

UNIT MATERIALS

UNITED STATES HISTORY

UNIT 8

The Civil War and Reconstruction



Unit Plan

and Pacing Guide

Unit 8

The Civil War and Reconstruction

	AP	HONORS/CP
PART ONE <i>Secession</i>	AMSCO, 250-255, 265-267 Document 8.1 (Declaration of Causes) Document 8.2 (Davis Inaugural) Document 8.3 (Lincoln 1 st Inaugural) Hofstadter, 154-162 Andrew, Wade Hampton, 45-68	<i>The Americans</i> , 328-331 Document 8.1 READINGS QUIZ
PART TWO <i>Limited War</i>	AMSCO, 267-271 Document 8.4 (Confiscation Act) Document 8.5 (Lincoln to Greeley) Andrew, Wade Hampton, 91-105	<i>The Americans</i> , 338-345 Document 8.5 LECTURE QUIZ
PART THREE <i>The Turning Point</i>	AMSCO, 271-274, 277-278 Document 8.6 (Emancipation Proclamation) Document 8.7 (Gettysburg Address) Document 8.8 (Vallandigham) Document 8.9 (Siege of Vicksburg) Hofstadter, 162-173	<i>The Americans</i> , 346-352 Document 8.6 Document 8.7 MAP QUIZ
PART FOUR <i>Total War and Presidential Reconstruction</i>	AMSCO, 275-283, 289-291 Document 8.10 (Lincoln 2 nd Inaugural) Document 8.11 (Gen. Richard Taylor) Document 8.12 ("O Captain! My Captain!") Washington, Up From Slavery, Chapter 1 Andrew, Wade Hampton, 264-271	<i>The Americans</i> , 357-365 Document 8.10
PART FIVE <i>Presidential Reconstruction (Continued) and Radical Reconstruction</i>	AMSCO, 291-298 Document 8.13 (A.H. Stephens Diary) Document 8.14 (Mississippi Black Code) Document 8.15 (Thad. Stevens Speech) Document 8.16 (Reconstruction Amend.) Cash, The Mind of the South, 103-107 Andrew, Wade Hampton, 350-357	<i>The Americans</i> , 376-382 Document 8.14 Document 8.16
PART SIX <i>Reconstruction Goes South</i>	AMSCO, 298-305, 317-321 Document 8.17 (Booker T. Washington) Cash, The Mind of the South, 108-123 Andrew, Wade Hampton, 398-409	<i>The Americans</i> , 383-392 Document 8.17
ASSESSMENT	MULTIPLE CHOICE TEST DBQ	MULTIPLE CHOICE TEST ESSAY

**US HISTORY
TERMS LISTS**

**UNIT 8
The Civil War and Reconstruction**

**The Civil War
USHC 3.2**

The Civil War, 1860-1862	Politics and the Turning Point
<p>(328-331)</p> <p>Election of 1860 Abraham Lincoln Secession of the “Deep South” (and causes of Deep South, Upper South, and Border States Confederate States of America Jefferson Davis Alexander Stephens [331]</p> <p>(338-345)</p> <p>Fort Sumter P.G.T. Beauregard Lincoln’s Reaction [339] Secession of “Upper South” [339] Union and Confederate Advantages [340] Anaconda Plan First Bull Run [aka, First Manassas] Stonewall Jackson George McClellan Ulysses S. Grant Shiloh</p> <p>Robert E. Lee Seven Days’ Battles [344] Second Bull Run [344] Antietam Fredericksburg</p>	<p>(346-352)</p> <p>Emancipation Proclamation <i>habeas corpus</i> Copperheads Clement Vallandigham [349] Conscription [Union and Confederate] New York Draft Riots African American Troops [351-352]</p> <p>(357-365)</p> <p>Chancellorsville Gettysburg Vicksburg Gettysburg Address William T. Sherman Election of 1864 [364] Sherman’s March [364] Hampton Roads Conference Appomattox Court House John Wilkes Booth [370] <i>Sic Semper Tyrannis</i> [370]</p> 

Some Questions and Learning Objectives:

What were the causes of the Civil War? How did Northern and Southern war aims differ? How did these aims change over time?

What was the military turning point of the Civil War?

To what extent was the United States experiencing a “new birth of freedom” in 1863?

**US HISTORY
TERMS LISTS**

**UNIT 8
The Civil War and Reconstruction**

Reconstruction
USHC 3.3 USHC 3.4

Reconstruction Politics	Reconstruction in the South
<p>(376-382)</p> <p>Reconstruction Ten Percent Plan [377] Wade-Davis Bill Pocket Veto [377] Andrew Johnson Thirteenth Amendment [368] Presidential Reconstruction [378] Freedman’s Bureau Black Codes</p> <p>Congressional (Radical) Reconstruction Radical Republicans Thaddeus Stevens Charles Sumner</p> <p>Fourteenth Amendment “Veto Proof” (2/3) Majority [380] Reconstruction Act of 1867 [380-81] Tenure of Office Act [381] Impeachment of Andrew Johnson [381-82] Election of 1868 Fifteenth Amendment</p> 	<p>(383-392)</p> <p>Postwar Southern Economy [384] Carpetbaggers Scalawags African American Voters Public Education in the South [388] Sharecropping Tenant Farming</p> <p>The Decline of Reconstruction</p> <p>(383-392)</p> <p><u>The “Lost Cause” Movement</u> Ku Klux Klan Vigilantism Amnesty Act [395] Political Corruption [395] Decline of Popular and Judicial Support [397-398] “Redeemer” Governments Election of 1876 [399] Rutherford B. Hayes Samuel Tilden Compromise of 1877</p> <p>Jim Crow Laws Literacy Tests / Poll Tax Grandfather Clause The Supreme Court and Civil Rights (Late 19th c.) <i>Plessy v. Ferguson</i> <i>Brown v. Board</i></p>

Some Questions and Learning Objectives:

- Contrast Presidential and Radical Reconstruction policies.
- How did Lincoln’s assassination affect the course of Reconstruction?
- Assess the extent to which Reconstruction was a success or failure.

Graphic Organizers
and Guided Notes

Unit 8
The Civil War and Reconstruction

Document 8.1

Declarations of Causes of Seceding States

Mississippi

The American Civil War Homepage: <http://www.sunsite.utk.edu/civil-war/reasons.html#Mississippi>

In the momentous step which our State has taken of dissolving its connection with the government of which we so long formed a part, it is but just that we should declare the prominent reasons which have induced our course.

Our position is thoroughly identified with the institution of slavery-- the greatest material interest of the world. Its labor supplies the product which constitutes by far the largest and most important portions of commerce of the earth. These products are peculiar to the climate verging on the tropical regions, and by an imperious law of nature, none but the black race can bear exposure to the tropical sun. These products have become necessities of the world, and a blow at slavery is a blow at commerce and civilization. That blow has been long aimed at the institution, and was at the point of reaching its consummation. There was no choice left us but submission to the mandates of abolition, or a dissolution of the Union, whose principles had been subverted to work out our ruin.

That we do not overstate the dangers to our institution, a reference to a few facts will sufficiently prove.

The hostility to this institution commenced before the adoption of the Constitution, and was manifested in the well-known Ordinance of 1787, in regard to the Northwestern Territory.

The feeling increased, until, in 1819-20, it deprived the South of more than half the vast territory acquired from France.

The same hostility dismembered Texas and seized upon all the territory acquired from Mexico.

It has grown until it denies the right of property in slaves, and refuses protection to that right on the high seas, in the Territories, and wherever the government of the United States had jurisdiction.

It refuses the admission of new slave States into the Union, and seeks to extinguish it by confining it within its present limits, denying the power of expansion.

It tramples the original equality of the South under foot.

It has nullified the Fugitive Slave Law in almost every free State in the Union, and has utterly broken the compact which our fathers pledged their faith to maintain.

It advocates negro equality, socially and politically, and promotes insurrection and incendiarism in our midst.

It has enlisted its press, its pulpit and its schools against us, until the whole popular mind of the North is excited and inflamed with prejudice.

It has made combinations and formed associations to carry out its schemes of emancipation in the States and wherever else slavery exists.

It seeks not to elevate or to support the slave, but to destroy his present condition without providing a better.

It has invaded a State, and invested with the honors of martyrdom [the wretch](#) whose purpose was to apply flames to our dwellings, and the weapons of destruction to our lives.

It has broken every compact into which it has entered for our security.

It has given indubitable evidence of its design to ruin our agriculture, to prostrate our industrial pursuits and to destroy our social system.

It knows no relenting or hesitation in its purposes; it stops not in its march of aggression, and leaves us no room to hope for cessation or for pause.

It has recently obtained control of the Government, by the prosecution of its unhallowed schemes, and destroyed the last expectation of living together in friendship and brotherhood.

