

Chapter 2



The Civil War

How Did We Get Here?

There are at least 5 primary causes of the Civil War.

1. The economic differences between the North and South
-Keep in mind, agriculture is going to be the main income in the South, but the North was more industrial.



Remaining Causes

2. States Rights vs. Federal Rights-Some people thought the states should have more power than the federal government.
3. The fight between slavery and non-slavery states.
4. The growth of the abolition movement.
5. The election of Abraham Lincoln.



Fort Sumter

The first shots of the Civil War were fired on Fort Sumter off the coast of South Carolina-April 12th, 1861.



Border States

Battle lines between the Union and the Confederacy were very easy to figure out for most. However, the border states of Delaware, Maryland, Kentucky, and Missouri were very divided.

- Slavery was legal.
- Number of slaves is very low.
- All remained in the Union, and were very strategic locations.

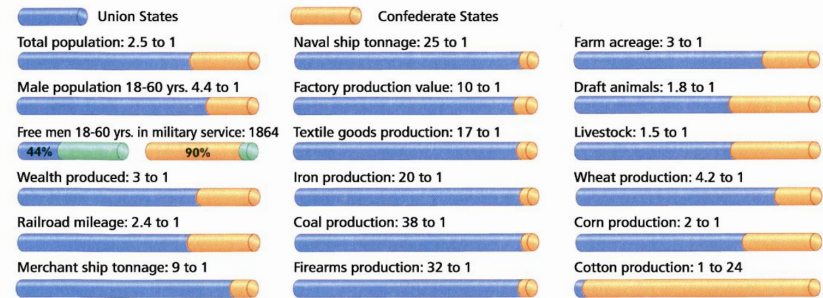


North vs. South

Each side had its own advantages at the outbreak of the War.

- The North: Much larger population, more railroads, more farms, higher number of exports, more manufactured goods.
- The South: Excellent military leaders, and homefield advantage...it appeared the War was going to fought primarily in the South, so the Southerners would have a better feel for the terrain.

Comparative resources: Union and Confederate states, 1861



War Aims

Each of the two sides had different goals for the War.

- The South wanted to establish itself as independent. They did not need to invade the North to establish dominance. They just needed to make the North think it wasn't worth the cost.
- The North wanted to restore the Union. That meant they had to invade the South and force them to give up their quest for independence.



Confederate Strategies

The South was fully expecting Great Britain and France to support them.

- Thought support would come because of their reliance on cotton.
- This idea is called cotton diplomacy.
- Planned to fight an entirely defensive war.
- The only exception was their plan to attack D.C.



Union Strategies

The North had a war plan that came from General Winfield Scott.

- Helped win the war with Mexico.
- Proposed a three part strategy.
- 1. Blockade southern ports. This would keep supplies from coming in, or exports to go out.
- 2. Gain control of the Mississippi River, splitting the Confederacy in two. He called this the Anaconda Plan.
- 3. Capture Richmond, Virginia, the Confederate capital.



Americans Take Sides

This war obviously divided the nation, but it also divided families

- John Crittenden of Kentucky had two sons. They both became generals, but one fought for each side.
- Mary Todd Lincoln had a brother fighting for the Confederacy.
- Many males will enlist for both sides for pride and loyalty.
- Some lied about their ages.
- African Americans are barred from fighting on either side.



Early Battles

July 21st, 1861-30,000 inexperienced Union troops led by General Irvin McDowell attacked a smaller group of Confederate soldiers led by General P.G. T. Beauregard.

- Union drives the Confederates back, but the Rebels received reinforcements from Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson.
- Launched a counter attack against the Union forces.
- Broke Union lines, forced them to retreat all the way to D.C.



Northerners are Shocked

Northerners thought the War was going to be very quick and simple.

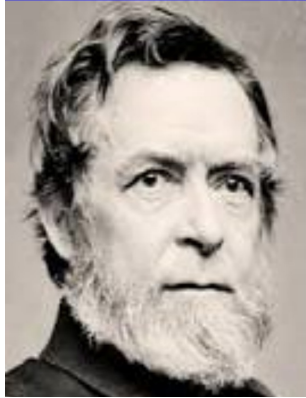
- The results of the First Battle of Bull Run showed that not to be the case.
- General George B. McClellan was appointed by Lincoln to train the troops and help avoid a catastrophe like Bull Run from happening again.



The War in the West

The major goal of the Union in the west was to control the Mississippi River.

