

The American Civil War & Reconstruction



OR THE WAR OF
NORTHERN AGGRESSION

Spring 1861

Lincoln's election in 1860 and his inauguration in 1861 sparked fears among the South that he would attempt to abolish slavery in the South. Seven states immediately seceded:

South Carolina
Mississippi
Florida
Alabama
Georgia
Louisiana
Texas

4 more seceded after
Ft. Sumter in April of
1861:

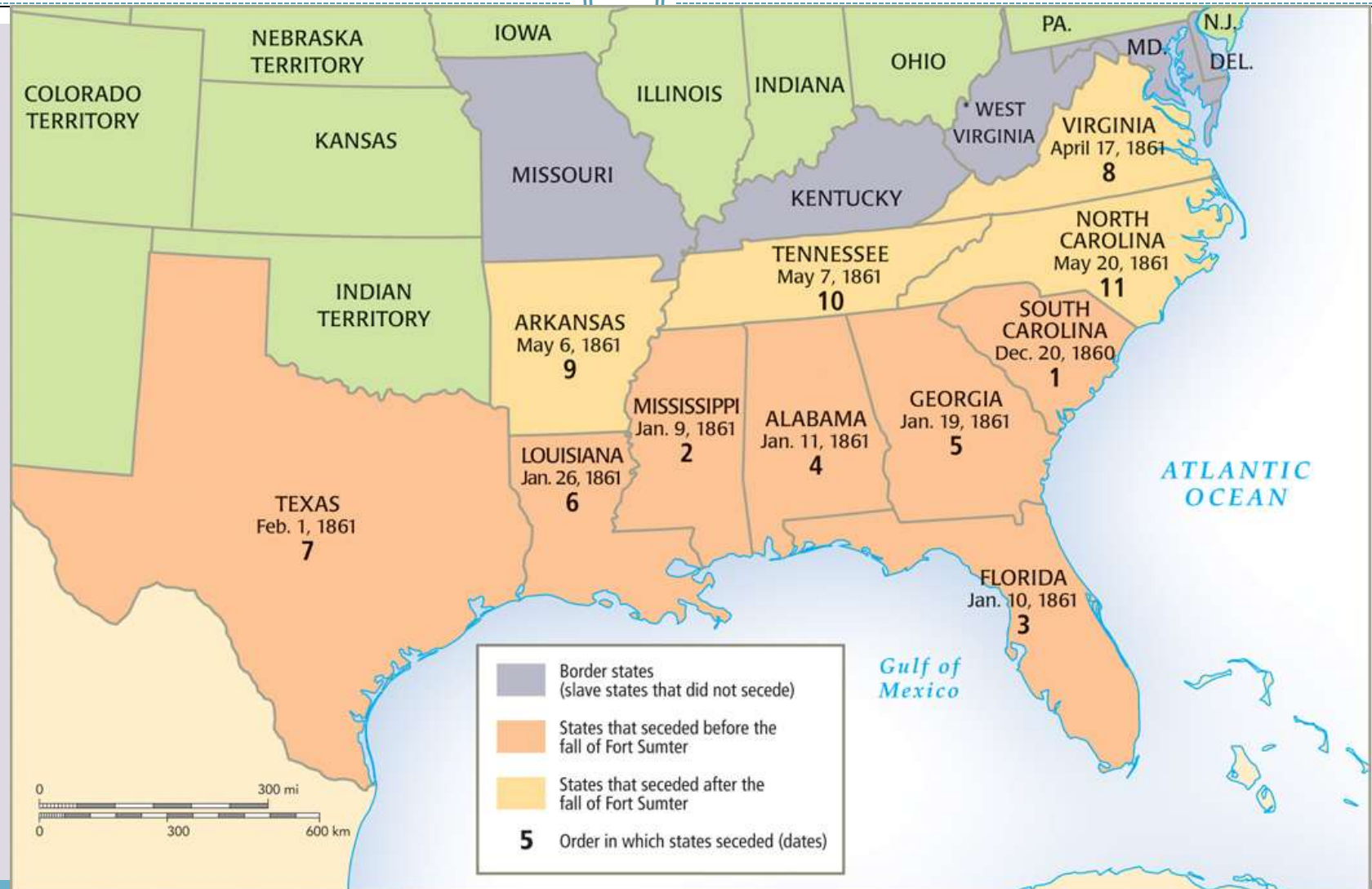
Virginia
Arkansas
North Carolina
Tennessee

5 slave states
never seceded:

Delaware
Kentucky
Maryland
Missouri
West Virginia



The Process of Secession



Ft. Sumter under Confederate flag

April 12, 1861

Ft. Sumter, SC was one of two last remaining federal strongholds in the South (the other Ft. Pickering in Fl)



April 12: Fort Sumter bombarded by more than 70 Confederate canon and surrenders in a day.
Fort was resupplied as a deliberate provocation by Lincoln.

Confederate Strengths



Only had to fight defensively behind interior lines and tie or stalemate; needed fewer troops

Until Emancipation Proclamations of 1862 & 1863, many felt South had superior moral cause, slavery notwithstanding.

Short communication lines and a friendly population

Had talented military officers

Southern men had military tradition

Confederate chances



Lack of significant industrial capacity a crucial disadvantage; South primarily agrarian

As the war dragged on, severe shortages of shoes, uniforms, and blankets.

Breakdown of transportation.

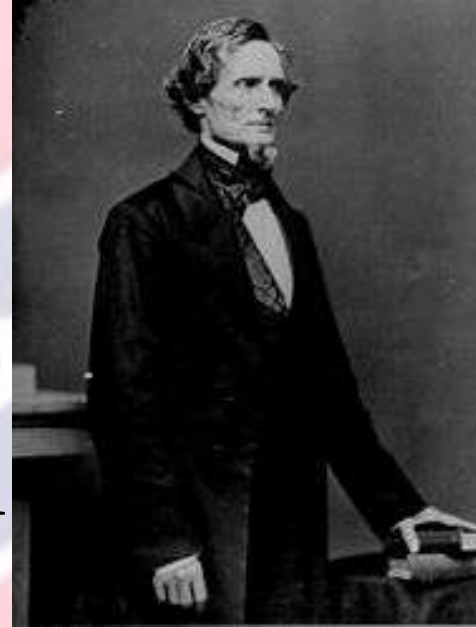
South did not get foreign intervention which usually helps revolutions to succeed.

