in new territories) formed the **Republican Party**. While the party did not call for the immediate abolition of slavery, it was noted for adopting the Free-Soilers' position of opposing the extension of slavery into new US territories.

THE LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATES

In 1858, the Republicans nominated **Abraham Lincoln** (1809 – 1865) to run for the US Senate in Illinois against Democrat **Stephen A. Douglas** (1813 – 1861). The two confronted one another in a series of public debates that won national attention. Lincoln, an opponent of slavery, insisted that Douglas explain how his view supporting popular sovereignty could hold up in light of the Dred Scott case. Douglas, who had hopes of being president in 1860 and wanted to appeal to both southern Democrats and his northern constituents, argued that slavery could not be implemented without laws to govern it. If a territory had no slave laws, then it could not have slaves. This view became known as the **Freeport Doctrine** because it was espoused by Douglas during a debate in Freeport, Illinois. Douglas went on to win the election, but his refusal to support the court's decision in the Dred Scott case outright ended up costing him valuable southern support.

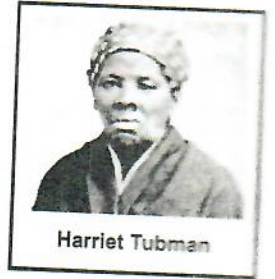


Stephen Douglas

ACTION AGAINST SLAVERY

UNCLE TOM'S CABIN AND THE "UNDERGROUND RAILROAD"

While politicians fought desperately to maintain peace as they dealt with the topic of slavery, others began to take action. **Black codes** (laws that seriously limited the actions of slaves) and harsh treatment of slaves in the South led radical abolitionists to believe that they could not afford to wait for legislation that would do away with slavery. **Harriet Tubman** (1820 – 1913), herself an escaped slave, was a hero of the abolitionist movement. She secretly returned to the South nineteen times in order to lead other slaves to freedom by way of the **Underground Railroad**. The Underground Railroad was not actually a railroad, but rather a network of people who helped slaves escape to the northern US and Canada.



Harriet Tubman

Another activist was **Harriet Beecher Stowe** (1811 – 1896). Her 1852 novel, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, was a fictional account of the horrors faced by a slave family in the South. Though she was white and had never been a slave, her book motivated many people in the North to support the abolition of slavery.

JOHN BROWN'S RAID

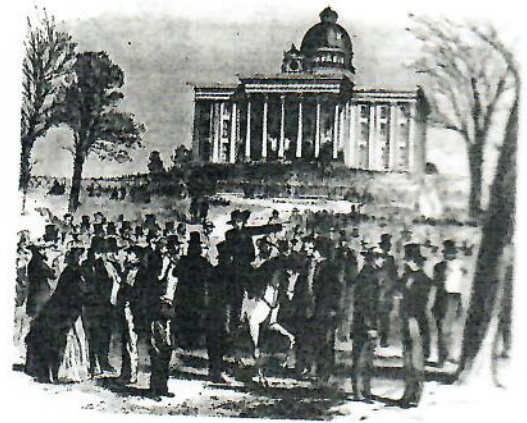
One of the most radical white abolitionists was **John Brown** (1800 – 1859). In October of 1859, Brown and his followers attacked the federal arsenal (location where weapons are made and/or stored) at **Harper's Ferry**. He hoped to seize weapons and give them to slaves who could then rise up in armed rebellion. His plan failed when US troops under the command of Colonel Robert E. Lee surrounded the arsenal and forced Brown's surrender. Brown was hanged and southern resentment of the abolitionist movement intensified.



John Brown

ELECTION OF 1860 AND SOUTHERN SECESSION

By the time of the **presidential election of 1860**, the country was at a boiling point regarding slavery. At its convention, the Democratic Party split along sectional lines over the issue. The northern Democrats supported slavery in the new territories as determined by popular sovereignty and nominated Stephen Douglas. The southern Democrats, wanting federal protection of slavery in the territories, nominated Vice President John Breckinridge of Kentucky. The Republicans, meanwhile, chose **Abraham Lincoln**. The South felt threatened by Lincoln's candidacy because, unlike Douglas who considered slavery a legitimate choice, Lincoln considered it a moral evil. The southern states feared that Lincoln would seek not only to prevent slavery in the new territories, but to dismantle it in the South as well. When Lincoln won the election, South Carolina responded by **seceding** (announcing their withdrawal) from the Union on December 20, 1860. By February 1861, six other states had seceded as well: Mississippi, Alabama,



Montgomery, Alabama - a crowd gathers at the Congress of the Confederacy.

Georgia, Florida, Louisiana and Texas. In February of 1861, southern delegates from the seceded states met in Montgomery, Alabama to draft their own constitution and elect **Jefferson Davis** (1808 – 1889) as president of the **Confederate States of America**.

