

## **The Secession Crisis**

Pretty much as soon as Lincoln was elected, militants in the South who championed Southern nationalism and were also called fire eaters demanded an end to the Union. South Carolina called a convention that voted on 20 December 1860 to secede. So by the time Lincoln was in office, Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Texas seceded. Then in February members of seven of these states met to announce a new nation called the Confederate States of America. James Buchanan, the current president, tells congress that while no state can secede, the fed gov doesn't have the authority to stop secession. Seceding states immediately seized fed property in their boundaries. While they didn't first have enough military power to seize Fort Sumter and Fort Pickens, South Carolina asks for the surrender of Sumter, but Buchanan says no, and instead orders a ship to deliver supplies to Sumter. Confederates shoot, making this the first shots between the North and South, but neither wants to acknowledge that the war has begun. The Crittenden Compromise calls for constitutional amendments that guarantee slavery in current slave states and satisfy southern demands concerning fugitive slaves and slavery in DC. He also calls to reestablish the Missouri Compromise line. While Southerners are willing to accept this, Republicans aren't, because this would have let slavery expand. So Lincoln comes to his inauguration and says that since the Union is older than the Constitution, states cannot leave it, and that any violence or really anything supporting secession is insurrection. Also, the fed gov will hold, occupy, and possess fed property in seceded states. So there's Fort Sumter, whose conditions are deteriorating because they need supplies, or else they'll have to evacuate the fort. Lincoln thinks if he surrenders Sumter, he will show that he isn't very committed to the Union. So he sends a relief expedition to South Carolina, and tells South Carolina that they won't send troops unless the ships are resisted. So then if the new Confed gov lets them, that's submitting to fed authority, but if they resist, that's aggression. So General Beauregard is commanded to seize the island. They bombard it until surrender; Civil War begins 14 April 1861. While the states are seceding, Lincoln says that they are separating from the Declaration of Independence. So he starts mobilizing for war. Then Virginia, Arkansas, North Carolina, and Tennessee seceded. So then Maryland, Delaware, Kentucky, and Missouri side with the Union. Obviously, sectional divisions have become extremely important. Each region thinks the other is incapable of existing with the other, and think this is what caused secession and war. So at the start of the war, the North has a larger population, so more manpower, and an advanced industry, so they can make their own war materials. The South, on the other hand, has no industry and relies on European imports throughout the war. The North also has twice as much trackage of railroads than the South. The South, on the other hand, is fighting a defensive war with local support and territorial familiarity, and is strongly committed to the war. In the North, commitment was shaky until the end. Southerners also think that because the English and French rely on American cotton, they will support the Confederacy.