Utter subjugation awaits us in the Union, if we should consent longer to remain in it. It is not a matter of choice, but of necessity. We must either submit to degradation, and to the loss of property worth four billions of money, or we must secede from the Union framed by our fathers, to secure this as well as every other species of property. **For far less cause than this, our fathers separated from the Crown of England....**

Arkansas

The Constitution Society: http://www.constitution.org/csa/ordinances_secession.htm#Arkansas

Whereas, in addition to the well-founded causes of complaint set forth by this convention, in resolutions adopted on the 11th of March, A.D. 1861, against the sectional party now in power in Washington City, headed by Abraham Lincoln, he has, in the face of resolutions passed by this convention pledging the State of Arkansas to resist to the last extremity any attempt on the part of such power to coerce any State that had seceded from the old Union, proclaimed to the world that war should be waged against such States until they should be compelled to submit to their rule, and large forces to accomplish this have by this same power been called out, and are now being marshaled to carry out this inhuman design; and to longer submit to such rule, or remain in the old Union of the United States, would be disgraceful and ruinous to the State of Arkansas:

Therefore we, the people of the State of Arkansas, in convention assembled, do hereby declare and ordain, and it is hereby declared and ordained, That the "ordinance and acceptance of compact" passed and approved by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas on the 18th day of October, A.D. 1836... be... in all respects and for every purpose herewith consistent, repealed, abrogated, and fully set aside; and the union now subsisting between the State of Arkansas and the other States, under the name of the United States of America, is hereby forever dissolved....

Adopted and passed in open convention on the 6th day of May, A.D. 1861.

Source: Official Records, Ser. IV, vol. 1, pp. 287-88.

Document 8.2

Jefferson Davis' Inaugural Address

February 18, 1861

Avalon Project: http://avalon.law.yale.edu/19th_century/csa_csainau.asp

Gentlemen of the Congress of the Confederate States of America, Friends, and Fellow-citizens: Called to the difficult and responsible station of Chief Magistrate of the Provisional Government which you have instituted, I approach the discharge of the duties assigned to me with humble distrust of my abilities, but with a sustaining confidence in the wisdom of those who are to guide and aid me in the administration of public affairs, and an abiding faith in the virtue and patriotism of the people. Looking forward to the speedy establishment of a permanent government to take the place of this, which by its greater moral and physical power will be better able to combat with many difficulties that arise from the conflicting interests of separate nations, I enter upon the duties of the office to which I have been chosen with the hope that the beginning of our career, as a Confederacy, may not be obstructed by hostile opposition to our enjoyment of the separate existence and independence we have asserted, and which, with the blessing of Providence, we intend to maintain.

Our present political position has been achieved in a manner unprecedented in the history of nations. It illustrates the American idea that governments rest on the consent of the governed, and that it is the right of the people to alter or abolish them at will whenever they become destructive of the ends for which they were established.¹ The declared purpose of the compact of the Union from which we have withdrawn was to "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;" and when, in the judgment of the sovereign States composing this Confederacy, it has been perverted from the purposes for which it was ordained, and ceased to answer the ends for which it was established, a peaceful appeal to the ballot box declared that, so far as they are concerned, the Government created by that compact should cease to exist. In this they merely asserted the right which the Declaration of Independence of July 4, 1776, defined to be "inalienable." ...

The right solemnly proclaimed at the birth of the United States, and which has been solemnly affirmed and reaffirmed in the Bills of Rights of the States subsequently admitted into the Union of 1789, undeniably recognizes in the people the power to resume the authority delegated for the purposes of government. Thus the **sovereign States** here represented have proceeded to form this Confederacy; and it is by abuse of language that their act has been denominated a revolution. They formed a new alliance, but within each State its government has remained; so that the rights of person and property have not been disturbed. The agent through which they communicated with foreign nations is changed, but this does not necessarily interrupt their international relations... An **agricultural** people, whose chief interest is the export of commodities required in every manufacturing country, our true policy is peace, and the freest trade which our necessities will permit. It is alike our interest and that of all those to whom we would sell, and from whom we would buy, that there should be the fewest practicable restrictions upon the interchange of these commodities. There can, however, be but little rivalry between ours and any manufacturing or navigating community, such as the Northeastern States of the American Union. It must follow, therefore, that mutual interest will invite to good will and kind offices on both parts. If, however, passion or lust of dominion should cloud the judgment or inflame the ambition of those States, we must prepare to meet the emergency and maintain, by the final arbitrament of the sword, the position which we have assumed among the nations of the earth.

We have entered upon the career of independence, and it must be inflexibly pursued. Through many years of controversy with our late associates of the Northern States, we have vainly endeavored

¹ This language is directly from the Declaration of Independence.

to secure tranquility and obtain respect for the rights to which we were entitled. As a necessity, not a choice, we have resorted to the remedy of separation, and henceforth our energies must be directed to the conduct of our own affairs, and the perpetuity of the Confederacy which we have formed. If a just perception of mutual interest shall permit us peaceably to pursue our separate political career, my most earnest desire will have been fulfilled. But if this be denied to us, and the integrity of our territory and jurisdiction be assailed, it will but remain for us with firm resolve to appeal to arms and invoke the blessing of Providence on a just cause....

With a Constitution differing only from that of our fathers in so far as it is explanatory of their well-known intent, freed from sectional conflicts, which have interfered with the pursuit of the general welfare, it is not unreasonable to expect that States from which we have recently parted may seek to unite their fortunes to ours under the Government which we have instituted. For this your Constitution makes adequate provision; but beyond this, if I mistake not the judgment and will of the people, a reunion with the States from which we have separated is neither practicable nor desirable. To increase the power, develop the resources, and promote the happiness of the Confederacy, it is requisite that there should be so much of homogeneity that the welfare of every portion shall be the aim of the whole. When this does not exist, antagonisms are engendered which must and should result in separation.

Actuated solely by the desire to preserve our own rights, and promote our own welfare, the separation by the Confederate States has been marked by no aggression upon others, and followed by no domestic convulsion. Our industrial pursuits have received no check, the cultivation of our fields has progressed as heretofore... This common interest of the producer and consumer can only be interrupted by exterior force which would obstruct the transmission of our staples to foreign markets - a course of conduct which would be as unjust, as it would be detrimental, to manufacturing and commercial interests abroad....

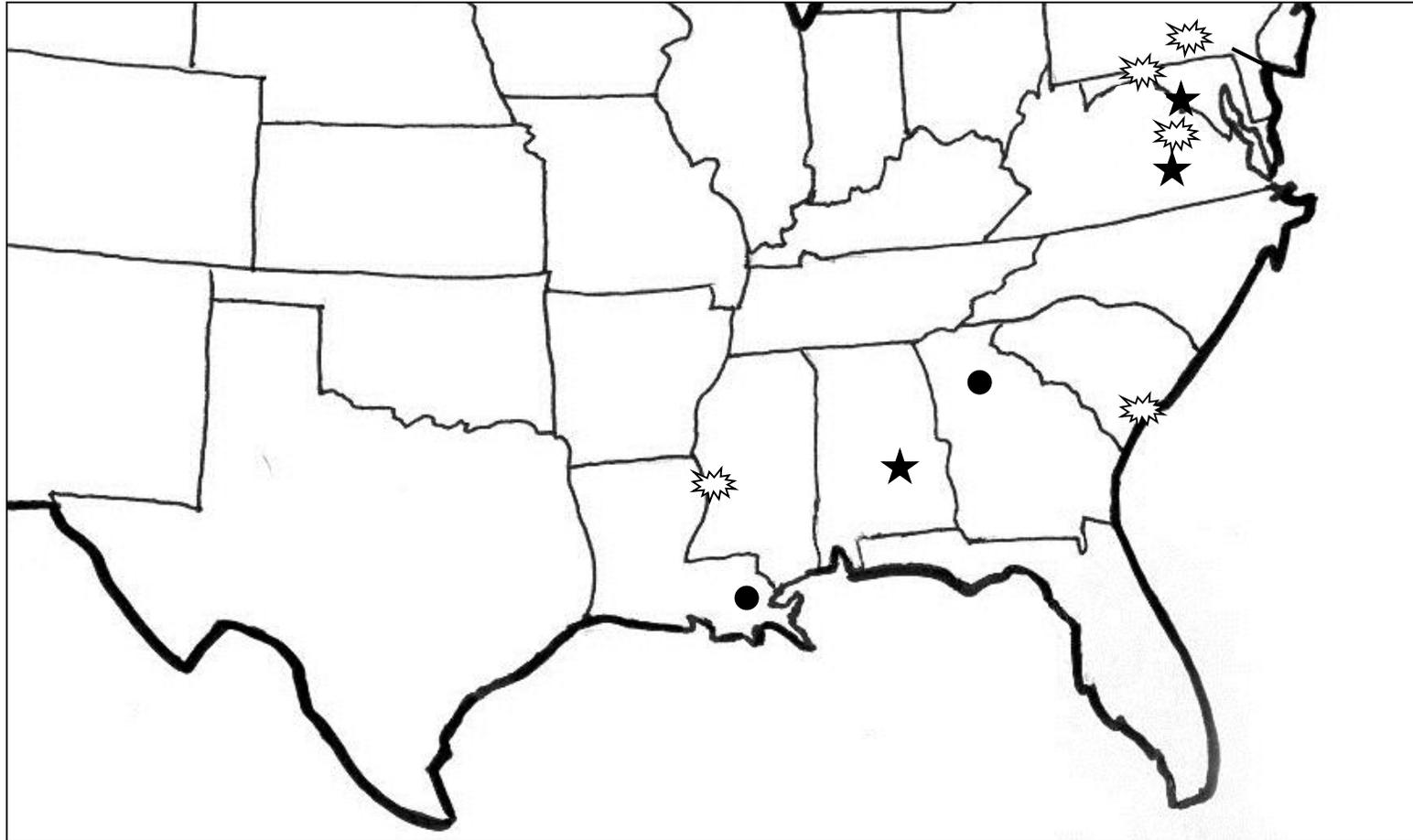
We have changed the constituent parts, but not the system of government. The Constitution framed by our fathers is that of these Confederate States. In their exposition of it, and in the judicial construction it has received, we have a light which reveals its true meaning.