- February 1862-Andrew Foote and Ulysses S. Grant take control of Fort Henry on the Tennessee River.
- Grant was only willing to accept unconditional surrender.



The Ironclads

Battles were fought at sea, as well as land.

- March 8th, 1862-The Merrimack (Renamed the Virginia), attacked a group of Union ships.
- This ship was unlike the wooden boats...it was an ironclad.
- The Monitor, the North's ironclad, rushed towards Virginia.
- March 9th, the two engage each other in battle.
- Indecisive...no clear victory for either side.



Shiloh

U.S. Grant and 40,000 troops head south along the Tennessee River.

- Army camps at Pittsburg landing near a church named Shiloh.
- Grant has reinforcements on the way, so it was important for the Confederacy to strike him first.
- April 6th, 1862-forces led by Albert Johnson and P.G.T. Beauregard launch a surprise attack.
- The Battle of Shiloh lasted two days, and was deemed a victory for the Union. There were 23,000 casualties.
- The Union took Corinth and Memphis.



The War in the East

Remember: Both sides wanted to capture each other's capital city.

- Robert E. Lee moved his troops to Maryland under orders from Jefferson Davis. Lee knew he was being pursued by McClellan, so he continued moving forward.
- Lee split his troops into four parts and moved them in four directions.
- His thought process was to confuse McClellan. However, one of his officers lost their orders and it was found by Union soldiers.



The Battle of Antietam

McClellan did NOT attack immediately.
-He allowed Lee time to reassemble his troops.
-9/17/1862-They met in the Battle of Antietam
-The Union greatly outnumbered the Confederacy, and both suffered heavy casualties. However, it was considered a victory for the Union because Lee was forced to abandon his push North.

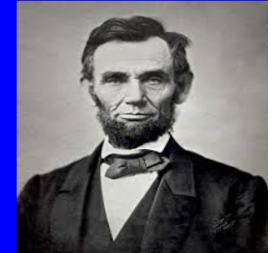
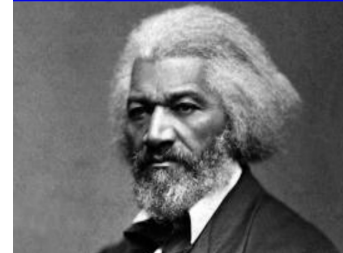


Single bloodiest day of the War: 6,000 killed, 17,000 wounded.



A Stance on Slavery

Although Lincoln originally said he didn't plan to end slavery, his thought process changed as the War evolved.
-Reluctant to make the War about ending slavery.
-Frederick Douglass urged Lincoln to make the War about ending slavery. Several arguments from the North:
1. Slavery was a moral wrong.
2. Slavery was the root of the division between North and South. The nation could not be restored if slavery continued.
3. Public opinion in France and Great Britain was antislavery.



The Emancipation Proclamation

Lincoln understood that the Constitution did not give him the ability to end slavery.
-Did give him the ability to take property from an enemy in wartime.
-January 1st, 1863-Lincoln issues the Emancipation Proclamation.
-Freed all slaves in rebel territory.
-Actually, this didn't free any slaves.



A Different Way of Life

During the War, those who fought had to leave everything behind.
-Only half of children attended school. The remainder worked to support their families.
-Many schools and churches served as hospitals.



Shortages in the South

Life was changed more dramatically in the South than the North.

- Southerners who lived in the path of advancing soldiers often saw their crops burned, their livestock killed.
- Household items became short in supply.
- Many left their homes and became refugees.



New Roles for Women

In both the North and the South, women ran the homes and businesses while the men were at war.

- However, many of women decided to offer their services as nurses.

-Mary Edwards Walker-First female army surgeon. Received the Medal of Honor.

Dorothea Dix-Recruited women to serve as nurses.

Clara Barton-Worked with wounded soldiers, later founded the Red Cross.

Sally Tompkins-Established a hospital for soldiers in Richmond, VA.



Added Roles

Some women, as well as men, became spies during the War.

- Rose O'Neal Greenhow passed Union plans onto the South.
- Belle Boyd informed Confederate soldiers of Union Army movements.
- Loretta Janeta Velazquez served as a spy during the War. However, before her service as a spy, she fought for the Confederacy at the First Battle of Bull Run, as well as Shiloh.



Behind Enemy Lines

There were some things that were even worse than the battles themselves.