FORT SUMTER

The day after his inauguration, President Lincoln learned that Union soldiers at **Fort Sumter, SC** had only one month of supplies remaining. Wanting to uphold the Union without provoking war, he notified the governor of South Carolina that he was sending ships with food but no soldiers or munitions. On April 12, 1861, Confederate soldiers opened fire on the fort before the relief ships could arrive, forcing the Union troops to surrender the following day. In response, President Lincoln issued a call for 75,000 volunteers. The so-called border states were forced to decide whether to support the Union or the Confederacy. With a great deal of controversy and division, Kentucky, Missouri and Maryland remained in the Union, while Virginia, North Carolina, Arkansas and Tennessee joined the Confederacy. The capital of the Confederacy was then moved from Montgomery, Alabama to Richmond, Virginia. The **Civil War** had begun.

Practice 1: The Road To Secession

1. How did the Dred Scott decision affect the Missouri Compromise and how did abolitionists and those who favored popular sovereignty respond to it?
 - A. It struck down the Missouri Compromise and was cheered by abolitionists and those favoring popular sovereignty.
 - B. It reinforced the Missouri Compromise and was considered an outrage by those who supported the abolition of slavery and popular sovereignty.
 - C. It struck down the Missouri Compromise and angered abolitionists and those favoring popular sovereignty.
 - D. It allowed the Missouri Compromise to be more effectively enforced because it made slaves "property." It was denounced by abolitionists but praised by those in favor of popular sovereignty.
2. How did the Kansas-Nebraska Act add to the controversy regarding slavery in new territories?
 - A. It disrupted the balance of power in Washington DC by declaring both states slave states.
 - B. It disrupted the balance of power in Washington DC by declaring both states free states.
 - C. It effectively repealed the Missouri Compromise by allowing these territories to choose whether or not to allow slavery.
 - D. It declared that Kansas could not enter the Union as a slave state until Nebraska agreed to enter as a free state.
3. Why did the South fear the election of Abraham Lincoln?
 - A. They knew that Lincoln was an adamant supporter of "popular sovereignty."
 - B. Lincoln had run on a platform of abolishing slavery throughout the nation.
 - C. Lincoln openly supported the Dred Scott decision.
 - D. They feared that he would seek not only to prevent slavery in new territories, but to end it in the South also.
4. Why did the Democratic party split during the election of 1860, thereby helping Lincoln to win the election?

II. THE CIVIL WAR

KEY FIGURES OF THE CIVIL WAR

Abraham Lincoln: President of the United States of America and the first Republican president in history.

Ulysses S. Grant (1822 – 1885): Initially an effective general in the Union's western battles, he eventually assumed command of the entire Union army in 1864. He defeated the South and accepted Robert E. Lee's surrender at Appomatox Courthouse. He went on to become the 18th president of the United States.



Abraham Lincoln



Ulysses S. Grant

George McClellan (1826 – 1885): A young and talented general in the Union army, he was Lincoln's first choice to command the Union forces in the East. Despite his abilities, he often proved too cautious and hesitant to attack. Lincoln eventually fired him twice out of frustration with his lack of aggressiveness. He was the Democratic party's nominee for president in 1864, losing the election to Abraham Lincoln.

William T. Sherman (1820 – 1891): Union general who took command of the western forces after Grant decided to remain with troops in the East. His capture of Atlanta in 1864 signaled to both the North and the South that the war was all but won for the Union and helped Lincoln win re-election in 1864. He is most remembered for his "march to the sea," in which he burned and destroyed southern cities and railways in an effort to disrupt the Confederate war effort and trap Lee between himself and General Grant.



George McClellan



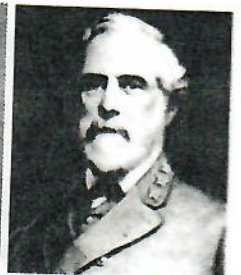
William T. Sherman

Jefferson Davis: First and only president of the Confederate States of America.

Robert E. Lee (1807 – 1870): Assumed command of the Confederacy's Army of Northern Virginia after General Joseph Johnston was injured. A brilliant commander, he was originally offered command of the Union forces by Lincoln, but could not bring himself to fight against his homeland of Virginia. Despite winning several impressive victories during the course of the war, he did not have nearly enough men to sustain the war effort past early 1865. He eventually surrendered to General Grant.



