

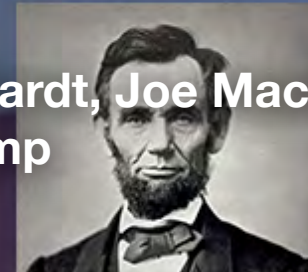
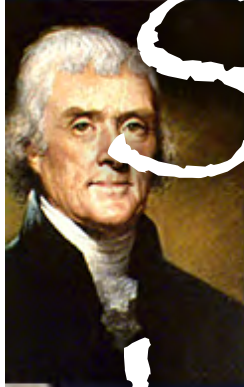
MI OPEN BOOK PROJECT

# United

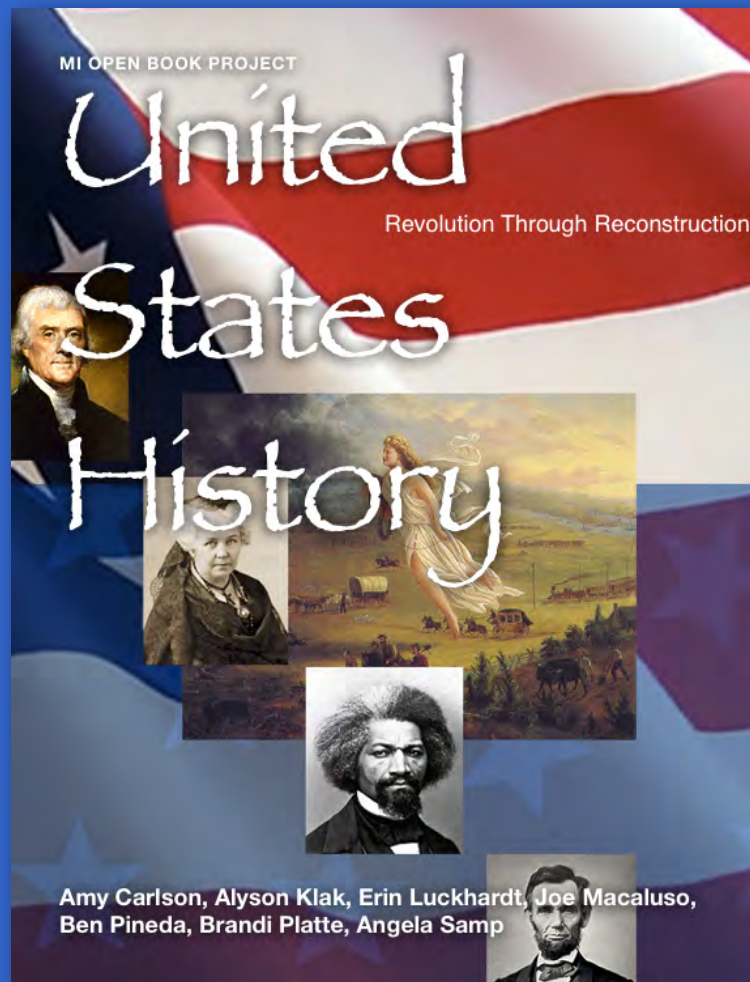
Revolution Through Reconstruction

# States

# History



Amy Carlson, Alyson Klak, Erin Luckhardt, Joe Macaluso,  
Ben Pineda, Brandi Platte, Angela Samp



This is version 1.0.9 of this resource, released in August 2018

Information on the latest version and updates are available on the project homepage: <http://textbooks.wmisd.org/dashboard.html>



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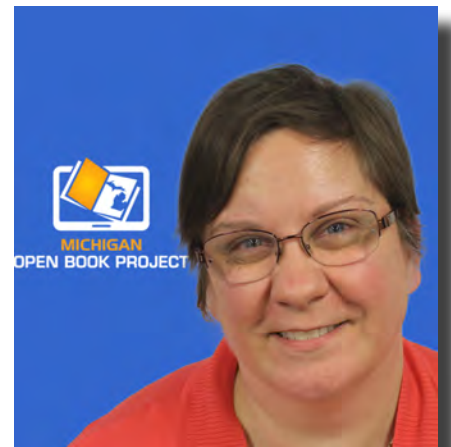
## About the Authors - US History - Revolution through Reconstruction

### **Amy Carlson**

**Thunder Bay Junior High**

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Amy has taught in Alpena Public Schools for many years. When not teaching or working on interactive Social Studies resources like this one she enjoys reading, hunting and fishing with her husband Erich, and sons Evan and Brady.



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Erin is an 8th grade social studies teacher at Boyne City Middle School in Boyne City, MI. She formerly served as the district's technology coach when they were integrating their 1:1 iPad initiative. Before teaching in Boyne City, she taught high school social studies in the Lansing area for 4 years. Erin has her master's in Educational Technology and Educational Leadership, both from GVSU, and has an interest in effective integration of technology into the classroom for teachers as well as students.



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Joe earned his Bachelor of Arts from the University of Michigan in 2000 with a major in History concentrating on early United States History. He minored in Social Studies and earned his Certificate of Secondary Education. He graduated from Michigan State University in 2004 with a Masters in Curriculum and Teaching. During his career at Cherryland Middle School in Elk Rapids, MI, Joe has served as Social Studies department head, technology coach, student council advisor, student senate advisor, YMCA Michigan Youth in Government trip coordinator and volleyball coach. He is passionate about using technology in the classroom to engage and enrich student learning. Joe lives with his wife, Amanda, and his two daughters in Elk Rapids. As a family they love traveling and spending their sum-

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## **Brandi Platte**

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Brandi Platte teaches Social Studies and Language Arts at Middle School Central in Macomb, Michigan. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in education from Oakland University, and a graduate degree in Curriculum and Instruction from Concordia University. She spends a great deal of time writing curriculum for the Macomb Intermediate School District and the National Parks Service. She is a sponsor for the National Junior Honor Society at her school, and in her free time she enjoys spending time outdoors with her family, especially her two sons, Ethan and Ryan.

The Michigan Open Book Project Team would like to thank the following individuals for their help in reviewing some content in the book and guiding the development process.

Keith Erikson - The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

Eric Hemenway - Director of Repatriation, Archives and Records, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians

Jim Cameron, Michigan Department of Education



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### **Angie Samp**

#### **Thunder Bay Junior High**

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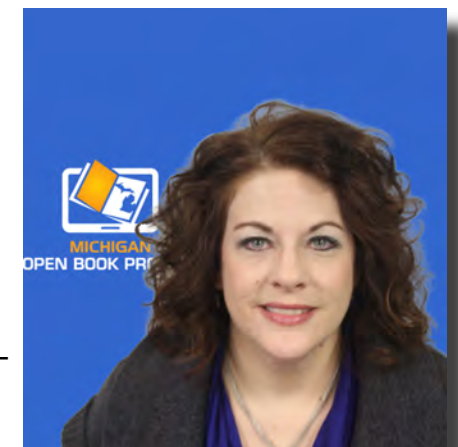
Angie has enjoyed teaching many grades in Alpena Public Schools over the last 13 years. Her passion lies in teaching history to 8th graders. Angie has a Bachelor of Arts in Group Social Studies from Grand Valley State University and a Masters in Education from Marygrove College. When she's not teaching, Angie enjoys many outdoor adventures including camping, traveling, and attending sporting events with her husband Gene, and sons Avery and Eli.

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Rebecca Bush is currently the Social Studies Consultant at the Ottawa Area Intermediate School District (OAISD), where she assists K-12 social studies teachers in developing curriculum, modeling instructional strategies in social studies literacy, and designing district-level formative and summative assessments. Additionally, as Project Director, she has written and received multiple Teaching American History grants, working with teachers throughout an eight-county radius. She has presented at various national conferences on multiple topics surrounding social studies instruction as well as innovative techniques and topics in formative and summative assessment design. Currently she is Co-Project Director of The Performance Assessments of Social Studies Thinking (PASST) Project and assists with the professional development of teacher writers for the MI Open Book Project where she serves as an editor of several of the project's texts. Rebecca currently leads the Michigan Social



### **David A. Johnson**

#### **Project Manager**

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Dave began his career teaching 8th grade United States History in Mesick, Michigan. After almost a decade in the classroom, he took a job at Wexford-Missaukee Intermediate School District (WMISD) as an Instructional Consultant for Social Studies. He is shared across 11 ISDs in Northern Michigan that form the Northern Michigan Learning Consortium. He completed his Masters in Educational Leadership through Central Michigan University in 2011 and is Co-Project Director of the Performance Assessments of Social Studies Thinking (PASST) Project in addition to his duties as the Project Manager for MI Open Book.





# Can You Win a Civil War?

1. Did the earliest battles of the war confirm or contradict the idea that many held about how the war would be fought?
2. Would the economic setbacks for the South caused by the Emancipation Proclamation equal the physical devastation from military battles?
3. What aspects of the war caused many to claim that the Civil War was the first “modern war.”
4. Would President Lincoln have been as motivated to pen the Gettysburg Address if massive numbers of casualties hadn't occurred?
5. Can a civil war ever be won?



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BATTLE OF CHICKAMAUGA.



## Section 1

# War Begins

### QUESTIONS TO GUIDE INQUIRY

1. Did the earliest battles of the war confirm or contradict the idea that many held about how the war would be fought?
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### Terms, Places, and People

Union

Confederate



Imagine you and your extended family were living during the Civil War. Do any of your family live in the South? How do you think the war might have impacted them? What predictions do you have?



A painting of the first battle at Fort Sumter by Currier and Ives.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle\\_of\\_Fort\\_Sumter#/media/File:Sumter.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Fort_Sumter#/media/File:Sumter.jpg)

## War Begins!

The first shots of the Civil War rang out at 4:30AM on April 12, 1861 in Charleston Harbor. Fort Sumter is located in South Carolina - the first state to secede from the Union. The interesting part about where the first shots were fired is that Fort Sumter was actually a Federal installation (owned by the United States government) and therefore, it was staffed by Union soldiers. In advance, the Confederates had tried to get the Union fort to surrender and leave but Union Commander Robert Anderson refused.