## the mobilization of the north

So while the war caused discord, frustration, and suffering for the North, it also caused prosperity and economic growth due to stimuli. With the South gone from Congress, Republicans have unchallenged authority, so they enact an aggressive nationalistic program that promotes economic development, mainly in the West. The Homestead Act of 1862 gave citizens and prospective citizens chances to claim 160 acres of public land and then purchase for a small fee after living on it for five years. Then the Morrill Land Grant Act transferred public acreage to state governments, so that they can sell land and use the proceeds to finance public education. This led to state colleges and universities. Congress also passed tariffs that ended up raising duties to the highest level ever in the U. S. history, which is a gift to domestic industries who want protection from foreign competition. Congress also completes the transcontinental railroad by creating the Union Pacific Railroad Company, to build west from Omaha, and the Central Pacific, which builds east from California. They will meet in the middle to complete the railroad. So the National Bank Acts of 1863 to 1864 create a new banking system in which existing banks can join if they have enough capital and will invest a third of it into government securities. In return, they can issue U. S. Treasury notes as currency, which eliminates the uncertainty of the banking system and currency. There is a bit of a problem in financing the war. The gov tries to levy taxes, issue paper currency, and borrowing. So new taxes on almost all goods and services, and in 1861 there's an income tax. , the public resists this. Paper currency, a.k.a greenbacks, are controversial because they aren't backed by hard money. So that value fluctuates, meaning they end up using them sparingly. This also causes inflation. In terms of loans, the Treasury asks ordinary citizens to buy bonds, making this the first example of mass financing of a war in the U. S. history. But still most loans come from banks and large financial interests. At the start of the war, only 16,000 men are in the army, and most are in the West to protect people from Indians. Lincoln calls for an increase of 23,000 in the army, but he knows that most of the army is going to be done by volunteers and state militias. Congress authorized enlisting 500,000 volunteers for three year terms, which had previously been three month terms. But there are only adequate forces briefly, because enthusiasm declines. So in March 1863 there's a national draft law. All young adult males are eligible, but some can hire people to go in their place or pay a fee. This increased voluntary enlistments. , there is widespread opposition amongst laborers, immigrants, and Peace Democrats who were democrats that opposed the war. There's a riot for four days in July 1863 after the first conscriptions happen. Over a hundred people die. Irish are at the center of the violence because they are angry over black strikebreakers being used against them in a recent strike, and generally blame African Americans for the war who they think are going to be competing with over jobs. Eventually fed troops stop these riots. When Lincoln starts, many consider him a minor politician who can be easily controlled, but he quickly gains authority when he assembles a cabinet that represents all factions of the Republican party and all segments of Northern opinion, these people have prestige and some actually think that Lincoln shouldn't be president. In war, Lincoln ignores parts of the Constitution because he thinks it would be foolish to lose because he was afraid to disregard part. He sent troops into battle before asking Congress for a declaration of war. He also insists this conflict is domestic insurrection, because war means that the Confederacy is an independent nation. He increases the size of the army without authorization, and proclaimed a naval blockade on the South. So the Peace Democrats are a bit of Lincoln's greatest political problem. They think that the agricultural Northwest is losing influence to the industrial East, and that Repub nationalism is negatively impacting state rights. Lincoln then orders military arrests of civilian dissenters and suspends habeas

corpus, which is the right to be released by a judge or court from unlawful detention, like insufficient evidence. Lincoln first enforces this in the border states, but come 1862, he says that all people who discourage enlistments or engage in disloyal practices are subject to martial law. So about 13000 people are arrested. The most prominent is a Copperhead, an Ohio Congressman by the name of Clement L. Vallandigham who made a speech claiming that the war is to free blacks and enslave whites. Lincoln continues to suppress all efforts that try to suppress him. When Chief Justice Taney issued something that required an imprisoned dude to be released, Lincoln ignores it. In 1866, the Supreme Court rules in Ex parte Milligan that military trials in places that civil courts exist in are unconstitutional. Lincoln also starts to use propaganda via pamphlets, posters, speeches, songs, and photographs. Mathew Brady is an important war photographer at this time. Some of these photos contribute to revulsion, but they also show the sacrifice and spur the nation to victory. The South uses similar propaganda, but much less effectively. So the 1864 election happens. Republicans who lost in the congress elections from 1862 try to create groups that support the war. There's the Union Party, but that's just a republican party with some war democrats. They nominate Lincoln for president and Andrew Johnson, a war democrat, for vice president. He had opposed his state's secession. Democrats nominate George McClellan, a Union general. They have a platform that denounces the war and calls for truce. McClellan is actually against this. At this time, there are several North victories in capturing Atlanta, Georgia, which helps Lincoln be reelected with 212 electoral votes, as compared to McClellan's 21, so he had all states but Kentucky, New Jersey, and Delaware. Lincoln only led the popular vote by ten percent, and if he hadn't made special arrangements so that Union troops could vote, McClellan could have won. Republicans actually disagree on slavery. Radicals, led by Thaddeus Stevens in Congress and senators Charles Sumner and Benjamin Wade want to use the war to abolish slavery immediately. Conservatives favor a slower process, and have Lincoln's support at the start. So while Lincoln has a cautious view of emancipation, Congress passed the Confiscation Act in 1861 that said slaves used to support the Confederacy are considered free. Laws in 1862 abolish slavery in DC and western territories, but compensate owners. Then in July 1862 radicals help with the second Confiscation Act, which allows the president to employ African Americans as soldiers. So as the war progresses, the North is accepting emancipation as the central war aim. This means radicals increase in the republican party, and Lincoln seizes leadership of that group. Then, on 22 September 1862, after the Union victory at Antietam, the president announces his intention to free all slaves in the Confederacy. Then he signs the Emancipation Proclamation on 1 January 1863, declaring slaves in all areas of the Confederacy except those under Union control free. This proclamation does not apply to border states. The proclamation doesn't have immediate effects, but establishes that the war is to preserve the Union and eliminate slavery, so the antislavery impulse is stronger. The first gov measures against slavery aren't for liberation, rather, they're to help African Americans liberate themselves. So many slaves are taken from plantations and put to work elsewhere. Once on front lines, they escape to the North and are contraband - goods seized from people who have no right to them, and cannot be returned to their masters. So where the Union goes, slaves are freed. When the Union captured New Orleans, slaves refused to work for former masters, even though the Union occupiers didn't say anything about liberating African Americans. So by the end of the war, slavery was abolished in Maryland and Missouri, who were Union slave states, and in Tennessee, Arkansas, and Louisiana, who were confederate states occupied by Union forces. So the final step is in 1865, when the 13th amendment is ratified and ends slavery. This means that after two centuries of slavery, it was gone. About 186,000 African Americans who were emancipated served in the Union. African Americans in the Union were significant, and not just

