

21-9 ★ THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION, 1863

"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...I intend no modification of my oft-expressed personal wish that all men everywhere could be free."—Abraham Lincoln, 1862

President Lincoln and Congress agreed on the purpose of the war.

It was to restore the Union—not free the slaves. But pressure built to make the war a crusade against slavery. In 1863 Lincoln used his authority as commander in chief to strike a blow at the Confederates. He freed their slaves by the EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION.

This changed the purpose and course of the war.

The Emancipation Proclamation freed only the slaves in Confederate states which were still in rebellion against the Union. It did not free slaves in the border states loyal to the Union.

ACTUALLY, ONLY SLAVES BEHIND CONFEDERATE MILITARY LINES ARE FREED.
OH.

NOTE THAT LINCOLN DID NOT FREE SLAVES IN STATES LOYAL TO THE UNION—FOR FEAR OF TURNING THEM AGAINST THE UNION.

EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION
... 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, THENCE FORWARD, AND FOREVER FREE.

1861: PERCENTAGE OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN POPULATION

State/Territory	Percentage
Washington Terr.	1%
Oregon	1%
Nev. Terr.	1%
Calif.	1%
Utah Terr.	1%
Colorado Terr.	1%
Dakota Terr.	1%
Nebraska Terr.	1%
Wash. Terr.	1%
Ind. Terr.	1%
Ill.	2%
Ohio	2%
Penn.	2%
N.J.	4%
Del.	20%
MD.	25%
VA.	45%
NC.	36%
GA.	44%
FLA.	45%
LA.	49%
MISS.	55%
ALA.	45%
TEXAS	90%
ARK.	26%
MO.	10%
KANSAS	1%
INDIAN TERR.	1%
VT.	1%
N.H.	1%
MAINE	1%
RI	2%
CONN.	2%

Legend:
 □ Free states and territories
 ▨ Slave states in Confederacy
 ■ Slave states in Union

IMPACT OF THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION

The Proclamation turned the war into a fight for freedom as well as for union.



It swayed British opinion to the Union side.