The Confederacy

Constitution largely copied
from Articles of Confederation and
D of I.

Jefferson Davis' idea of a strong central gov't
was bitterly by opposed states' righters

Davis often at odds with his Congress: in
danger of being impeached at one point and
lacked Lincoln's political savvy.



Northern Advantages



Population of 22 million (including border states); 800,000 immigrants between 1861-63

Had 3/4 of the nation's wealth

Overwhelming superiority in manufacturing, shipping, and banking.

3/4 of nation's railroads: large capacity for repair and replacement that the South lacked.

Controlled the sea through its blockade of Southern ports.

Democratic ideal of Union

Much better logistical planning in the army and weaponry.

Foreign Policy During the War



Aristocracies of Europe supported the Confederate cause.

Why did King Cotton fail the South?

British diplomacy – officially neutral – Trent Affair (1861) – unofficial naval base for Conf.

French diplomacy – Napoleon III unfriendly to US – Enthroned Austrian Archduke Maximilian as Emperor of Mexico.

Raising Armies: North and South



South initially relied mainly on volunteers – first draft passed in 1862.

- Confederacy did not enlist slaves until a month before the war ended.

Northern troops – volunteers, first conscription passed in 1863.

- Substitutes could be hired to fight for you if you did not want to serve.
- Draft opposed by Peace Democrats, laborers, and immigrants- Draft riots in NYC in summer of 63.
- African-American soldiers in the North- 10% of army, higher mortality.

Funding of the War



Raising money in the North (First income tax-1861, issued \$6.2 billion in bonds, Greenbacks had serious inflation.)

- War-time prosperity in the North

Southern finances (paper currency, high inflation)

- Demise of the Cotton Kingdom

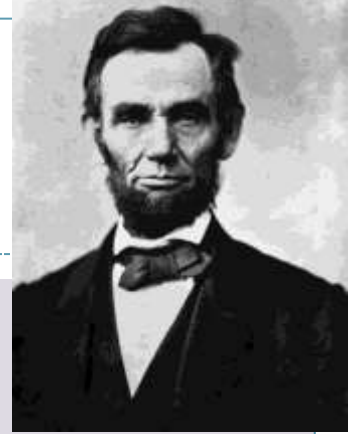
Legislation Passed

(Without the Southern Dems. in Congress)



- 1861 – Morrill Tariff Act
- 1862 – Homestead Act
- 1862 – Legal Tender Act
- 1862 – Morrill Land Grant Act
- 1862 – Emancipation Proclamation
(1/1/1863)
- 1863 – Pacific Railway Act
- 1863 – National Bank Act

Lincoln and civil liberties



Saving the Union required side-stepping some of Constitution.

Blockade proclaimed when Congress not in session shortly after Fort Sumter.

Increased size of federal army and navy.

Suspended writ of habeas corpus so that anti-Unionists could be arrested.

Federal officials also suspended certain newspapers and the arrest of their editors for obstructing the Union war cause.

Signed a bill outlawing slavery in all the national territories even though it conflicted with the Dred Scott decision.

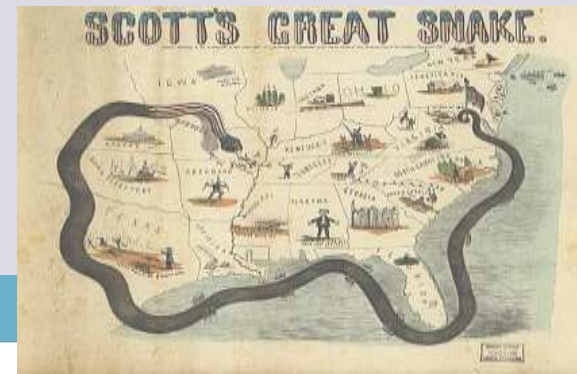
Generally, civil liberties and constitutional rights were respected during war.

Jefferson Davis, unlike Lincoln, unable to exercise arbitrary power .

Union War Strategy



1. Capture Richmond and force surrender
2. Expel Confederates from border states
3. Control the Mississippi River
4. Blockade southern ports and stop cotton shipments



Confederate War Strategy



The basic war aim of the Confederacy, like that of the United States in the Revolution, was to defend a new nation from conquest. Control border states and expel Union troops from South
Southern pride demanded that they fight.
Gain England's support
Davis called the plan an "offensive-defensive" strategy.

Civil War Chronology



UNION VS. CONFEDERATE

1st Battle of Bull Run

July 1861



Location: Northern Virginia

Result: Confederate victory It psyched out the North

Surprising victory for the South. It demoralized the North and made them realize that this war would be longer than a single battle.

Union	Confederate
Commanders	
Irvin McDowell	Joseph E. Johnston P.G.T. Beauregard
Strength	
35,000	32,500
Casualties	
2,896 (460 killed, 1,124 wounded, 1,312 captured/missing)	1,982 (387 killed, 1,582 wounded, 13 missing)

Blockade and the Mississippi 1861-1863

Blockade of Eastern
ports 1861

Battle for New Orleans
Apr-May 1862

Shiloh April 1862

Vicksburg- last
stronghold on
Mississippi, July
1863



Battle of Antietam

September 1862



Location: Near Sharpsburg, Maryland
Result: Tactically inconclusive; strategic Union victory

Antietam was the first major battle in the Civil War to take place on Northern soil. It was the bloodiest single-day battle in American history. McClellan's refusal to pursue Lee after the battle resulted in his dismissal later.