because of the obstacles they faced in enlisting. But in the early months, blacks were largely excluded. There were a few regiments, but once the Emancipation Proclamation is issued, black enlistment rapidly increases, so the Union recruits blacks in the North and South. The best known regiment is the 54th Massachusetts Infantry, led by the white Robert Gould Shaw. Him and half of the regiment died in Charleston in 1863. Most blacks are doing menial tasks, like digging trenches and transporting supplies. The black mortality rate was higher than the white simply because of long hours in unsanitary conditions. Blacks were also paid a third less than whites until Congress changed a law mid 1864. Still, blacks felt a bit of pride in their service, and many move into politics and other leadership after the war and during Reconstruction. In terms of economic development, it was slowed in parts of North because of supplies cut off from the South. Overall, economic development speeds up. Part of this is because of the Republican Party and nationalistic economic legislation, but also because of expansion in sectors of the economy. Coal increased by 20%, and railroads improved. The loss of farm labor to military increased mechanized agriculture. So industrial workers lost a bit of purchasing power, because prices in the North rose 70%, and wages only 40%. Part of this is because of immigration laws letting new laborers into the market, but also because of mechanization. There's then an increase in union membership and several national unions, for both coal miners and railroad engineers, amongst others. These organizations were suppressed by employers. So because employers sometimes needed labor and women needed money, they were part of the workforce. They are teachers, sales clerks, office workers, mill and factory hands. They also enter nursing. There is the U. S. Sanitary Commission, led by Dorothea Dix, that mobilizes female nurses in field hospitals. By the end of the war, women are dominant, and by 1900, they are almost the entire nursing profession. They also do other tasks considered appropriate for women. Of course, gender roles are enforced because women are claimed to be too weak for work and inappropriate for taking care of men. The Sanitary Commission counters this by saying that they're playing into gender roles - that is, women as nurses are proper roles. By the end, females are a bit indispensable so male complaints are irrelevant. Nurses are women generally found war to be liberating. Some saw the war as a way to get their own goals. Elizabeth Stanton and Susan Anthony, who found the National Woman's Loyal League in 1863, work for abolition of slavery and women's suffrage. Clara Barton is the founder of the American Red Cross. Generally, women saw the war as independence and new possibilities because their role is redefined. The Sanitary Commission also spread the importance of sanitary conditions and may have contributed to a decline in disease. Still, twice as many soldiers died of disease than in combat.