Thus instructed as to the true meaning and just interpretation of that instrument, and ever remembering that all offices are but trusts held for the people, and that powers delegated are to be strictly construed....

Reverently let us invoke the God of our fathers to guide and protect us in our efforts to perpetuate the principles which by his blessing they were able to vindicate, establish, and transmit to their posterity. With the continuance of His favor ever gratefully acknowledged, we may hopefully look forward to success, to peace, and to prosperity.

Map 8.1

The Civil War



IDENTIFY THE FOLLOWING STATES AND TERRITORIES ON THE MAP ABOVE (ID states as *Deep South, Upper South, Border, or Free states*):

Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indian Territory, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia

PLACES OF INTEREST:

Antietam, Atlanta, Fort Sumter, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, Montgomery, New Orleans, Richmond, Vicksburg, Washington, D.C.

Locate the boundary between the Union and the Confederacy.

Document 8.3

Abraham Lincoln's First Inaugural Address

March 4, 1861

Avalon Project: http://avalon.law.yale.edu/19th_century/lincoln1.asp

Fellow-Citizens of the United States:

In compliance with a custom as old as the Government itself, I appear before you to address you briefly and to take in your presence the [oath](#) prescribed by the Constitution of the United States to be taken by the President before he enters on the execution of this office."

I do not consider it necessary at present for me to discuss those matters of administration about which there is no special anxiety or excitement.

Apprehension seems to exist among the people of the Southern States that by the accession of a Republican Administration their property and their peace and personal security are to be endangered. There has never been any reasonable cause for such apprehension. Indeed, the most ample evidence to the contrary has all the while existed and been open to their inspection. It is found in nearly all the published speeches of him who now addresses you. I do but quote from one of those speeches when I declare that--

I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it exists. I believe I have no lawful right to do so, and I have no inclination to do so.

Those who nominated and elected me did so with full knowledge that I had made this and many similar declarations and had never recanted them; and more than this, they placed in the [platform](#) for my acceptance, and as a law to themselves and to me, the clear and emphatic resolution which I now read:

Resolved, That the maintenance inviolate of the rights of the States, and especially the right of each State to order and control its own domestic institutions according to its own judgment exclusively, is essential to that balance of power on which the perfection and endurance of our political fabric depend; and we denounce the lawless invasion by armed force of the soil of any State or Territory, no matter what pretext, as among the gravest of crimes.

I now reiterate these sentiments, and in doing so I only press upon the public attention the most conclusive evidence of which the case is susceptible that the property, peace, and security of no section are to be in any wise endangered by the now incoming Administration....

It is seventy-two years since the first inauguration of a President under our **National Constitution**... A disruption of the Federal Union, heretofore only menaced, is now formidably attempted.

I hold that in contemplation of universal law and of the Constitution the Union of these States is perpetual. Perpetuity is implied, if not expressed, in the fundamental law of all **national governments**. It is safe to assert that no government proper ever had a provision in its organic law for its own termination. Continue to execute all the express provisions of our **National Constitution**, and the Union will endure forever, it being impossible to destroy it except by some action not provided for in the instrument itself.

Again: If the United States be not a government proper, but an association of States in the nature of contract merely, can it, as a contract, be peaceably unmade by less than all the parties who made it? One party to a contract may violate it--break it, so to speak--but does it not require all to lawfully rescind it?

Descending from these general principles, we find the proposition that in legal contemplation the Union is perpetual confirmed by the history of the Union itself. **The Union is much older than the**

Constitution... in 1787, one of the declared objects for ordaining and establishing the Constitution was **"to form a more perfect Union."**

But if destruction of the Union by one or by a part only of the States be lawfully possible, the Union is less perfect than before the Constitution, having lost the vital element of perpetuity.

It follows from these views that no State upon its own mere motion can lawfully get out of the Union; that resolves and ordinances to that effect are legally void, and that acts of violence within any State or States against the authority of the United States are insurrectionary or revolutionary, according to circumstances.

I therefore consider that in view of the Constitution and the laws the Union is unbroken, and to the extent of my ability, I shall take care, as the Constitution itself expressly enjoins upon me, that the laws of the Union be faithfully executed in all the States...

In doing this there needs to be no bloodshed or violence, and there shall be none unless it be forced upon the national authority. The power confided to me will be used to hold, occupy, and possess the property and places belonging to the Government and to collect the duties and imposts; but beyond what may be necessary for these objects, there will be no invasion, no using of force against or among the people anywhere....

Plainly the central idea of secession is the essence of anarchy....

Physically speaking, we cannot separate. We cannot remove our respective sections from each other nor build an impassable wall between them. A husband and wife may be divorced and go out of the presence and beyond the reach of each other, but the different parts of our country cannot do this. They cannot but remain face to face, and intercourse, either amicable or hostile, must continue between them. Is it possible, then, to make that intercourse more advantageous or more satisfactory after separation than before? Can aliens make treaties easier than friends can make laws? Can treaties be more faithfully enforced between aliens than laws can among friends? Suppose you go to war, you cannot fight always; and when, after much loss on both sides and no gain on either, you cease fighting, the identical old questions, as to terms of intercourse, are again upon you.

This country, with its institutions, belongs to the people who inhabit it. Whenever they shall grow weary of the existing Government, they can exercise their **constitutional right** of amending it or their **revolutionary right** to dismember or overthrow it. I cannot be ignorant of the fact that many worthy and patriotic citizens are desirous of having the National Constitution amended... **I understand a proposed [amendment](#)² to the Constitution--which amendment, however, I have not seen--has passed Congress, to the effect that the Federal Government shall never interfere with the domestic institutions of the States, including that of persons held to service. To avoid misconstruction of what I have said, I depart from my purpose not to speak of particular amendments so far as to say that, holding such a provision to now be implied constitutional law, I have no objection to its being made express and irrevocable....**

In your hands, my dissatisfied fellow-countrymen, and not in mine, is the momentous issue of civil war. The Government will not assail you. You can have no conflict without being yourselves the aggressors. You have no oath registered in heaven to destroy the Government, while I shall have the most solemn one to "preserve, protect, and defend it."

² The **Corwin Amendment**, passed by Congress two days before Lincoln's Inaugural Address, read, *"No amendment shall be made to the Constitution which will authorize or give to Congress the power to abolish or interfere, within any State, with the domestic institutions thereof, including that of persons held to labor or service by the laws of said State."* Since the amendment did not prompt the seceded states to rejoin the Union and the Civil War began the following month, only a handful of states voted to ratify the amendment.

Document 8.4

The Second Confiscation Act

July 17, 1862

Freedmen & Southern Society Project: <http://www.history.umd.edu/Freedmen/conact2.htm>

CHAP. CXCIV.—*An Act to suppress Insurrection, to punish Treason and Rebellion, to seize and confiscate the Property of Rebels, and for other Purposes.*

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That every person who shall hereafter commit the crime of treason against the United States, and shall be adjudged guilty thereof, shall suffer death, and all his slaves, if any, shall be declared and made free; or, at the discretion of the court, he shall be imprisoned for not less than five years and fined not less than ten thousand dollars, and all his slaves, if any, shall be declared and made free; said fine shall be levied and collected on any or all of the property, real and personal, excluding slaves, of which the said person so convicted was the owner at the time of committing the said crime, any sale or conveyance to the contrary notwithstanding.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That if any person shall hereafter incite, set on foot, assist, or engage in any rebellion or insurrection against the authority of the United States, or the laws thereof, or shall give aid or comfort thereto, or shall engage in, or give aid and comfort to, any such existing rebellion or insurrection, and be convicted thereof, such person shall be punished by imprisonment for a period not exceeding ten years, or by a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars, and by the liberation of all his slaves, if any he have; or by both of said punishments, at the discretion of the court.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That every person guilty of either of the offences described in this act shall be forever incapable and disqualified to hold any office under the United States....