Union	Confederate
Commanders	
George B. McClellan	Robert E. Lee
Strength	
87,000	45,000
Casualties	
12,401 (2,108 killed, 9,540 wounded, 753 captured/missing)	10,316 (1,546 killed, 7,752 wounded, 1,018 captured/missing)

Emancipation Proclamation

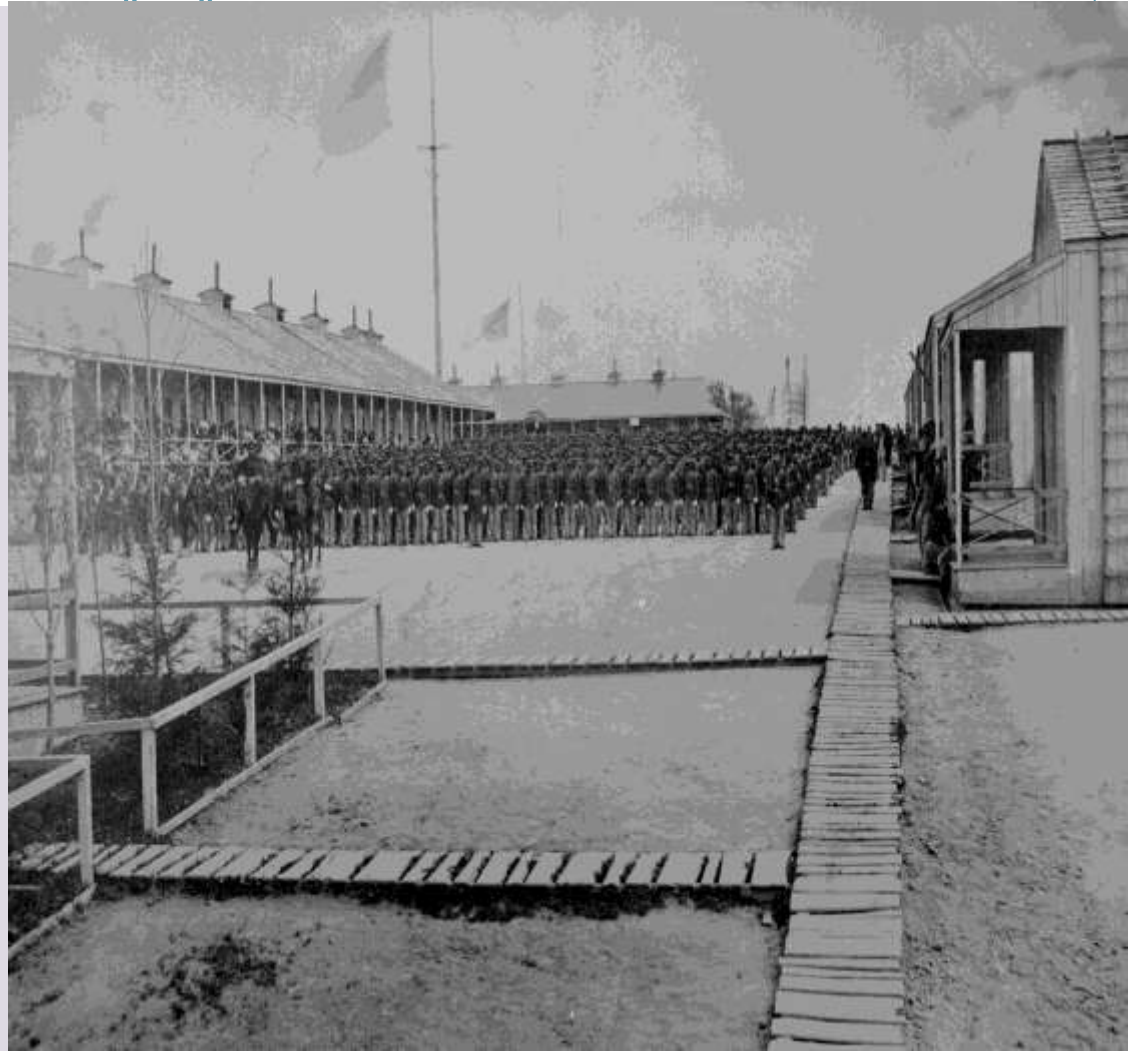
Winter 1862 (After Antietam)

Announced September of 1862, became effective Jan. 1, 1863

- All slaves in areas in rebellion declared now and forever free.
- Slaves in loyal Border States not affected nor those in specific areas of conquered South.
- In effect, did little immediately to change the plight of the slaves.
- Reaction to Emancipation Proclamation

Winter 1862

Approximately 180,000 African Americans comprising 163 units served in the Union Army during the Civil War, and many more African Americans served in the Union Navy. Both free African-Americans and runaway slaves joined the fight.



Battle of Fredericksburg

Winter 1862



Location: Near Fredericksburg, Virginia
Result: Confederate victory

This was one of the most one-sided battles of the war. The Union Army suffered terrible casualties in futile frontal assaults against the Confederate defenders on the hill behind the city. This ended their campaign against the Confederate capital of Richmond.

Union	Confederate
Commanders	
Ambrose E. Burnside	Robert E. Lee
Strength	
Army of the Potomac ~114,000 engaged	Army of Northern Virginia ~72,500 engaged
Casualties	
12,653 (1,284 killed, 9,600 wounded, 1,769 captured/missing)	5,377 (608 killed, 4,116 wounded, 653 captured/missing)

Battle of Chancellorsville

April – May 1863

Location: Near Fredericksburg, Virginia
Result: Confederate victory



The superior tactical skills of the Confederate leaders Lee and Jackson plus Hooker's timid performance in combat combined to result in a significant Union defeat. The Army of the Potomac's lack of competent leadership doomed its forces, as in earlier campaigns of the war. Stonewall Jackson was lost to friendly fire, a loss that Lee likened to "losing my right arm."