Jefferson Davis



Robert E. Lee



"Stonewall" Jackson

Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson (1824 – 1863): Confederate general and right-hand man to Robert E. Lee. Noted for his ability to use geography to his advantage, he swiftly navigated the Shenandoah Valley which stretched from the Allegheny Mountains in northern Virginia north towards Washington, D.C. One of his most brilliant moves came at the battle of Chancellorsville, when he successfully marched his troops over 12 miles undetected and attacked the unsuspecting Union forces. Unfortunately for the Confederacy, it was during this same battle that Jackson was accidentally shot by Confederate troops from North Carolina while scouting the enemy's position at night. His left arm had to be amputated, leading to Lee's famous quote, "Jackson has lost his left arm, but I have lost my right." Although his injuries did not

initially seem life threatening, Jackson died after contracting pneumonia during his recovery. So effective a leader was Jackson that many believe that, had he lived to fight at Gettysburg, the South would have won the war.

KEY BATTLES OF THE CIVIL WAR

THE FIRST BATTLE OF BULL RUN (JULY 21, 1861)

The **First Battle of Bull Run** (also known as First Manassas because of the town near which it was fought) was the first confrontation between the two armies and a humiliating defeat for the Union forces. Fought only 30 miles from Washington, DC, it could have led to an invasion of the capital by Confederate forces had the southern troops been better organized. The battle made it evident that the war would be longer than expected and led Lincoln to adopt General Winfield Scott's "**Anaconda Plan**." The plan involved restricting southern supplies and communications by seizing control of the Mississippi River, cutting Confederate territory in half, and instituting coastal **blockades** (use of naval power to keep ships from entering or leaving enemy ports). On land, the war was fought on two primary fronts, or **theaters**: eastern and western.

THE EASTERN THEATER

ANTIETAM (September 17, 1862)

After successfully defeating the Union army at the Second Battle of Bull Run, General Robert E. Lee believed that the time was right for an invasion of the North. Lee and his generals tried to maintain secrecy as they made the necessary preparations. Meanwhile, General McClellan (the Union's commanding general), remained unaware of the Confederate army's whereabouts until a copy of Lee's orders were found wrapped around some cigars at an abandoned Confederate camp. Now aware of Lee's plans, McClellan saw to it that Lee met a prepared Union force at Antietam Creek, Maryland. The battle of **Antietam** proved to be the bloodiest single day of the war, halting the Confederate advance. McClellan hesitated, however, and Lee's army slipped away to fight another day.



Robert E. Lee

GETTYSBURG (July 1 – 3, 1863)



Gettysburg

Fought just outside Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, the battle of **Gettysburg** was a key turning point in the war. Just two months earlier, the battle of Chancellorsville had been a great Confederate victory. Often called “Lee’s perfect battle” because of the great planning and good fortune the Confederates had experienced, Lee and Jackson had defeated more than 70,000 Union troops with only 40,000 Confederate soldiers. Jackson’s death following Chancellorsville, however, meant that Lee was without his most gifted and reliable commander at Gettysburg. As a result, the Confederate troops under his command proved less aggressive than usual and failed to win valuable high ground early in the battle. Union forces under the command of General George Meade defeated Lee’s army and ended any hope the South had of successfully invading the North. With more than 51,000 soldiers killed, wounded, or missing, Gettysburg was the bloodiest battle of the entire Civil War. Four months later President Lincoln gave his famed **Gettysburg Address** at a ceremony dedicating a cemetery on the sight of the battlefield. Although a relatively short speech, it was a powerful affirmation of Lincoln’s desire to see the Union survive and the nation reunited.

THE WESTERN THEATER

VICKSBURG (May 15 – July 4, 1863)

In the late spring of 1863, the town of Vicksburg, Mississippi was the last Confederate obstacle to total Union control of the Mississippi river. Ignoring advice to retreat, General Grant laid **siege** (a strategy by which an army surrounds its enemy, cuts off their supplies, and starves them into surrendering) to Vicksburg for almost two months. By the time the town finally surrendered on July 4, residents had been reduced to eating horses, mules, dogs and even rats.

SHERMAN’S MARCH (May – December, 1864)

Making their way from Chattanooga, Tennessee, Union forces under the command of William T. Sherman captured Atlanta in September of 1864, thereby helping President Lincoln to win re-election. Then, after burning the city, Sherman continued his “**march to the sea**” destroying bridges, factories and railroad lines. Union forces cut a nearly 300 mile path of destruction across Georgia in route to the city of Savannah, which surrendered without a fight. Sherman then turned north into the Carolinas, intending to trap Lee’s army between himself and Ulysses S. Grant.



General Sherman

POLITICAL ISSUES OF THE WAR

As the battle lines were being drawn, four slave states (Missouri, Kentucky, Delaware and Maryland) remained with the Union. Southern sympathizers, however, were common in these states. If Maryland joined the Confederacy, the Union capital of Washington, DC would be surrounded by Confederate territory. Concerned that Confederate sympathizers might succeed in swaying Maryland to secede, President Lincoln took drastic action. He declared martial law in Maryland, suspended the **writ of habeas corpus** (the

guarantee that a person cannot be imprisoned without being brought before a judge) and jailed the strongest supporters of the Confederacy. This allowed the Maryland legislature to vote in favor of remaining with the Union. Lincoln continued to use such measures throughout the war.