## the mobilization of the south

So while Southerners often boasted of the differences between the South and North, there are clear similarities in how they mobilized for war. The Confed constitution is nearly identical to the original, with explicit acknowledgement of sovereignty of states, though not of right to secession, and specifically allows slavery, making abolition almost impossible. The new pres and vice are Jefferson Davis and Alexander Stephens, who were chosen without opposition for a six year term. While Davis supported secession, Stephens is against it. Davis isn't a very successful president, for he doesn't provide national leadership. There are no formal political parties, but there's dissension. Some white southerners and blacks oppose secession and the war. Many whites in the backcountry refuse to recognize the confed gov or army; some fight for the Union. Most white southerners do support the war, but many criticize the government and military. Financing the war in the South is fairly impossible, because it requires a national revenue system dependent on an unstable banking system, so in the end their only gold was a million seized from U.S. mints. the Confederate congress tries to ask for funds from states, but that fails, so they have an income tax that doesn't do very well, and borrowing ends up being only moderately successful because of so many bonds. Borrowing money from Europe doesn't go well either. In the end, there's paper currency and 9000% inflation. As with the North, military goes from volunteers to a Conscription Act that requires all white males between eighteen and thirty five for three years military service. They can provide substitutes, and people with large plantations cannot be drafted. Many more whites in the South are exempt from military service. But Conscription works for a time. By the end of 1862, there are 500,000 men in the Confederate military. about 900,000 served in the military in total. But also by 1862 are fewer conscriptions due to whites seizing large areas. Come 1864 is manpower shortage, so they try to draft from 17 to 50, but there's weariness, coming to 100,000 desertions in 1864 to 1865. They authorize conscription of slaves, but the war ends before that can happen. But the largest division is in state rights, and they tend to oppose authority. They restricted Davis' ability to impose martial law and suspend habeas corpus, and obstruct conscription. Some governors in North Carolina try to keep troops separate from Confederate forces and hoard supplies for state militias. But by the end of the war, centralization is stronger in the South than in the North. There was a food draft, impressment of slaves, control of railroad, shipping, and industry, eventually becoming like the institution they wanted to escape. The war had devastating impact on the Southern economy because of their dependence on the North, difficulties in cotton sales, and smaller workforce, causing production to decrease by a third. And because most battles were in the South, this destroyed the railroads and farmland. Upon the blockade in 1862, there are shortages in everything because of the focus on agriculture. Conscription also impacts everybody. So we have shortages, inflation, suffering, and instability. There were food riots, some by women, in Georgia, North Carolina, and Alabama in 1863. But because all the men go to war, women have more roles - both at home and in jobs. Long-term, females questioned the spheres, and the gender imbalance is destroyed because women outnumber men due to so many dying in war. during the war, slave codes were enforced, but slaves still go for freedom and at least resist authority.