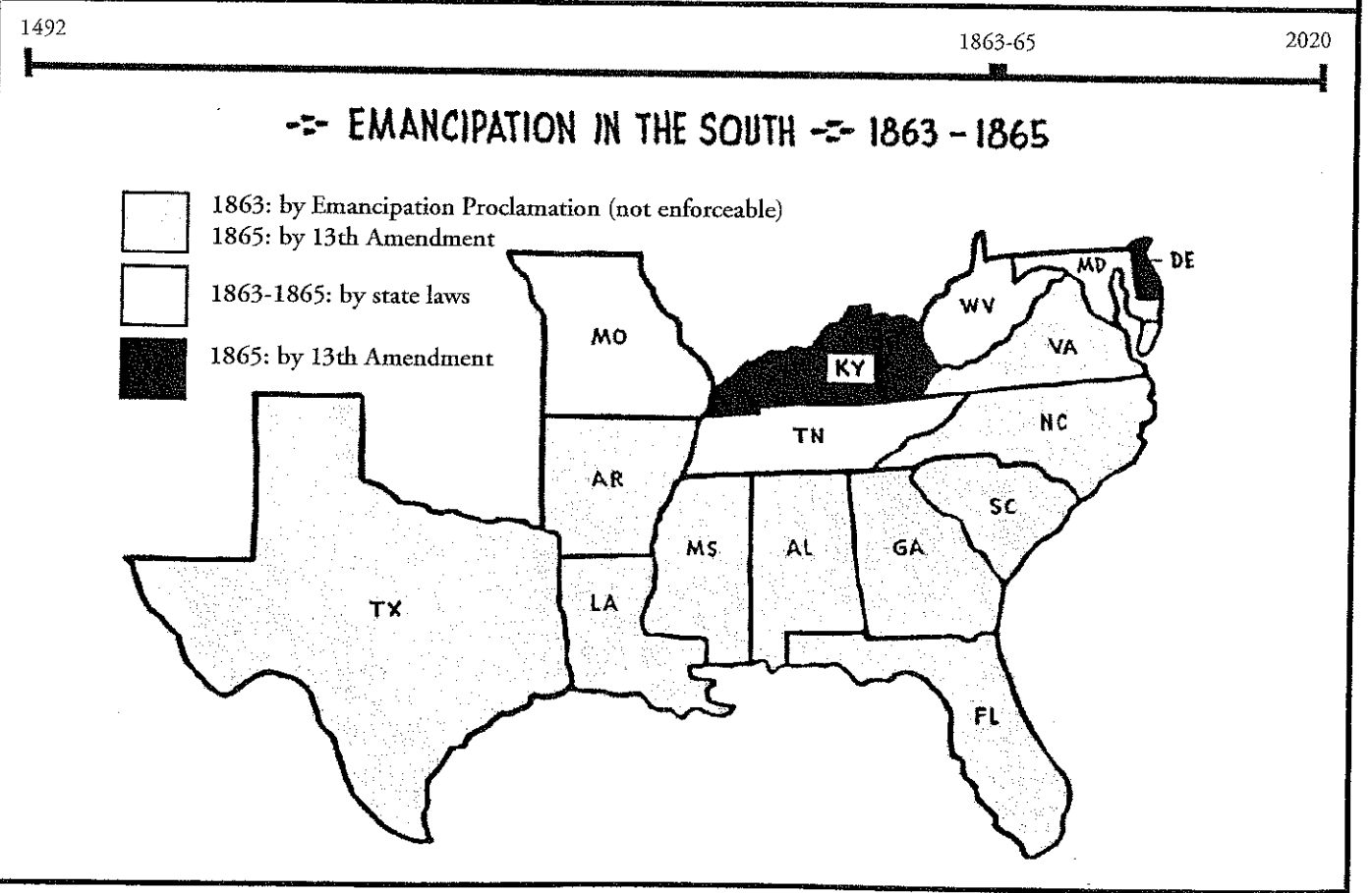