- Being captured by the enemy was a huge fear.
- Little to no supplies.
- Disease spread quickly.
- VERY overcrowded



Field Hospitals

Doctors traveled with the Army.

-However, they were not necessarily able to deal with the injuries and cases of disease they ran into.



Political and Economic Changes

The War in the South had a devastating effect.

-Many shortages of food and basic supplies, as well as money, were crushing to families.

-Bread Riots erupted as hungry, angry people took to the streets.

-In some cities, women and children were participating in looting and other criminal activities.



Political and Economic Changes

The North was facing War opposition as well.

-The War Democrats were critical of the administration.

-The Peace Democrats argued for an end to the fighting and the repair of our country through negotiations. They became known as Copperheads.

-Some Northerners opposed enlistment.

-In some cases, angry Northerners helped Confederate prisoners escape.



Jail Without Trial

President Lincoln suspended Habeas Corpus.

-Essentially, this allows a person the right to a trial.

-By Lincoln suspending it, it removed the protection of unlawful arrest.

-However, the Constitution states that Habeas Corpus can be suspended in cases of rebellion or invasion.

-Many Northern war critics were put in jail.

-Jefferson Davis did the same thing.



Draft Laws

People weren't as excited about joining the War effort after the War began.

- In 1862, the Confederacy implemented a draft.
- This required able bodied white men between 18-35 to serve three years of military service.
- Later, it was moved to ages 17-50.
- However, a man could hire a substitute.
- Having 20 or more slaves excused you as well.



Draft Laws

The North also had a draft.

- All men ages 20-45 had to register.
- To avoid the draft, you just had to find a substitute, or pay \$300.
- That concept was met with great protest...\$300 was a massive amount of money at that time.
- A series of protests in New York focused on immigrants and African Americans as people became fearful of losing their jobs.
- After four days of protests, over 100 people were dead.



Economic Effects of the War

The two governments had three ways of paying for the War.

1. They borrowed money by selling war bonds that promised high interest.
2. They imposed new taxes, including income taxes.
3. They printed money. Northern money was called greenbacks because of its color.



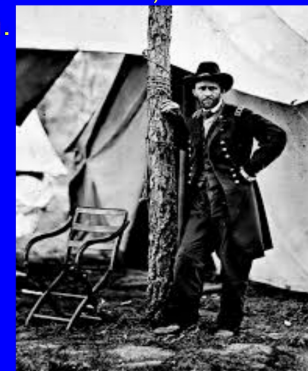
\$1 Greenback of 1862 (front)



Total War Strikes the South

By 1864, Union forces surrounded the South, blockaded Confederate ports, and began strangling its economy.

- Grant was put in charge of all Union armies by President Lincoln.
- He decided to crush the Confederacy from all sides.
- He would attack Richmond, while sending William Sherman across the South.



Victories for Grant

- Grant's forces outnumbered Lee's by almost 2-1.
- Between May and June of 1864, the two engaged each other in two battles: Spotsylvania Court House, and Cold Harbor.
 - There were also a series of battles referred to as the Wilderness Campaign. These battles were fierce!
 - A general was observed having soldiers write their names and address, pinning it to their coats.
 - Grant was called a butcher because of the huge loss of life.



Sherman in Georgia

- July, 1864-Sherman circles Atlanta.
- Sherman lays the city under siege.
 - Confederate General, John Hood is forced to retreat.
 - Sherman burns the city to the ground.
 - Sherman continues his march, declaring total war.
 - Continues his March to the Sea
 - Also, moves north to the Carolinas to meet up with Grant.



Farragut at Mobile Bay

- David Farragut was the highest ranking Navy leader for the Union.
- Navigated narrow channels through Mobile Bay
 - Continued to move through even though he was under heavy fire.
 - Eventually, took control of the last Southern port east of the Mississippi.



The Fall of Richmond

- Grant continued his siege of Petersburg.
- However, casualties would not be kind to Lee's forces, and he was forced to withdraw.
 - Jefferson Davis and his cabinet began to flee Richmond.
 - Ordered bridges to be burned, documents to be destroyed.
 - Lincoln and his son Tad toured the ruins of Richmond.
 - Joyful African Americans followed Lincoln everywhere.



Surrender at Appomattox

April 9th, 1865-Lee is forced to surrender to Grant.

-Appomattox Court House, Virginia, Grant met with Lee.

-They shook hands and were cordial with one another.

-Lee was allowed to keep his sword, Grant ordered rations to be issued to Lee's forces.

