

The Civil War





**Abraham Lincoln,
Republican**



**John C. Bell,
Constitutional Union**

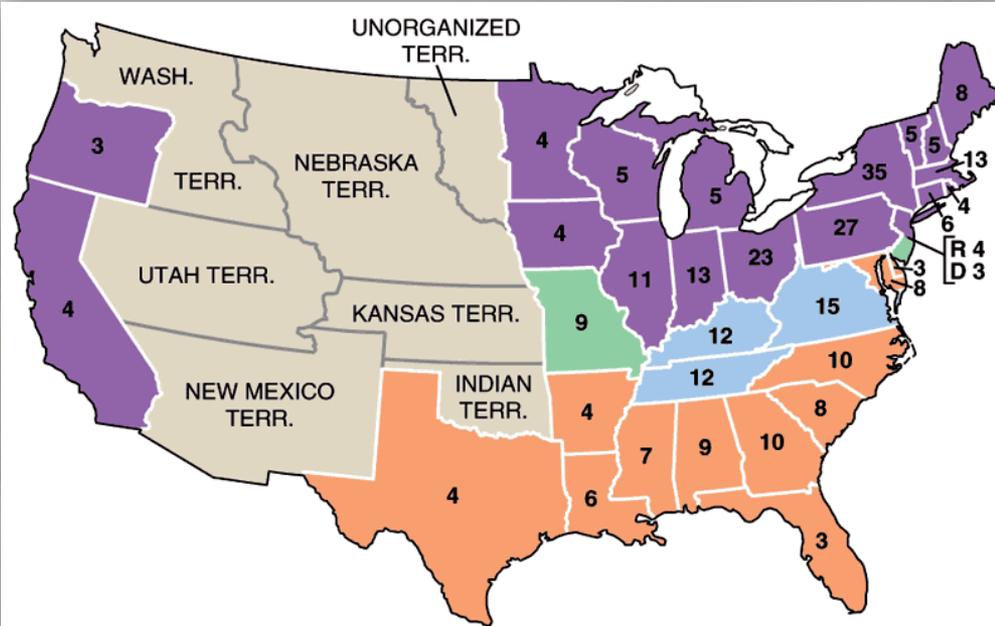


**Stephen A. Douglas,
Northern Democrat**



**John C. Breckinridge,
Southern Democrat**

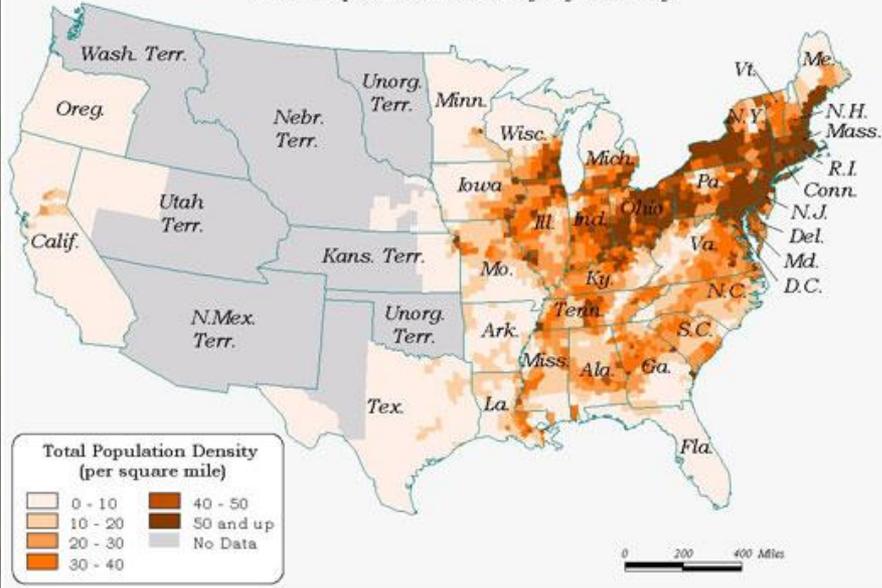
The Election of 1860



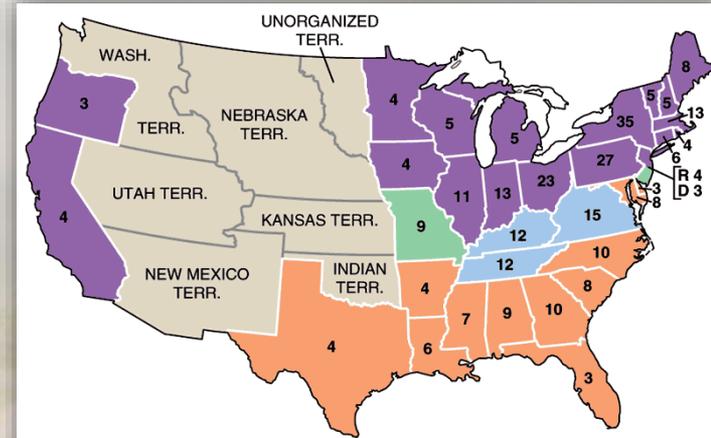
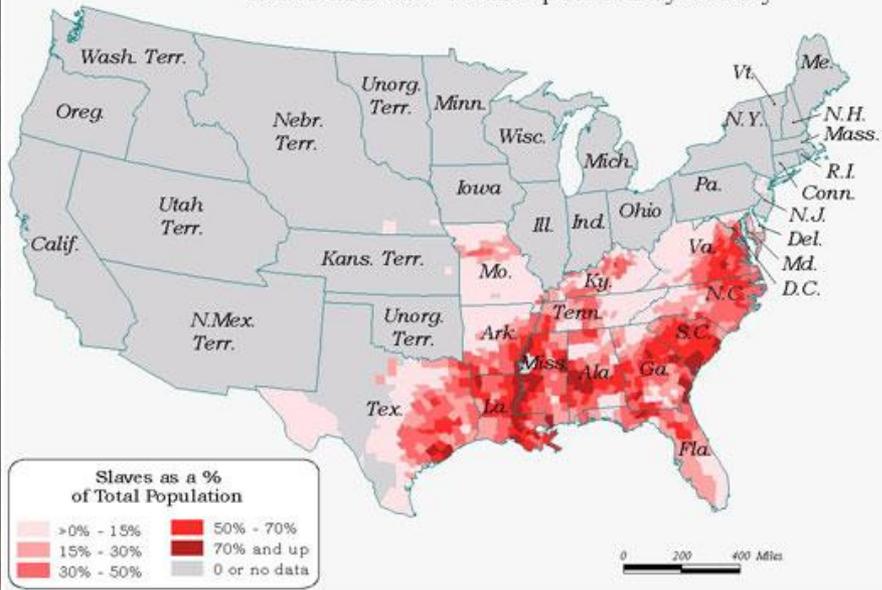
	Electoral Vote	Popular Vote	Percentage of Popular Vote
Republican Abraham Lincoln	180	1,865,593	39.8
Democratic, Southern John C. Breckinridge	72	848,356	18.1
Democratic, Northern Stephen A. Douglas	12	1,382,713	29.5
Constitutional Union John Bell	39	592,906	12.6
Divided	3 4		

The Political Forecast

United States in 1860
Total Population Density by County



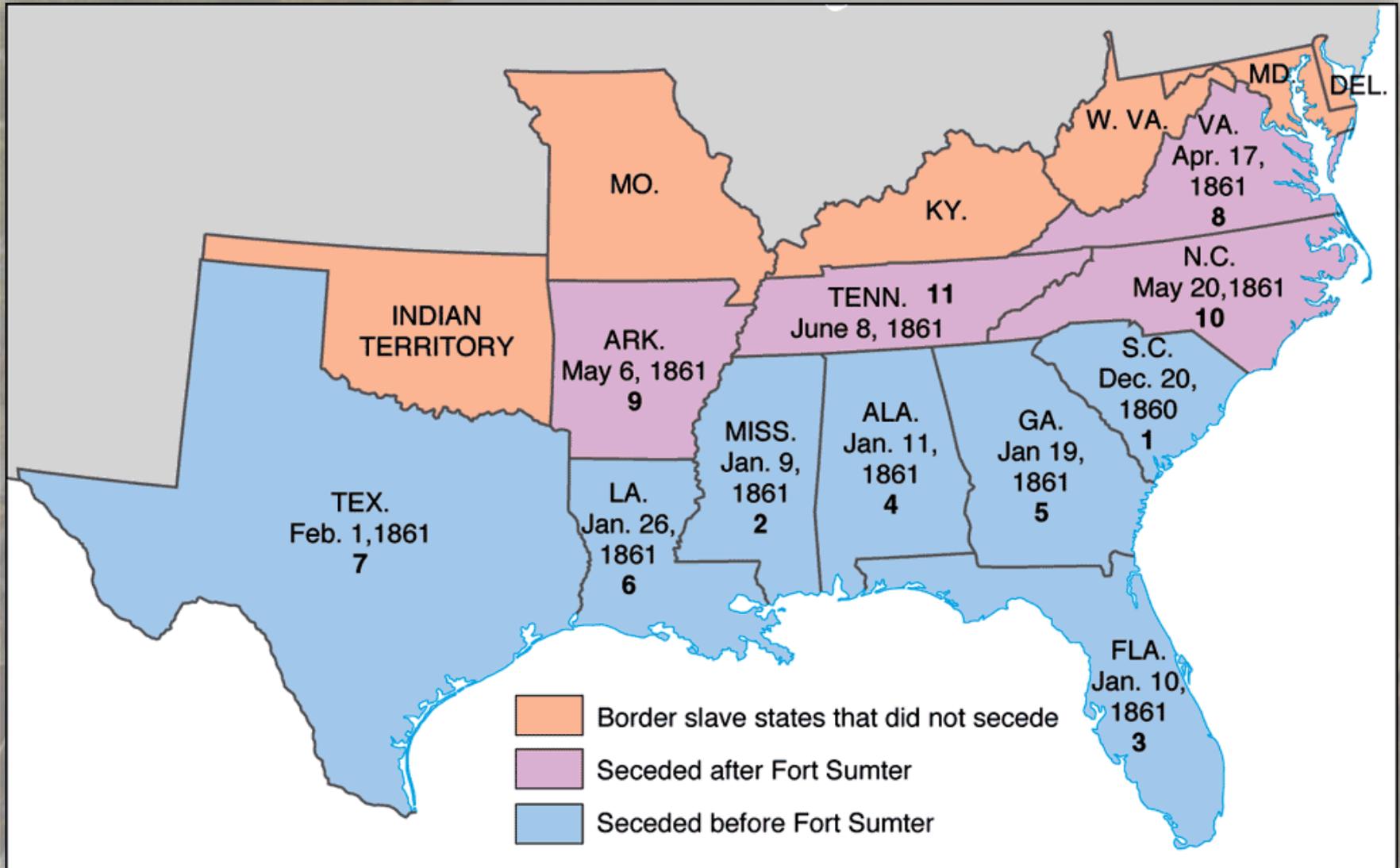
United States in 1860
Slaves as a % of Total Population by County



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Divided	3	4	

Branch of Government	Party Control in 1860
President	Republican
House (Congress)	Republican
Senate (Congress)	Republican
Supreme Court	Democratic...for now