SEC. 10. *And be it further enacted,* That no slave escaping into any State, Territory, or the District of Columbia, from any other State, shall be delivered up, or in any way impeded or hindered of his liberty, except for crime, or some offence against the laws...

SEC. 11. *And be it further enacted,* That the President of the United States is authorized to employ as many persons of African descent as he may deem necessary and proper for the suppression of this rebellion, and for this purpose he may organize and use them in such manner as he may judge best for the public welfare.

SEC. 12. *And be it further enacted,* That the President of the United States is hereby authorized to make provision for the transportation, colonization, and settlement, in some tropical country beyond the limits of the United States, of such persons of the African race, made free by the provisions of this act, as may be willing to emigrate...

APPROVED, July 17, 1862.

U.S., *Statutes at Large, Treaties, and Proclamations of the United States of America*, vol. 12 (Boston, 1863), pp. 589–92.

Document 8.5

Correspondence Between Abraham Lincoln and Horace Greeley August 19-22, 1862

NOTE: *Horace Greeley, editor of the New York Tribune, as an influential abolitionist leader in New York City.*

Greeley's Open Letter to Lincoln (*New York Tribune, August 19, 1862*)

I do not intrude to tell you, for you must know already, that a great proportion of those who triumphed in your election, and of all who desire the unqualified suppression of the rebellion now desolating our country, are solely disappointed and deeply pained by the policy you seem to be pursuing with regard to the slaves of the Rebels.

We think you are strangely and disastrously remiss in the discharge of your official and imperative (necessary) duty with regard to the emancipating provisions of the new Confiscation Act. Those provisions were designed to fight slavery with liberty. They prescribe that men loyal to the Union, and willing to shed their blood in the behalf, shall no longer be held, with the nation's consent, in bondage to persistent, malignant (poisonous) traitors, who for twenty years have been plotting and for sixteen months have been fighting to divide and destroy our country.

Why these traitors should be treated with tenderness by you, to the prejudice of the dearest rights of loyal men, we cannot conceive. We ask you to consider that slavery is everywhere the inciting cause and sustaining base of treason. . . It seems to us the most obvious truth that whatever strengthens or fortifies slavery in the border states strengthens also treason and drives home the wedge intended to divide the Union.

We complain that the Union cause has suffered and is now suffering immensely from mistaken deference to Rebel slavery. . . . We complain that the officers of your armies have habitually repelled rather than invited the approach of slaves who would have gladly taken the risks of escaping from their Rebel masters to our camps, bringing intelligence often of inestimable value to the Union cause.

Lincoln's Reply to Greeley (*New York Tribune, August 22, 1862*)

DEAR SIR: I have just read yours of the 19th, addressed to myself through the New York Tribune... If there be perceptible in it an impatient and dictatorial tone, I waive it in deference to an old friend whose heart I have always supposed to be right.

As to the policy I "seem to be pursuing," as you say, I have not meant to leave any one in doubt. I would save the Union. I would save it the shortest way under the Constitution. The sooner the national authority can be restored the nearer the Union will be "the Union as it was." If there be those who would not save the Union unless they could at the same time save slavery, I do not agree with them. If there be those who would not save the Union unless they could at the same time destroy slavery, I do not agree with them. **My paramount object in this struggle is to save the Union, and is not either to save or to destroy slavery. If I could save the Union without freeing any slave I would do it, and if I could save it by freeing all the slaves I would do it; and if I could save it by freeing some and leaving others alone, I would also do that.** What I do about slavery and the colored race, I do because I believe it helps to save this Union; and what I forbear, I forbear because I do not believe it would help to save the Union. I shall do less whenever I shall believe what I am doing hurts the cause, and I shall do more whenever I shall believe doing more will help the cause. I shall try to correct errors when shown to be errors; and I shall adopt new views so fast as they shall appear to be true views.

I have here stated my purpose according to my view of official duty; and I intend no modification of my oft-expressed personal wish that all men every where could be free. Yours,

A. LINCOLN.

Document 8.6

The Emancipation Proclamation

January 1, 1863

Avalon Project: http://avalon.law.yale.edu/19th_century/emancipa.asp

Whereas, on the twenty-second day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, a proclamation was issued by the President of the United States, containing, among other things, the following, to wit:

"That on the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free; and the Executive Government of the United States, including the military and naval authority thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons, and will do no act or acts to repress such persons, or any of them, in any efforts they may make for their actual freedom...."

Now, therefore I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, by virtue of the power in me vested as Commander-in-Chief, of the Army and Navy of the United States in time of actual armed rebellion against the authority and government of the United States, and as a fit and necessary war measure for suppressing said rebellion, do, on this first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three... order and designate as the States and parts of States wherein the people thereof respectively, are this day in rebellion against the United States, the following, to wit:

Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, (except the Parishes of St. Bernard, Plaquemines, Jefferson, St. John, St. Charles, St. James Ascension, Assumption, Terrebonne, Lafourche, St. Mary, St. Martin, and Orleans, including the City of New Orleans) Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia, (except the forty-eight counties designated as West Virginia, and also the counties of Berkley, Accomac, Northampton, Elizabeth City, York, Princess Ann, and Norfolk, including the cities of Norfolk and Portsmouth), and which excepted parts, are for the present, left precisely as if this proclamation were not issued.

And by virtue of the power, and for the purpose aforesaid, I do order and declare that all persons held as slaves within said designated States, and parts of States, are, and henceforward shall be free; and that the Executive government of the United States, including the military and naval authorities thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of said persons...

And I further declare and make known, that such persons of suitable condition, will be received into the armed service of the United States to garrison forts, positions, stations, and other places, and to man vessels of all sorts in said service.

And upon this act, sincerely believed to be an act of justice, warranted by the Constitution, upon military necessity, I invoke the considerate judgment of mankind, and the gracious favor of Almighty God...

Done at the City of Washington, this first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the eighty-seventh.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

1. How many slaves did the Emancipation Proclamation free on the day it was issued?
2. By what authority did Abraham Lincoln issue the Emancipation Proclamation?
3. What is the significance of the Emancipation Proclamation?

Document 8.7

The Gettysburg Address

Avalon Project: http://avalon.law.yale.edu/19th_century/gettyb.asp

November 19, 1863

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

POSSIBLE ESSAY TOPIC:

"This nation under God shall have a new birth of freedom." Assess the validity of this statement for the years 1863-1877.

Document 8.8

On the War and Its Conduct

Clement Vallandigham, Congressman from Ohio

January 14, 1863

U.S. House of Representatives

Teaching American History: <http://teachingamericanhistory.org/library/index.asp?document=1479>

Soon after the war began the reign of the mob was... supplanted by the iron domination of arbitrary power. Constitutional limitation was broken down; habeas corpus fell; liberty of the press, of speech, of the person, of the mails, of travel, of one's own house, and of religion; the right to bear arms, due process of law, judicial trial, trial by jury, trial at all; every badge and muniment of freedom in republican government or kingly government—all went down at a blow; and the chief law-officer of the crown—I beg pardon, sir, but it is easy now to fall into this courtly language—the Attorney-General, first of all men, proclaimed in the United States the maxim of Roman servility: Whatever pleases the President, that is law! Prisoners of state were then first heard of here. Midnight and arbitrary arrests commenced; travel was interdicted; trade embargoed; passports demanded; bastiles were introduced; strange oaths invented; a secret police organized; "piping" began; informers multiplied; spies now first appeared in America. The right to declare war, to raise and support armies, and to provide and maintain a navy, was usurped by the Executive....

On the 4th of July Congress met, not to seek peace; not to rebuke usurpation nor to restrain power; not certainly to deliberate; not even to legislate, but to register and ratify the edicts and acts of the Executive.... Free speech was had only at the risk of a prison; possibly of life. Opposition was silenced by the fierce clamor of "disloyalty."...

Thus was CIVIL WAR inaugurated in America. Can any man to-day see the end of it?

...I have denounced, from the beginning, the usurpations and the infractions, one and all, of law and Constitution, by the President and those under him; their repeated and persistent arbitrary arrests, the suspension of *habeas corpus*, the violation of freedom of the mails, of the private house, of the press and of speech, and all the other multiplied wrongs and outrages upon public liberty and private right, which have made this country one of the worst despotisms on earth for the past twenty months; and I will continue to rebuke and denounce them to the end....