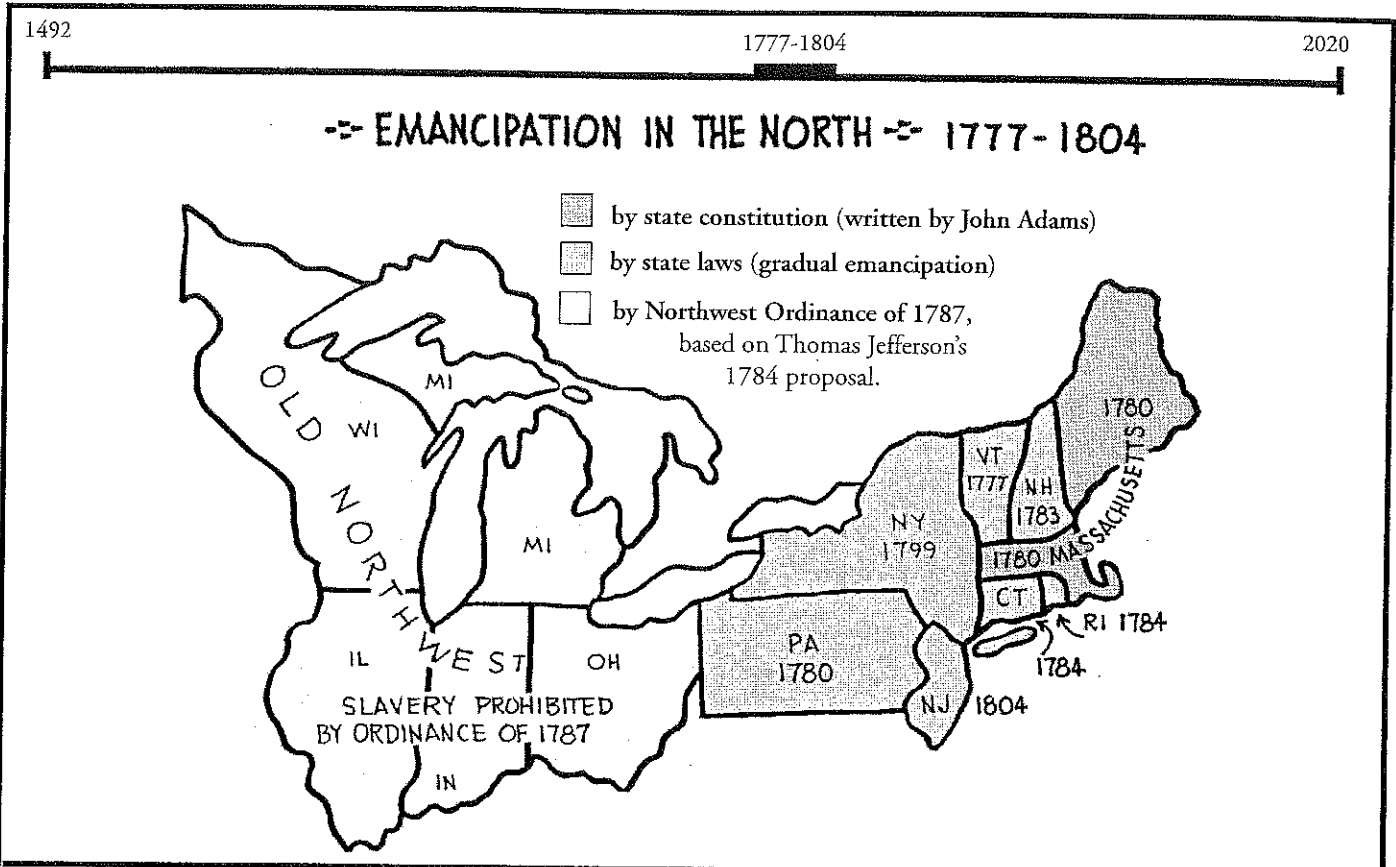