Secession Begins

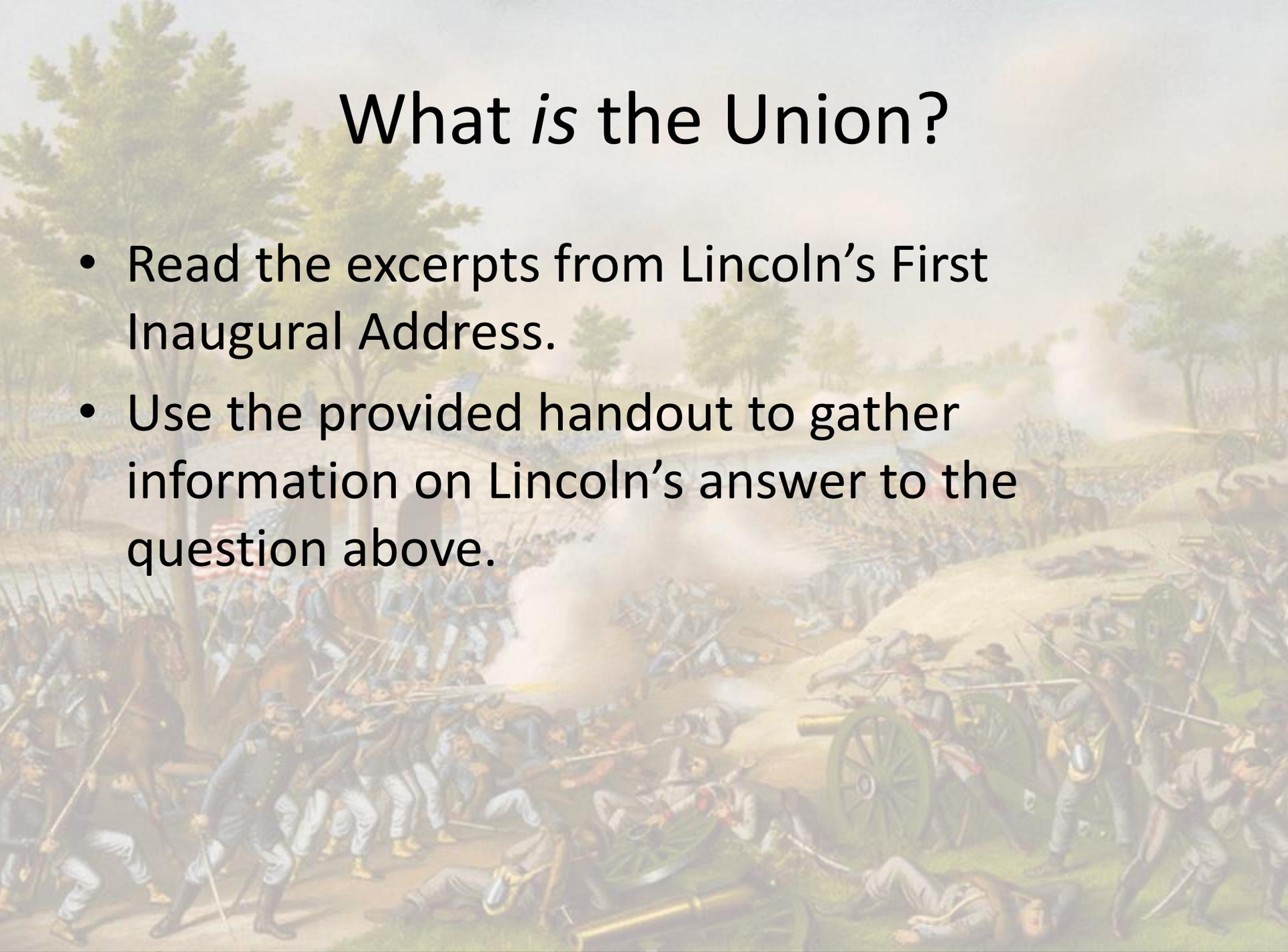


Lincoln's Charge

- The Preamble to the U.S. Constitution:
 - We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.
- Article 2, Section 1 of the U.S. Constitution:
 - The executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America. . . . Before he enter on the Execution of his Office, he shall take the following Oath or Affirmation:—“I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my Ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States.”

What *is* the Union?

- Read the excerpts from Lincoln's First Inaugural Address.
- Use the provided handout to gather information on Lincoln's answer to the question above.



What *is* the Union?

- Lincoln argued:
 - He (and the Republicans) had no intention to abolish slavery – *where it existed*
 - The Union is **perpetual**
 - There is nothing in the Constitution that allows for the dissolution of the Union
 - *If* the Constitution is merely an association of States there is no peaceful way to dissolve the Union unless all states agree
 - The Constitution creates an attempt at a “more perfect union”
 - Dissolving the Union would make it *less* perfect
 - Lincoln would *defend* the Union
 - It was his responsibility as President
 - He would defend all property belonging to the government (including places in Confederate territory)
 - Urged non-violence → the future was in the hands of the South

South Carolina Argued

- The *Declaration* stated that the Colonies “are, and of right ought to be, FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES”
- It also stated that a government that did not protect the rights of the people should be abolished
 - 14 states refused to fulfill their constitutional obligations by enforcing the Fugitive Slave Act
- The *states* had to ratify the Constitution
 - S.C. had altered her state constitution to conform with the new responsibilities under the U.S. Constitution → this was a *compact*
- The new Republican administration would prevent the South from taking part in the “common territories” by preventing the expansion of slavery
 - If the states were no longer *equal* partners, S.C. had the right to remove herself from the *compact*

Lincoln and Fort Sumter: To Hold, Occupy and Possess the Property

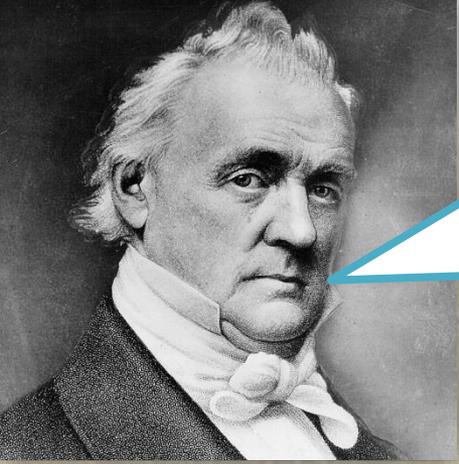
- The Confederate states had already declared they were no longer part of the United States before Lincoln became President.
- But some of the property in the South was owned by the government.
- What should President Lincoln do? He hoped the Southern states could be brought back into the Union and that war could be avoided.
- Should the government:
 - Abandon the forts and let the South have them?
 - Reclaim the forts taken by Southern states?
 - Hold only those forts still in federal hands?
 - Or choose some other course of action?

Lincoln and Fort Sumter: To Hold, Occupy and Possess the Property

“The governor of South Carolina has not sent the permission alluded to yesterday, and to-day notice has been received that no butter can be sent down and only one quarter of a box of soap. These little matters indicate, perhaps, an intention to stop our supplies entirely. I must, therefore, most respectfully and urgently ask for instructions what I am to do as soon as my provisions are exhausted. Our bread will last four or five days.” – **Major Robert Anderson, April 3, 1861**

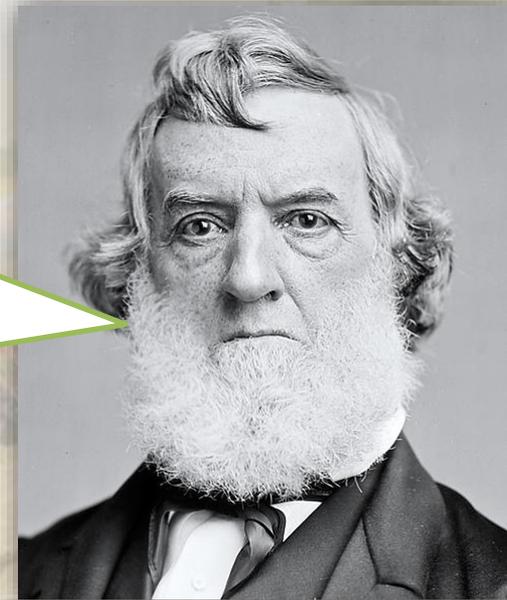


- Major Robert Anderson was in need of resupply at Fort Sumter, South Carolina
- The Confederate government did not respond to his requests to be allowed provisions
 - A Confederate battery manned by Brigadier General P.G.T. Beauregard was trained on Fort Sumter



"I was assured by distinguished and upright gentlemen of South Carolina that no attack upon Major Anderson was intended, but that, on the contrary, it was the desire of the State authorities, as much as it was my own, to avoid the fatal consequences which must eventually follow a military collision." – **President James Buchanan**

"I concur in the proposition to send an armed force off Charleston with supplies for the garrison at Fort Sumter, and of communicating the intentions of the government to provision the fort peaceably...armed resistance will justify the government in using all the power at its command..." – **Secretary of the Navy Gideon Welles**



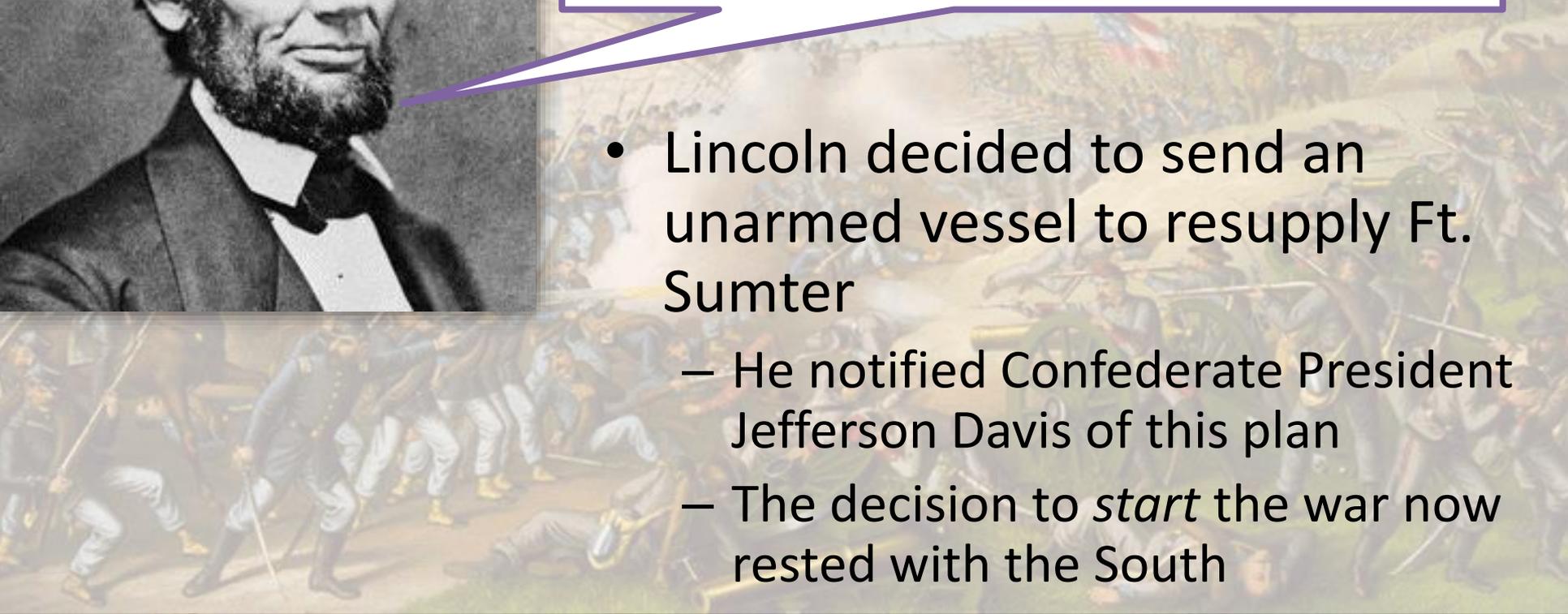
"The dispatch of an expedition to supply or reinforce Sumter would provoke an attack, and so involve a war at that point...I do not think it wise to provoke a civil war beginning at Charleston, and in rescue of an untenable position...Therefore I advise against the expedition in every view." – **Secretary of State William Seward**

Lincoln and Fort Sumter: To Hold, Occupy and Possess the Property

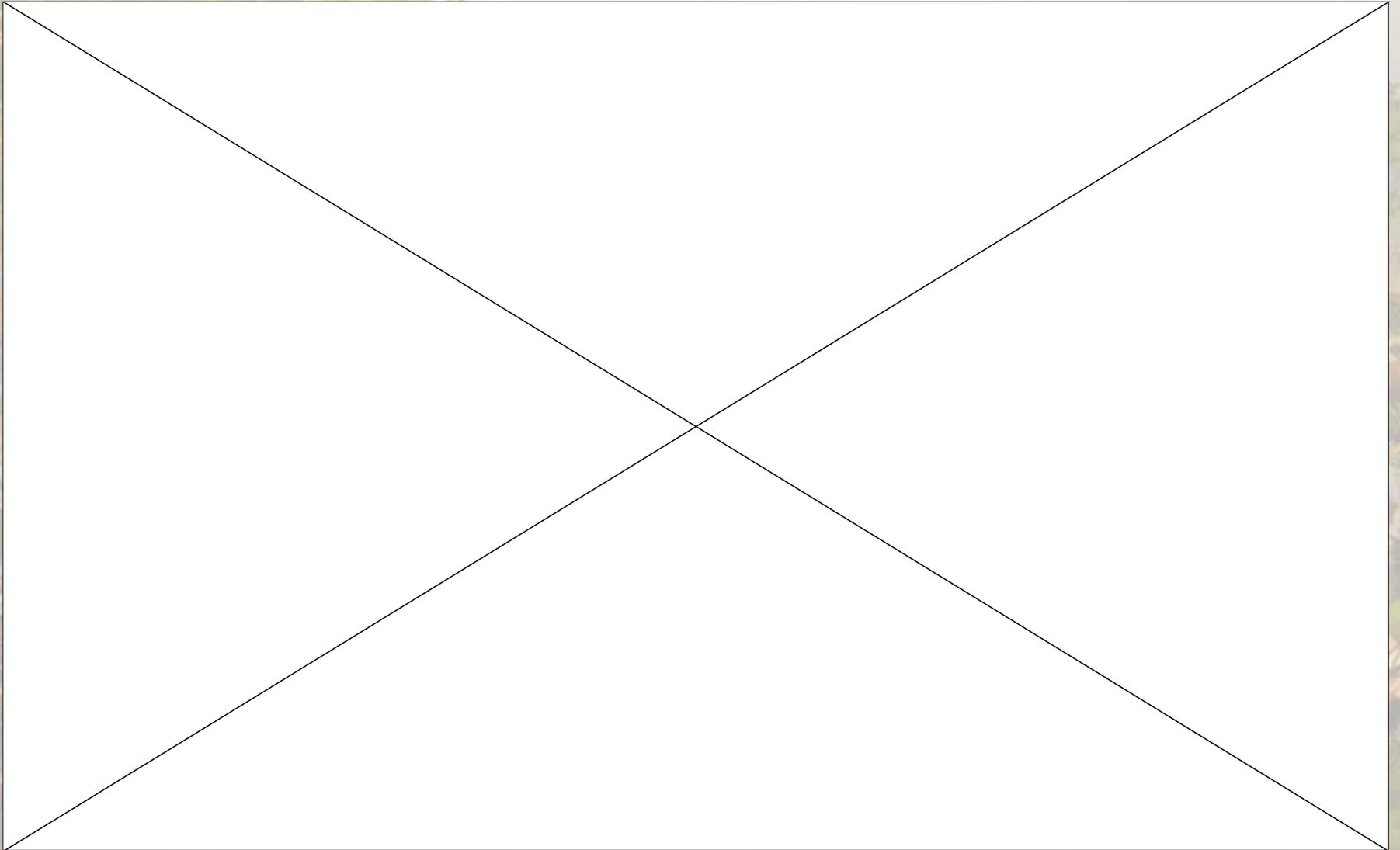


“Hoping still that you will be able to sustain yourself till the 11th or 12th the expedition will go forward; and finding your flag flying, will attempt to provision you, and, in case the effort is resisted, will endeavor also to reinforce you.” – **President Abraham Lincoln to Major Robert Anderson, April 4, 1861**