And now, sir, I recur to the state of the Union to-day. What is it? Sir, twenty months have elapsed, but the rebellion is not crushed out; its military power has not been broken; the insurgents have not dispersed. The Union is not restored; nor the Constitution maintained; nor the laws enforced. Twenty, sixty, ninety, three hundred, six hundred days have passed; a thousand millions been expended; and three hundred thousand lives lost or bodies mangled; and to-day the Confederate flag is still near the Potomac and the Ohio, and the Confederate Government stronger, many times, than at the beginning....

Thus, with twenty millions of people, and every element of strength and force at command—power, patronage, influence, unanimity, enthusiasm, confidence, credit, money, men, an Army and a Navy the largest and the noblest ever set in the field, or afloat upon the sea; with the support, almost servile, of every State, county, and municipality in the North and West, with a Congress swift to do the bidding of the Executive; without opposition anywhere at home; and with an arbitrary power which neither the Czar of Russia, nor the Emperor of Austria dare exercise; yet after nearly two years of more vigorous prosecution of war than ever recorded in history;... you have utterly, signally, disastrously—I will not say ignominiously—failed to subdue ten millions of "rebels," whom you had taught the people of the North and West not only to hate, but to despise.... You have not conquered the South. You never will. It is not in the nature of things possible; much less under your auspices. But money you have expended without limit, and blood poured out like water. Defeat, debt, taxation, sepulchres, these are your trophies.... The

war for the Union is, in your hands, a most bloody and costly failure. The President confessed it on the 22d of September.... War for the Union was abandoned; war for the negro openly begun, and with stronger battalions than before. With what success? Let the dead at Fredericksburg and Vicksburg answer....

But slavery is the cause of the war. Why? Because the South obstinately and wickedly refused to restrict or abolish it at the demand of the philosophers or fanatics and demagogues of the North and West. Then, sir, it was abolition, the purpose to abolish or interfere with and hem in slavery, which caused disunion and war. Slavery is only the subject, but Abolition the cause of this civil war. It was the persistent and determined agitation in the free States of the question of abolishing slavery in the South, because of the alleged "irrepressible conflict" between the forms of labor in the two sections... that forced a collision of arms at last....

Neither will I be stopped by that other cry of mingled fanaticism and hypocrisy, about the sin and barbarism of African slavery. Sir, I see more of barbarism and sin, a thousand times, in the continuance of this war, the dissolution of the Union, the breaking up of this Government, and the enslavement of the white race, by debt and taxes and arbitrary power. The day of fanatics and sophists and enthusiasts, thank God, is gone at last.... Sir, I accept the language and intent of the Indiana resolution, to the full—"that in considering terms of settlement, we will look only to the welfare, peace, and safety of the white race, without reference to the effect that settlement may have upon the condition of the African." And when we have done this, my word for it, the safety, peace, and welfare of the African will have been best secured. Sir, there is fifty-fold less of anti-slavery sentiment to-day in the West than there was two years ago; and if this war be continued, there will be still less a year hence. The people there begin, at last, to comprehend, that domestic slavery in the South is a question; not of morals, or religion, or humanity, but a form of labor, perfectly compatible with the dignity of free white labor in the same community, and with national vigor, power, and prosperity, and especially with military strength....

Source: Clement Vallandigham, *Speeches, Arguments, and Letters* (New York: J. Walter and Company, 1864), pp. 418-437.

Document 8.9

From *A Southern Record:* *The History of the Third Regiment, Louisiana Infantry*

Maj. William H. Tunnard, CSA

Source: <http://www.ebooksread.com>

[June] 28th. Another Sabbath morn. The golden sunlight mellowed with its brilliant light the hill-tops and the dark-green foliage of the trees. Birds caroled their matin songs, as if war was not holding its high carnival within and around the besieged city. The mind would forget the unceasing din of battle, and soar away into the realms of fancy. The hill-sides have a soft carpeting of emerald sward, upon which the soldier casts his wearied body. He has forgotten his surroundings, is oblivious to the screaming shells and singing bullets. A smile flits across his bronzed features, as memory exhibits one of the beautiful pictures of the past. The light of lustrous blue eyes is beaming upon him with a soft tenderness beyond portrayal. Look, weary soldier, into the liquid depths; gaze once more upon the exquisite loveliness of the fair face so beautifully shaded by a profusion of glossy, dark curls. See again those coral lips breaking into a loving smile, rippling in laughing wavelets over the whole face; recall again their soft pressure upon your own lips; drink in with deep inspiration all the beauty of the picture which imagination now paints from the realities of the past. Dream on, oh heroic spirit, for ere the sun shall have reached the Western horizon, thou shalt fill a hero's honored grave; while her you have been dreaming about shall weep with uncontrollable anguish over thy fate, or, perchance, in days hereafter, come with flowers and strew them over thy humble tomb, or plant them there to flourish as a token of her remembrance and constancy, their rich fragrance filling the air with sweetness, above the lowly mound where reposes thy earthly remains!

The brilliant morn soon settled into a noon of unusual warmth. One of the lower batteries in front succeeded in silencing a Parrott gun across the river, and a lively shelling in the woods compelled the sharp-shooters to beat a hasty retreat.

The Catholics of the city held services in their Cathedral, notwithstanding the danger of such a proceeding. As the congregation was emerging from the building, the Argus-eyed enemy across the river discovered the unusual number of people in the streets, and instantly opened on them with a [Parrott gun](#). As the shells came screaming wickedly through the streets, exploding or entering the building, men, women and children hastily sought shelter to escape the danger. Several persons were struck by fragments of shells, but, fortunately, no one killed. Such an unheard-of, ruthless and barbarous method of warfare as training a battery of rifled cannon upon an assembly of unarmed men and worshiping women, is unparalleled in the annals of history.

Meat at this period became exhausted, and orders were issued to select the finest and fattest mules within the lines, and slaughter them, for the purpose of issuing their flesh as food to the troops; a half pound per man was the ration of this new species of flesh. Several Spaniards belonging to the Texas regiments were also busily occupied in jerking this meat for future consumption.

This meat was also supplied to the citizens from the market, and sold for fifty cents a pound. The first meal which we remember to have eaten of mule-flesh was at the house of Mrs. Robert Henderson, whose husband commanded one of the heavy batteries on the river. We assure the ignorant reader that the food was consumed with a keen relish worthy the appetite of a gourmand, or an epicure over the most dainty repast. Mule-flesh, if the animal is in good condition, is coarse-grained and darker than beef, but really delicious, sweet and juicy; at least such has experience in testing its quality proven it to be. Besides this meat, traps were set for rats, which were consumed in such numbers that, ere the termination of the siege, they actually became a scarcity. Hunger will demoralize the most fastidious tastes, and quantity, not quality of food, becomes the great desideratum.

Mortally wounded : L. J. Benton, Co. K. Severely wounded : Sergeant J. A. Derboune, Co. G.

29th. Very warm; floating clouds overhead. The author made a hearty breakfast on fried rats, whose flesh he found very good, and fully equal to that of squirrels. The thought of such food may be actually nauseating to many of the readers of this record, yet, let starvation with its skeleton form visit them, and all qualms would speedily vanish, and any food, to satisfy hunger, be voraciously devoured, and considered as sweet manna. It is a difficult matter for persons surrounded with abundance to realize the feeling produced by extreme hunger; no pen-picture, no grouping of words in all their forcibleness and power, can convey to those who have not experienced the sensation produced by this gaunt visitor. It must be felt to be realized ; and if once felt, the idea of eating dogs, cats, rats, or even human flesh, would contain nothing repulsive or repugnant to the feelings....

The Federal sharp-shooters very impudently wished to know how we liked mule-meat... Their question, however, was responded to in not very flattering or complimentary language...

Mortally wounded : D. Echols, Company K. Slightly wounded : H. Finlay, Company K.

30th. The last day of June. The sun shone brightly, while groups of summer-clouds floated gently across the heavens. The sharp-shooting was slow but constant unceasing all day. The gun-boats approached the terminus of the lines below, and poured a concentrated fire of shells into the entrenchments, doing little damage or injury. Across the river, the peninsula looked lonely and deserted... The hospitals were sad scenes of agony, suffering, and death, with their numerous occupants... In a tent, on the outskirts of the hospital grounds, lay a dying soldier. His brother had passed away to the unseen shores of eternity but a few days previously. An unconsolable grief filled the heart of the survivor, and the fatal shell which struck him knelled his own death-doom. Sympathizing friends gathered around him, and with soft words soothed his dying hours, as he incessantly talked of the brother gone before him. Ah! those touching scenes in the hospitals! What pen shall fitly portray them? ... Then the humble burial! A rough pine coffin, made of boards, torn from some old building or fence, wherein the remains are placed. Some comrade gently severs a lock of hair from the tangled mass, saying, as he places it in the bosom of his soiled, gray jacket, " I will carry this home to the loved ones there ; it will be a treasured relic for the grieving relatives." After long months that relic reaches its destination a memento of a comrade's faithfulness to his feelings when he stood over the silent form of his fellow-soldier....