## strategy and diplomacy

In terms of military, the North just has to destroy the South, but the South just needs to avoid defeat. In terms of diplomacy, the South has to get foreign support. In the North, the most important commander was Lincoln, who took advantage of Northern material advantages, and realized the aim of destruction. His generals had poor grasp of strategy, and he struggled to find generals. Winfield Scott fails, then McClellan has poor grasp of strategy, briefly General Henry Halleck who is ineffectual, and then in march 1864 Ulysses S. Grant. They faces constant scrutiny from the Committee on the Conduct of the War, which had the most powerful voice in war policies. Chaired by Senator Benjamin Wade, it complains of the insufficient ruthlessness of North generals, which Radicals inaccurately attribute to secret sympathy amongst officers for slavery, and often just interfere in war. The South centered on President Davis, who has an ineffective command system, because while he lets General Robert E. Lee be the principal military advisor, Davis does not let him have any control. Names in 1864 General Braxton Bragg, but he's only technical advice, in 1865 have Lee as general in chief, but cannot do much. Both sides have the same backgrounds in military strategy, who don't see much beyond their academic training. Also amateurs on both sides. The Union has naval advantage, and does a blockade that the South tries to break, most notable with the Merrimac, an ironclad. But the Union has ironclads, and is just better than the South. The navy is also important in transporting supplies in the West, Mississippi. Judah Benjamin, the confed sec of state just does routine admin tasks. William Seward, his washington counterpart, has much assistance in terms of diplomacy. So at the start, the ruling classes of England and France are sympathetic to the Confederacy, because of cotton and wanting to weaken the U.S. commercial rival. France won't take a side until England does, and England is reluctant to act because some support the Union. English liberals John Bright and Richard Cobden consider the war a struggle between free and slave labor. Workers express sympathy for the North in mass meetings. These groups support the Union mainly after the Emancipation Proclamation. The South tries to use King Cotton diplomacy, but fails because England can stand temporary loss, and then England and France import cotton from Egypt, India, and other sources. England does nothing about the blockade, and even those who lost jobs in the textile industry support the North. Nobody wants to support the Confederacy unless they have certain victory. There is tension between the Union and Britain because Britain (and then France) declare neutrality, and the Union sees this as saying that both sides of the conflict have equal importance. There's also the Trent affair in 1861, in which confederate diplomats James Mason and John Slidell slipped through the blockade to Havana, Cuba where the English ship the Trent takes them to England. Another American frigate is waiting there and stops the British and arrest the diplomats. Brits also demand the prisoners released. Lincoln and Seward who are aware that Wilkes (the commander of the ship) violated maritime law wait until American opinion cooled down and release the diplomats with an indirect apology. The Confederates also bought ships from Britain, and the U.S. says this violates neutrality, so that's the basis of damage claims by the U. S. against Britain. So while all West states are loyal to the Union, there's not a lack of controversy or conflict. Southerners and sympathizers are active in the West, and there is some combat, particularly in Kansas and Missouri. William Quantrill is a Confed army captain who organized guerrilla fighters and terrorized the Kansas-Missouri border, this group is known for killing all in their path. There is a siege in Lawrence, Kansas where they kill 150 civilians. Union sympathizers organized the Jayhawkers who were mildly less savage. One unit was commanded by a son of John Brown and a brother of Susan B. Anthony. Confederates also try to negotiate alliances with

the Five Civilized Tribes. Some want to support the Confeds because they resent the U.S. gov and are slaveholders, while others support the North because hostile to slavery. These divisions cause a civil war in Indian territory and regiments on both sides; there is never a formal alliance with either side.