- Lincoln decided to send an unarmed vessel to resupply Ft. Sumter
 - He notified Confederate President Jefferson Davis of this plan
 - The decision to *start* the war now rested with the South



The Civil War Begins

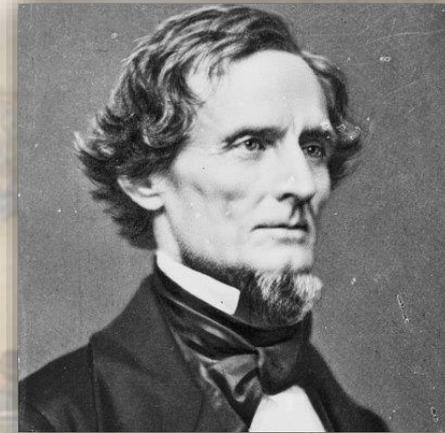
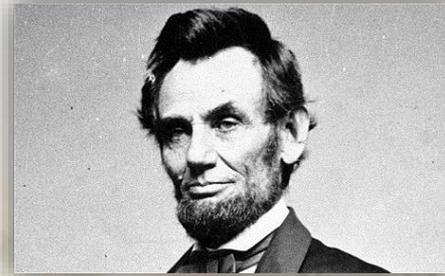


1861



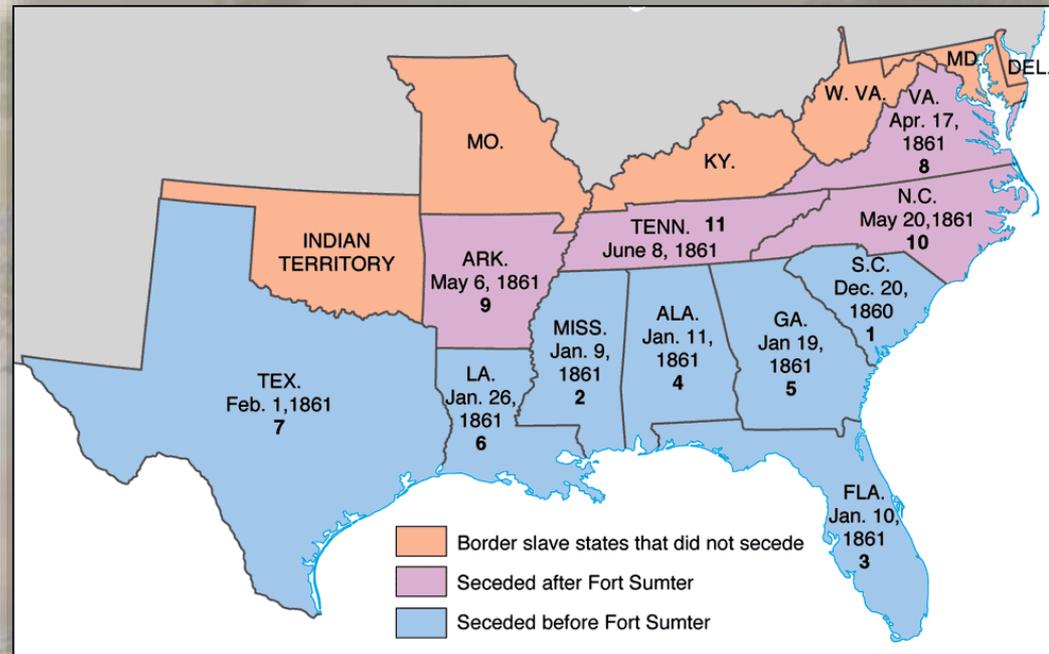
The Fort Sumter Dilemma

- When the seven most southern states seceded, only two forts remained in Union control → **Fort Sumter, S.C.** was the most important
- The Confederates demanded Major Anderson give up the fort → he requested more supplies from Lincoln:
 - If Lincoln surrendered the fort, it would make the Confederacy seem like a real country
 - Lincoln chose to supply the fort
- Confederate President **Jefferson Davis** faced a choice:
 - If he allowed the fort to be resupplied, it would weaken the Confederacy
 - Other southern states were still debating on whether to join the Confederacy
 - The Confederacy needed support from France and Britain to try to win the war
 - He ordered Confederate troops to fire on the fort
 - After 4,000 cannon, Major Anderson surrendered Fort Sumter



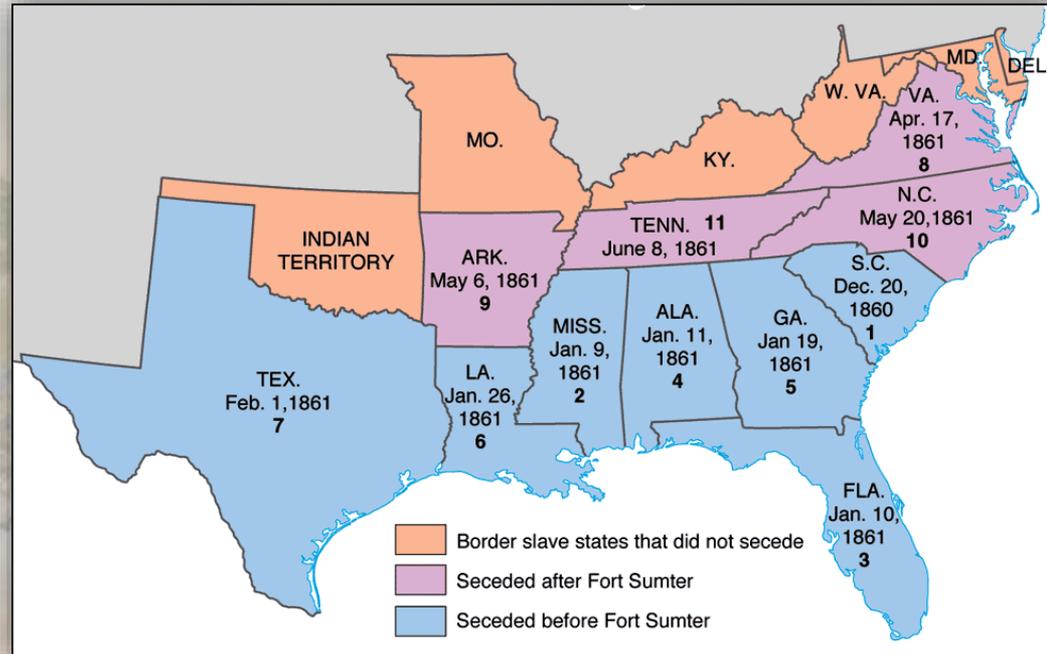
The Border State Crisis

- After the Confederate bombardment of Fort Sumter, Lincoln called for 75,000 volunteers to put down the rebellion
 - In response, Virginia, Arkansas, Tennessee, and North Carolina seceded
- Lincoln's new objective: keep the **Border States** of Missouri, Kentucky, W. Virginia, Maryland, and Delaware
 - How?
 - By any means necessary

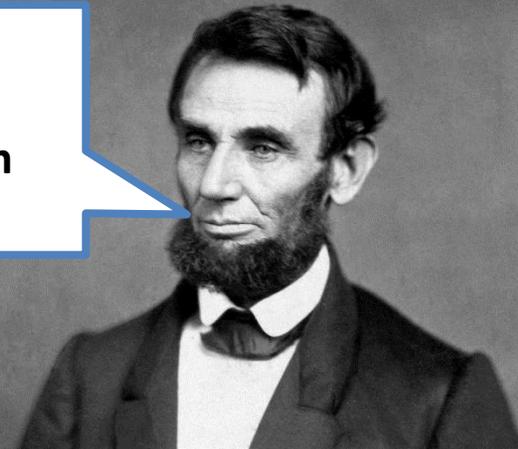


The Border State Crisis

- Lincoln adopted a soft approach with the Border States
- But Maryland was very divided (western half of the state relied on slavery, eastern half did not) and continued to vote on secession
 - Lincoln suspended *habeas corpus* in Baltimore
 - Arrested the mayor and 19 pro-Confederate supporters
 - Kept them jailed for the duration of the war
 - Constitutional? Chief Justice Taney said “No!”
 - Lincoln ignored him and considered arresting him.
 - BUT the Border States stayed in the Union!



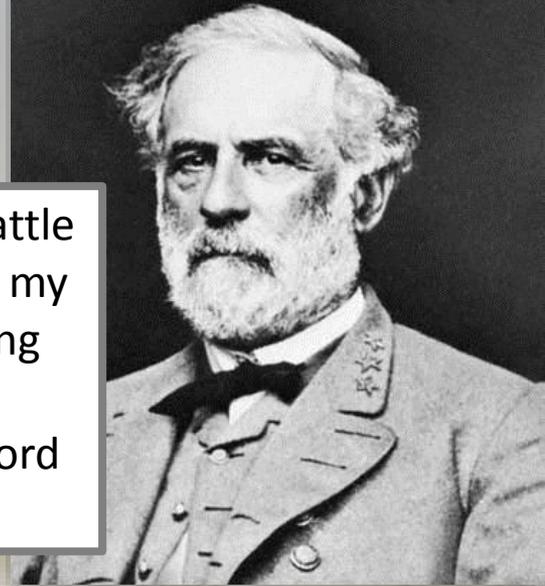
“More rogues than honest men find shelter under habeas corpus.” – Abraham Lincoln



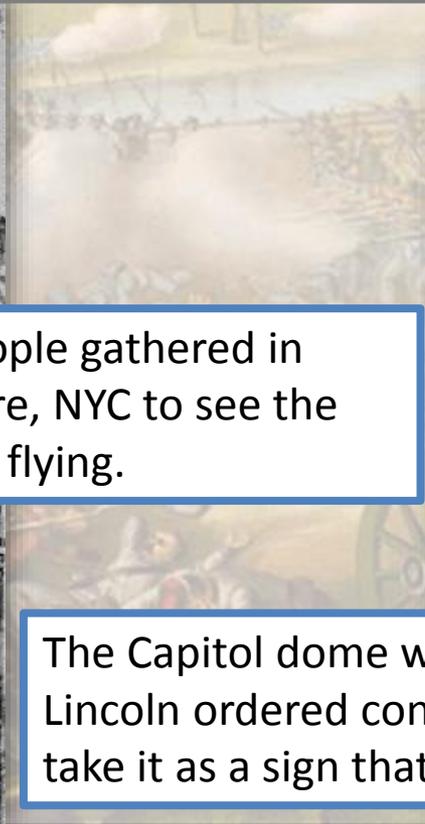
The House Divided

“If the President of the United States were to tell me that a great battle was to be fought for the liberty or slavery of the country, and asked my judgment as to the ability of a commander, I would say with my dying breath, ‘Let it be Robert E. Lee’.” – General Winfield Scott

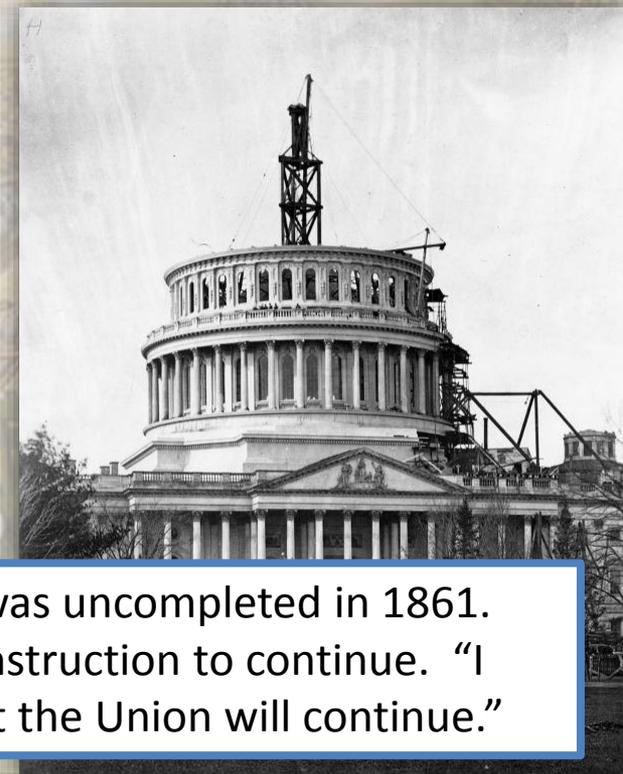
Lee turned down Lincoln’s offer of command, refusing to raise a sword against his native Virginia



100,000 people gathered in Union Square, NYC to see the Sumter Flag flying.