July 1st. The month made famous in the annals of American history. In the present century, rendered still more noted by some of the most glorious, as well as most mournful, events connected with the late desperate struggle. Could the framers of the Constitution of the Western Republic have gazed upon the scenes transpiring in the land, their hearts would have despaired of the final success of their patriotic endeavors. But the end is not yet....

2d. The morning dawned clear amid the roar of guns, the explosion of shells, and the angry scream of solid shot. The enemy opened very briskly from mortars... and Parrott guns, and kept up a hot fire on the city and lines. Provisions were very scarce, and murmurs of discontent began to be heard, but only among a few, whose patriotism and devotion gave way under the accumulating horrors and the gnawings of hunger. The majority of the troops were as eager, undaunted, and unconquered as when the enemy first appeared, expressing a willingness and determination to hold the place as long as a mouthful of anything eatable remained to sustain life. It was the hour that tried the souls of men....

The guns on the peninsula poured a rapid fire on the city; the 100-pounder Parrotts doing terrible execution on the buildings, about sunset. Our batteries were very quiet. The question was frequently propounded, in view of an expected surrender, "Why not expend our large supply of ammunition in firing upon the enemy rather than permit it to pass into their hands, to swell the list of their captures?"

Killed : Lieutenant J. Horn, Co. F ; F. J. Brosi, Co. F, wounded.

3d. The morning was clear. The cannonading was terrific, and a storm of iron hail was poured upon the city, and the hospitals seemed a special mark for the enemy's shot and shell. In the afternoon a heavy storm-cloud gathered in the north and northeast, hanging like a funeral pall over the city. A flag of truce went out to the enemy's lines, and rumors began to prevail that the place was about to be surrendered. The brave garrison indignantly denied such a contingency, yet scarcely knew what to believe....

CHAPTER XXX. THE SURRENDER.

JULY 4th, a day memorable in the annals of American history, was destined once again to be made memorable as a day both of rejoicing and humiliation to those who had besieged and defended Vicksburg. Early in the day it became known that negotiations were pending for the surrender of the Southern stronghold. A perfect storm of indignation burst forth among the troops. What, surrender, and that, too, on the 4th of July, above all other days? Impossible! Alas, it became too true!

The receipt of [the order to surrender] was the signal for a fearful outburst of anger and indignation, seldom witnessed. The members of the Third Louisiana Infantry expressed their feelings in curses loud and deep. Many broke their trusty rifles against the trees, scattered the ammunition over the ground where they had so long stood battling bravely and unflinchingly against overwhelming odds. In many instances, the battle-worn flags were torn into shreds, and distributed among the men as a precious and sacred memento, that they were no party to the surrender.

When the appointed hour, 10 A.M., arrived, the surrender was effected in conformity with the published order. The troops were marched outside the trenches, along whose line fluttered white pennants, arms were stacked, and, in sullen silence, they returned within the lines...

The siege of Vicksburg was at last ended. Thus, forty-eight long days and nights, twenty thousand Southerners, decreased finally to a mere handful, had successfully resisted the combined assault of 120,000 Federals. Such a siege was unparalleled in the annals of American history for duration, and not surpassed in any land for violent assault, and the number of missiles hurled at the assailed. The Federals who marched into the place had more the appearance of being vanquished than the unarmed Confederates, who gazed upon them with folded arms, and in stern silence, a fierce defiance on their bronzed features, and the old battle fire gleaming in their glittering eyes... During all the events of the surrender, not one had been seen, and afterward no word of exultation was uttered to irritate the feelings of the prisoners. On the contrary, every sentinel who came upon post brought haversacks filled with provisions, which he would give to some famished Southerner, with the remark, "u Here, reb, I know you are starved nearly to death." They knew that nothing but this gaunt skeleton had compelled their opponents to capitulate, and even then the honors of war claimed had been granted them. Moreover, the terms of capitulation were as favorable as could have been expected. The officers expressed great astonishment at the place being held so long behind such feeble, illy-constructed works as those around Vicksburg...

At noon on the day of surrender the fleet approached the city, decked with innumerable flags, and the thunder of artillery proclaimed the exultation of the conquerors. It was a sad spectacle for the ragged, emaciated, yet heroic Confederates, who had so stubbornly endeavored to retain possession of this stronghold.

Document 8.10

Abraham Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address

Avalon Project: http://avalon.law.yale.edu/19th_century/lincoln2.asp

SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 1865

Fellow-Countrymen:

At this second appearing to take the oath of the Presidential office there is less occasion for an extended address than there was at the first. Then a statement somewhat in detail of a course to be pursued seemed fitting and proper. Now, at the expiration of four years, during which public declarations have been constantly called forth on every point and phase of the great contest which still absorbs the attention and engrosses the energies of the nation, little that is new could be presented. The progress of our arms, upon which all else chiefly depends, is as well known to the public as to myself, and it is, I trust, reasonably satisfactory and encouraging to all. With high hope for the future, no prediction in regard to it is ventured.

On the occasion corresponding to this four years ago all thoughts were anxiously directed to an impending civil war. All dreaded it, all sought to avert it. While the inaugural address was being delivered from this place, devoted altogether to saving the Union without war, insurgent agents were in the city seeking to destroy it without war--seeking to dissolve the Union and divide effects by negotiation. Both parties deprecated war, but one of them would make war rather than let the nation survive, and the other would accept war rather than let it perish, and the war came.

One-eighth of the whole population were colored slaves, not distributed generally over the Union, but localized in the southern part of it. These slaves constituted a peculiar and powerful interest. All knew that this interest was somehow the cause of the war. To strengthen, perpetuate, and extend this interest was the object for which the insurgents would rend the Union even by war, while the Government claimed no right to do more than to restrict the territorial enlargement of it. Neither party expected for the war the magnitude or the duration which it has already attained. Neither anticipated that the cause of the conflict might cease with or even before the conflict itself should cease. Each looked for an easier triumph, and a result less fundamental and astounding. Both read the same Bible and pray to the same God, and each invokes His aid against the other. It may seem strange that any men should dare to ask a just God's assistance in wringing their bread from the sweat of other men's faces, but let us judge not, that we be not judged. The prayers of both could not be answered. That of neither has been answered fully. The Almighty has His own purposes. "Woe unto the world because of offenses; for it must needs be that offenses come, but woe to that man by whom the offense cometh." If we shall suppose that American slavery is one of those offenses which, in the providence of God, must needs come, but which, having continued through His appointed time, He now wills to remove, and that He gives to both North and South this terrible war as the woe due to those by whom the offense came, shall we discern therein any departure from those divine attributes which the believers in a living God always ascribe to Him? Fondly do we hope, fervently do we pray, that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away. Yet, if God wills that it continue until all the wealth piled by the bondsman's two hundred and fifty years of unrequited toil shall be sunk, and until every drop of blood drawn with the lash shall be paid by another drawn with the sword, as was said three thousand years ago, so still it must be said "the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether."

With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations.

Document 8.11

From Gen. Richard Taylor, CSA, *Destruction and Reconstruction*

Google Books: <http://books.google.com>

BACKGROUND: *Gen. Taylor, son of President Zachary Taylor, writes of the events leading up to and surrounding the surrender of his army, the last major Confederate army east of the Mississippi.*

From the North, by wire and courier, I received early intelligence of passing events. Indeed these were of a character for the enemy to disseminate rather than suppress. Before Maury left Mobile I had learned of Lee's surrender, rumors of which spreading among the troops, a number from the camps came to see me. I confirmed the rumor, and told them the astounding news, just received, of President Lincoln's assassination. For a time they were silent with amazement, then asked if it was possible that any Southern man had committed the act. There was a sense of relief expressed when they learned that the wretched assassin had no connection with the South, but was an actor, whose brains were addled by tragedies and Plutarch's fables....

Members of the Confederate Congress from the adjoining and more western States came to us. These gentlemen had left Richmond very hurriedly, in the first days of April, and were sorely jaded by fatigue and anxiety, as the presence of Wilson's troops in Georgia had driven them to by-paths to escape capture... The struggle was virtually over, and the next few days, perhaps hours, would decide my course....