So at dawn on April 12th, troops on both sides attempted to settle the disagreement. The Confederate attack was led by PGT Beauregard. While the shelling and attack lasted for more than 34 hours, the only casualty was a Confederate horse. Finally, Commander Robert Anderson raised his white flag from inside the fort, signaling that his original refusal to vacate the fort was a mistake. The Confederates had been victorious. The Civil War had begun.

The origin of the conflict that would become the Civil War was deeply rooted. The Civil War raged over two major causes: the moral, political, and economic issues of slavery and states' rights. Previous conflicts like the Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions, Bleeding Kansas, the Fugitive Slave Act, the Missouri Compromise, and the Kansas-Nebraska Act began to draw the

North and South further apart. These events set the stage for two very different visions for the future of the United States.

While the two issues are often seen as “cut and dry”, this was far from reality. Wedged in between the states that comprised the Union and the states that comprised the **Confederacy** were key border states--Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, and Missouri.

Those living in these border regions were torn between their close cultural ties with the South and their tendencies toward political moderation like in the North. Many believed that cultural ties would eventually lure the border states into becoming a part of the Confederacy. Time would tell.

Following Fort Sumter, President Lincoln called for 75,000 volunteers to join the Union cause.

Since both sides anticipated a relatively short-lived conflict, their enlistment term was only three months. One of the few to disagree with the thought of a quick war was military man William Tecumseh Sherman who prophesied in late December 1860 that “You might as well attempt to put out the flames of a burning house with a squirt-gun. I think this is going to be a long war - very long - much longer than any politician thinks”.

### Interactive 10.1 Civil War Animated Timelines



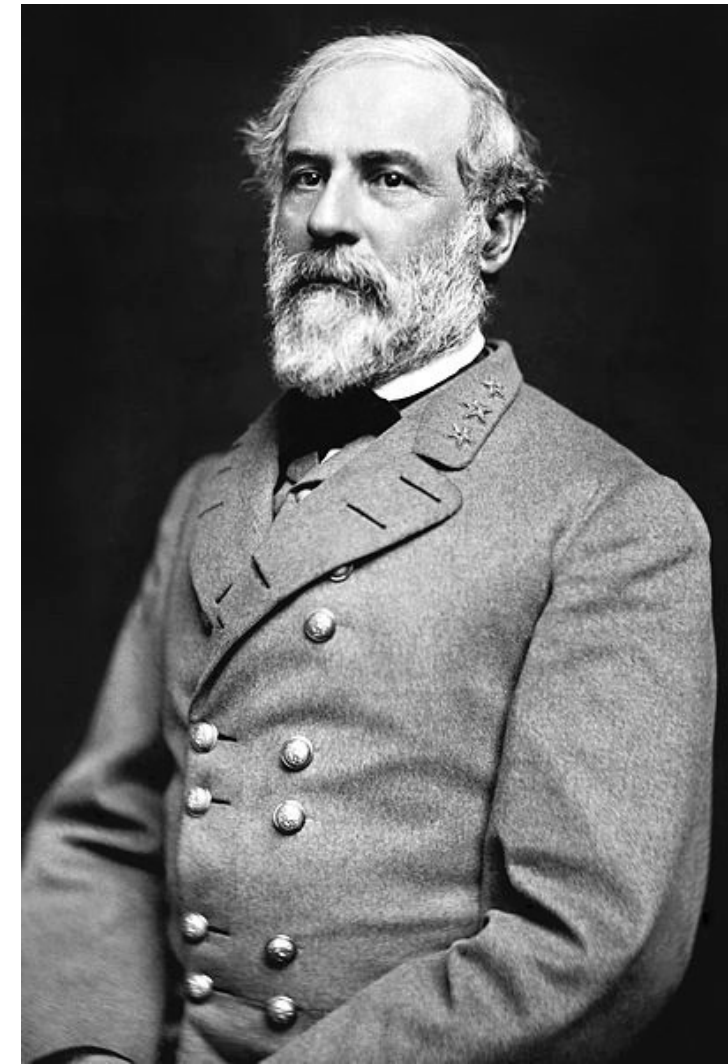
*Explore the Civil War on this website!*





Image source: <http://chronicle.augusta.com/sites/default/files/imagecache/superphoto/editorial/images/feed/msms/photos/4682712.jpg>

As both sides began to organize their troops, Lincoln approached highly-regarded, West Point-trained commander, Robert E. Lee and offered him command of the entire **Union Army**. Lee considered, but opted to side with his home state of Virginia and assumed control of the Confederate Army. For the North, General Winfield Scott would be charged with the duty of organizing troops. In the South, their newly elected president Jefferson Davis, a confident West Point grad, would begin to organize with the help of Lee.



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Robert\\_Edward\\_Lee.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Robert_Edward_Lee.jpg)

While both armies worked to prepare their troops, some clear advantages and disadvantages had already been established.



## North

Northern states had been positively impacted by industrialization. Many of the factories in the United States in the 1860s were in the Northeastern portion of the Union due to their proximity to water, transportation, and larger cities. These factories and the jobs offered there were a draw to many immigrants (as immigrants would have little to no job opportunities in the South because of slavery). As a result of industrialization, another Northern advantage was a developed transportation system centered largely on railroads, but also including canals and steam-powered ships. The North also harbored a larger amount of natural resources in the form of iron and steel. While large plantations dominated the South, many smaller farms existed in the North.

Additionally, the Union included 20 states and 5 border states, while the South only had 11. These differences understandably led to a staggering advantage of population in the North. In 1860, there were approximately 22 million people living in the North, while the South had approximately 9 million, of which almost half were slaves.

One disadvantage for the Union was the presence of Copperheads. These were northern citizens who opposed the war and favored settling with the South to restore the Union rather than debate the two sides via a war. Copperheads opted for a “negotiated peace”. Many Copperheads were democratic and the group drew their strength from the midwest. Eventually, public

appeal to their cause would grow as the death toll from the war continued to rise.

## South

One clear advantage of the southern states was their military heritage and prestige. Many of the prestigious military academies during this time period, such as the Virginia Military Institute, were located in southern states which provided the South with great initial leadership and organization when it came to assembling their troops. In addition, many southerners were experienced horseback riders which would prove extremely valuable in terms of cavalry, or troops on horseback.

Although 2/3 of the population in the southern states did not own slaves, the economy as a whole was dependent upon slave labor. Because the southern economy revolved around agriculture (cotton, rice, tobacco), economic leaders in the South did not foresee the need to invest in industrialization and instead chose to invest in enhanced transportation systems such as railroads.

The leader of the Confederacy was Jefferson Davis. Davis was a southern slaveholder and staunch supporter of the institution of slavery. Following his graduation from West Point, Davis served in the military, as the Secretary of War and a few different legislative roles before he was elected as the president of the Confederacy. While there were a lot of supporters for his election initially, his personality and argumentative nature paired with his chronic



illness made him a less than ideal choice for the position of president.

One hope that many Confederate leaders had was that Europe would ally itself with the South, much like what had occurred during the Revolutionary War. Southern leaders believed that they could entice European governments by using cotton from Southern plantations as the main bargaining chip. Southern leaders believed they would be supported, not only because of the cotton, but also because they were breaking away from a government they believed was overstepping its bounds (again, similar to the American Revolution). Southerners would never be able to count on assistance from their European allies as the European countries were not easily convinced and opted to abstain from involving themselves in the war until the South proved they could win (which they never did or at least not to the level that the Europeans needed to be persuaded).

When Lincoln first called for volunteers after the battle at Fort Sumter, he and his advisors anticipated a quick conflict and therefore only made the enlistment term 90 days. As time went on, however, the new recruits had yet to fight. With the end of soldiers' enlistments drawing near, many politicians and common people alike were calling for a fight.

## The Battle of Bull Run

On July 16, 1861, Union soldiers began marching towards Manassas Junction, Virginia near Bull Run creek. Their objective was to quickly defeat the Confederate army and continue the march to Richmond, Virginia, the Confederate capital. Union forces were led by General Irvin McDowell who was cautious as

## Interactive 10.2 North and South - Two Cultures, Same Country



*For more information and a quick recap about the differences between North and South, head here:*

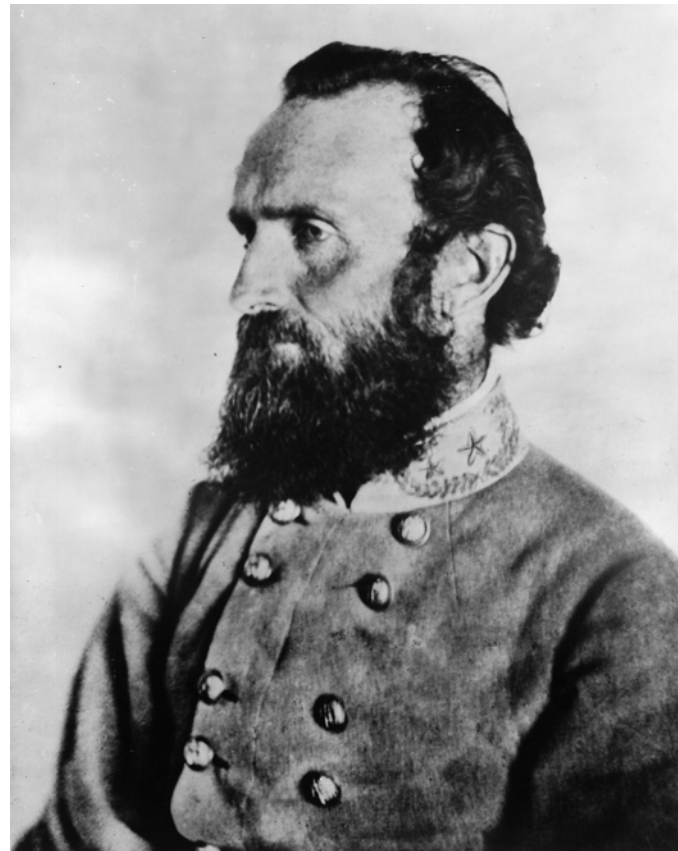




he feared his soldiers lacked training (which, in fact, was relatively accurate). The Confederate soldiers were under the command of General PGT Beauregard, the same general leading Confederate forces at Fort Sumter. Anticipating a glorious battle, many civilians headed to Manassas Junction to watch the fighting and picnic on nearby hills.