Another point of contention in the North was Lincoln's decision to establish a **draft**. A draft is a policy in which the government selects certain individuals for military service rather than waiting for them to enlist. Lincoln's draft was particularly unpopular among the poor and immigrants. They resented the fact that wealthy citizens could avoid military service in exchange for paying \$300 or by hiring a substitute to serve in their place. In July 1863, draft riots broke out in New York City, killing more than 100 people and resulting in the lynching of at least 11 African-Americans by immigrants and poorer whites who blamed blacks for the war.

One group that was among Lincoln's most notable political opponents came to be called the **copperheads**. Named after a deadly snake, "copperheads" were Union Democrats who criticized Lincoln and the war. They played on some northerners' fears and predicted that freeing southern slaves would mean huge numbers of African-Americans migrating north to steal white jobs. Radical copperheads even encouraged Union soldiers to desert (abandon) the army, while calling on citizens to resist the draft.

THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION

The Union victory at Antietam gave President Lincoln the opportunity to issue the **Emancipation Proclamation** on January 1, 1863. This proclamation freed the slaves in the Confederate States, while maintaining slavery in the border states loyal to the Union. With this executive order, Lincoln hoped to give the war a moral focus beyond just saving the Union. He also hoped to undermine the South's reliance on slave labor and ensure the support of England and France — both of which had already abolished slavery. Two years later, Congress passed the **13th Amendment** which abolished slavery throughout the United States.



President Lincoln reads the Emancipation Proclamation for the first time to his cabinet

The Emancipation Proclamation also encouraged free African-Americans to serve in the Union army. Although originally not allowed to enlist, McClellan's early defeats led Congress to authorize accepting African-Americans into the army in 1862. On warships, whites and blacks served side by side. In the army, however, African-Americans served only in all black regiments under the command of white officers. Seeing their battle as one to free their own people from the bonds of slavery, African-Americans served notably during the war.

ELECTION OF 1864

The discontent that many in the North felt towards the war meant that Lincoln was in danger of losing the **1864 election**. In an effort to defeat Lincoln and negotiate an end to the war, the Democrats nominated George McClellan — Lincoln's former general — to run for president. However, Sherman's capture of Atlanta two months before the election signaled to everyone that Union victory was within reach, and Lincoln was elected to a second term.

UNION VICTORY

In March of 1864, President Lincoln put **Ulysses S. Grant** in command of the Union army. Grant, knowing he had far more men than Lee, began a campaign designed to crush the Confederate army in a series of head to head confrontations. Pushing south, Grant engaged Lee in a number of bloody battles. In less than two months, Grant's army suffered some 65,000 casualties. Still, the Union's overwhelming numbers meant that the Confederates were the ones on the retreat.

Finally, when Lee's army found itself surrounded in Virginia, the Confederate general elected to surrender rather than see more lives lost. On April 9, 1865, Robert E. Lee surrendered to Ulysses S. Grant at **Appomattox Courthouse**. Although some fighting continued afterwards, this effectively ended the war. Two weeks later, the largest and last major surrender of the war took place when General Joseph Johnston surrendered his Confederate army to General William T. Sherman at a farm house in Durham, North Carolina, known as the **Bennett Place**.



McLean house,
Appomattox Courthouse, VA



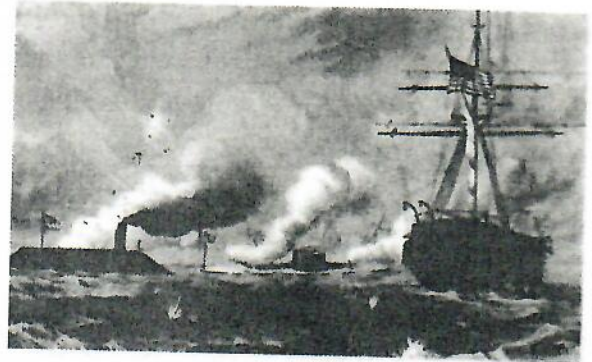
Joseph Johnston

MILITARY TECHNOLOGY AND THE INDUSTRIAL NORTH

There were many reasons why the North won the war. Although the South initially had more gifted generals in the eastern theater, the North possessed far more people. Therefore, the North's armies consistently outnumbered the Confederates. Even more important, however, was the distinct advantage the North enjoyed as an industrial society. Because of its factories, the North was able to produce far more munitions, weapons, and needed supplies for the war.