Intelligence of the Johnston-Sherman convention reached us, and [Union General] Canby and I were requested by the officers making it to conform to its terms until the civil authorities acted. A meeting was arranged to take place a few miles north of Mobile... General Canby met me with much urbanity. We retired to a room, and in a few moments agreed upon a truce, terminable after forty - eight hours' notice by either party. Then, rejoining the throng of officers, introductions and many pleasant civilities passed... A bountiful luncheon was spread, of which we partook, with joyous poppings of champagne-corks for accompaniment, the first agreeable explosive sounds I had heard for years. The air of "Hail Columbia," which the band in attendance struck up, was instantly changed by Canby's order to that of "Dixie;" but I insisted on the first, and expressed a hope that Columbia would be again a happy land, a sentiment by many libations.

There was, as ever, a skeleton at the feast, in the person of a general officer who had recently left Germany to become a citizen and soldier of the United States. This person, with the strong accent and idioms of the Fatherland, comforted me by assurances that we of the South would speedily recognize our ignorance and errors, especially about slavery and the rights of States, and rejoice in the results of the war. In vain Canby and Palmer tried to suppress him. On a celebrated occasion an Emperor of Germany proclaimed himself above grammar, and this earnest philosopher -was not to be restrained by canons of taste. I apologized meekly for my ignorance, on the ground that my ancestors had come from England to Virginia in 1608, and, in the short intervening period of two hundred and fifty-odd years, had found no time to transmit to me correct ideas of the duties of American citizenship. Moreover, my grandfather, commanding the 9th Virginia Regiment in our Revolutionary army, had assisted in the defeat and capture of the Hessian mercenaries at Trenton, and I lamented that he had not, by association with these worthies, enlightened his understanding. My friend smiled blandly, and assured me of his willingness to instruct me. Happily for the world, since the days of Huss and Luther, neither tyranny nor taste can repress the Teutonic intellect in search of truth or exposure of error. A kindly, worthy people, the Germans, but wearing on occasions.

Document 8.12

“O Captain! My Captain!”

By: Walt Whitman

O CAPTAIN! my Captain! our fearful trip is done;
The ship has weather'd every rack, the prize we sought is won;
The port is near, the bells I hear, the people all exulting,
While follow eyes the steady keel, the vessel grim and daring:
But O heart! heart! heart!
O the bleeding drops of red,
Where on the deck my Captain lies,
Fallen cold and dead.

...

My Captain does not answer, his lips are pale and still;
My father does not feel my arm, he has no pulse nor will;
The ship is anchor'd safe and sound, its voyage closed and done;
From fearful trip, the victor ship, comes in with object won;
Exult, O shores, and ring, O bells!
But I, with mournful tread,
Walk the deck my Captain lies,
Fallen cold and dead.

Document 8.13

From Recollections of Alexander H. Stephens: His Diary Kept When a Prisoner at Fort Warren, Boston Harbour, 1865

June 22. – Things are truly in evil state; still they may get worse before they get better; and wise men, while hoping for better, should be prepared for worse. Over two years ago, William F. Flucker asked me if I didn't think the darkest hour of our troubles upon us, that hour which precedes light and cheer. I told him, No, that so far from having reached the darkest hour – the hour before the dawn – we were not even in the night of the war, the sun was not gone down. Last year, after Atlanta fell, he asked he if I did not think the darkest hour had come. I told him the sun had set; we were in the night of our woes, but far from the midnight. "Well," asked he, "what is to become of us?" I said, it was a painful reflection to me that our people were so unconscious of their pending doom, of the great desolation coming upon them before their darkest hour would be passed, and before that dawn of better times for which all were so anxiously looking, would greet their eyes. I am not prepared to say that our people have reached their darkest hour...

July 8. — Had a quiet and pleasant sleep. Woke at dawn in a dream, my eyes streaming with tears. I was at home, down at the Homestead, at one time in Bob's house [his former slave] where he had a sumptuous dinner prepared for me; then I was in the field in the midst of high corn loaded with large ears — numbers on each stalk, and the like of which I had never seen before. Here were Bob, Fountain, George, and Harry, and Charlton, Bob's little son. I was seated, talking to them about their new condition, contrasting it with their former; pointing out some of the evils they would most probably encounter, advising and instructing them how to act so as best to guard against these when I should be gone; impressing upon them the importance of industry, honesty, economy, obedience to the laws, with as few dealings with the vicious of their own and the like class of the white race as possible. I was telling Bob and Harry how to bring up their children. It seemed as if I was about to leave them forever, never to see them again, and was giving them my last parting words. In this valedictory, the fountains of the heart were broken up, and I was lecturing and weeping at once.

6:15. — Walked out with Lieut. W. My foot well enough to allow me to limp. Saw the two balloons that were advertised to ascend from Boston this evening. Both had been up some time, and both aeronauts were visible. One airship was off to the southeast in which direction it finally went out of sight; the other flew over the harbour up toward the city; it was still in view when I came down, had shifted position and seemed to be going somewhere north of Cambridge. Lieut. W. told me General Jackson was released from this place to-day — the order came this morning, and he left this evening. I am truly glad of his good fortune. But why he should be discharged and other officers kept, I do not understand; nor do I understand why he should be discharged and I held. He bent his energies to bring about secession ; I strove with all my power to prevent it. I addressed the legislature against it; he opposed me in speech there and then; and afterward in a series of letters published in pamphlet form. I doubt not his patriotism and honesty in it all; but I don't see why justice that lets him go at large keeps me here. I have a high personal regard for Jackson, and rejoice at his liberation. Geary brought tea.

Document 8.14

Mississippi Black Code

Source: <http://chnm.gmu.edu/courses/122/recon/code.html>

Adapted from a document placed online by Jud Sage at Northern Virginia Community College

Source, *Laws of the State of Mississippi, Passed at a Regular Session of the Mississippi Legislature, held in Jackson, October, November and December, 1965, Jackson, 1866*, pp. 82-93, 165-167

IV.

Penal Code

Section 1. *Be it enacted by the legislature of the state of Mississippi*, that no freedman, free Negro, or mulatto not in the military service of the United States government, and not licensed so to do by the board of police of his or her county, shall keep or carry firearms of any kind, or any ammunition, dirk, or Bowie knife; and, on conviction *thereof in the county court*, shall be punished by fine, not exceeding \$10, and pay the costs of such proceedings, and all such arms or ammunition shall be forfeited to the informer; and it shall be the duty of every civil and military officer to arrest any freedman, free Negro, or mulatto found with any such arms or ammunition, and cause him or her to be committed for trial in default of bail.

Section 2. *Be it further enacted*, that any freedman, free Negro, or mulatto committing riots, routs, affrays, trespasses, malicious mischief, cruel treatment to animals, seditious speeches, insulting gestures, language, or acts, or assaults on any person, disturbance of the peace, exercising the function of a minister of the Gospel without a license from some regularly organized church, vending spirituous or intoxicating liquors, or committing any other misdemeanor the punishment of which is not specifically provided for by law shall, upon conviction thereof in the county court, be fined not less than \$10 and not more than \$100, and may be imprisoned, at the discretion of the court, not exceeding thirty days.

Section 3. *Be it further enacted*, that if any white person shall sell, lend, or give to any freedman, free Negro, or mulatto any firearms, dirk, or Bowie knife, or ammunition, or any spirituous or intoxicating liquors, such person or persons so offending, upon conviction thereof in the county court of his or her county, shall be fined not exceeding \$50, and may be imprisoned, at the discretion of the court, not exceeding thirty days:

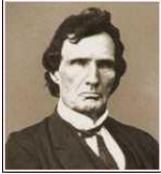
Provided, that any master, mistress, or employer of any freedman, free Negro, or mulatto may give to any freedman, free Negro, or mulatto apprenticed to or employed by such master, mistress, or employer spirituous or intoxicating liquors, but not in sufficient quantities to produce intoxication.

Document 8.15

Rep. Thaddeus Stevens

Speech of December 18, 1865

Source: <http://www.let.rug.nl/usa/D/1851-1875/reconstruction/steven.htm>



The President assumes, what no one doubts, that the late rebel States have lost their constitutional relations to the Union, and are incapable of representation in Congress, except by permission of the Government. It matters but little, with this admission, whether you call them States out of the Union, and now conquered territories, or assert that because the [Constitution](#) forbids them to do what they did do, that they are therefore only dead as to all national and political action, and will remain so until the Government shall breathe into them the breath of life anew and permit them to occupy their former position. In other words, that they are not out of the Union, but are only dead carcasses lying within the Union. In either case, it is very plain that it requires the action of Congress to enable them to form a State government and send representatives to Congress....

Congress alone can do it. . . . Congress must create States and declare when they are entitled to be represented. Then each House must judge whether the members presenting themselves from a recognized State possess the requisite qualifications of age, residence, and citizenship; and whether the election and returns are according to law. ...