The battle did not prove to be the glorified version of war its spectators had expected. Both sides suffered - one from miscommunication and the other from poorly-executed, complex battle strategies early on the morning of July 21, 1861. As the battle raged on throughout the day, a Confederate colonel, Thomas Jackson earned a new nickname as he and his troops diligently defended Confederate high ground. From that point on he was known as "Stonewall" Jackson.

Initially, the Union soldiers appeared to be winning the battle, until Confederate reinforcements under Johnston arrived via train. Then, famous Confederate cavalry leader Jeb Stuart arrived to further upset the Union troops and send them in a chaotic retreat.



<https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/d6/Jackson-Stonewall-LOC.jpg>

Not only were soldiers panicked, but they were forced to deal with narrow bridges and increased traffic due to the spectators trying to make their way back to Washington as well.

Following the battle of Bull Run, Lincoln put McClellan in charge of the army of the Potomac. Upon McClellan's appointment, he began to focus more intently on training and enlarging his army. He proved to be a great organizer and created many systems within the camp to make things run more efficiently. His greatest downfall, however, was the fact that he was extremely cautious which made some politicians, including President Lincoln, question his will to fight.

### Interactive 10.3

#### Strengths and Weaknesses - Formative Check



*Test your knowledge of the strengths and weaknesses of the North and South with this interactive.*



# 1862 - Bloody Battles and Emancipation

## QUESTIONS TO GUIDE INQUIRY

1. Did the earliest battles of the war confirm or contradict the idea that many held about how the war would be fought?
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### Terms, Places, and People

conscription

Ironclad

Victories in early 1862, at Forts Donelson and Henry along the Cumberland and Tennessee Rivers were important victories in the western campaign for the Union army. As the primary objective was to cut off the eastern part of the Confederacy from sources of food production in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas, the Union army’s bigger goal was to attack and destroy southern communication and transportation networks through military control of the Mississippi River. Led by Ulysses S. Grant, he soon found himself in the spotlight. His newly found glory continued in the Battle of Shiloh.



[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/21/Thure\\_de-Thulstrup\\_-\\_Battle\\_of\\_Shiloh.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/21/Thure_de-Thulstrup_-_Battle_of_Shiloh.jpg)

**Interactive 10.4** Battle of Shiloh Animated Map



*Learn more about the Battle of Shiloh here. (Requires internet connection)*



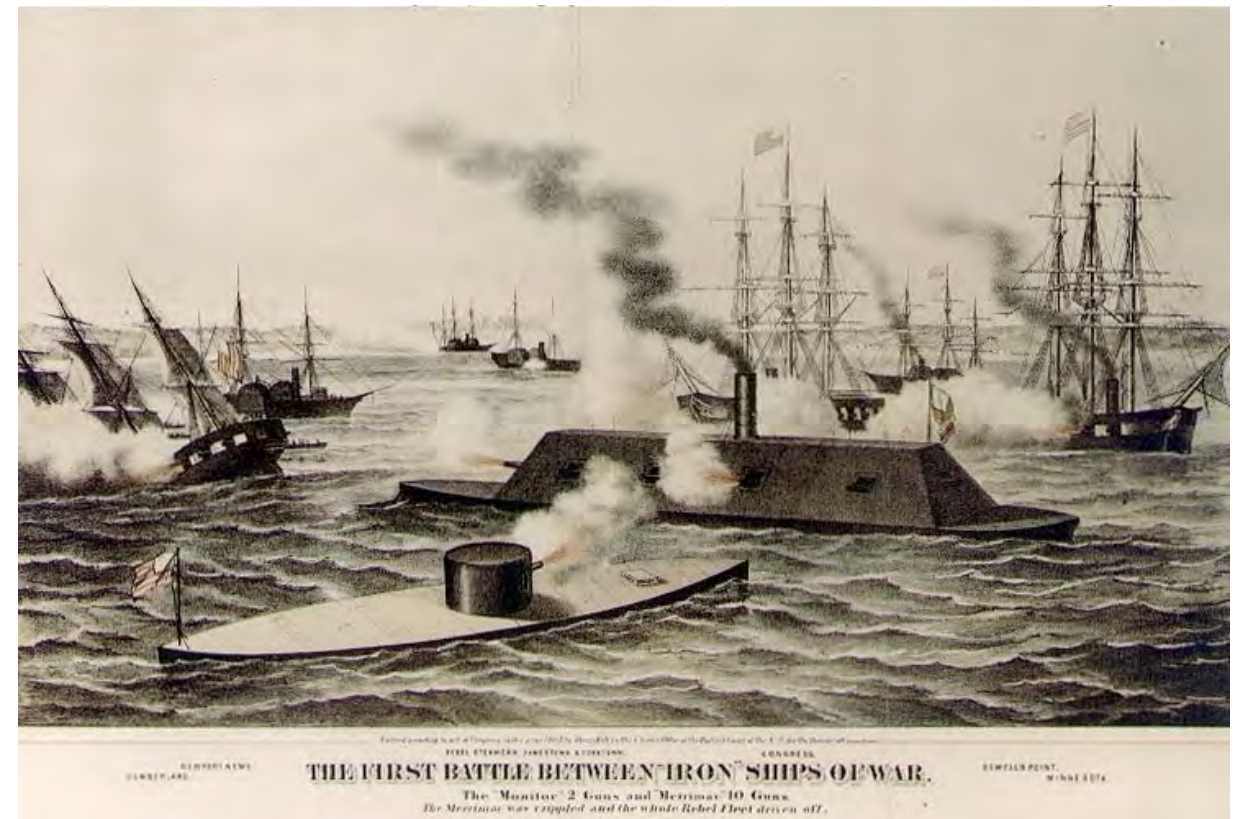
## Battle of Shiloh

Grant had already created a stronghold along the Tennessee River as Confederate General Sidney Johnston advanced. While Johnston was aware of Grant's location and his relative strength, he was unable to attack on April 4, 1862 like he wanted to because of weather and other logistical concerns. So, at 6:00 AM on April 6th, the Confederates launched a surprise attack. Initially their attack was successful, but the Union troops regained their ground in the evening with the use of Grant's artillery line. At this point, Union reinforcements found their way into Pittsburg Landing. Without knowledge of the reinforcements, the new commanding general PGT Beauregard (since Johnston had been mortally wounded in the previous day's fighting), ordered an attack on Union troops only to realize that he was greatly outnumbered and could not make significant progress. Beauregard ordered his troops to retreat. The battle of Shiloh was the largest battle in the history of the United States, but not for long.

## Naval Victories

The month of April also brought about large Union naval triumphs. At the beginning of the Civil War, the Union had a strong navy while the Confederacy did not. Admiral Farragut of the Union Navy secured strong victories along the Gulf of Mexico obtaining New Orleans, Baton Rouge, and Natchez - ports along the Mississippi River - which also helped to bolster Union spirit and

weaken Confederate will. The capture of New Orleans, a major port city at the mouth of the Mississippi River, proved to be a traumatic blow to the Confederacy as trade, transportation and communication were greatly impacted. As a result, in early April of 1862, the Confederacy enacted its first **conscription** law. While naval warfare was a common strategy used in war prior to the American Civil War, ships were revolutionized during the early years of the Civil War. The new **ironclads** were ships coated with a thick layer of iron to make it more difficult for artillery to pierce them. One of the most notable battles came on March 9, 1862 between the Union ship the Monitor and the Confederate ship the Merrimack (later renamed the Virginia). The battle was indecisive



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle\\_of\\_Hampton\\_Roads#/media/File:Ironclads\\_battle\\_7.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Hampton_Roads#/media/File:Ironclads_battle_7.jpg)

as the Merrimack returned to the harbor and the Monitor did not give chase, but the ironclads would lead to more naval ingenuity in the future.

### Antietam/Sharpsburg

The bloodiest single day of fighting began on September 17, 1862 near Sharpsburg, Maryland and would end with 26,000 American lives lost in one day. Confederate General Robert E. Lee's plan was to get to the rail center in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania and cut a major part of the Union's transportation and communication lines. Union general Joe Hooker began the fight against Lee and his Army of Northern Virginia with a clear advantage: Confederate battle plans had fallen into Union hands and because of this, Lee's army was eventually divided.

### Interactive 10.5 The Merrimac and the Monitor



*Learn more about these two naval vessels here. (Requires internet connection)*



The battle began when Hooker's men attacked Confederate troops at dawn. While a Confederate brigade from Texas did experience some success in countering the Union attack, Northern troops rallied. They also managed to seize Dunker Church from Stonewall Jackson, but did not have enough reinforcements to continue the attack.

The second phase of the battle began as Yankees attempted to attack across open farmland and were gunned down by Confederates led by AP Hill. Despite the initial success, Confederate troops misunderstood an order and withdrew which allowed Union troops to seize part of the road. While the Confederates fled, Union soldiers did not pursue them (one of Lincoln's many complaints of General McClellan). In terms of military success or defeat, many historians consider this battle a draw; especially given that there were 62,000 casualties - the greatest number of American casualties in one day of fighting. However, given the fact that Lee and his soldiers retreated out of Maryland, the Union - especially President Lincoln - claimed Northern victory.

### Interactive 10.6 Civil War Animated Maps



*Click here to check out an animated map of the Battle of Antietam: <http://www.civilwar.org/battlefields/antietam/maps/antietam-animated-map.html>*



## Lincoln's Leadership & the Emancipation Proclamation

President Lincoln's initial motivation for ending the war was to preserve the Union--not to abolish slavery. However, by the summer of 1862, it was clear to Lincoln that the time had come for a change in his policy toward slavery. He realized that slavery would not work itself into extinction like he believed in his first years as a politician and that the only way to end it would be for him to abolish it. Lincoln wrote a proclamation of emancipation and withheld pronouncement until the circumstances were favorable. After the Battle of Antietam, Lincoln issued a warning that all slaves behind Confederate lines would be declared free on January 1, 1863. This proved that the North was not fighting only for the Union, but also for human freedom. It also proved that Lincoln stood by his beliefs that slavery was wrong and should be abolished. In fact, Lincoln was certainly opposed to the institution of slavery but was unclear as to how rid the country of slavery. Lincoln believed, like the Founding Fathers, that slavery would die out by deterring its expansion and gradually repealing it. Eventually, though, as the Union army began to march into the Confederate states, slaves would flock to join them as Union officers were instructed to disregard the regulations of the Fugitive Slave Act. President Lincoln knew that the issue of slavery would have to be dealt with; he also knew that the timing would need to be perfect.