The war also saw advances in military technology. Guns became more efficient as innovations allowed for firearms that could fire rounds of ammunition much quicker and more accurately. When the war began, both sides still relied heavily on the use of muskets that had to be loaded one musket ball at a time. By war's end, both armies were using advanced **rifles** that allowed soldiers to load rounds faster and get off more shots in less time.

Nowhere were advances in technology more evident than with the two sides' navies. The Confederates created an **ironclad** (a warship with the sides shielded with iron to protect it from enemy fire) from an old wooden steamship called the *Merrimack*. (The South renamed this ship the *Virginia*, but it is better known as the *Merrimack*). The Union navy's wooden ships found themselves powerless against this innovative weapon. Finally, the Union responded with an ironclad of its own called the *Monitor*. On March 9, 1862, the two ships met in a battle off the coast of Virginia. After several hours of fighting, the *Merrimack* withdrew with neither ship suffering much damage. Eventually, the South blew up the *Merrimack* to keep it from falling into enemy hands, and the *Monitor* sank during a storm. While the two ships met only one time, their battle marked a new era in US naval warfare.



Monitor vs Merrimack

The Civil War also marked the first time that **submarines** (ships that remain entirely under water) were used as American weapons of war. The Union was actually the first to use a sub, but no Union submarine ever engaged in battle with a Confederate ship. The most notable Confederate sub was the *CSS Hunley*. The *Hunley* was intended to sink Union ships blockading Confederate harbors. On February 18, 1864, it became the first North American submarine to successfully sink an enemy ship. Unfortunately for the South, however, the *Hunley* also sank during the same battle.

Practice 2: The Civil War

1. It was a major turning point in the war that ended the South's hopes of successfully invading the North. In addition, many believe that had General "Stonewall" Jackson been alive the South would have won this battle and, quite possibly, the war. Which battle is it?
 - A. Gettysburg
 - B. Antietam
 - C. Shiloh
 - D. Atlanta
2. How did Sherman's taking Atlanta greatly impact the election of 1864?
 - A. It allowed Lincoln to suspend *writ of habeas corpus* in Georgia, thereby assuring that only Lincoln's supporters went to the polls.
 - B. It inspired faith in military generals, thereby leading to General McClellan being nominated for president.
 - C. It assured people in the North that victory was in sight, thereby increasing the popularity of President Lincoln and allowing him to win re-election.
 - D. It led to Lincoln's defeat because he lost the support of Southerners whom Sherman had abused.
3. What was the Emancipation Proclamation, what impact did it have on the role of African-Americans in the Civil War, and why did it have this impact?

III. RECONSTRUCTION OF THE SOUTH

Now that the Union had been preserved, Lincoln's plan for **Reconstruction** was to rebuild rather than punish the South. Lincoln wanted to allow Confederate states to form their own governments once ten percent of the voting population swore an oath of allegiance to the United States. Sadly, however, Lincoln would not live to see the nation healed. On April 14, 1865, just five days after the surrender at Appomattox Courthouse, a Confederate sympathizer named **John Wilkes Booth** (1838 – 1865) assassinated Lincoln at Ford's Theatre.



Andrew Johnson

ANDREW JOHNSON AND THE RADICAL REPUBLICANS

With Lincoln's death, the presidency now fell to **Andrew Johnson** (1808 – 1875). Johnson, himself a southerner and one time slave owner, proved sympathetic to the South. Taking office while Congress was in recess, Johnson pursued his own plan of *presidential reconstruction*. Johnson's plan was seen as far too lenient by many in the North, and conflict quickly arose between Johnson and the **Radical Republicans**.

The Radical Republicans were members of the Republican party who favored a much tougher stance with the former Confederate states. They believed that Johnson's approach did not do enough because it failed to offer African-Americans full citizenship rights. They also believed that Congress, not the president, should oversee Reconstruction and that the majority of each state's voting population (not just 10%) should have to pledge allegiance to the United States before a state could be readmitted to the Union.

THE 14TH AMENDMENT AND THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1866

In 1866, Congress passed the **Civil Rights Act** with the intent of giving citizenship rights to freed slaves. Johnson vetoed the measure, but Congress was able to override it. Then, concerned that the courts might strike down the new law as unconstitutional, Congress passed a new amendment to the US Constitution. The **14th Amendment** guaranteed that no person (regardless of race) would be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law. It was ratified in 1868.

JOHNSON'S IMPEACHMENT

The battle between Congress and President Johnson came to a head in 1868. Johnson tried to fire Secretary of War Edwin Stanton, who had been appointed by Lincoln, because he was closely tied to the Radical Republicans. This violated the **Tenure in Office Act**, which limited the president's power to hire and fire government officials and, in effect, gave Congress rather than the president power to command the armed forces. Led by a fiery Radical Republican congressman named **Thaddeus Stevens** (1792 – 1868), the Congress voted to **impeach** (charge with wrongdoing in order to remove from office) the president of the United States. On May 16, 1868, the Senate voted to spare Johnson's presidency by just one vote.