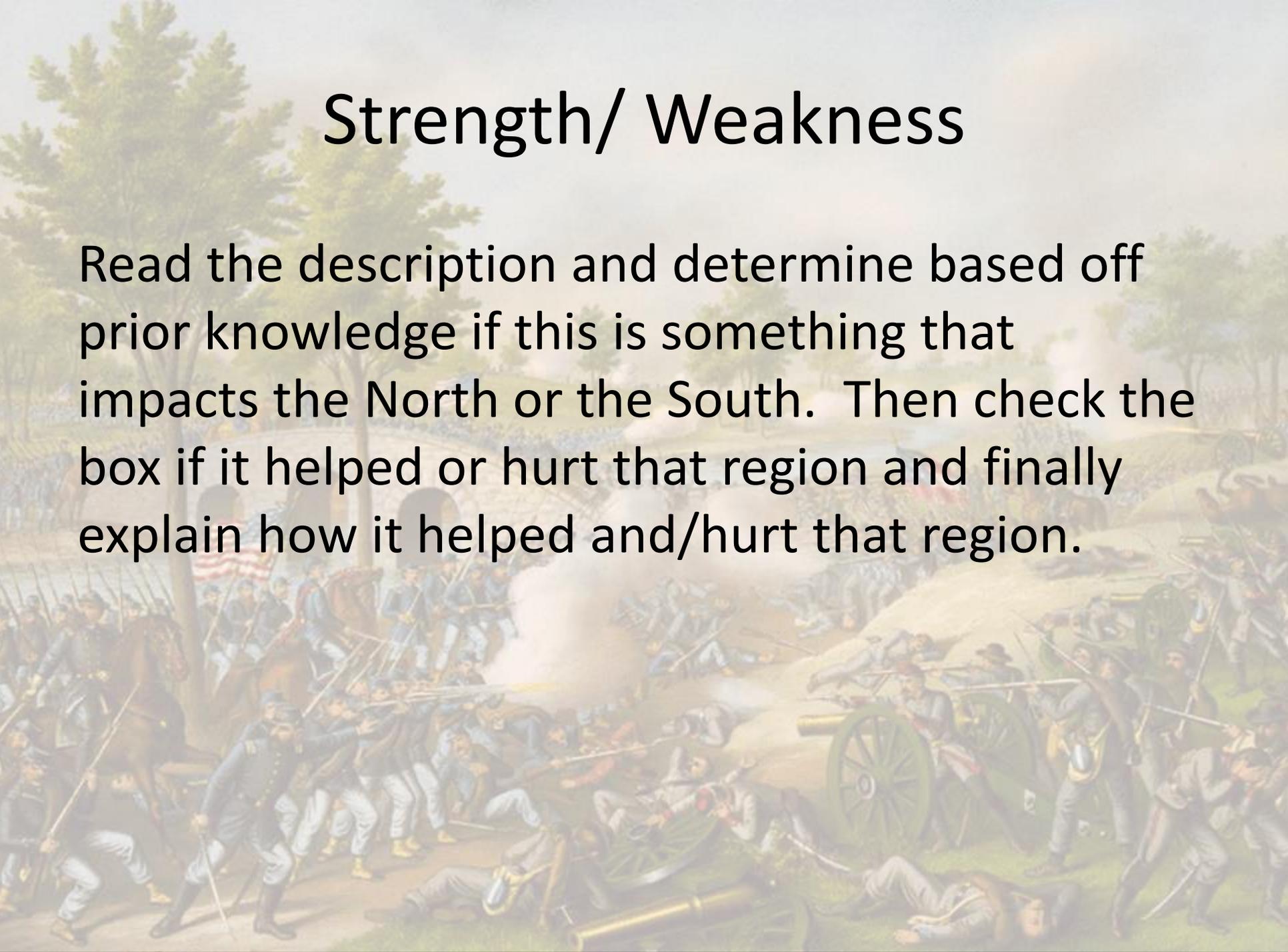


The Capitol dome was uncompleted in 1861. Lincoln ordered construction to continue. “I take it as a sign that the Union will continue.”



Strength/ Weakness

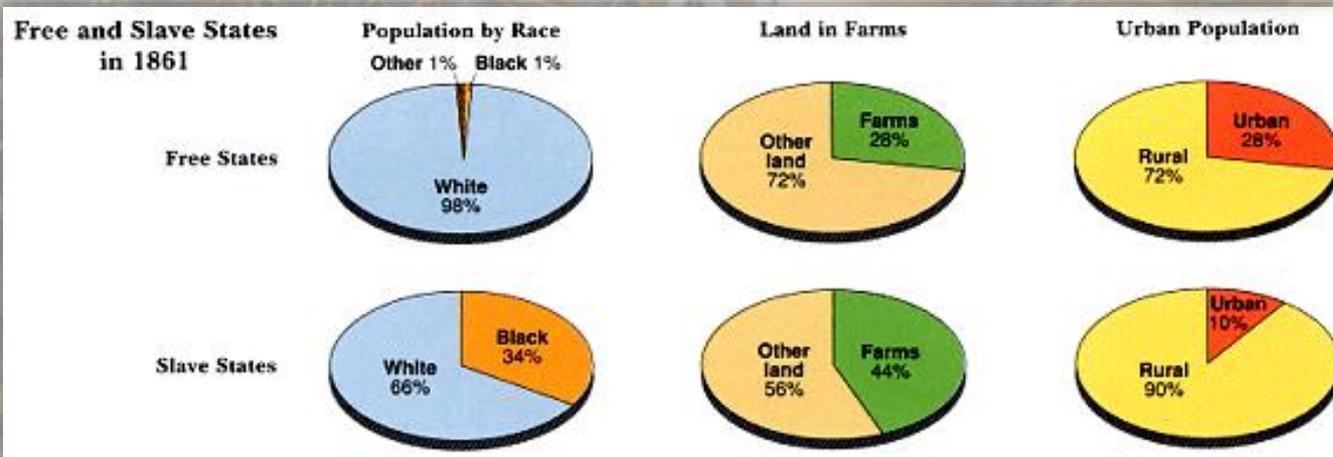
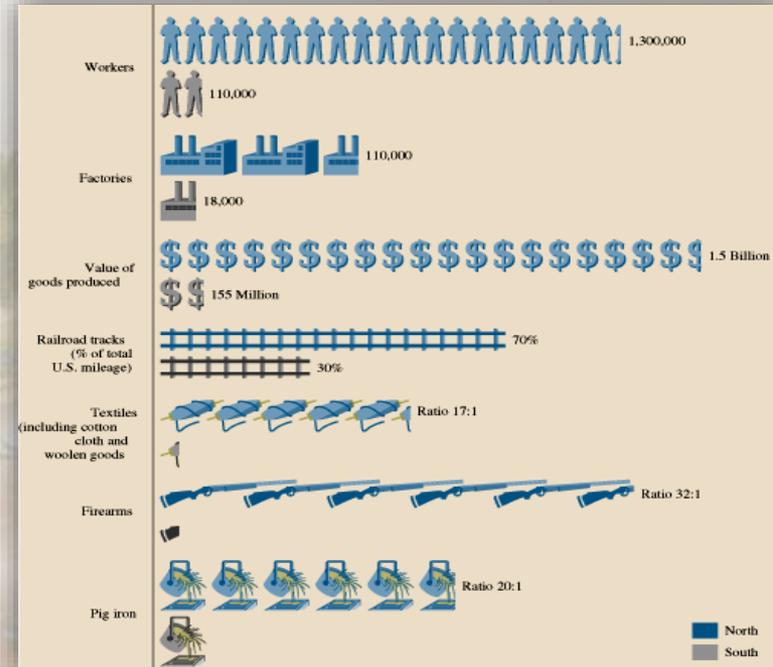
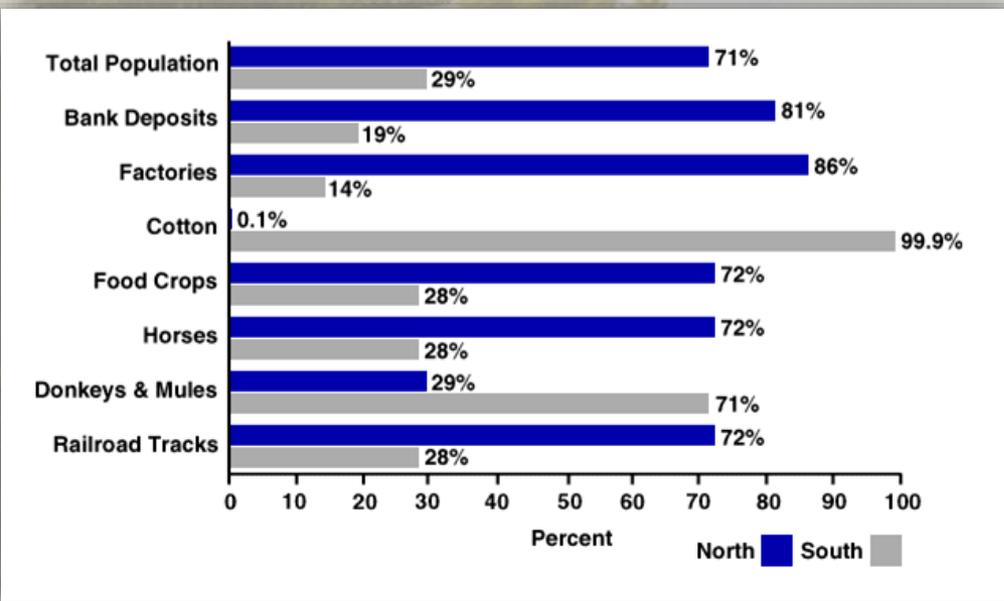
Read the description and determine based off prior knowledge if this is something that impacts the North or the South. Then check the box if it helped or hurt that region and finally explain how it helped and/hurt that region.



Could the South Have Won?

Northern Advantages	Southern Advantages
Larger population → more soldiers	“King Cotton” → profits generated by exports
More factories → more war materiel	Better generals (Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, etc.)
Greater food production	Strong military tradition
More railroads → key to moving troops and supplies	Defending “home” and a way of life
Lincoln → the government of the United States was already running at the outset of the war	BUT → the Confederate states were uncomfortable with central authority and often refused to cooperate
Northern Disadvantages	Southern Disadvantages
Poor military leadership	Smaller population
Poorly trained (often new or “green”) soldiers	Fewer railroads
Union must <u>conquer</u>	Must form a government
Need to keep Britain and France out	Needed to bring Britain and France in

Could the South Have Won?