Union	Confederate
Commanders	
Joseph Hooker	Robert E. Lee Stonewall Jackson
Strength	
133,868	60,892
Casualties	
17,197 (1,606 killed, 9,672 wounded, 5,919 missing)	12,764 (1,665 killed, 9,081 wounded, 2,018 missing)

Battle of Gettysburg

July 1863



Location: Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

Result: Union Victory

This battle is frequently cited as the war's turning point. Union Gen. George Meade's army defeated attacks by Confederate General Robert E. Lee's army, ending Lee's invasion of the North.

Union	Confederate
Commanders	
George G. Meade	Robert E. Lee
Strength	
93,921	71,699
Casualties	
23,055 (3,155 killed, 14,531 wounded, 5,369 captured/missing)	23,231 (4,708 killed, 12,693 wounded, 5,830 captured/missing)

Gettysburg Address November 1863



It was delivered at the dedication of a cemetery in Gettysburg four and a half months after the battle.

In just over two minutes, Lincoln talked about the principles of human equality and redefined the Civil War as a struggle not merely for the Union, but as "a new birth of freedom" that would bring true equality to all of its citizens.



Peace Democrats: The Copperheads

Democratic faction that preached "peace at any price" philosophy.

Clement L. Vallandigham:

"To maintain the Constitution as it is, and to restore the Union as it was."

Assailed Lincoln for perpetuating an unjust war.

- Was arrested and exiled under General Order 38.





Election of 1864



Abolitionists urged the Republicans to choose a candidate who would wage total war against the South.

Lincoln chose Andrew Johnson as his running mate to attract "War Democrats" and formed the Union Party.

Democrats nominated McClellan and a platform which called for a truce and settlement with the South.

Lincoln won the electoral vote, but won by 400,000 popular votes.

Sherman's March to the Sea

1864

Location: From Atlanta, Georgia to Savannah, Georgia

Result: Union Victory

Sherman's "total war" methods brought a level of destruction upon civilians rarely seen since the Middle Ages. He started open warfare upon civilian populations.



Union	Confederate
Commanders	
William T. Sherman	William Hardee
Strength	
62, 000	13,000
Casualties	
200 approx.	2000 approx.

Siege of Petersburg

June 1864 to April 1865

Location: Petersburg, Virginia (near Richmond)
Result: Union victory



General Grant's army assaulted Petersburg unsuccessfully and then constructed trench lines that eventually extended over 30 miles around the eastern and southern outskirts of the city. Petersburg was crucial to the supply of Confederate Gen. Lee's army and the Confederate capital of Richmond.

Lee finally yielded and abandoned both cities in April 1865, leading to his retreat and surrender in Appomattox.

Union	Confederate
Commanders	
Ulysses S. Grant	Robert E. Lee
Strength	
67,000 – 125,000	average of 52,000
Casualties	
53,386	~32,000

End of the War

Richmond falls and is destroyed by the Union troops April 3, 1865.

Surrender at Appomattox Courthouse April 9, 1865.

Lincoln assassinated on night of April 14, 1865.



Results and costs of the Civil War



620,000 soldiers dead (2% of population!); over 1 million total casualties; unknown civilian casualties.

Slavery abolished

Total cost of war: \$15 billion (about \$1.5 trillion in today's dollars)

States righters were henceforth crushed as the Civil War served as the greatest constitutional decision in U.S. history.

Ideal of Union and nation triumphant

Reconstruction



1863-1877

Four main questions vis-à-vis the post-Civil War South



1. How do you rebuild the South after its destruction and the emancipation of slavery?
2. What should the condition of African Americans be in the South?
3. How would the South be reintegrated into the Union?
4. Who would control process of Reconstruction: Southern states, President, or Congress?

What should be done with the leaders of the Confederacy?



Jefferson Davis imprisoned for two years (others as well); eventually released.

President Johnson pardoned all rebel leaders in December 1868.

Congress did not restore many civil liberties until 30 years later.

BUREAU
Bridgers, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands,
MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE.

This is to Certify that George Rapier
 and Ann Rapier have this day, appeared before me
 and under oath acknowledged that they have been living together as
 man and wife since the 6th day of Feb One thou-
 sand eight hundred and Forty One, and that the
 following named children are the legitimate issue thereof.

<u>Mary Francis Rapier</u>	aged <u>4</u> years.
<u>Samuel Thynne Rapier</u>	" <u>21</u> "
_____	" _____ "
_____	" _____ "
_____	" _____ "
_____	" _____ "

The above named Geo Rapier and Ann Rapier
 are therefore declared to be legally married.

Given at Quincy by this Notary day
of March One thousand eight hundred and Sixty seven

A. H. Lawrence
 Notary Public, Quincy, Freedmen, & Abandoned Lands.

By Watkins A. R.

Freedmen's Bureau
 (created in 1865 by
 Congress)