<http://loc.gov/pictures/resource/pgs.01200/>

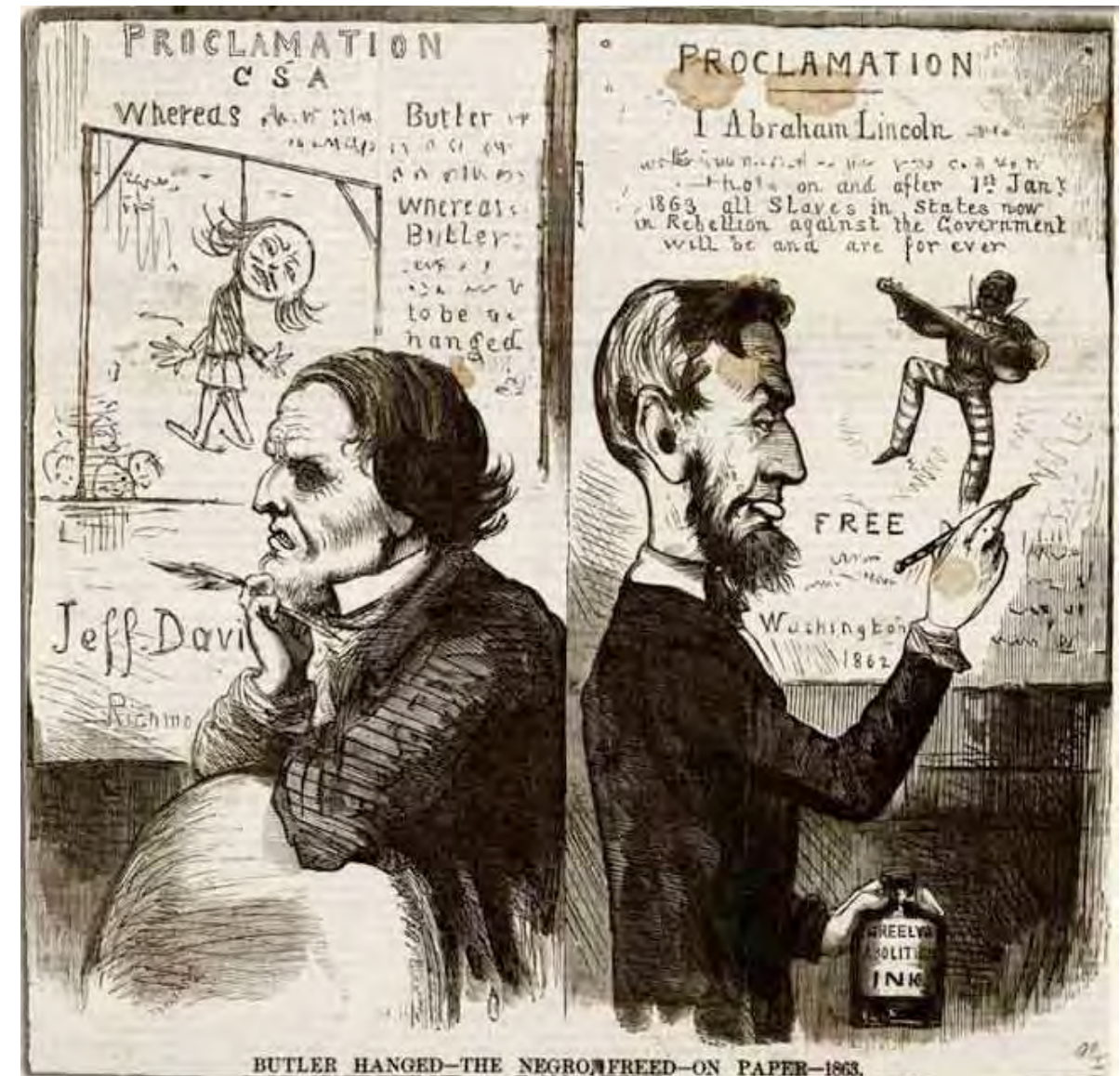
It was the believed that a Union victory at Antietam was what allowed for President Lincoln to issue the Emancipation Proclamation. Issued on September 22, 1862 - just five short days after the Battle of Antietam - the proclamation decreed that all slaves would be freed as of January 1, 1863. The choice to

hold off on the proclamation until a Union victory, was seen as a move to be intentional, as opposed to a last-ditch effort or a move of desperation. Lincoln's Proclamation was groundbreaking: slavery would no longer exist in the United States of America. Lincoln said "I never, in my life, felt more certain that I was doing right, than I do in signing this paper."

While the Emancipation Proclamation clearly ended slavery as far as Northerners were concerned, would the Confederate states, currently operating under a government separate from the U.S., honor the decree set forth in the proclamation?

Three days after issuing one of Lincoln's most notable accomplishments, Lincoln issued another proclamation. On September 25, 1862, President Lincoln suspended the right of habeas corpus. Habeas Corpus is the right of a person to appear in court following their arrest to ensure that the accused has not been falsely accused. This proclamation said that protesters or staunch supporters of ending the war would be subject to martial law and the suspension of habeas corpus. While first issued specifically to be enacted in the state of Maryland (to ensure that Confederate troops could not advance into Washington, DC.), the suspension of habeas corpus was extended beyond Maryland's borders. When faced with criticism, Lincoln responded by arguing that it was sometimes necessary to do activities such as this when your nation was being torn apart by civil war. Lincoln's

suspension of habeas corpus is still seen by many as one of his most controversial decisions.



<http://www.civilwar.org/education/history/primarysources/cartoons-and-pics/butler-hanged-the-negro.html>



# Day-to-Day Challenges of War

## QUESTIONS TO GUIDE INQUIRY

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## Terms, Places, and People

Dysentery

Typhoid

Hardtack

When soldiers first enlisted to fight in the war, many believed it would be a quick war and felt that serving for their side would bring them honor. After the battle of Bull Run, soldiers began to see a clearer picture of the reality of war. After The Battle of Antietam, the war became a war of attrition and the question of ‘who will give up first?’ hung in the air. The Civil War was also a conflict that pitted brothers, fathers, and families against each other depending on their geographic location.

## Life at Camp

While battles and fighting are often glorified in the Civil War, the average soldier spent 49 out of every 50 days at camp. Much of the time soldiers were completing “fatigue duty” or cooking, cleaning, building roads, cleaning artillery, or caring for horses if they were cavalry. At camp, they did a combination of things for fun - most wrote letters, some sang or played music, some played the new game that was becoming popular known as baseball, and some practiced their religion.



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timeline\\_of\\_Fauquier\\_County,\\_Virginia\\_in\\_the\\_Civil\\_War#/media/File:Virginia\\_Warrenton,\\_%22What\\_do\\_I\\_want,\\_John\\_Henry%22%5E\\_-\\_NARA\\_-\\_533301.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timeline_of_Fauquier_County,_Virginia_in_the_Civil_War#/media/File:Virginia_Warrenton,_%22What_do_I_want,_John_Henry%22%5E_-_NARA_-_533301.jpg)

## Food

Food at camp was simple fare usually consisting of meat, coffee, sugar, and **hardtack**--a type of biscuit, but varied from that, depending on the side for which the soldiers fought. A Union soldier might have salt pork, fresh or salted beef, coffee, sugar, salt, vinegar, dried fruit and vegetables. And if it was in season, they might have fresh carrots, onions, turnips and potatoes. A Confederate soldier typically had bacon, corn meal, tea, sugar, molasses and the very occasional fresh vegetable. One food-related advantage the Union had was an organization nicknamed "The Sanitary" that made health and nutrition for the soldiers a top priority. The main roles of "The Sanitary" were to find and distribute food and to have a knowledge of the availability of foods during specific seasons as well as how to preserve and transport that food. These tasks were somewhat overwhelming, though, considering there were more than 2 million soldiers fighting for the Union. At times, too, deliveries would be interrupted by weather or poor transportation and soldiers would forage the countryside for food.

When food was provided in camp, one early obstacle was that many men had little knowledge of how to cook or prepare food as their wives or mothers typically fulfilled that role at home. Early manuals and recipes were provided to help soldiers overcome this, in addition to cooks being appointed for companies. When soldiers desired something more than their rations, they could

look to the camp sutler (if there was one) and pay for additional goods.