Thaddeus Stevens

THE PLIGHT OF AFRICAN-AMERICANS AFTER THE CIVIL WAR

THE FREEDMEN'S BUREAU

The 13th Amendment freed the slaves. Now, African-Americans in the South had to adjust to life after slavery. In 1865, Congress created **The Freedmen's Bureau**. As the first federal relief agency in US history, it served to provide clothing, medical attention, meals, education, and even some land to freed blacks and some poorer whites. Lacking strong support, it disbanded in 1869.

SHARECROPPERS AND TENANT FARMERS

African-Americans had their freedom, but they had no land or money. In order to survive, many turned to **sharecropping**. Sharecropping was a practice by which a family farmed a portion of a landowner's land in return for housing and a share of the crop. Many sharecroppers, unfortunately, fell victim to dishonest landowners who subjected them to a subtle form of slavery. If a sharecropper was fortunate, he might save enough money to try **tenant farming**. Tenant farmers paid rent to farm the land and owned the crops they grew. They were not as much at the mercy of white landowners as were sharecroppers.



Black Sharecropper

BLACK CODES AND THE KU KLUX KLAN

After Johnson took office and before Congress could convene to enact its own plan for Reconstruction, many states in the South passed **black codes**. These were laws meant to keep African-Americans subordinate to whites by restricting the rights of freed slaves. For instance, blacks could not meet together after sunset, own weapons, or rent property anywhere other than in rural areas (this kept them working on the plantations). Blacks convicted of vagrancy (not working) could be whipped or sold for a year's labor. Black Codes, in effect, continued the practice of slavery. It was in response to such laws that Congress ultimately passed the Fourteenth Amendment and the Civil Rights Act of 1866.



19th Century Klansmen

Some whites advocated violence against freed blacks. Perhaps the most notorious group to use such tactics was the **Ku Klux Klan**. A secretive organization whose members often dressed in hooded white robes, the Klan used violence, murder, and threats to intimidate blacks and those who would favor giving African-Americans equal rights. The Klan practiced lynchings and other acts of violence against blacks throughout the remainder of the 19th and much of the 20th century. Although some of their goals and tactics have changed over time, the Ku Klux Klan continues to exist and operate today.

BITTERNESS GROWS IN THE SOUTH

As Reconstruction dragged on, many in the South continued to grow bitter towards the Union and those who profited from Reconstruction. Among those whom southerners resented were **carpetbaggers**. These were northerners who had come to the South to do business. Many of them were former Union officers, but others were teachers, ministers, lawyers, and so forth. Southerners despised them because they saw them as people taking advantage of southern suffering for their own economic gain. They were called "carpetbaggers" because it was said that they had stuffed some clothes into a carpetbag and rushed south to make money.

Scalawags were another hated group. These were Southerners, often Republicans, who supported Reconstruction. Southern newspapers often published their names to make sure that they suffered persecution at the hands of southern citizens and groups like the Ku Klux Klan.

THE GRANT ADMINISTRATION

CORRUPTION

Although Johnson had survived impeachment, even his own party would not support him in 1868. Instead, the nation elected Republican Ulysses S. Grant. Generally viewed as a good person, Grant was also a poor judge of character who surrounded himself with dishonest men. It was not long before his administration was riddled with corruption. One example was that of the **Whiskey Ring**, which was a scheme by internal revenue collectors and whiskey distillers to cheat the government out of tax money. Among those indicted was Grant's own private secretary.

THE 15TH AMENDMENT AND *TEXAS V. WHITE*

Grant's presidency also saw the last major piece of Reconstruction legislation. Ratified in 1870, the **15th Amendment** to the Constitution guaranteed that no citizen may be denied the right to vote "by the United States or any state on the account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude." The amendment had great impact in the South by guaranteeing African-Americans the right to vote.

That same year, the Supreme Court ruled in *Texas v. White* that the federal government had the authority to oversee the restructuring of southern state governments. The decision served to expand the powers of the central government and establish that, henceforth, the authority of the federal government would take precedence over that of the states. As a result, southern states could no longer appeal to the **10th Amendment** of the Constitution (this amendment states that those rights not delegated to the federal government are reserved for the states) to claim that states' rights outweighed federal laws.