Freedmen's Bureau School

The most successful of the Freedmen programs

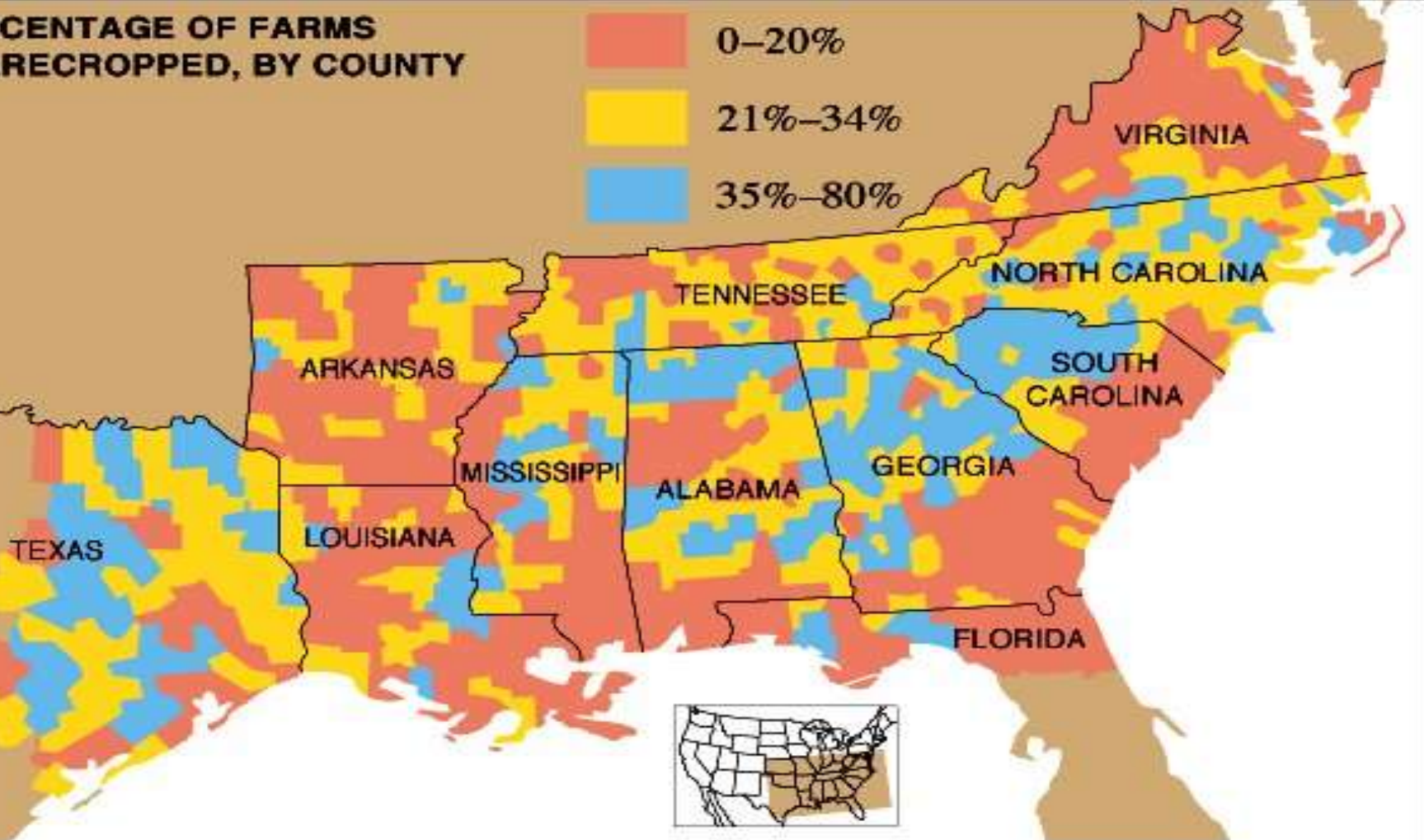
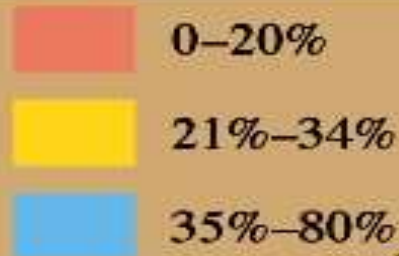


During Reconstruction, public education came to the South for former slaves and as comprehensive public education for all citizens.

Sharecropping in the South



**PERCENTAGE OF FARMS
SHARECROPPED, BY COUNTY**



Blacks in Southern Politics



- ★ Core voters were black veterans.
- ★ Blacks were politically unprepared.
- ★ Blacks could register and vote in states since 1867.



- ★ The 15th Amendment guaranteed federal voting but couldn't control state voting laws.

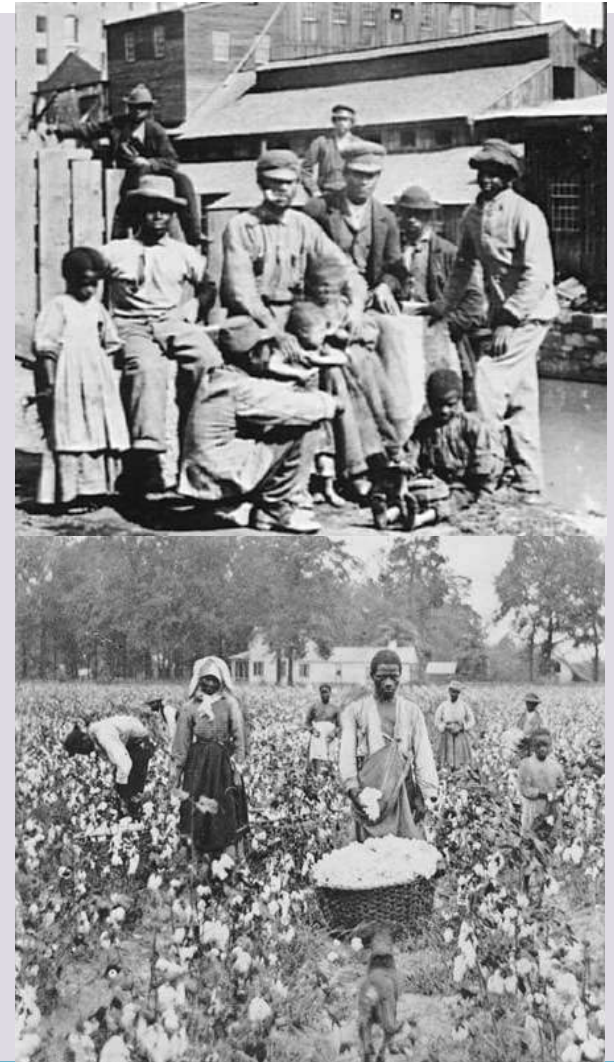
Black Codes



★ Purpose:

- Guarantee stable labor supply now that blacks were emancipated.
- Restore pre-emancipation system of race relations.