Caption: Dinner Party outside of the tent, Army of the Potomac headquarters

<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/cwp2003000459/PP/resource/>

## Interactive 10.7 Civil War Rations



*For a good description of food differences, view the following video:*

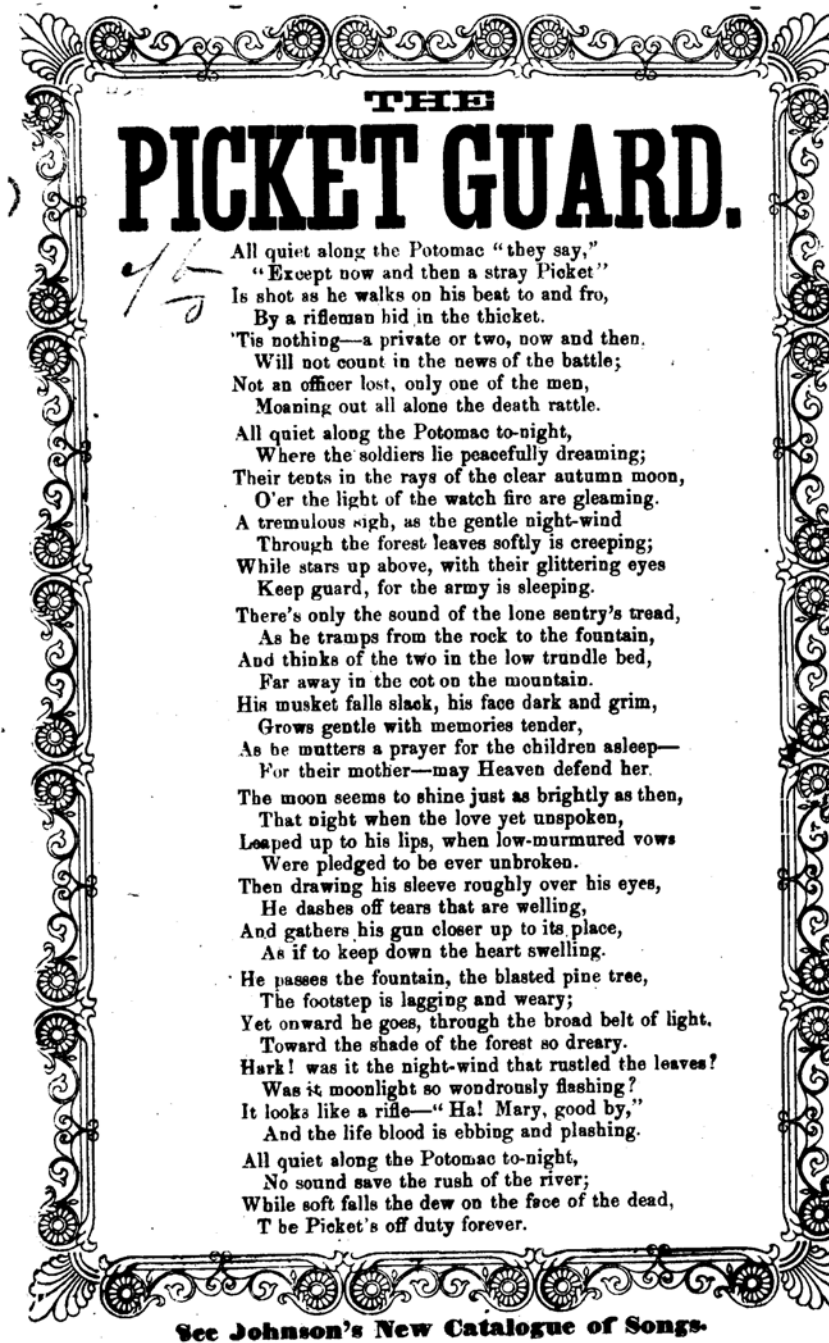


## Picket Duty

Often times, soldiers had to serve picket duty. This meant that they were stationed in front of their own troops to help protect them and give warning should the enemy approach. Read the following poem about picket duty.

## Changing Weaponry

Not only was training to be a soldier a somewhat intimidating task, understanding how to use and fight with changing weaponry proved to be challenging as well. Casualties in the Civil War often occurred at such a high rate because of three reasons: changing weaponry without changing tactics, disease and infection. Before the Civil War, men had fought for years following traditional military tactics. With the change in weaponry, and thereby increased range and accuracy of rifles and bullets (increasing their accuracy by as much as 5 times), the number of casualties during the Civil War soared.



## Interactive 10.8 Civil War Casualty Counts



*Check out this link to learn more about casualty counts of the Civil War and its battles as compared to other wars the United States fought in*

<https://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=amss&fileName=cw1/cw104620/amsspage.db&recNum=0>



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ironclad\\_warship#/media/File:The\\_Monitor\\_and\\_Merrimac.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ironclad_warship#/media/File:The_Monitor_and_Merrimac.jpg)

The invention of the telegraph also drastically changed the way battles were fought. During the Civil War, approximately 15,000 miles of telegraph cable were laid solely for military purposes. Generals could report and receive information from the battlefield faster than ever before. Lincoln frequently would go to the telegraph office in the War Department to stay up-to-date on the most recent battle news. The telegraph also allowed for newspaper reports of battles to be more timely and accurate.

Other Civil War innovations included the concept of aerial reconnaissance and advancements for naval warfare. Both sides used hot air balloons in order to see the opponent's movements and make adjustments to their own artillery and battle plans. The

Civil War was the first war where 'ironclads' or ships that added an iron plating to the exterior of the ships were used. Lastly, naval mines were developed by the Confederates to counterattack the Union blockade of Confederate ports. Confederate troops also used torpedoes to fight against the Union navy and destroyed 40 Union ships.

## Medicine

By today's standards, the medical practices used during the Civil War would be considered archaic, filthy, and downright disgusting. Compared to today's standards of cleanliness and technology, that may be true. But given the knowledge of the time period, the doctors and surgeons were actually very informed and were using up-to-date techniques. At the time, Civil War doctors had little concept of germs or sanitation. In fact, during this time period, many people believed that diseases spread through "bad air". Many surgeons were known to go from patient to patient while wiping surgical tools on an apron or nearby rag, but never fully sanitizing them.

Because of these practices, many wounds that are not considered life-threatening today, would have been mortal injuries. A hit in the stomach was almost always fatal as infection would spread through the body. Additionally, with the size and velocity of a lead bullet (up to  $\frac{3}{4}$  ounce of lead traveling at 800-900 feet per second), bones would almost certainly crush and shatter. When a soldier was hit, the new system of



ambulance, at this time a wagon that would move injured men from the battlefield, and triage would have been utilized to transport the wounded and assess who was in the direst need for attention.



[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Civil\\_War\\_Zouave\\_ambulance.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Civil_War_Zouave_ambulance.jpg)

An injury by a lead bullet was almost always resolved by amputation. Surgeons were aware that infections would be fatal, and that lead spread throughout the body in addition to dirt and other grime in wounds would lead to infection. Therefore, they were quick to amputate as a way to prevent infection and increase blood flow to the area left intact.

Death estimates of the Civil War range between 618,000-620,000 or about 2% of the population (compared to today's population that would equal approximately 6 million US citizens). While some were killed in battle,  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the casualties came from disease.

Diseases like **dysentery**, **typhoid**, measles, and even diarrhea were rampant in camps. Not only were medical procedures not always the most sanitary, other sanitation issues in camp led to the increased spread of disease. Issues like the lack of a garbage system, latrines (outdoor toilets) that contaminated nearby water sources, the close proximity of many men, and even rats, mosquitoes, and flies being drawn to the camp because of the enticing scents of garbage and the latrines.

### African American Soldiers

By the year 1860, one in every seven Americans was a slave. It took the Union awhile before Lincoln decided to allow black soldiers to enlist. The Confederates on the other hand, did not want to arm their slaves as they feared that could result in a slave uprising that would further destroy the Confederate willpower. Until Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation at the end of 1862, however, African Americans were not allowed to be part of the Union army. The fact that slaves were unable to fight initially, though, did not stop them from escaping to the North and offering their labor or assistance to the Union. Slaves arriving to Union camps would have been considered the "contraband of war" and were thereby enemy property that could be legitimately

seized. Additionally, Union officers were told not to enforce the Fugitive Slave Act thereby allowing escaped slaves to assist the troops. When former slaves and free African Americans were allowed to fight, their pay was on average about half the amount of white soldiers until July 1864, when the federal government provided equal pay.



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/54th\\_Massachusetts\\_Infantry\\_Regiment#/media/](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/54th_Massachusetts_Infantry_Regiment#/media/File:The_Storming_of_Ft_Wagner-lithograph_by_Kurz_and_Allison_1890.jpg)

[File:The Storming of Ft Wagner-lithograph by Kurz and Allison 1890.jpg](#) 54th Volunteer Infantry at Fort Wagner.

The first all-African American unit was the 54th Volunteer Infantry from Massachusetts. Under a clause in the Emancipation Proclamation, African American men were allowed to create volunteer regiments. As such, free African Americans flocked from all over to enlist; many being recruited by abolitionists. At total, some of the 54th were not actually from Massachusetts, but rather its surrounding states as well. The men of the 54th were commanded by Robert Gould Shaw - a leader hand-picked by the governor of Massachusetts. Initially, they only performed manual labor, but saw their first 'battle action' on July 18, 1863 when they were able to hold off a Confederate assault on Fort Wagner, South Carolina.

One brave story of African American resistance was the story of Robert Smalls, a mulatto slave from South Carolina. Smalls was born in South Carolina and was very knowledgeable about Charleston harbor, which eventually aided in his getting a job on the Confederate ship, the Planter. The Planter was a steamer used to transport cotton, but during the Civil War was heavily armed for war. On the evening of May 12, 1862, it steamed into Charleston harbor past the Union





Navy blockade of the Atlantic and Gulf coasts. The Confederates were heavily defending Charleston and the ship was set to sail back out the next morning. In a bold move, the three white officers of the ship chose to disembark for the evening, leaving the ship's eight slaves in charge. Smalls was one of those slaves. As night fell, he shared with the others his plans to take the ship out of the harbor and surrender it to the Union navy. Around 2:00AM, Smalls began to sail out of the harbor, but first picked up his family on a nearby dock. As Smalls guided the ship out of the harbor and past Confederate forts, he commanded the ship 'by the book', meaning he used the correct Naval signals and even dressed to look like the ship's captain. As they approached the Union blockade, Smalls had the Confederate flag lowered and instead, hoisted a white bedsheet on the flagpole to serve as a signal of their surrender. The Union Navy was about to fire until they realized the flag. They quickly took Smalls, his family, and a few other slaves and family members on their ship and thanked them for their actions. In fact, Smalls went on to serve in the Union Navy for the rest of the war. He even served in the South Carolina state assembly and the United States House of Representatives before his death in 1915.

By the end of the Civil War, more than 180,000 African-Americans (former slaves and former free men) served in the Army and Navy. After Lincoln issued his Emancipation Proclamation, and declared that the US Navy and Army would utilize escaped slaves, hundreds of escaped slaves flocked to Union forts. There were

more than 100 camps around Union forts in order to house escaped slaves and their families. Much of the camp population was made up of children. Due to the poor living conditions, however, many escaped slaves never had a true taste of freedom as they died in the camps.