ELECTION OF 1876 AND THE END OF RECONSTRUCTION

Because of the bad economy and the many scandals surrounding President Grant, the Democrats were hopeful that their candidate, **Samuel Tilden**, could win the **election of 1876**. The Republicans nominated then governor of Ohio, **Rutherford B. Hayes** (1822 – 1893). Tilden received almost 300,000 more popular votes than Hayes, but the election was contested because officials disputed the results in some states. In South Carolina, Florida, and Louisiana, Republicans and Democrats had established rival boards of election officials. Since each board was reporting different results, Congress appointed an electoral commission to settle the controversy. What resulted was the **Compromise of 1877**. The Democrats agreed to Hayes being president and the Republicans agreed to end Reconstruction. In addition, southern states received federal money, more power to govern themselves, and a promise to withdraw federal troops. The decision brought Reconstruction to an end and began the era of the "**Solid South**." The term refers to the fact that, for nearly a century after Reconstruction, Southerners remained distrustful of the Republican Party and "solidly" supported Democratic candidates.



Rutherford B. Hayes

With the end of Reconstruction, southern states soon began passing **Jim Crow laws** that required blacks and whites to use separate public facilities. Many states also tried to avoid upholding the 15th Amendment by requiring citizens to pass **literacy tests** or pay **poll taxes** in order to vote. Since most African-Americans in the South tended to be poor and uneducated, the new laws prevented many of them from voting. In order to keep these laws from hindering poor and illiterate whites, some states instituted **grandfather clauses**. These

• were clauses that exempted citizens from restrictions on voting if they, or their ancestors, had voted in previous elections. Since whites had enjoyed the right to vote for years, grandfather clauses allowed poor and illiterate whites to vote while excluding African-Americans.

Practice 3: Reconstruction of the South

1. Why did the Radical Republicans oppose Johnson's plans for Reconstruction, and what two pieces of legislation did they push through Congress in 1866 to help ensure the civil rights of African-Americans?
2. Which of the following was NOT offensive to white Southerners regarding Reconstruction?
 - A. scalawags
 - B. carpetbaggers
 - C. Jim Crow Laws
 - D. the policies of Radical Republicans
3. What was significant about the Supreme Court's decision in *Texas v. White*?
 - A. It established the right of African-Americans to be considered US citizens.
 - B. It established the authority of the federal government over that of the states.
 - C. It overruled Congress' decision to impeach Andrew Johnson.
 - D. It effectively ended Reconstruction.

CHAPTER 3 REVIEW



CHAPTER
REVIEW

A. Key Terms and People

Compromise of 1850	William T. Sherman	Andrew Johnson
popular sovereignty	Robert E. Lee	presidential reconstruction
Fugitive Slave Law	Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson	Radical Republicans
Kansas-Nebraska Act	Battle of Bull Run	Civil Rights Act of 1866
“Bleeding Kansas”	“Anaconda” Plan	14th Amendment
Sumner-Brooks incident	theaters of war	Tenure in Office Act
<i>Dred Scott v. Sanford</i>	Antietam	Thaddeus Stevens
Free-Soilers	Gettysburg	impeach
Republican Party	Gettysburg Address	The Freedmen’s Bureau
Abraham Lincoln	Vicksburg	sharecropping
Stephen A. Douglas	Sherman’s “march to the sea”	tenant farming
Freeport Doctrine	writ of habeas corpus	black codes
Harriet Tubman	draft	Ku Klux Klan
Underground Railroad	copperheads	carpetbaggers
Harriet Beecher Stowe	Emancipation Proclamation	scalawags
<i>Uncle Tom’s Cabin</i>	13th Amendment	Whiskey Ring
John Brown	1864 election	15th Amendment
Harper’s Ferry	Appomattox Courthouse	<i>Texas v. White</i>
election of 1860	Bennett Place	10th Amendment
Jefferson Davis	ironclads	Rutherford B. Hayes
Confederate States of America	rifle	Compromise of 1877
Fort Sumter	<i>Merrimack</i>	Solid South
Civil War	<i>Monitor</i>	Jim Crow laws
Ulysses S. Grant	submarines	literacy tests
George McClellan	<i>CCS Hunley</i>	poll tax
John Wilkes Booth	Reconstruction	grandfather clauses

B. Multiple Choice

- Which of the following served to repeal the Missouri Compromise, and why?
 - The Emancipation Proclamation, because it allowed free African-Americans to serve in the Union army.
 - The Kansas-Nebraska Act, because it allowed states to decide for themselves if they wanted slavery rather than having the issue decided by where the state was located geographically.
 - The 13th Amendment, because it extended the rights of citizenship to African-Americans.
 - The Dred Scott decision, because it declared the institution of slavery unlawful.

2. *"I am outraged by this decision! How can the judicial branch of government take it upon itself to hand down a decision that, in effect, declares men to be mere property rather than human beings. God will hold them responsible. More than that, regardless of what the Court says, God will judge any man who holds another in bondage when he has the power to set him free."*

The above statement MOST likely comes from which of the following?