## the course of battle

So in this war was the highest casualty rate. Still, this war has become the most romanticized and studied of wars because of the conflict, fatalities, and campaigns. A bit of this is because of new technology, making this the first “modern” war. Samuel Colt patented a repeating pistol in 1835, but Oliver Winchester had the repeating rifle in 1860, which is very important. There are also improvements in cannons and artillery because of iron and steel tech advances. So there are changes in how the war is fought, making there more slaughter and deadliness than previous wars, for organized forms are a thing of the past, meaning that now there are fortifications and trenches. Occasionally hot air balloons are used. Naval warfare also advances. There’s also the railroad, which helps transport large numbers of soldiers and determines where campaigns might take place. The telegraph’s impact is limited by scarcity of qualified operators and difficulties with telegraph wires. This improves after the U.S. Military Telegraph Corps, led by Thomas Scott and Andrew Carnegies, trains 1200 operators. Spies also send information through telegraph lines. The first major battle is in North Virginia, with the Unions under McDowell and the Confeds onder Beauregard. The North thinks that if they destroy the South, the war will immediately win. The armies are about the same size. This is on 21 July 1861, the first Battle of Bull Run. McDowell almost stops the Confeds, but they have a savage counterattack. The Union retreats, and the Confeds cannot pursue due to all around disorganization. This is a blow to morale, and shows that the war is not going to be quick. Also, many civilians came from the capital to watch the battle. Also in 1861, rebels in Missouri want to secede from the Union and gather under Governor Claiborne Jackson. Nathaneil Lyon is against them. On 10 August at Wilson’s Creek, Lyon is defeated but weakened the Confeds, so the Union holds on to Missouri. There’s also a union force under McClellan that moved from Ohio into Virginia, and liberated anti-secessionists in the area, creating their own state gov and being admitted to the Union as West Virginia in 1863. While of little military value, is of symbolic value. After Bull Run, however, most military in East is stalemate. In the West in 1862, the Union was trying to control the South Mississippi River to divide the confederacy and give North easy transportation. In April, some Union ships commanded by David Farragut gather in the Gulf of Mexico and seize New Orleans. They surrender 25 April, making this the first significant Union victory. Farther in the Northwest, confed troops under command of Albert Johnston are stretched out in a defensive line around Forts Henry and Donelson. In 1862, Grant attacks Fort Henry whose defenders are literally awed into submission. Donelson also surrenders later. Grant goes South to seize railroad lines, but unexpectedly runs into an almost equal force commanded by Johnston and Beauregard, creating the Battle of Shiloh on April 6 & 7 1862, in which Johnston is killed. Southerners drive back Grant, who is then reinforced with 25000 troops, forcing Beauregard to withdraw. Braxton Bragg then gathers forces at Chattanooga and wants to win back the rest of Tennessee and Kentucky, but as to face a Union army commanded by Don Carlos Buell and William Rosecransthat wants to capture Chattanooga. This causes the Battle of Murfreesboro, or Stone’s River. Bragg has to withdraw. So the Union has been operated by McClellan, who is good at training but reluctant to commit troops to battle, meaning that opportunities come and go, but he never takes advantage of them. He concentrates on training in winter 1861 to 1862. He finally launches a campaign to capture the Confed capital of Richmond, but takes an overcomplicated route that he hopes to circumvent Confed defenses. This is the Peninsular campaign. He starts with only part of his army, the rest staying behind to guard Washington. He gets Lincoln to send more men, but before that happens. a Confed army under Thomas J. “Stonewall” Jackson starts a rapid march that looks like it could attack Washington.