### **Environmental Impact**

The war's impact did not stop the loss of soldiers and even some civilians. In fact, the environment changed dramatically as well. Troops from both sides frequently scoured the land in search of food, often taking livestock, vegetables, and even foraging for berries or other fruits and nuts. In fact, it was this destruction that pushed individuals to seek for protection of forests and wildlife and in 1864, Lincoln would sign the bill that would eventually create Yosemite National Park.

Perhaps the greatest change, though, was the destruction of forests. Enormous amounts of trees were clear-cut for many purposes. First, the troops required firewood. It was estimated that both sides used approximately 400,000 acres of wood each year just for fires. In the North the demand for lumber was even greater in order to supply railroad ties and continue to support the Navy in terms of masts for ships and supplies like turpentine, pitch and tar. While clearing these large amounts of land may have been helpful for lumber, it created a disastrous outcome in terms of insects in soldier camps. Because their natural habitats were destroyed, many animals that typically would have been

predators of insects like mosquitoes, flies, ticks, and maggots, were no longer helping to control the insect population.

Lastly, many minerals were heavily extracted during the Civil War, largely to the benefit of the North as they were the more industrialized side. Petroleum and Coal were heavily sought after. With the major focus being on the war effort and the desire to win, thoughts of the war's impact on the environment did not exist.



# Life on the Homefront

## QUESTIONS TO GUIDE INQUIRY

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5. Can a civil war ever be won?

## Terms, Places, and People

Furlough

Desertion

As many soldiers were swept off to war, life at home changed too. There were 29 million civilians who did not ‘fight’ in the Civil War, even though many were certainly part of the war effort. This was even more true as the concept of **total war** swept in, thus blurring the lines between the defined areas of soldier and civilian. These once separated ideas were now overlapping and civilians found themselves deeply engaged in the war efforts even if they were not soldiers on the front lines.

## News

Letters were frequently exchanged to keep in touch with family at home and soldiers fighting. Getting timely, accurate information was a struggle, though. Many families would learn of the death of a loved one through a letter from an officer or friend of their soldier. In addition to letters, many newspapers and even a few magazines were widely circulated among hundreds of thousands of readers. Two popular magazines Frank Leslie’s Illustrated Newspapers and Harper’s Weekly delivered news and pictures to those on the homefront of the realities of war.

## Women in the War Effort

At the beginning of the war, propaganda geared toward civilians encouraged patriotism and cooperation to the war effort. Schools encouraged patriotism

through songs, reading and pictures. Many women had no choice but to increase their roles at home. With men gone, many women were left to take over additional duties on the farms. The same was true in cities where women and children filled jobs previously held by men. Many women aided in the war effort by making bandages, socks, clothing, and even regimental flags. While the men were away, families struggled to make ends meet - especially those in the South.

During the war years, many women became nurses. Most had little formal training, but rather wanted to aid the war effort in some way. One woman who did this was Clara Barton. In 1861, she became one of the first volunteers to the Washington Infirmary where she would care for wounded soldiers. Eventually, she persuaded Union officers to let her help soldiers in the field. When she was working at various battlefields she would bring supply wagons of much-needed medical supplies - some funded by donations she had gathered, others funded by Washington, DC. Barton worked tirelessly to create a more organized system of field medicine and trained other men to be able to perform simple first aid to their comrades.

### **Spotlight on Michigan Women:**

#### **JULIA WHEELOCK FREEMAN**

Julia Wheelock Freeman was a teacher in Palo, Michigan at the outbreak of the Civil War. When news reached her that her

brother, Orville, had been injured during battle she and Orville's wife traveled to Washington, DC to see him in the hospital. Unfortunately he died before they were able to arrive. Once in DC, however, Julia noted the desperate need for nurses and decided to remain there to serve the Union. She would spend three years working in the DC hospitals as a nurse from September 1862 through July 1865. In 2002, she was inducted into the Michigan Women's Historical Hall of Fame.

#### **SARAH EMMA EDMONDS**

Sarah Emma Edmonds was a Canadian who fled the country to avoid an arranged marriage. Once she arrived in the United States, she took on the alias of Franklin Thompson to make travel and work easier. She found success as a book salesman and was selling books in Flint, Michigan at the start of the Civil War. Edmonds decided that the best way for her to help would be to enlist, which she did on May 25, 1861. During



<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=32621723>



<http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/images/sarah-edmonds-seelye-disguised.gif>



her time in the Union army, she served as a hospital attendant, mail carrier, orderly for a commander and supposedly even did some espionage work. In the spring of 1863, however, she contracted malaria and requested a **furlough** or a leave of absence from military service so that she would not be discovered. Her furlough request was denied and so Edmonds deserted her regiment. Once healthy, she returned to help the war effort as a nurse in June of 1863, no longer under disguise. Eventually, in 1888, she was cleared of her **desertion** charges and was given a full military pension.

### Children in the War Effort

Women were not the only ones who made sacrifices. Children also had to take on more responsibilities, such as tending to livestock and crops, working as clerks or various helpers for family businesses, preparing meals and caring for younger siblings. While life was more difficult, many children used reading as a pastime to help them escape or even glorify the war efforts.

### Destruction on the Home Front

In addition to changing the working scene, families near the fighting experienced a whole new phenomenon. Life near the battles was tough as soldiers tended to forage for food and supplies in nearby areas. Buildings that were near the fighting were seized and instantly became hospitals or even officers' quarters. In locations that were susceptible to frequent battles,

families that could afford to opted to move, rather than be overcome by the reality of war. Families that could not afford to relocate were constantly under the threat of war - especially families in the South. As battles raged, guerrilla raids for food were not uncommon. Troops would seize supplies for their own use or to destroy them so as not to be of benefit to the enemy.



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wilmer\\_McLean#/media/File:Appomattox\\_Court\\_House\\_by\\_Timothy\\_O%27Sullivan.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wilmer_McLean#/media/File:Appomattox_Court_House_by_Timothy_O%27Sullivan.jpg)

Caption: Wilmer McLean's home where the surrender occurred at the end of the war.

Once battles were over, townspeople were left to pick up the pieces of their city.

Southern families felt the impact of war more intensely than many families in the North. Inflation was rampant. Paired with the effect of inflation - an increase in the cost of living - it is no wonder that families struggled to survive. Shortages were also common. Sometimes shortages would occur in the form of traditional household goods and food staples and other times, even those families living in luxury would find themselves out of luck. By war's end, both the North and the South were experiencing shortages. In 1865, desertion from the Southern army was widespread as soldiers learned of the struggles of their loved ones at home and viewed the war as a conflict that was no longer worth fighting for.

Another large change for citizens was the increasing power of the federal government. The first example of this came with conscription laws in both the North and the South. The government also began to shift their economic policies in an attempt to finance the costly war. Income taxes increased in the North.



# The Battle of Gettysburg

## QUESTIONS TO GUIDE INQUIRY

1. Did the earliest battles of the war confirm or contradict the idea that many held about how the war would be fought?
2. Would the economic setbacks for the South caused by the Emancipation Proclamation equal the physical devastation from military battles?
3. What aspects of the war caused many to claim that the Civil War was the first “modern war.”
4. Would President Lincoln have been as motivated to pen the Gettysburg Address if massive numbers of casualties hadn’t occurred?
5. Can a civil war ever be won?

## Terms, Places, and People

Total war

The clash at Gettysburg began unexpectedly as Confederate troops planned to pilfer shoes from the shoe factory in the college town of Gettysburg as Confederate supplies had been running low for months and they were desperate for new footwear. In fact, supplies were so low that Lee anticipated his troops could survive on food that they could confiscate while moving north to attack Union troops on their side. However, after a victory in Chancellorsville, Virginia in May, Lee was eager to push into Union territory again.

Throughout the war, Lee had come to rely heavily on cavalry reports from outstanding Confederate cavalry leader, JEB Stuart. As skirmishes occurred that would later turn into the Battle of Gettysburg, Lee had not been in contact with Stuart for more



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle\\_of\\_Gettysburg#/media/File:Thure\\_de\\_Thulstrup\\_-\\_L.\\_Prang\\_and\\_Co.\\_-\\_Battle\\_of\\_Gettysburg\\_-\\_Restoration\\_by\\_Adam\\_Cuerden.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Gettysburg#/media/File:Thure_de_Thulstrup_-_L._Prang_and_Co._-_Battle_of_Gettysburg_-_Restoration_by_Adam_Cuerden.jpg)



than ten days, thereby limiting his knowledge of Union whereabouts.