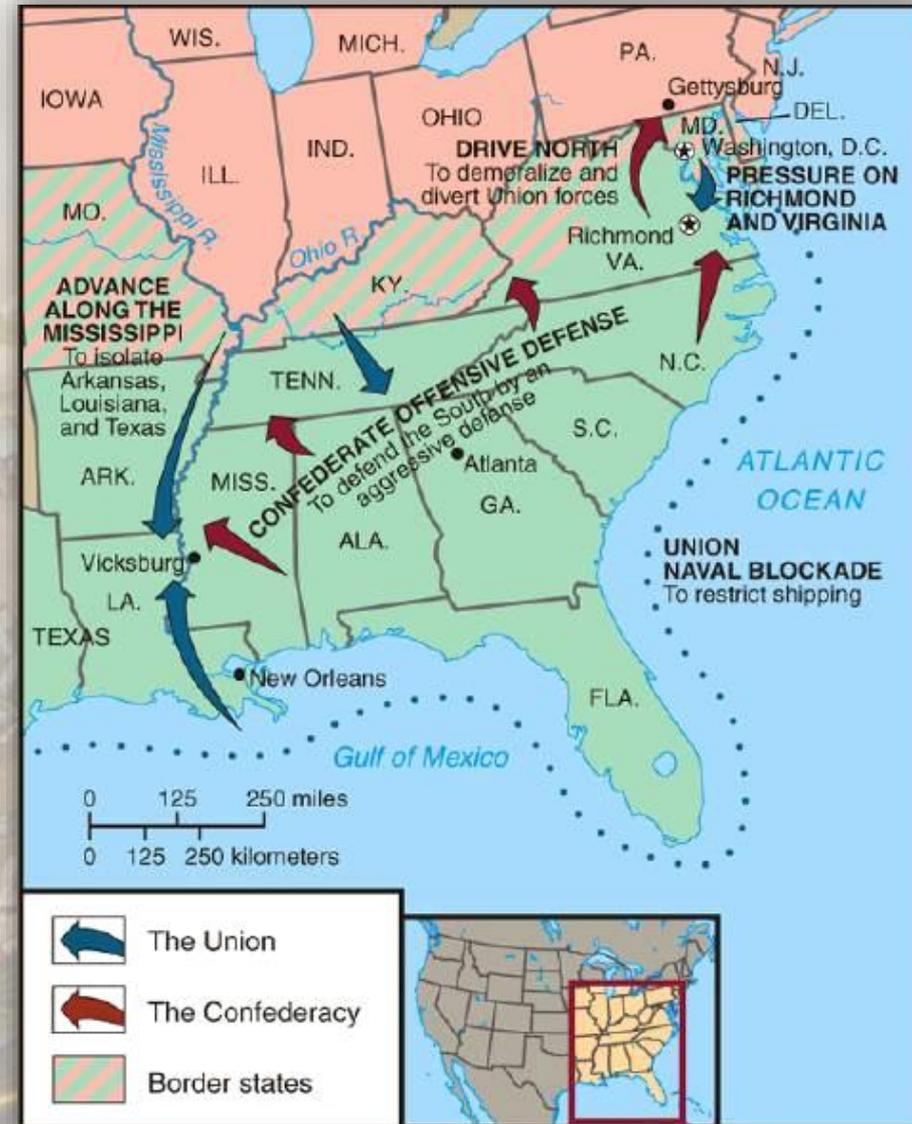
Spectrum

Morale Purpose	Population	Factories	Military leaders	King Cotton

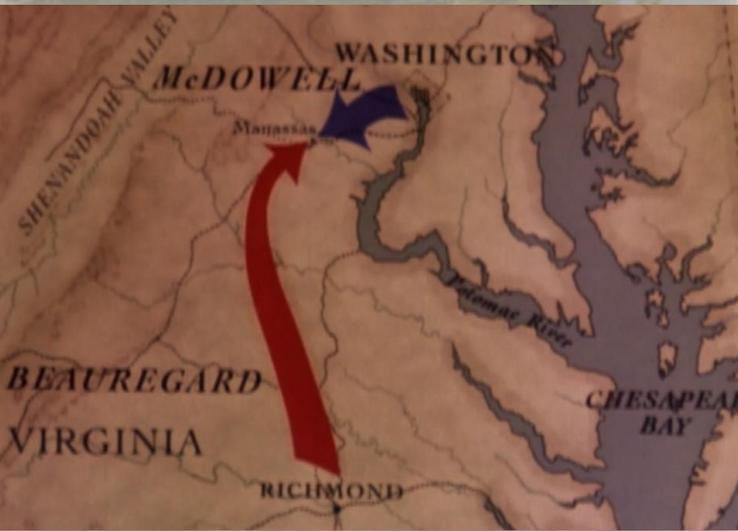
The Union Strategy

- **The Anaconda Plan**

- Blockade the coast
 - This would prevent supplies from reaching the Confederacy and “starve” the South
- Pressure/seize the Confederate capital (Richmond, VA)
 - A second army would push into the Confederate heartland in Tennessee, then on to Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia
- Take control of the Mississippi River
 - Effectively cut the Confederacy in two



The Battle of Bull Run (Manassas), July 1861



- The first on-field engagement of the war
 - General McDowell commanded 37,000 men
 - General Beauregard commanded 27,000 men
 - He had the advantage of knowing the Union was coming!
 - A prominent Washington socialite and Confederate spy had told him
 - Both sides were poorly trained and organized
 - There were more than a dozen different uniforms and flags on the field – who was shooting at whom?
- Caravans of citizens from Washington, D.C. paraded out to the battlefield to watch
 - Less than 25 miles from the city
 - The war would be a quick and relatively bloodless affair
 - A “90 Days War”
- Union goal was to cut the rail lines at Manassas and move on to Richmond (Anaconda Plan)

The Battle of Bull Run (Manassas), July 1861

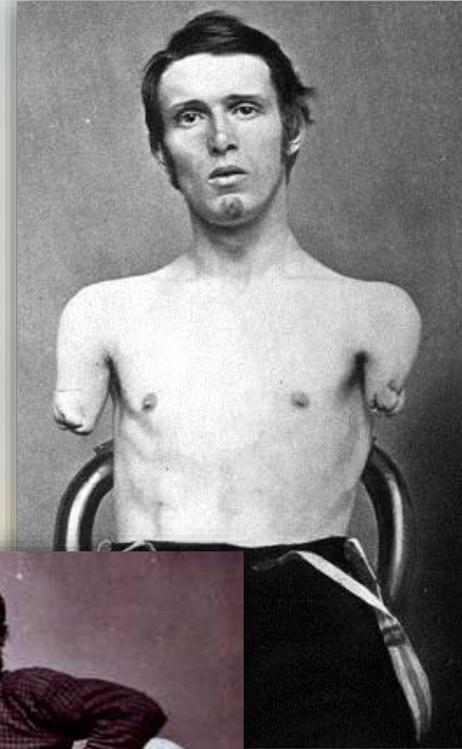


- Initially, the Union routed the Confederate forces
 - Union soldiers started collecting souvenirs
- As Confederates retreated, General Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson stood, unmoving
 - “There stands Jackson like a stone wall! Let us rally behind the Virginians!”
 - The Confederates counterattacked and reinforcements arrived by train
 - Union forces retreated to Washington
 - **Union casualties – 3,000;**
Confederate casualties – 1,850

A Quick and Bloodless Affair?

“...the surgeons had been applying their vocation upon the wounded. Tables about breast high had been erected upon which screaming victims were having legs and arms cut off. The surgeons and their assistants stripped to the waist and all bespattered with blood stood around, some holding the poor fellows while others armed with long bloody knives and saws cut and sawed with frightful rapidity, throwing the mangled limbs on a pile nearby as soon as removed.” – Lt. Colonel W. W. Blackford, 1st Cavalry Virginia

“What a horrible sight it was, here a man grasping his gun firmly in his hands, stone dead. Several with distorted features, all horribly dirty. Many were terribly wounded, some with legs shot off, others with arms gone. Some so badly wounded they could not drag themselves away, slowly bleeding to death. We stopped many times to give some a drink and soon saw enough to satisfy us with the horrors of war.” – Lt. Josiah Favel



McClellan to Command

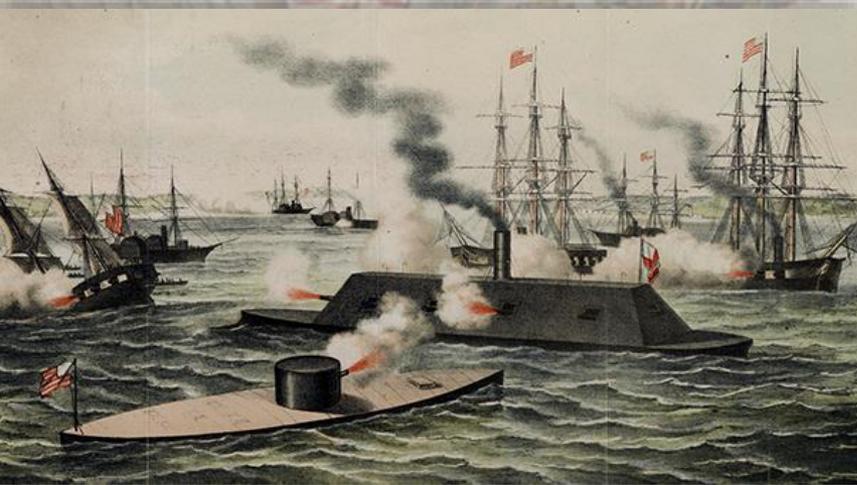
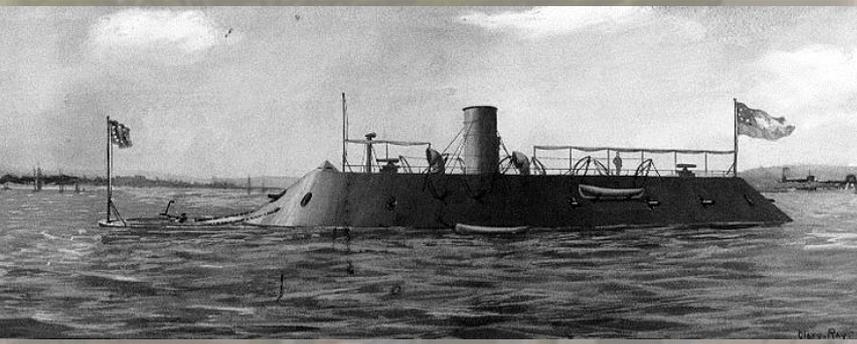
- Lincoln replaced McDowell with General George B. McClellan as head of the Army of the Potomac
- He changed the *character* of the Army
 - Set up tents to house soldiers
 - Replaced incompetent officers
 - Drilled the 120,000 volunteers 8 hours a day
 - Staged grand parades to boost morale
- BUT he was reluctant to actually fight
 - It became clear that he had no intention to lead his grand army anywhere
- By winter 1861, optimists on both sides were discouraged
 - The Confederacy showed no signs of collapse
 - The Union army had 700,000 men and still intended to unite the country by force
 - No one knew how many Confederates there were



1862



“When she came plowing through the water, she looked like a huge half-submerged crocodile. At her prow I could see the huge iron ram projecting straight forward.” – Pilot A.B. Smith, *U.S.S. Cumberland*

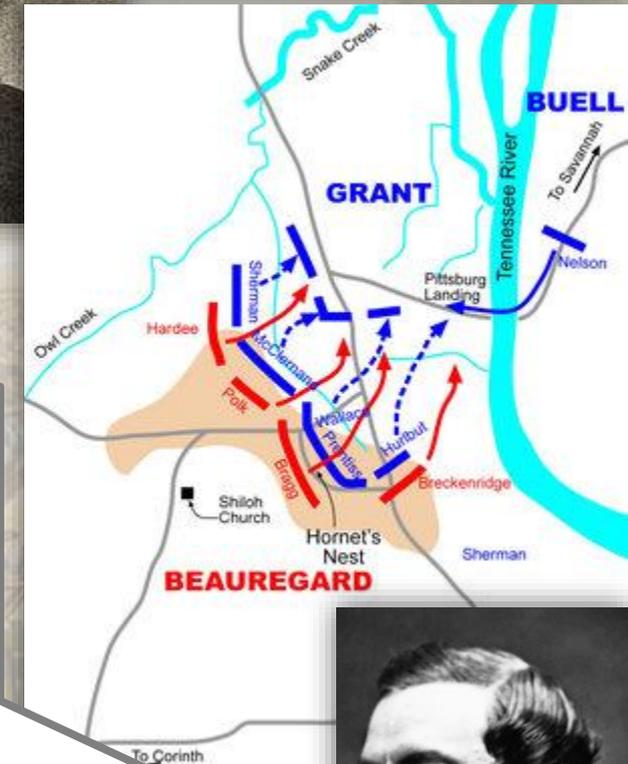
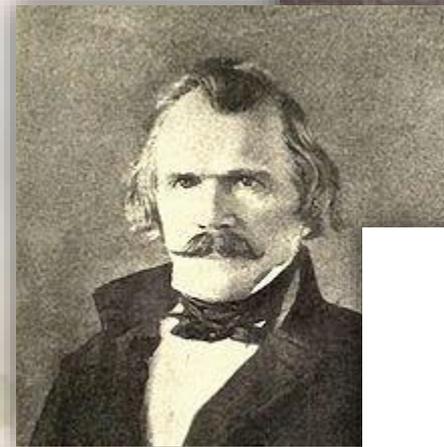


Ironclads

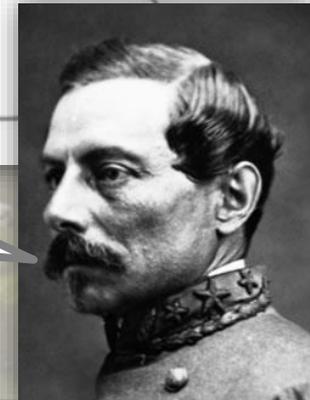
- The Confederacy had begun the war with no navy
 - By 1862, it had developed the most feared vessel on the seas
 - The *C.S.S. Virginia* (the old *U.S.S. Merrimack*) became the first **ironclad** vessel to be used in the war
- The *Merrimack* won early victories at the Battle of Hampton Roads, March 1862
 - The *U.S.S. Constitution* and *U.S.S. Cumberland* were sunk
- The U.S. Navy had built its own ironclad
 - The *U.S.S. Monitor* engaged the *Merrimack* the next day
 - After 4 ½ hours of hull-to-hull fighting the *Merrimack* drew off
 - Two months later the Confederates blew up the *Merrimack* rather than surrender it

Shiloh

- **General Ulysses S. Grant** had successfully divided Tennessee in half and was pushing south
- General Albert Sydney Johnston counterattacked at the Battle of Shiloh taking the Union by surprise
 - The Union center took the heaviest fighting
 - Many “green” Federals fled back to the Tennessee River
 - But General Johnston was fatally wounded in the battle
 - By night, the Union had surrendered the “Sunken Road”
 - The dead lay in the open field → neither side had a system to collect their wounded
 - Hogs feasted on the corpses in the rain
- Confederate command fell to General Beauregard