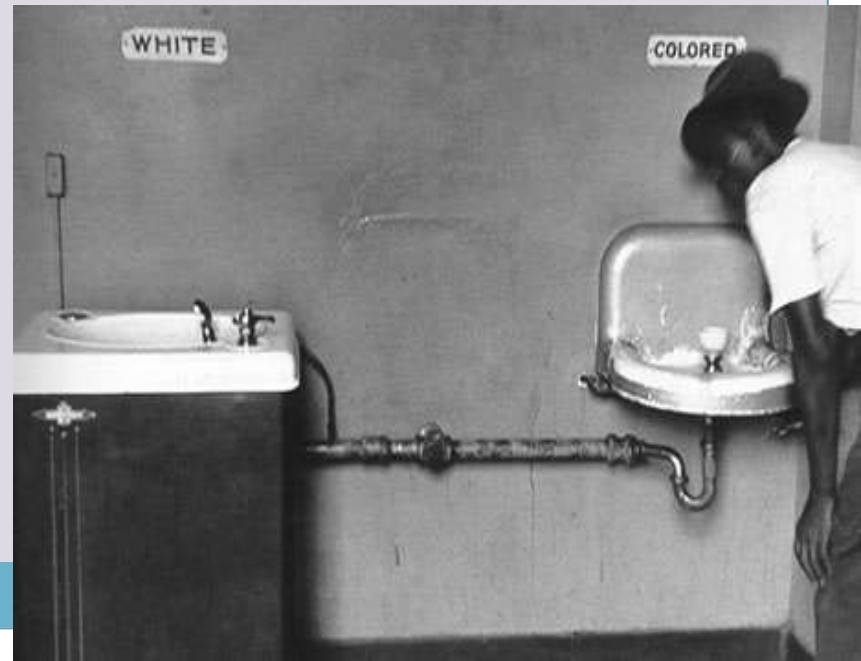
★ Forced many blacks to become sharecroppers [tenant farmers / crop lien].



Rise of Jim Crow laws

Plessey v. Ferguson (1896) capped the failure of Reconstruction by making it Constitutional to segregate the black and white races:

- "Separate but Equal"



Responses to the Jim Crow Era



NOTICE!

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON,
THE GREAT NEGRO EDUCATOR,
Will make a Tour of The Virginia Railway
in a Special Train
NORFOLK, VA., TO DEEPWATER, W. VA.

Stopping at the Following Stations to Deliver a
Series of Educational Addresses

MONDAY, JUNE 21, 1893	1:00 pm
Roanoke, Va.	2:00 pm
Sta. Va.	3:00 pm
Sta. Va.	4:00 pm
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 1893	9:00 am
Sta. Va.	10:00 am
Sta. Va.	11:00 am
Sta. Va.	12:00 pm
THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 1893	9:00 am
Sta. Va.	10:00 am
Sta. Va.	11:00 am
Sta. Va.	12:00 pm
FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 1893	9:00 am
Sta. Va.	10:00 am
Sta. Va.	11:00 am
Sta. Va.	12:00 pm
SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 1893	9:00 am
Sta. Va.	10:00 am
Sta. Va.	11:00 am
Sta. Va.	12:00 pm
SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 1893	9:00 am
Sta. Va.	10:00 am
Sta. Va.	11:00 am
Sta. Va.	12:00 pm



Booker T. Washington – called for cooperation with southern whites. He said equality would come when African Americans were economically independent.

Ida B. Wells- focused on stopping the lynching of African Americans through protest and editorials.

Later W.E.B. duBois will call for immediate integration through the Niagara Movement and will form the NAACP in 1909.

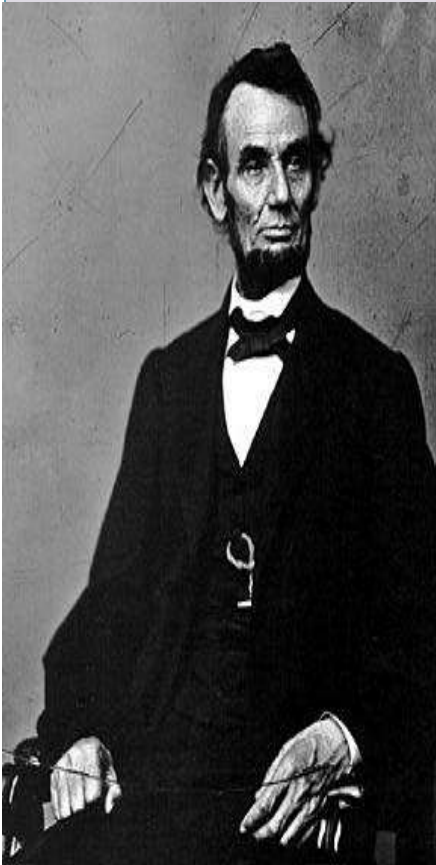
Lincoln's Reconstruction

Lincoln's 2nd Inaugural:

*With malice toward none, with charity for all,
...let us strive on to finish the work we are in,
...to do all which may achieve and cherish a
just and lasting peace among ourselves and
with all nations.*

*April 1865: No one man has authority to give up
the rebellion for any other man.*

Lincoln's 10% Plan



★ 10% Plan

- Proclamation of Amnesty and Reconstruction (December 8, 1863)
- Replace majority rule with “loyal rule” in the South.
- He didn’t consult Congress regarding Reconstruction.
- Pardon to all but the highest ranking military and civilian Confederate officers.
- **When 10% of the voting population in the 1860 election had taken an oath of loyalty and established a government, it would be recognized.**

★ 1864 → “Lincoln Governments”
formed in LA, TN, AR

- “loyal assemblies”
- They were weak and dependent on the Northern army for their survival.

Wade-Davis Bill (1864)



Senator
Benjamin
Wade
(R-OH)

- ★ Required 50% of the number of 1860 voters to take an “iron clad” oath of allegiance (swearing they’d never voluntarily aided the rebellion).
- ★ Required a state constitutional convention before the election of state officials.
- ★ Enacted specific safeguards of freedmen’s liberties.
- ★ Lincoln Pocket-vetoed it.



Congressman
Henry
W. Davis
(R-MD)

President Johnson's Plan (10%+)



- ★ Offered amnesty upon simple oath to all except Confederate civil and military officers and those with property over \$20,000 (they could apply directly to Johnson)
- ★ In new constitutions, they must accept minimum conditions repudiating slavery, secession and state debts.
- ★ Named provisional governors in Confederate states and called them to oversee elections for constitutional conventions.