### Interactive 10.9 Battle of Gettysburg Animated Map



*Learn more about the Battle of Gettysburg here.*



<http://www.civilwar.org/education/assets/images/jeb-stuart-200px.jpg>

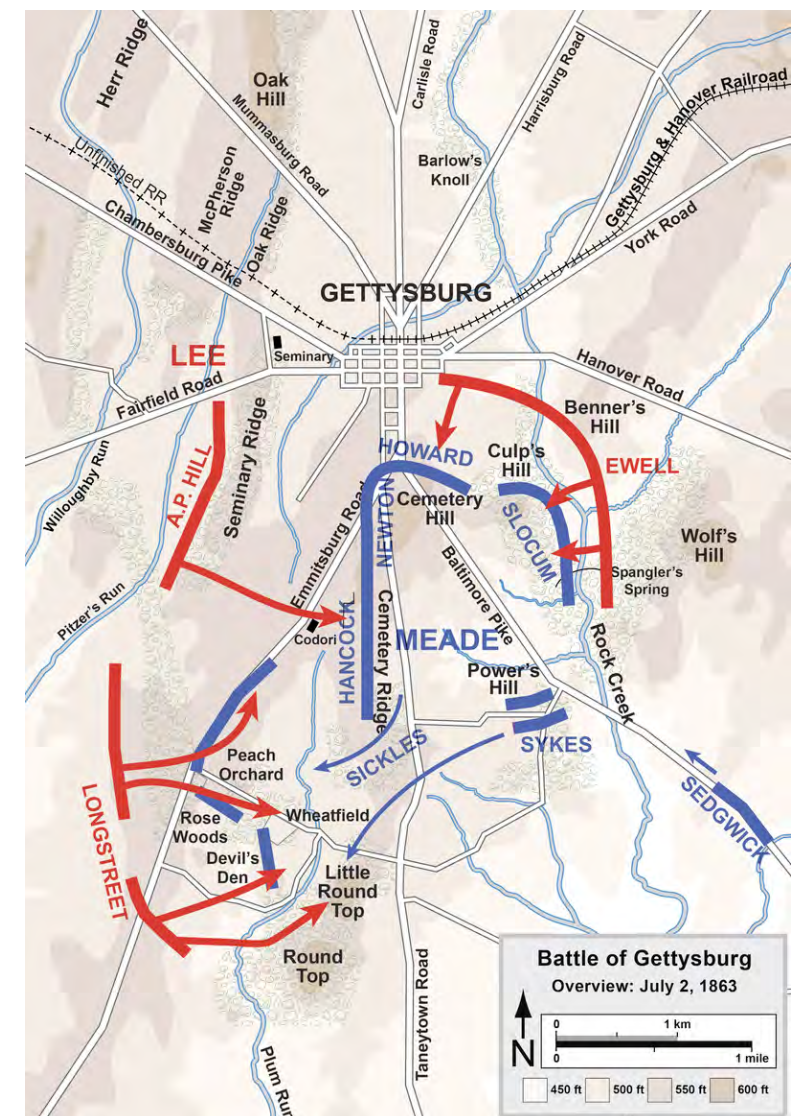
What became the Battle of Gettysburg started when Confederate soldiers in search of new footwear clashed with Union soldiers on June 30th, 1863. On July 1st, Union troops, now under the command of General George Meade, were greatly outnumbered and fell back to positions on Cemetery Hill and Culp's Hill.

Day two of fighting at Gettysburg began as approximately 90,000 Union soldiers defended their positions against 70,000 Confederate soldiers. Soldiers worked to secure hills that were in the shape of a fishhook while the Confederates wrapped around

the hills. In the afternoon, Lee began a heavy assault on the left flank of the Union. The fighting took place around areas known as Little Roundtop, Wheatfield and Peach Orchard. Union troops struggled, but managed to hold out on top of Cemetery Hill and Culp's Hill.

The third day of battle still brought fighting along Culp's Hill. The more notable fighting attempt, however, was Pickett's Charge along Cemetery Ridge. General Lee ordered Pickett to charge approximately one mile across an open field toward Union lines. Not surprisingly, Pickett's men suffered great casualties as they came across intense Union rifle and artillery fire. At this point, Lee retreated with his army back to Northern Virginia.

Further South, Grant was executing a brilliant military strategy. Essentially, he was starving out





Confederate troops by blocking supplies into Vicksburg. On July 4th, 1863 Confederate troops surrendered to General Grant. This significantly boosted Grant's popularity and made him a candidate for commander of all regiments of the Union army.

A few months later, the battlefield on which the soldiers fought so valiantly at Gettysburg was dedicated. On November 19th, 1863 people gathered to hear speakers honor those who lost their lives at the Battle of Gettysburg. Noted speaker Edward Everett spoke for more than two hours. Lincoln did not. At just ten sentences, his Gettysburg Address was over quickly. In fact, there are no pictures of Lincoln giving this address as photographs took time to set up and capture and the speech was over before that could happen. In fact, many mocked or criticized Lincoln's address as being curt and abbreviated. His address, though short, was incredibly poignant and eloquently captured the sentiments of many about not just the battle of Gettysburg, but the entire war. Lincoln's address noted one of the larger aspects of the war, saying that the war was a test of whether or not democracy could survive.

#### **Interactive 10.10** The Gettysburg Address



Check out this animated video on the Gettysburg Address! <https://vimeo.com/15402603>

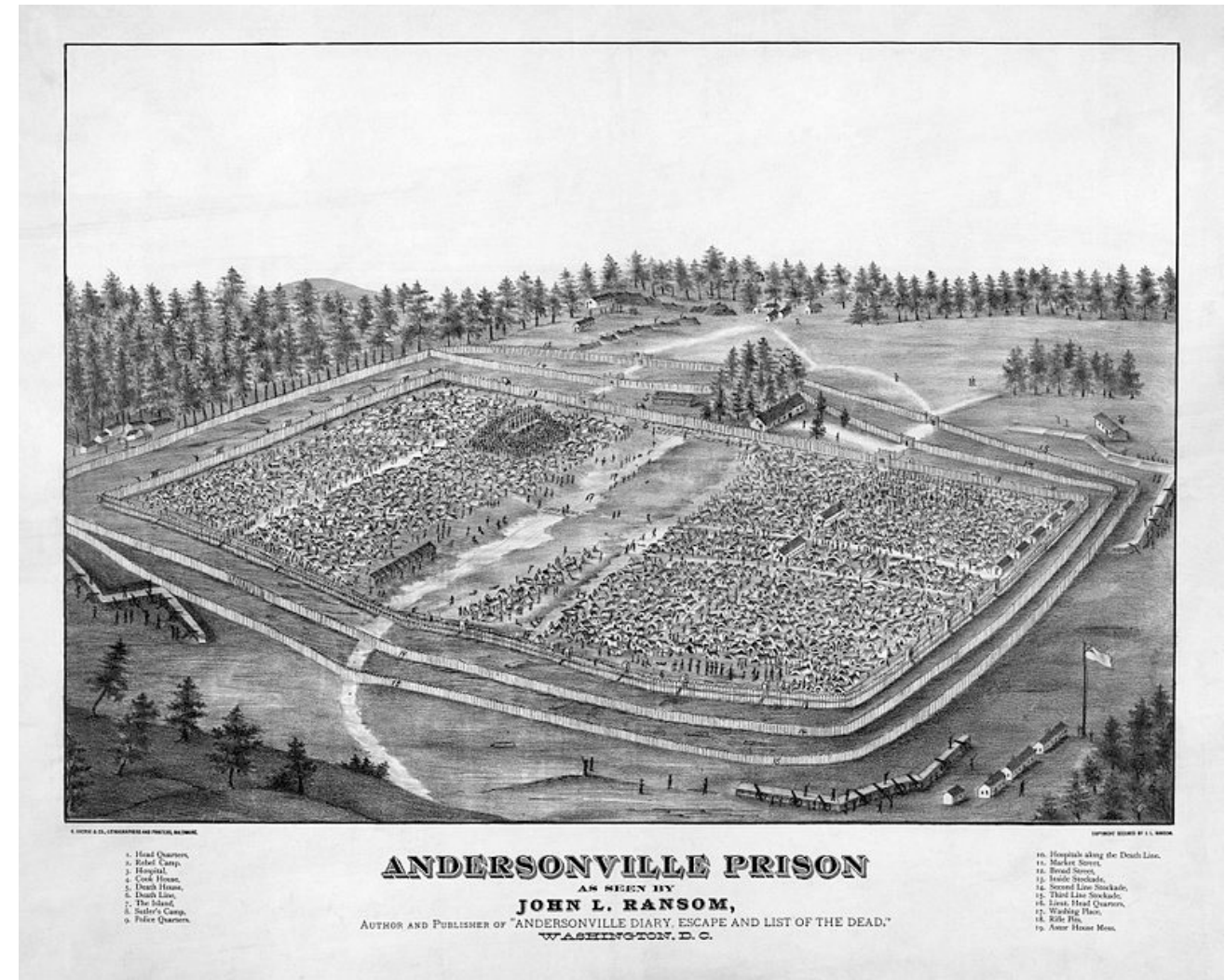
#### **Gettysburg Address**

"Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation or any nation so conceived and so dedicated can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting-place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. But in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead who struggled here have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us--that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion--that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain, that this nation under God shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth."

- November 19, 1863

## Prisoner of War Camps

Life during Civil War battles was tough; most prisoners would describe life in prisoner of war (POW) camps as hell. Over 150 prisons were established, imprisoning approximately 400,000 soldiers. One of the most famous POW camps was located in Andersonville, Georgia at Camp Sumter. While this camp was only built in 1864 and was only operational for 14 months, it housed approximately 45,000 soldiers over the course of its existence. Of those 45,000, 13,000 soldiers died from disease, poor sanitation, malnutrition, overcrowding and exposure to the elements. From February 1864, almost 400 soldiers arrived every day. By the end of June, Andersonville held 26,000 prisoners in a space that was designed to hold 10,000. At the time, the Confederate government could hardly provide rations and uniforms for its own soldiers and likewise, did not provide adequate housing, clothing, food or medical care for its prisoners. Traditionally, prisoners would be exchanged from either side. At this point, however, that exchange also broke down and conditions grew worse still. The director of the camp at Andersonville, Captain Henry Wirz was arrested, charged with war crimes and was the only person to be executed for his role in the war.



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andersonville\\_National\\_Historic\\_Site#/media/File:Andersonville\\_Prison.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andersonville_National_Historic_Site#/media/File:Andersonville_Prison.jpg)



## An End to Slavery

The Emancipation Proclamation decreed that slaves in the South were free. However, Lincoln wanted to ensure slaves eventual freedom through a Constitutional amendment should the two halves of the country reunite. The proposed 13th Amendment to the Constitution, which abolished slavery, was quickly approved in the Senate. The House of Representatives was a different story. From April 1864 through January 1865, the proposed amendment was heavily debated in the House. In fact, it was even defeated in June 1864. Eventually, though, enough members voted to approve the 13th Amendment and on January 31, 1865 it was passed. The following day, Lincoln submitted the proposed amendment to the states. Lincoln knew that it was imperative to pass the amendment before the ending of the Civil War and the re-entry of Southern legislators into the United States government when the potential to defeat the amendment again was entirely possible.

## Sherman's March to the Sea

The war was not yet, over, though. In fact, fighting continued to rage on. In the early summer of 1864, Union General William Tecumseh Sherman began a mission of tearing up multiple railroad lines in the South to prevent communication and movement of supplies. On September 2nd, 1864, Sherman and his troops captured Atlanta. He would then begin his "March to the Sea" leaving Atlanta and heading for Savannah. With a



A destroyed railroad bridge over the North Anna River on the Richmond and Fredericksburg Railroad.