“I have General Grant right where I want him. I shall finish him off in the morning.” – General P.G.T. Beauregard

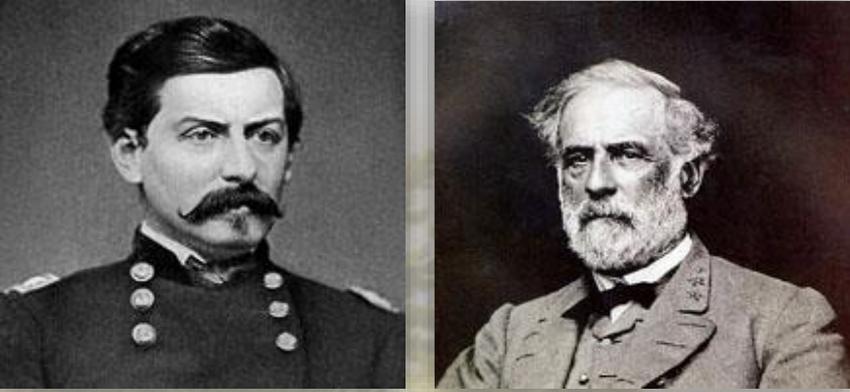


Shiloh

- During the night, the Union was reinforced by General Buell
 - They counterattacked at dawn and drove the Confederates back
 - By the end of the day the Union held the field
- There were more casualties at Shiloh than all previous battles in all previous American wars combined
 - 23,746 casualties

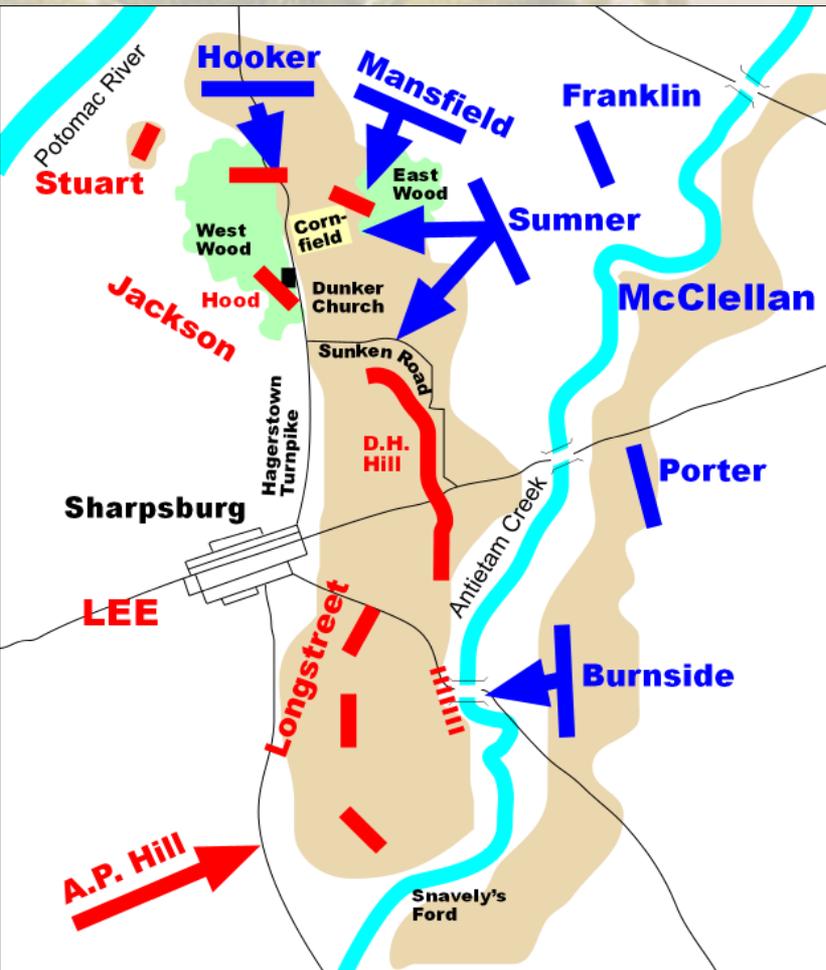
“When the grave was ready, we placed the bodies therein two-deep. All the monument reared to those men was a board which I cut with my pocket-knife that read ‘125 rebels.’”

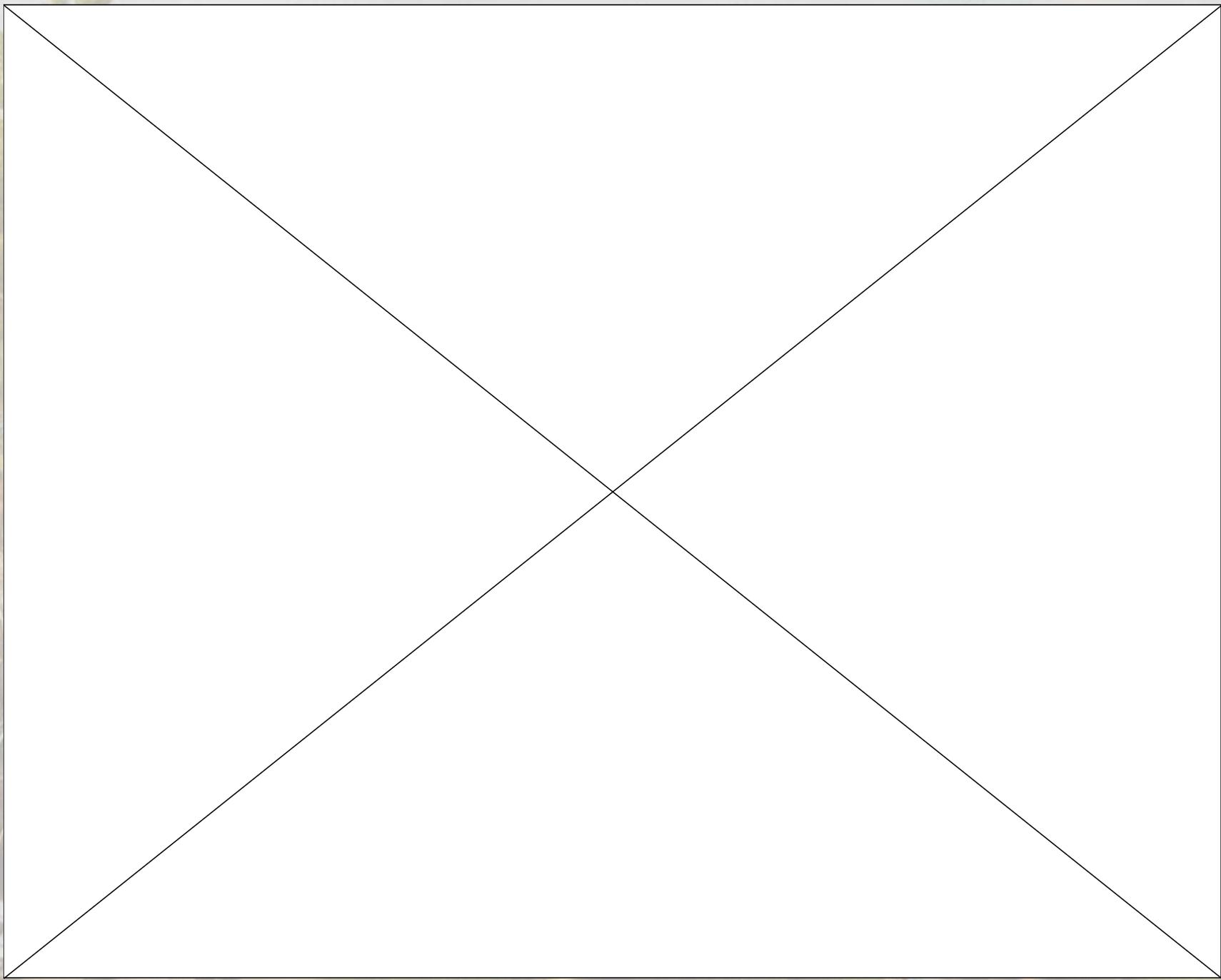




Antietam

- In September 1862, Confederate **General Robert E. Lee** left the South and moved his army into Maryland
 - In an incredible stroke of luck, a copy of Lee's plans (which had been wrapped around three cigars) was discovered by Union soldiers and given to Union general George B. McClellan.
- Knowing Lee's plan, on September 17, 1862, McClellan's army attacked Lee's army at Antietam Creek in Maryland.
- The Battle of Antietam (also called the Battle of Sharpsburg) was the bloodiest single day in American history
 - Lee lost 10,300 men to death, injury, or capture while McClellan lost 12,400.
- However, having limited reinforcements and supplies, Lee was forced to retreat, and the North declared the battle a Union victory.
 - Even though the Union won, it did not continue to chase and fight Lee's army







"I found myself on the ground with a strange feeling covering my body ... My shirt and blouse filled with blood and I supposed it was my last day on earth. I had the usual feelings of home and friends and thousands of thoughts ran through my mind at once."



"The Minie balls, shot and shell rained upon us from every direction except the rear. Many men took this chance to leave the field entirely. Many officers were killed and wounded, and I am sorry and ashamed to say, left the field unhurt."



1863



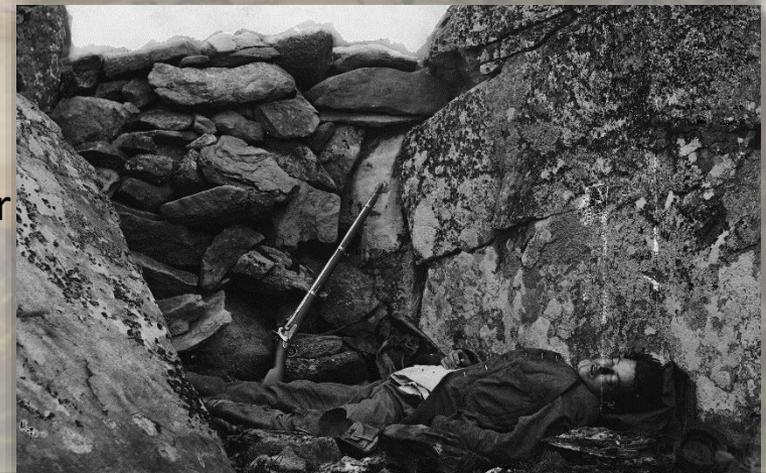
The Tide Begins to Turn

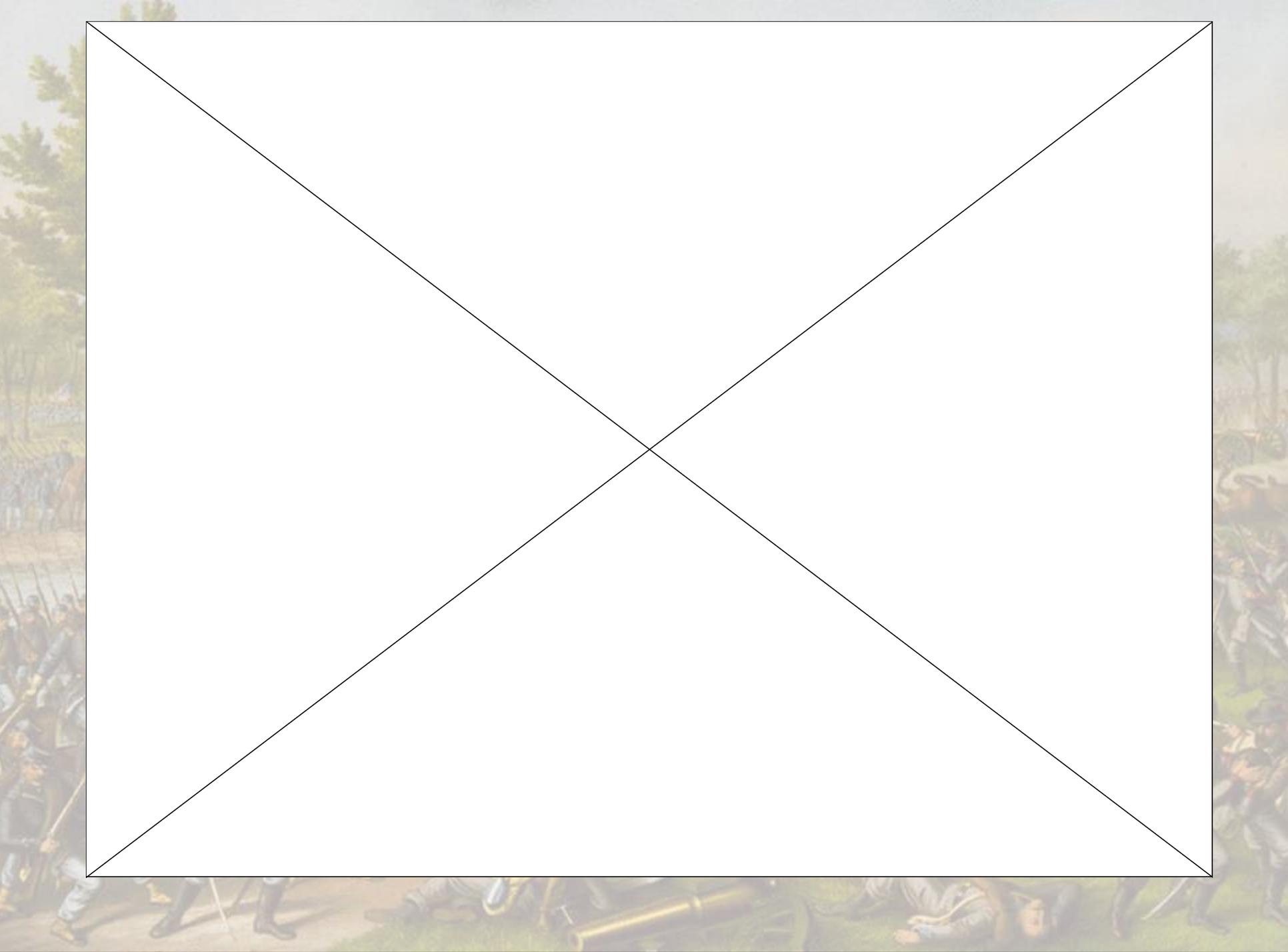
The tide began to shift in favor of the Union throughout the year