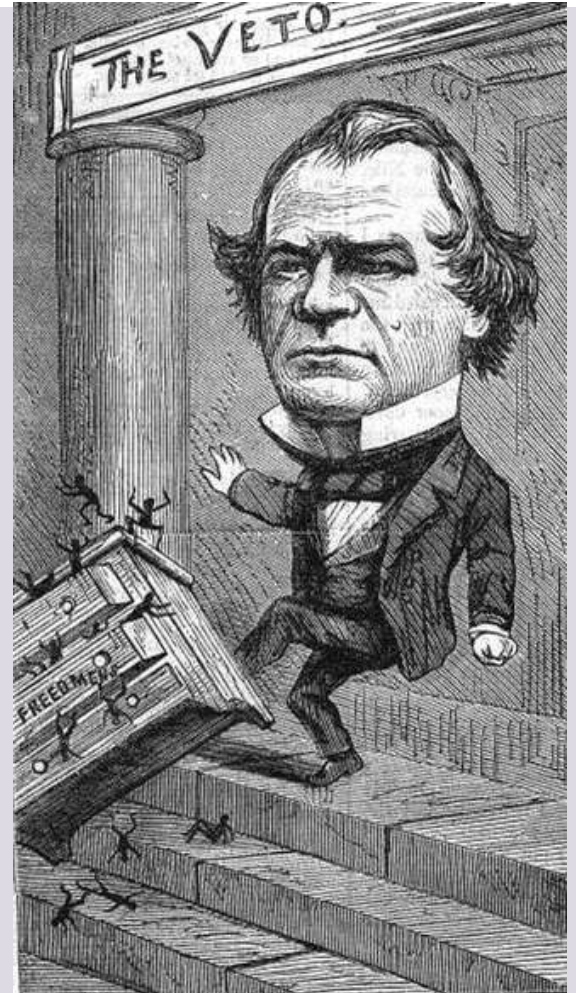
EFFECTS

1. Disenfranchised certain leading Confederates.
2. Pardoned planter aristocrats brought them back to political power to control state organizations.
3. Republicans were outraged that planter elite were back in power in the South!

Congress Breaks with the President



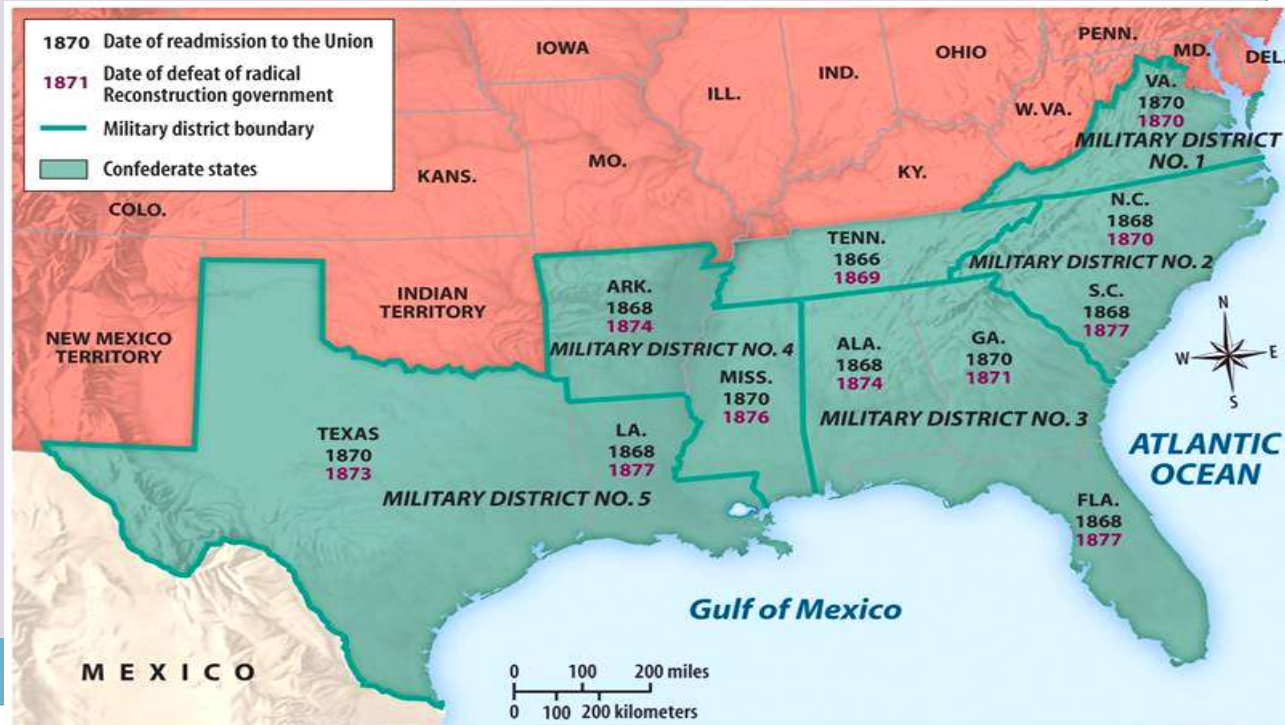
- ★ Congress bars Southern Congressional delegates from taking their seats in Congress.
- ★ Joint Committee on Reconstruction created.
- ★ February, 1866 → President vetoed the Freedmen's Bureau bill.
- ★ March, 1866 → Johnson vetoed the 1866 Civil Rights Act.
- ★ Congress passed both bills over Johnson's vetoes → 1st time in U. S. history!!



Reconstruction Acts of 1867

★ Military Reconstruction Act

- Restart Reconstruction in the 10 Southern states that refused to ratify the 14th Amendment.
- Divide the 10 “unreconstructed states” into 5 military districts.