<https://cdn.loc.gov/service/pnp/cwpb/01200/01217r.jpg>

mission of 'breaking the spirit of the Confederate heartland', Sherman and his troops proved that the Confederacy could no longer protect its own people. On December 10, they would reach Savannah and turn North and begin heading towards North Carolina. In the state of South Carolina, Sherman's men were

vicious along their path. They violently looted and burned the first state to secede from the Union, in a matter of spitefulness.

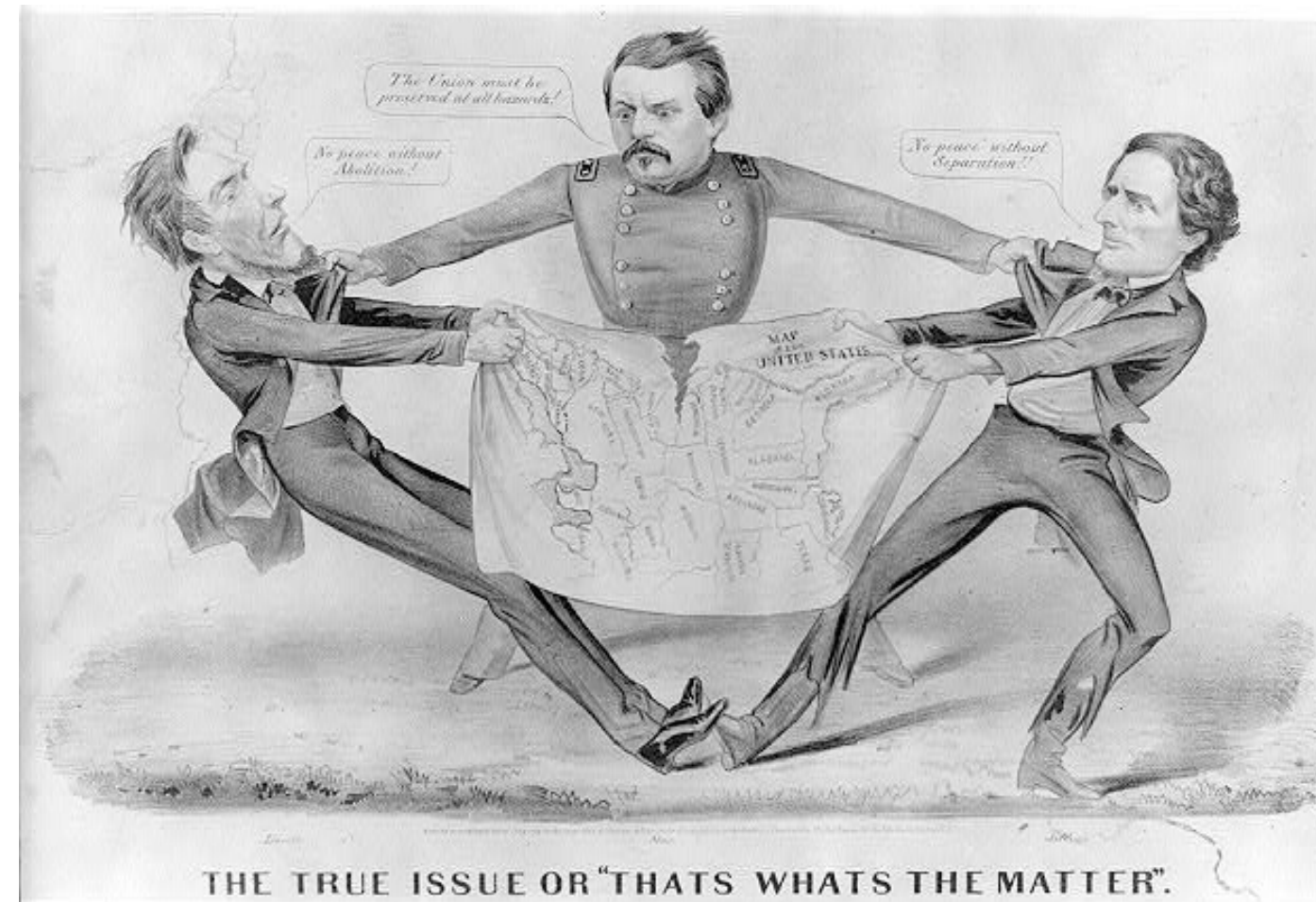
## Lincoln's Re-election

In the summer of 1864, President Lincoln was becoming more convinced that he would not be re-elected in the upcoming vote between Lincoln and democratic candidate George McClellan. In fact, many of his advisors and Republican party colleagues were skeptical of his reelection, given that the public opinion of the war was deteriorating as the death toll continued to grow and that McClellan had proposed ideas for a negotiated peace with the South. Lincoln actually went so far as to discuss how to free as many slaves from the South before the new president's inauguration with prominent abolitionist and former slave Frederick Douglass.

Following the Union victory and the surrender of Confederates in Atlanta, however, the tide seemed to turn. Lincoln was reelected and in his second inaugural address on March 4, 1865 shared his plans for the nation's next steps when he said...

"Let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and orphan, to do all which may achieve a just and last peace among ourselves and with all nations."

## Strategy Analyzing a political cartoon.



<http://cdn.loc.gov/service/pnp/cph/3a10000/3a16000/3a16200/3a16240r.jpg>

- 1) List your observations. What do you see in this political cartoon?
- 2) What do you think is happening here?
- 3) How do you know? Who is represented?
- 4) What questions do you still have?



# Can a Civil War Ever Be Won?

## QUESTIONS TO GUIDE INQUIRY

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Peace talks to end the Civil War began as early as February 1865, however, Lincoln offered no conditions except for the Union to be reunited, that the Confederate army disbanded and for a recognition of Northern authority in the South.

### Fighting Draws to a Close

By early April it was apparent to Lee that the Confederacy had little chance of surviving. On April 2, Federal troops finally broke through Confederate earthworks in Petersburg, Virginia -- just south of the Confederate capital of Richmond -- and set their sites on Richmond. While citizens of Richmond had become accustomed to artillery fire, they were still surprised to see the fires in front of the Confederate government offices as officials were destroying important paperwork.

That day, Lee opted to evacuate his troops due to their limited resources because of the Union blockade, Sherman’s March dividing the Confederacy, and an overall lack of the Confederacy’s ability to make factories. As officials fled, other Confederates began to destroy any other goods that could be of value to the Union soldiers. While many anticipated few goods, there were actually speculators with large stores of food and supplies which led to rioting and looting from the starving citizens. Rioting continued and flames from the initial fires spread as a strong wind blew igniting fires across the city of Richmond. In many places, stores



of ammunition or shells exploded. All in all, 54 city blocks were destroyed until Union soldiers worked with Richmond fire departments to extinguish the fire. The following day, Lincoln would tour the Southern capital.



[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/11/Richmond\\_Virginia\\_damage2.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/11/Richmond_Virginia_damage2.jpg)

Grant pursued the fleeing General Lee and his army of Northern Virginia until he caught up to him a few days later. On April 9, 1865 Lee attempted a last-ditch effort. However, his men were too run-down, had few supplies and it quickly became clear that he simply could not overpower the Union. On April 9th, 1865, Lee formally surrendered at Appomattox Court House.

Grant was suffering from an intense headache that day and was dressed in a uniform that had splashes of mud. Lee, on the other hand, was in a crisp, new uniform. The generals had actually met before when Grant was in a lesser role during the Mexican War. While Grant remembered this meeting, it had not been significant enough for Lee to recollect much more than a brief interaction.



<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/>

[File:General Robert E. Lee surrenders at Appomattox Court House 1865.jpg](#)

Grant's terms and conditions in the surrender were gracious. As many of the Southern cavalymen provided their own horses, upon Lee's request, Grant agreed that they could keep their horses. He simply asked the Confederate soldiers to lay down their weapons and go home. Additionally, Union troops were asked to withhold from 'excessive celebration' as the utmost



desire of the war's end was to reunite a nation, not tear it further apart. Before departing from the meeting, Lee asked Grant for the rations for his men who had been without rations for quite a few days. Simple acts such as these helped to provide the groundwork for the nation to recover.

Despite the Lee's formal surrender, battles still occurred in the South. Finally, on May 10, 1865 Jefferson Davis was captured near Georgia. While he was imprisoned in Virginia, he was never tried for treason.

### **Casualties & Impact of the War**

Estimates of casualties from the Civil War range from 618,000 through 631,000. One thing remains clear, though. Two percent of the population was wiped out as a result of this conflict. This same percentage of today's population (as estimated by the 2010 census) would equal approximately 6 million citizens.

At the end of the war, 4 million enslaved African Americans had gained their freedom. The 13th Amendment provided their freedom and eventually the 14th and 15th Amendments would give African Americans citizenship and voting rights (many African Americans argued if they were good enough for "bullets", they ought to be good enough for "ballots" as well).



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maryland\\_in\\_the\\_American\\_Civil\\_War#/media/File:Bodies\\_on\\_the\\_battlefield\\_at\\_antietam.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maryland_in_the_American_Civil_War#/media/File:Bodies_on_the_battlefield_at_antietam.jpg)

Rebuilding after the war would not be so easy. Casualty counts were the highest this nation would ever experience; in fact, in the one day battle at Antietam there were four times as many casualties as there were in the storming of the beaches of Normandy on D-Day during World War II. One in five Southern soldiers had died as a result of the war leaving more than 70,000 widows and many women who would never marry as there were no eligible bachelors in her town.

In addition, the nation would have to rebound from a huge debt. In 1860, the national debt was \$65 million. By 1865, that number had reached \$2.7 billion. Some of that debt was the federal pension that Union veterans could receive if they had sustained injuries that prevented them from working or for widows who did not remarry.

Just five days after the surrender, the nation would be rocked with another blow. The assassination and subsequent death of Abraham Lincoln.



Can You Win a Civil War?

Create an argument with evidence from the chapter to support your claim