- A. A member of the Confederate government, protesting the Emancipation Proclamation.
 - B. A member of Congress who supports popular sovereignty protesting the Dred Scott decision.
 - C. An abolitionist protesting the Dred Scott decision.
 - D. A Democrat protesting the election of Abraham Lincoln.
3. *"So you're the little lady who started this whole war."*
To whom was Abraham Lincoln MOST LIKELY speaking when he made the above statement?
- A. Elizabeth Cady Stanton
 - B. Harriet Tubman
 - C. Abigail Adams
 - D. Harriet Beecher Stowe
4. Which of the following best describes South Carolina's reaction to the election of 1860?
- A. They were willing to allow a Republican to be president, so long as Reconstruction ended and Union troops were withdrawn from their territory.
 - B. They were relieved and tried to convince other southern states not to secede too hastily.
 - C. They immediately declared war and hosted a convention to make Jefferson Davis their president.
 - D. They were outraged and seceded from the Union.

5. *"Mr. President:*

Sir, I am deeply honored that you would see me as fit and capable enough to assume command of the nation's armed forces. However, I cannot begin to entertain the thought of raising a sword against my beloved homeland of Virginia. It is for this reason, Mr. President, that I must respectfully decline."

The above statement could have come from which of the following individuals?

- A. Ulysses S. Grant, addressing Abraham Lincoln
 - B. Robert E. Lee, addressing Jefferson Davis
 - C. William Sherman, addressing Jefferson Davis
 - D. Robert E. Lee, addressing Abraham Lincoln
6. The "Anaconda Plan" refers to which of the following?
- A. General Lee's plan for invading the North
 - B. General Grant's plan for crushing the South in a series of head-to-head confrontations
 - C. General Scott's plan for cutting off southern supply lines and ports
 - D. John Wilkes Booth's plan for assassinating President Lincoln

7. (1) the bloodiest single day of the war
- (2) stopped Lee's first attempt to invade the North
- (3) gave Lincoln the opportunity to issue the Emancipation Proclamation
- (4) good example of why you should never wrap your cigars in the general's top secret orders

Which battle is the above list referring to?

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------|
| A. Gettysburg | C. First Battle of Bull Run |
| B. Antietam | D. Chancellorsville |

8. What battle is often referred to as "Lee's perfect battle?"

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------|
| A. Gettysburg | C. First Battle of Bull Run |
| B. Antietam | D. Chancellorsville |

9. (1) ended Confederate hopes of successfully invading the North

- (2) Stonewall Jackson was sorely missed
- (3) major turning point
- (4) bloodiest battle of the entire war

What battle is the above list referring to?

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------|
| A. Gettysburg | C. First Battle of Bull Run |
| B. Antietam | D. Chancellorsville |

10. *"It was a horrible scene. For well over a month the enemy sat encamped around the city. They let no one out, and no supplies in. We held out as best we could, but by the end we were eating mules, rats... anything we could get our hands on. Finally, we had no choice but to surrender."*

The above quote was MOST likely made by whom?

- | | |
|--|--|
| A. a slave forced to fight at Gettysburg | C. a citizen of Shiloh |
| B. a citizen of Vicksburg | D. a Confederate making a stand at Bennett Place |

11. Someone who believes strongly in civil rights would have been MOST upset with Lincoln for which of the following?

- | | |
|---|--|
| A. opposing slavery in the new territories | C. suspending the writ of habeas corpus |
| B. failing to support "popular sovereignty" | D. issuing the Emancipation Proclamation |

12. Although it was considered brutal by the South, it showed that Union victory was in sight and helped win President Lincoln re-election. What was it?

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| A. Lincoln's suspension of habeas corpus | C. Sherman's "march to the sea" |
| B. the siege of Vicksburg | D. Grant's assault on Appomattox |

13. Who of the following would have MOST likely been the QUICKEST to give power back to state governments in the South?
- A. Andrew Johnson
 - B. Thaddeus Stevens
 - C. the Radical Republicans
 - D. Edwin Stanton
14. Reconstruction ended predominantly for what reason?
- A. The South had been rebuilt and no longer needed to be reconstructed.
 - B. New laws ensured the welfare of freed slaves and a new generation of southern leaders were ready to continue Union policies.
 - C. Reconstruction was too expensive to continue.
 - D. As the result of a compromise that put the Republican candidate in the White House in exchange for withdrawing Union forces from the South and giving power back to state governments.
15. Which of the following represented an effort by the Union to help newly freed slaves?
- A. black codes
 - B. poll taxes
 - C. literacy tests
 - D. The Freedmen's Bureau