- The Confederate Army under Robert E. Lee were victorious in the Battle of Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, and Chickamauga
 - But heavy casualties at every engagement cost them more dearly than the Union
 - The “King Cotton” strategy was failing to sway British support
 - And Lincoln had changed the *principle* of the War with the Emancipation Proclamation
 - General “Stonewall” Jackson was fatally wounded by his own troops at the Battle of Chancellorsville
 - Lee was forced to consider another *offensive* against the North
 - Stir up panic
 - Resupply and re-provision his army
 - Drum up support for the Democrats (who were calling for peace) in the Election of 1864
- The Union Army under Ulysses S. Grant captured **Vicksburg** (the “Confederate Gibraltar”) which gave them full control of the Mississippi River
 - After a 47-day siege, the Confederate force surrendered facing starvation
- Despite the defeat at Chickamauga, Union were victorious at the Battle of Chattanooga
 - This paved the way for the Union march to Atlanta the following spring (1864)

Gettysburg

- In mid-June, Lee led his Army of Northern Virginia into Pennsylvania in his second invasion of the North
 - Hoping to take pressure off Virginia's farms during the growing season and seeking a victory on Northern soil.
- His men encountered the Army of the Potomac, now under George Meade, at a crossroads town – Gettysburg – on July 1
- Capturing the town but failing to take the high ground around it, Lee assailed the Union flanks the next day
- On July 3, Lee made perhaps his greatest mistake of the war, ordering a frontal attack across open ground against the Union center on Cemetery Ridge
 - Known as "Pickett's Charge" for the commander of the largest Confederate division involved, George Pickett, the attack failed, leaving thousands of Southern soldiers dead and wounded
 - 50,000 casualties over the three day battle
- On Independence Day, a wagon train of wounded over 14 miles long began Lee's retreat
- With the Confederate's loss of Vicksburg, Mississippi, that same day, July 4, 1863, is often described as the **turning point** of the Civil War





A New Birth of Freedom

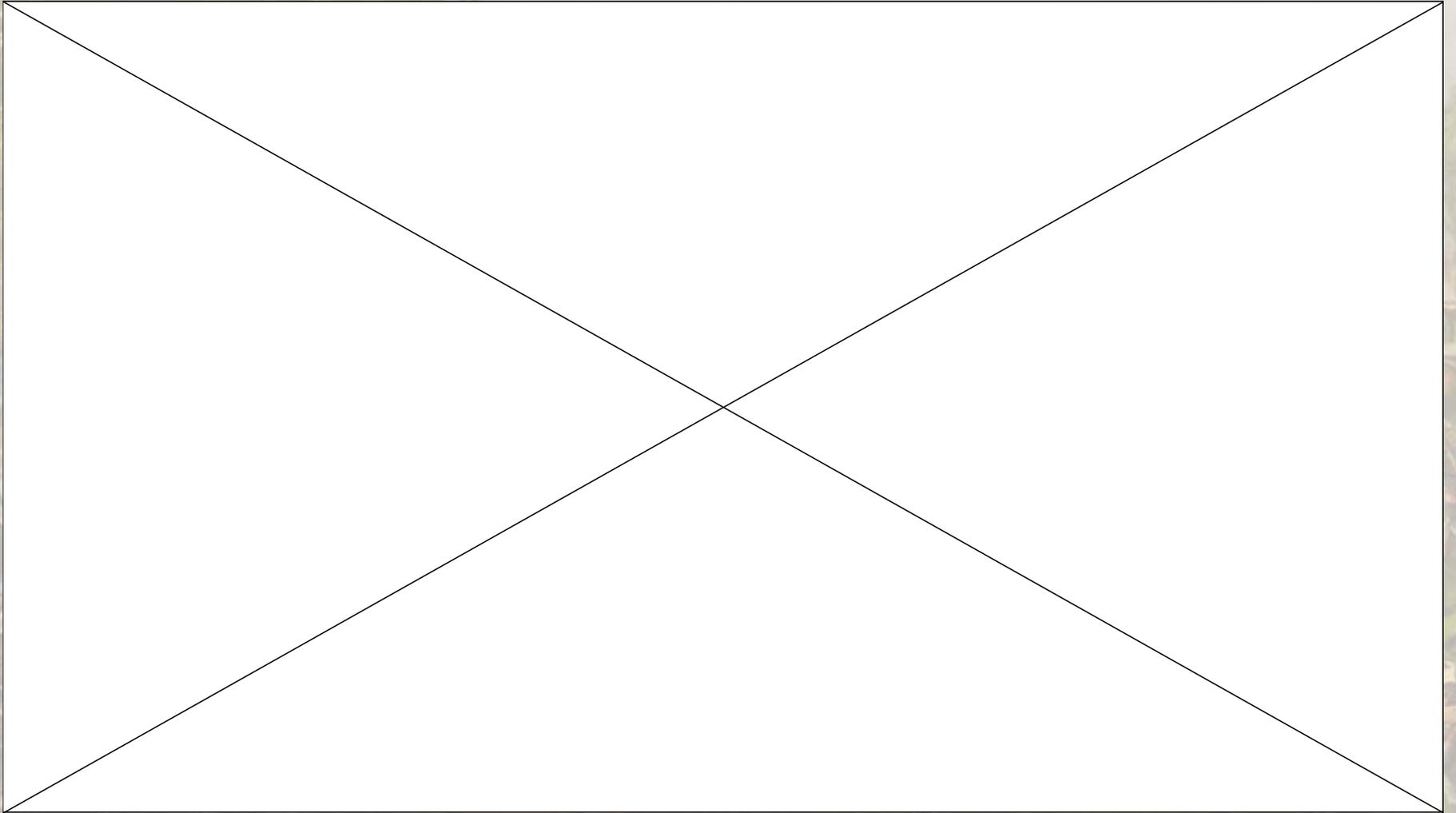
Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field 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 can not dedicate -- we can not consecrate -- we can not 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.

Abraham Lincoln

November 19, 1863

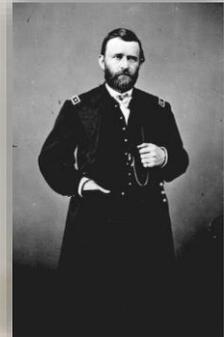
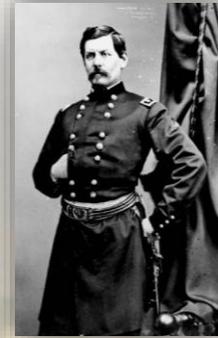
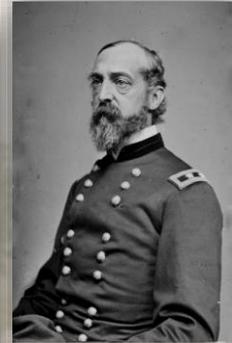
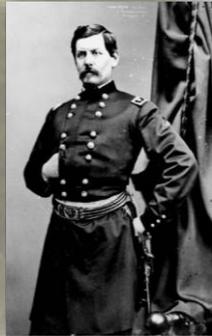
A New Birth of Freedom



1864



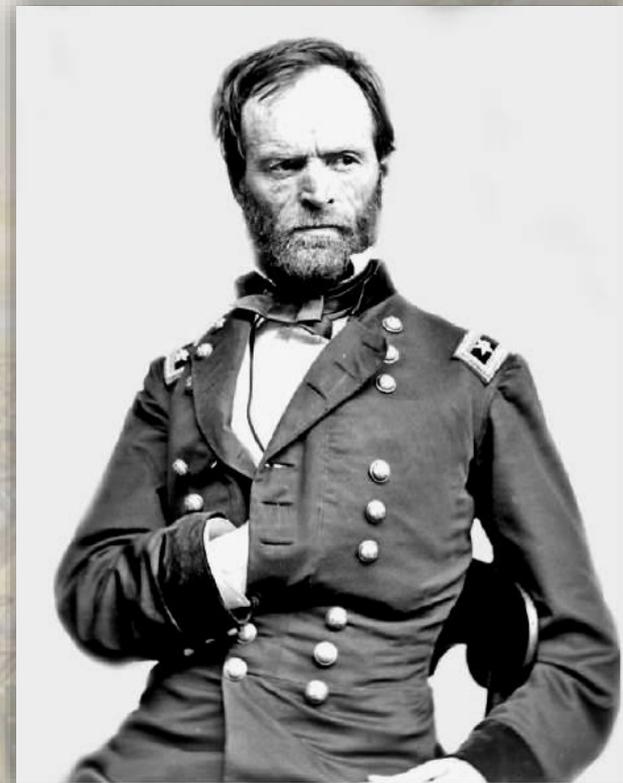
Lincoln Finds a General



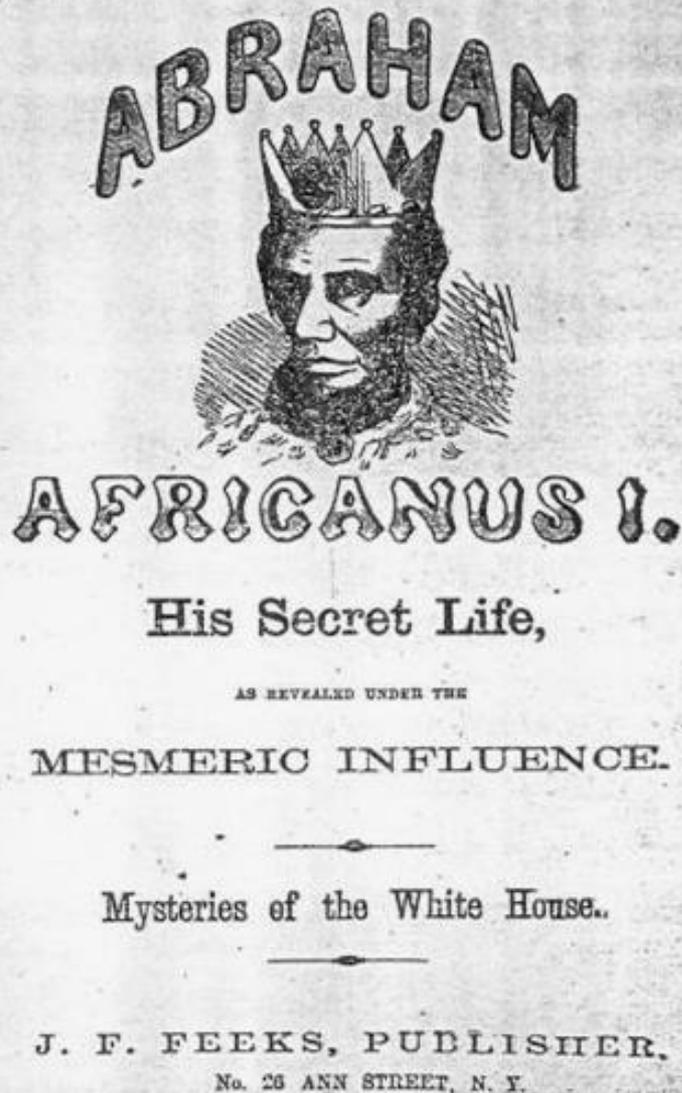
- Since the beginning of the war, Lincoln had looked in vain for a general who:
 1. Understood that destroying the Confederate armies in Virginia was more important than capturing Richmond
 2. Who wouldn't turn back in the face of a defeat in battle.
- He found that man in Ulysses S. Grant, who was put in charge of all Union armies in March 1864
 - **"Unconditional Surrender"** Grant proved Lincoln right
 - But the cost in lives led many, including the president's wife, Mary, to call the general a "butcher."

Sherman's March to the Sea

- William Tecumseh Sherman, took command of the armies of the Tennessee and the Cumberland at Chattanooga
 - Gradually, his armies closed in on the rail center of Atlanta
- Finally, on September 2, Sherman's men entered Atlanta after the Confederate army evacuated the town, setting fire to it before leaving
 - The capture of Atlanta was one of the most crucial events of the war.