Lincoln quickly dispatched troops there instead. This Valley campaign of 4 May to 9 Jun 1862 is a Confed victory. Then Confed troops under Joseph E. Johnston attack McClellan's army. But in the Battle of Fair Oaks, or Seven Pines May 31 to June 1, they cannot repel the Union. Johnston is replaced by Lee who recalls Jackson. They launch a new offensive, the Battle of the Seven Days 25 June to 1 July 1862. Lee wants to cut McClellan off, but McClellan fights up the peninsula and sets up a new base, so the Army of the Potomac is safe. McClellan keeps delaying going to Richmond, and instead of Lincoln replacing him, Lincoln ordered the army to move to north Virginia and join a smaller force under John Pope to start a new offensive over an easier route. However, Lee goes to strike Pope before McClellan can join. Pope attacks the Confeds without waiting for McClellan, causing the second battle of Bull Run, or second battle of Manassas, in which Lee is remarkably offensive and has a Confed victory. Lee goes offensive, but McClellan gets a copy of Lee's orders that reveal the Confeds will attack Harpers Ferry. McClellan allows the Confeds to recombine behind Antietam Creek, then, on 17 September has the bloodiest single-day engagement in which McClellan's 87,000 repeatedly attack Lee's 50,000, causing 6,000 casualties and 17,000 injured. Then, as the Confeds are about to break, more Confeds arrive. McClellan could have broken through, but he lets Lee retreat. So while Antietam is technically a Union victory, it's a lost opportunity. In November, Lincoln replaced McClellan with Ambrose E. Burnside, who launches a series of hopeless and bloody attacks, and is relieved at his own request. So there's been a bit of a military stalemate in the war. The Northerners blame this on the Union generals, but it's really because it's a war of attrition. They need a destruction of necessary resources. The Confederacy is finding it difficult to get food, which attributes to bread riots. So in 1863, General Joseph Hooker commands the Army of the Potomac, but shows little resolve. He goes to attack Lee, but quickly withdraws to an area called the Wilderness. So in the Battle of Chancellorsville, May 1 to 5 1863, Stonewall Jackson attacks the Union right and Lee charges the front, so Hooker barely escapes. Jackson is wounded and dies. Then in spring 1863 Grant was going to Vicksburg. There's a siege, and the Confeds surrender. At almost the same time, the Confeds surrendered at Port Hudson, Louisiana. So now the Union controls the Mississippi, cutting the Confederacy in two. During Vicksburg, Lee proposed to invade Pennsylvania to divert Union troops so that the North might give up. So in June 1863, Lee enters Pennsylvania, eventually meeting the Union army commanded by George Meade at Gettysburg. Meade has a strong protected position, and Lee attacks despite being outnumbered. His first assault fails. A day later is Pickett's Charge, in which 15,000 Confed soldiers advance, though only 5,000 make it due to Union fire. Lee withdraws, for he lost almost a third of his army. Never again will the Confeds pose a serious threat to the North. Also, after Chattanooga, Union forces under Rosecrans pursue Bragg's retreat. Bragg gets reinforcements, causing the Battle of Chickamauga, in which the Union fails. Bragg begins a siege on Chattanooga, but Grant comes to the rescue in the Battle of Chattanooga November 23 to 25 in 1863, the Union drives back the Confeds. So the Union now controls the Tennessee River, and has cut off four of the eleven Confed states. The Confeds can only win by exhausting the Northern will. So by 1864, Grant is general in chief of Union armies. He believes in using the North's advantages to overwhelm the South, and is not afraid of his own casualties as long as the opponents experience similar casualties. He plans two offensives in 1864. In Virginia, the Army of the Potomac will advance to Richmond, and in Georgia, the West Army under William Sherman will go east to Atlanta and destroy the far South force under Joseph Johnston. The north campaign starts with the Army of the Potomac chasing off Lee's army, but then Lee attacks Grant in the Battle of the Wilderness on May 5 to 7. Grant just continues his march to Richmond, and meets Lee again in the battle of Spotsylvania Court House, and then keeps going, meeting the Confeds once more on June

1 to 3 at Cold Harbor, just north of Richmond. Due to these failures, he decides to bypass Richmond and go to the railroad center at Petersburg. Alas, Petersburg has defences and Lee helping, so that turned into a nine month siege. In Georgia, Sherman is doing fairly well. He only has one real battle against Johnston, at Kennesaw Mountain, northwest Atlanta, 27 June, in which Johnston has decisive victory, but the Union advances still. President Davis replaced Johnston with John Hood, who attacks the Sherman but mainly just loses his own men. Sherman takes Atlanta on 2 September, which helps unite the Republican party. They burn Atlanta. Hood tries to draw Sherman from Atlanta by moving through Tennessee and ergo threatening a Northern invasion, but Sherman does not take the bait, instead moving some Union troops to reinforce Nashville. This caused the Battle of Nashville on 15 to 16 December 1864, in which the North essentially destroys Hood's army. Meanwhile, Sherman had started his March to Sea. Sherman says that war is hell, but he means that it should be made as horrible and costly as possible for the opponent, so he burns towns and plantations, etcetera, reaching Savannah on 20 December, which surrendered on the 22nd. He left Savannah undamaged, and in 1865 continues going west through South and North Carolina. In April 1865 Grant finally captured a railroad junction in Petersburg, so Lee is unable to defend Richmond. Lee goes west to try to find an escape, but fails. So he arranged to meet with Grant at Appomattox Court House, Virginia, and surrenders on 9 April. On the 18th, near Durham, North Carolina, Johnston surrendered to Sherman. The war is done in military terms, but Jefferson Davis refused to accept defeat, so he flees and is captured in Georgia. The Northern victory has strengthened their economy at the cost of the South, and the war essentially showed the North's dominance. The war was also a victory for African American slaves because of the Emancipation Proclamation and the 13th amendment, and encouraging slaves to free themselves.