It is obvious from all this that the first duty of Congress is to pass a law declaring the condition of these outside or defunct States, and providing proper civil governments for them. Since the conquest they have been governed by martial law. Military rule is necessarily despotic, and ought not to exist longer than is absolutely necessary. As there are no symptoms that the people of these provinces will be prepared to participate in constitutional government for some years, I know of no arrangement so proper for them as territorial governments. There they can learn the principles of freedom and eat the fruit of fowl rebellion...

They ought never to be recognized as capable of acting in the Union, or of being counted as valid States, until the Constitution shall have been so amended as to make it what its framers intended; and so as to secure perpetual ascendancy to the party of the Union [the Republican Party]; and so as to render our republican Government firm and stable forever...

But this is not all that we ought to do before inveterate rebels are invited to participate in our legislation. We have turned, or are about to turn, loose four million slaves without a hut to shelter them or a cent in their pockets. The infernal laws of slavery have prevented them from acquiring an education, understanding the common laws of contract, or of managing the ordinary business of life. This Congress is bound to provide for them until they can take care of themselves. If we do not furnish them with homesteads, and hedge them around with protective laws; if we leave them to the legislation of their late masters, we had better have left them in bondage...

Text prepared by GMW for **From Revolution to Reconstruction - an .HTML project.**

Last update: 2003-4-25 time: 07:57 © 1994- 2009. All rights reserved.

University of Groningen [Humanities Computing](#)

Document 8.16

Reconstruction Amendments

Source: <http://www.usconstitution.net/const.html>

Amendment 13 - Slavery Abolished. Ratified 12/6/1865.

1. Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

2. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Amendment 14 - Citizenship Rights. Ratified 7/9/1868.

1. All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

2. Representatives shall be apportioned among the several States according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each State, excluding Indians not taxed. But when the right to vote at any election for the choice of electors for President and Vice-President of the United States, Representatives in Congress, the Executive and Judicial officers of a State, or the members of the Legislature thereof, is denied to any of the male inhabitants of such State, being twenty-one years of age, and citizens of the United States, or in any way abridged, except for participation in rebellion, or other crime, the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens twenty-one years of age in such State.

3. No person shall be a Senator or Representative in Congress, or elector of President and Vice-President, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any State, who, having previously taken an oath, as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress may by a vote of two-thirds of each House, remove such disability.

4. The validity of the public debt of the United States, authorized by law, including debts incurred for payment of pensions and bounties for services in suppressing insurrection or rebellion, shall not be questioned. But neither the United States nor any State shall assume or pay any debt or obligation incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or any claim for the loss or emancipation of any slave; but all such debts, obligations and claims shall be held illegal and void.

5. The Congress shall have power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

Amendment 15 - Race No Bar to Vote. Ratified 2/3/1870.

1. 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.

2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Document 8.17

From Booker T. Washington, *Up From Slavery*

Source: <http://xroads.virginia.edu/~HYPER/washington/toc.html>

From CHAPTER V

THE RECONSTRUCTION PERIOD

THE years from 1867 to 1878 I think may be called the period of Reconstruction. This included the time that I spent as a student at Hampton and as a teacher in West Virginia. During the whole of the Reconstruction period two ideas were constantly agitating the minds of the colored people, or, at least, the minds of a large part of the race. One of these was the craze for Greek and Latin learning, and the other was a desire to hold office.

It could not have been expected that a people who had spent generations in slavery, and before that generations in the darkest heathenism, could at first form any proper conception of what an education meant. In every part of the South, during the Reconstruction period, schools, both day and night, were filled to overflowing with people of all ages and conditions, some being as far along in age as sixty and seventy years.³ The ambition to secure an education was most praiseworthy and encouraging. The idea, however, was too prevalent that, as soon as one secured a little education, in some unexplainable way he would be free from most of the hardships of the world, and, at any rate, could live without manual labor....

During the whole of the Reconstruction period our people throughout the South looked to the Federal Government for everything, very much as a child looks to its mother. This was not unnatural. The central government gave them freedom, and the whole Nation had been enriched for more than two centuries by the labor of the Negro. Even as a youth, and later in manhood, I had the feeling that it was cruelly wrong in the central government, at the beginning of our freedom, to fail to make some provision for the general education of our people in addition to what the states might do, so that the people would be the better prepared for the duties of citizenship.

It is easy to find fault, to remark what might have been done, and perhaps, after all, and under all the circumstances, those in charge of the conduct of affairs did the only thing that could be done at the time. Still, as I look back now over the entire period of our freedom, I cannot help feeling that it would have been wiser if some plan could have been put in operation which would have made the possession of a certain amount of education or property, or both, a test for the exercise of the franchise, and a way provided by which this test should be made to apply honestly and squarely to both the white and black races.

Though I was but little more than a youth during the period of Reconstruction, I had the feeling that mistakes were being made, and that things could not remain in the condition that they were in then very long. I felt that the Reconstruction policy, so far as it related to my race, was in a large measure on a false foundation, was artificial and forced. In many cases it seemed to me that the ignorance of my race was being used as a tool with which to help white men into office, and that there was an element in the North which wanted to punish the Southern white men by forcing the Negro into positions over the heads of the Southern whites. I felt that the Negro would be the one to suffer for this in the end.

³ In Chapter 3, Washington writes of his Yankee teachers, "The great and prevailing idea that seemed to take possession of every one was to prepare himself to lift up the people at his home. No one seemed to think of himself. And the officers and teachers, what a rare set of human beings they were! They worked for the students night and day, in season and out of season. They seemed happy only when they were helping the students in some manner. Whenever it is written - and I hope it will be - the part that the Yankee teachers played in the education of the Negroes immediately after the war will make one of the most thrilling parts of the history of this country. The time is not far distant when the whole South will appreciate this service in a way that it has not yet been able to do."

Besides, the general political agitation drew the attention of our people away from the more fundamental matters of perfecting themselves in the industries at their doors and in securing property.

The temptations to enter political life were so alluring that I came very near yielding to them at one time, but I was kept from doing so by the feeling that I would be helping in a more substantial way by assisting in the laying of the foundation of the race through a generous education of the hand, head, and heart. I saw colored men who were members of the state legislatures, and county officers, who, in some cases, could not read or write, and whose morals were as weak as their education. Not long ago, when passing through the streets of a certain city in the South, I heard some brick-masons calling out, from the top of a two-story brick building on which they were working, for the "Governor" to "hurry up and bring up some more bricks." Several times I heard the command, "Hurry up, Governor!" "Hurry up, Governor!" My curiosity was aroused to such an extent that I made inquiry as to who the "Governor" was, and soon found that he was a colored man who at one time had held the position of Lieutenant-Governor of his state.

But not all the colored people who were in office during Reconstruction were unworthy of their positions, by any means. Some of them, like the late Senator B. K. Bruce, Governor Pinchback, and many others, were strong, upright, useful men. Neither were all the class designated as **carpetbaggers** dishonorable men. Some of them, like ex-Governor Bullock, of Georgia, were men of high character and usefulness.

Of course the colored people, so largely without education, and wholly without experience in government, made tremendous mistakes, just as any people similarly situated would have done. Many of the Southern whites have a feeling that, if the Negro is permitted to exercise his political rights now to any degree, the mistakes of the Reconstruction period will repeat themselves. I do not think this would be true, because the Negro is a much stronger and wiser man than he was thirty-five years ago, and he is fast learning the lesson that he cannot afford to act in a manner that will alienate his Southern white neighbors from him....

From CHAPTER IV

HELPING OTHERS

The year 1877, which was my second year of teaching in Malden, I spent very much as I did the first.

It was while my home was at Malden that what was known as the "Ku Klux Klan" was in the height of its activity. The "Ku Klux" were bands of men who had joined themselves together for the purpose of regulating the conduct of the coloured people, especially with the object of preventing the members of the race from exercising any influence in politics...

The "patrollers" the "Ku Klux" operated almost wholly at night... Their objects, in the main, were to crush out the political aspirations of the Negroes, but they did not confine themselves to this, because schoolhouses as well as churches were burned by them, and many innocent persons were made to suffer. During this period not a few coloured people lost their lives.

As a young man, the acts of these lawless bands made a great impression upon me. I saw one open battle take place at Malden between some of the coloured and white people. There must have been not far from a hundred persons engaged on each side; many on both sides were seriously injured... It seemed to me as I watched this struggle between members of the two races, that there was no hope for our people in this country. The "Ku Klux" period was, I think, the darkest part of the Reconstruction days.

I have referred to this unpleasant part of the history of the South simply for the purpose of calling attention to the great change that has taken place since the days of the "Ku Klux." To-day there are no such organizations in the South, and the fact that such ever existed is almost forgotten by both races. There are few places in the South now where public sentiment would permit such organizations to exist.