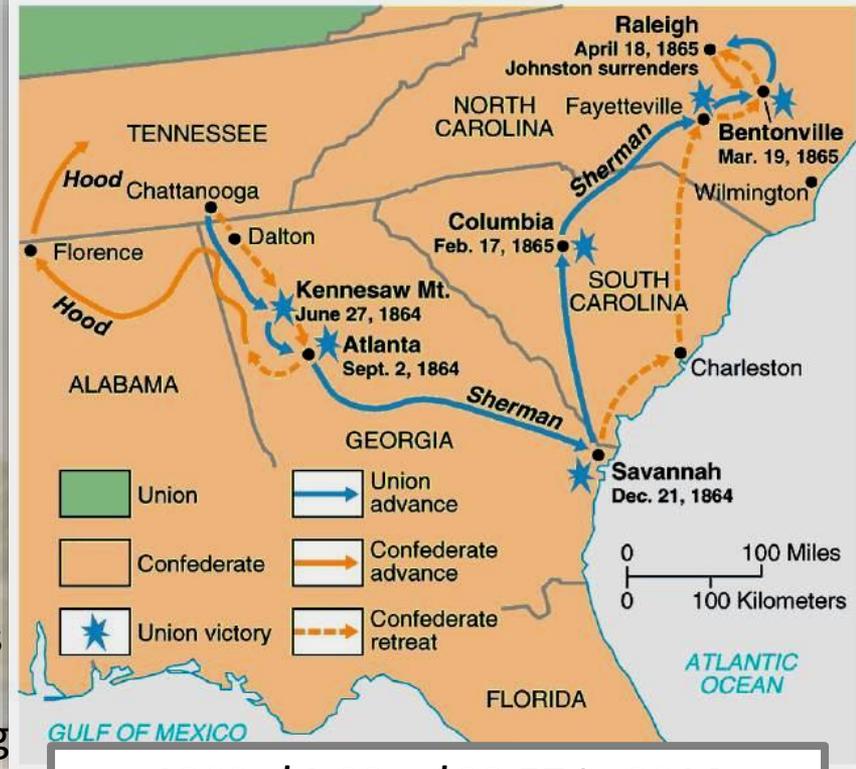
The Election of 1864



- The South's last remaining hope was that war-weary Northern voters might turn Lincoln out of the White House in the November elections and replace him with a Peace Democrat (**Copperheads**).
 - The Democrats had nominated George B. McClellan, the former commander of the Army of the Potomac, as their candidate.
- The Democrats made many missteps during the campaign, and for the first time ever, the North allowed soldiers to vote in the field.
 - Both of those contributed to Lincoln winning a second term
 - But had Sherman not taken Atlanta, the long casualty rolls from Grant's Overland Campaign and the on-going stalemate around the Confederate capital might have been enough to convince Northerners to "**give peace a chance**" and vote against Lincoln and the war.

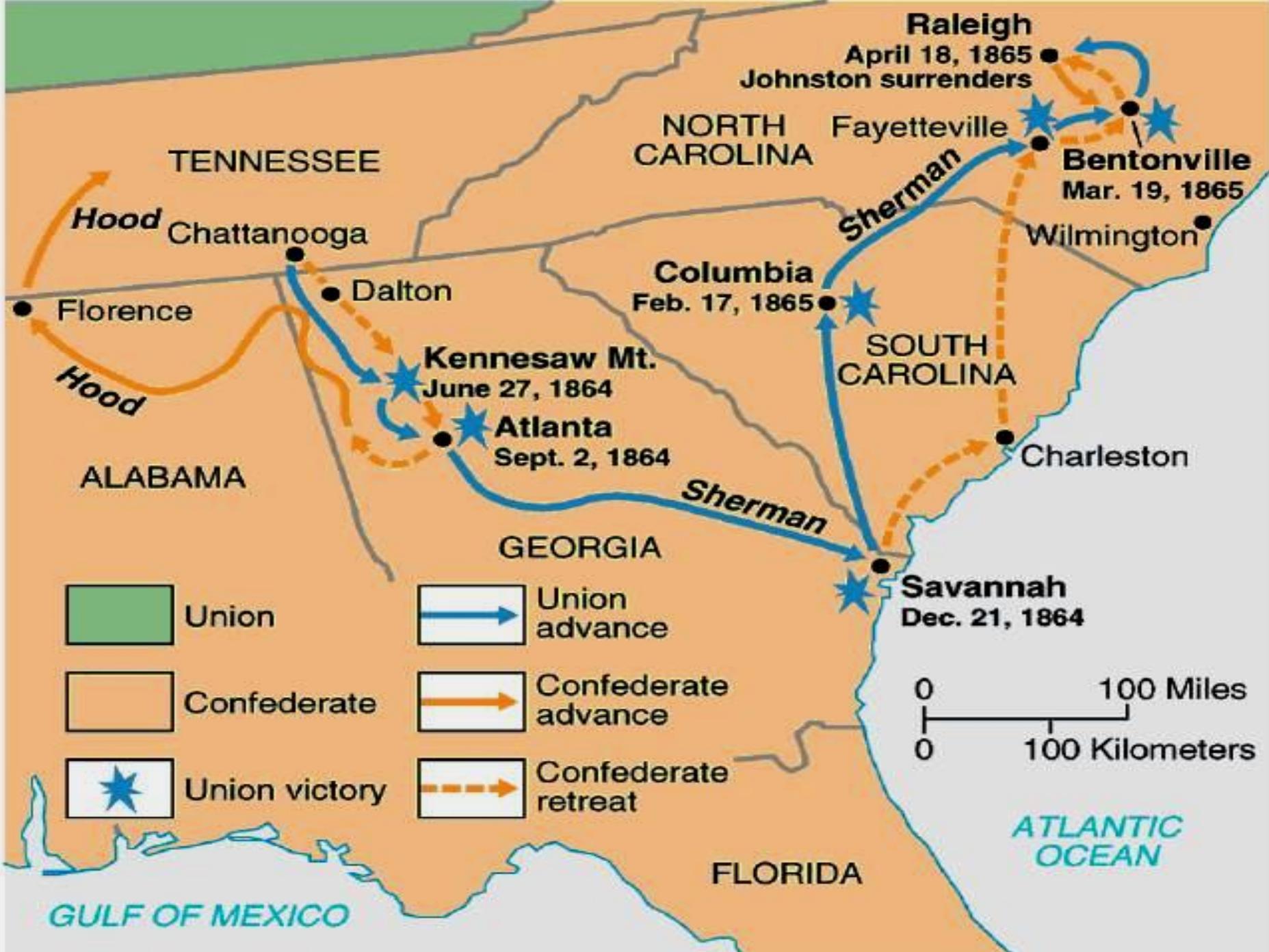
Sherman's March to the Sea

- Sherman left Atlanta November 15 on his march to the sea
 - Along the way, he intended to "make Georgia howl"
 - Let his men live off the land and burning all they couldn't take with them
 - He reached Savannah by Christmas, leaving a 60-mile wide swath of ashes, wrecked railroads and utter destruction behind him (**total war**)
- By the end of 1864, the Confederacy had nothing left but courage and tenacity
 - With Lincoln's re-election, no viable hope remained for a negotiated peace
 - With the fall of Atlanta and Grant's siege of Petersburg and Richmond there could be no Confederate military victory
 - Legislators of North Carolina pressed Jefferson Davis to make peace before their state suffered Georgia's fate but to no avail
 - The South would fight on, no matter cost



1860: \$1.00 = \$28.57 in 2014
1863: \$1.00 = \$18.87 in 2014

	1860	1863
Bacon, 10 lbs.	\$1.25	\$10.00
Flour, 30 lbs.	1.50	3.75
Sugar, 5 lbs.	.40	5.75
Coffee, 4 lbs.	.50	20.00
Tea (green), ½ lb.	.50	8.00
Lard, 4 lbs.	.50	4.00
Butter, 3 lbs.	.75	5.25
Meal, 1 pkg.	.25	1.00
Candles, 2 lbs.	.30	2.50
Soap, 5 lbs.	.50	5.50
Total	\$6.45	\$65.75



The Progress of the War: 1861-1865

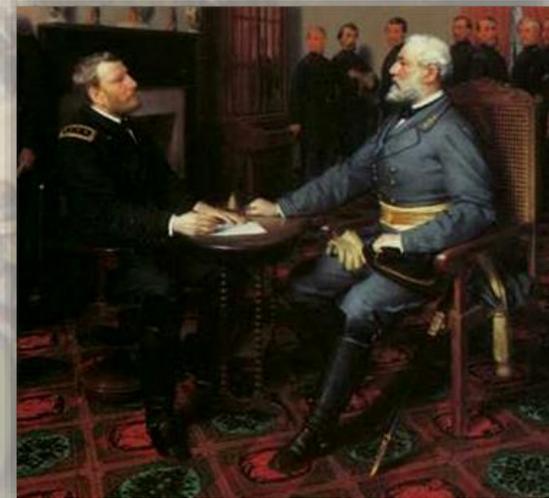


1865

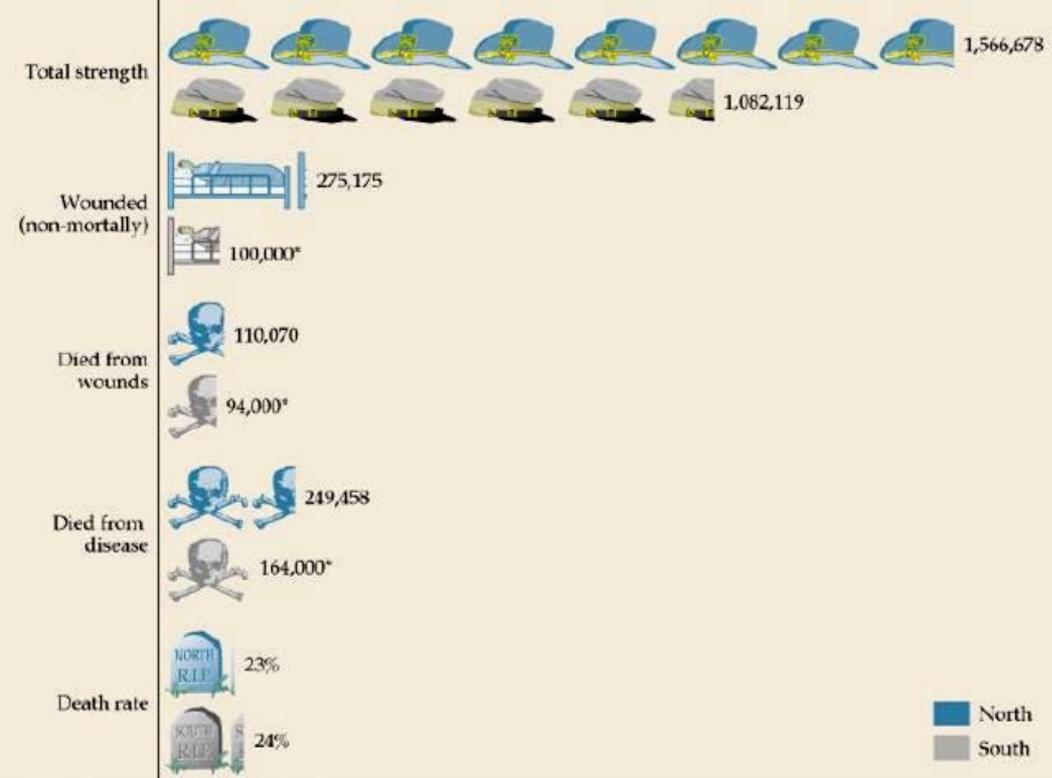


The Noose Tightens

- The noose around the Confederacy was strangling it
 - In mid-January Fort Fisher in North Carolina fell and Wilmington followed a month later
- When Sherman's army reached South Carolina, where the rebellion had begun, any bit of restraint they may have shown elsewhere was pitched aside
 - By February 20, the state capital of Columbia was captured; fires destroyed much of the city
 - Sherman's men continued on through North Carolina, setting fire to the pine forests that played an important role in the state's economy
 - What remained of the Confederate forces, under the command of Joseph Johnston, was far too small to stop the juggernaut
- Outside Petersburg, Virginia, when Federals cut Lee's supply line, he withdrew from the Petersburg–Richmond trenches and headed southwest
 - Before leaving Richmond, the Confederates set fire to the town
- On April 9, at **Appomattox Courthouse**, after discovering Federals had beaten him to a supply cache, he surrendered the Army of Northern Virginia to Grant
 - Despite his nickname of "**Unconditional Surrender**" Grant and his policy of waging total war against the South to end the rebellion, Grant offered generous terms, realizing this surrender would virtually end the war
- General Johnston surrendered to Sherman at Bentonville, North Carolina, on April 26
 - Sherman extended even more generous terms than Grant had but endured the embarrassment of having to go back to Johnston with harsher conditions
 - Between Lee and Johnston's surrenders, an event had occurred that reduced the North's compassion toward their proud, defeated enemies



The Cost of War



*Confederate figures represent accepted estimates.



Total Civil War Deaths Compared to U.S. Deaths in Other Wars