Reconstruction Acts of 1867

★ Tenure of Office Act (Johnson tried to veto this act also!)

- The President could not remove any officials [esp. Cabinet members] without the Senate's consent, if the position originally required Senate approval.
 - Designed to protect radical members of Lincoln's government.
 - A question of the constitutionality of this law.



Edwin Stanton
“You’re fired”

President Johnson's Impeachment

- ★ Johnson removed Stanton in February, 1868.
- ★ The House impeached him on February 24 before even drawing up the charges by a vote of 126 – 47.
- ★ The Senate fell one vote short of convicting Johnson (35-19)



13th Amendment



- ★ Ratified in December, 1865.
- ★ *Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States or any place subject to their jurisdiction.*
- ★ *Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.*

14th Amendment



★ Ratified in July, 1868.

- **Provide a constitutional guarantee of the rights and security of freed people.**
- Insure against planter elites gaining political power.
- Enshrine the national debt while repudiating that of the Confederacy.

★ Southern states would be punished for denying the right to vote to black citizens!

15th Amendment



- ★ Ratified in 1870.
- ★ *The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.*
- ★ *The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.*
- ★ Women's rights groups were furious that they were not granted the vote!

The “Invisible Empire of the South”



In Georgia and Louisiana especially, The Klan established a reign of terror so complete that African Americans were unable to go to the polls to vote and were subjected to hideous attacks.

The goal of the Klan was to destroy Reconstruction efforts by murdering African Americans and the white Republican politicians or those who educated black children.

The Failure of Federal Enforcement

- ★ **Enforcement Acts** of 1870 & 1871 [also known as the KKK Act].



- ★ “The Lost Cause.”
- ★ The rise of the “**Bourbons.**”
- ★ **Redeemers** (prewar Democrats and Union Whigs).

The Civil Rights Act of 1875

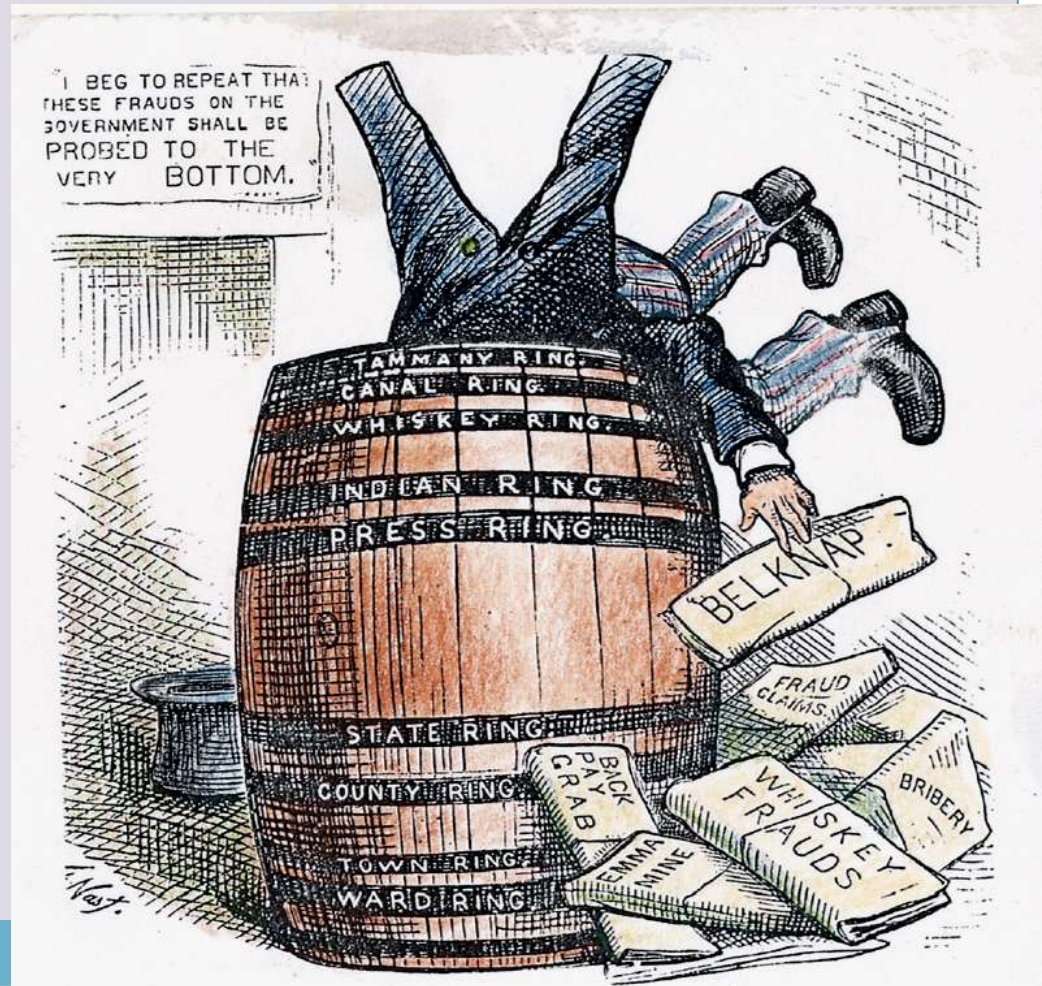


- ★ Crime for any individual to deny full & equal use of public conveyances and public places.
- ★ Prohibited discrimination in jury selection.
- ★ Shortcoming → lacked a strong enforcement mechanism.
- ★ No new civil rights act was attempted for 90 years!

Grant Administration Scandals

★ Grant presided over an era of unprecedented growth and corruption.

- Credit Mobilier Scandal.
- Whiskey Ring.
- The “Indian Ring.”



The End of Reconstruction



Republican Party interest in Reconstruction shrank as old abolitionists were replaced by Liberal Republicans with different interests.

Compromise of 1877



Settled the disputed 1876 Hayes-Tilden election

1. Removed all federal troops from the South
2. Republican governments turned out of state offices
3. Rutherford B. Hayes elected as president though receiving fewer popular votes