It persuaded blacks to enlist in the Union army.



21-10 ★ EMANCIPATION OF SLAVES: NORTH AND SOUTH, 1777-1865

THE MAPS BELOW SHOW THE HISTORY OF EMANCIPATION:
 in the North during the years following the Declaration of Independence and
 in the South following Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation.



“We have fought this fight as long,
and as well as we know how.
We have been defeated.
For us as a Christian people,
there is now but one
course to pursue.
We must accept the situation.”
—General Robert E. Lee



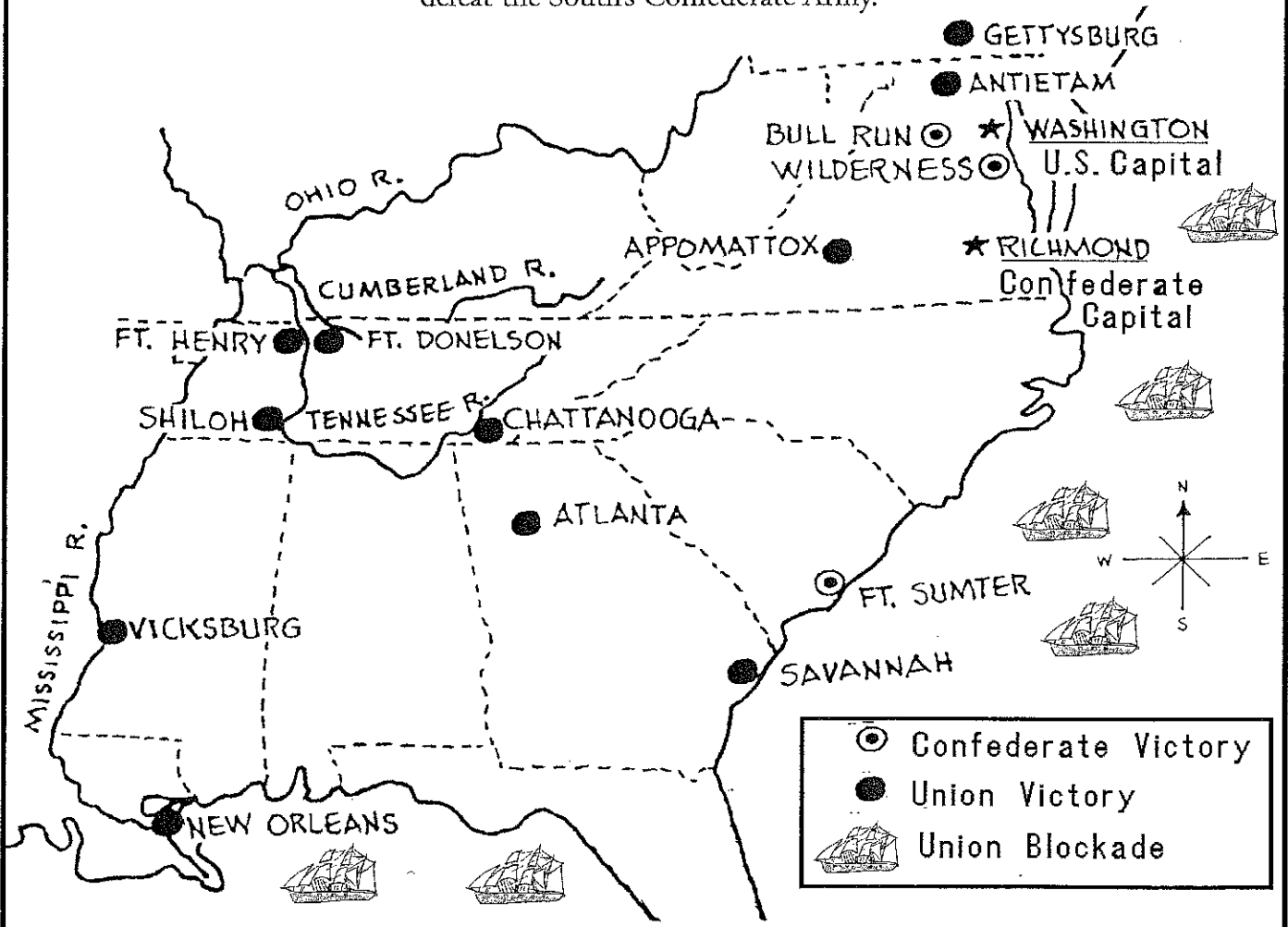
“The art of war is simple enough.
Find out where your enemy is.
Get at him as soon as you can.
Strike him as hard as you can
and as often
as you can,
and keep moving on.”
—General Ulysses S. Grant

More than 2,000 land battles were fought during the four years of the Civil War.

All but two major battles—Antietam in Maryland and Gettysburg in Virginia—
took place in the Confederate South.

Ironically, when war began in 1861 each side, North and South,
thought it would last only a few months, and each side thought it would win.

Only after four destructive years did the North’s Union Army
defeat the South’s Confederate Army.



THE TIDE TURNS.

On July 4, 1863, Northerners celebrated two Independence Day victories that turned the tide of the war:

THE BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG IN THE EAST
and the

THE BATTLE OF VICKSBURG IN THE WEST.

THE BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG—July 1-3, 1863

Gettysburg ranks as the greatest battle in the Western Hemisphere and one of the most famous in United States history.

It marked a decisive victory for the North and a turning point in the Civil War.

The battle occurred by chance at Gettysburg, a small crossroads town in Pennsylvania.

It all started in June 1863 when Confederate General Robert E. Lee invaded the North with his Army of Northern Virginia. Lee's objectives were to:

- 1) gain the initiative by fighting the Union Army on its own soil, attacking perhaps Philadelphia or even Washington, D.C. "as may seem best for our interest"
- 2) re-supply his army with northern food and clothing, especially shoes
- 3) win foreign recognition of the Confederacy
- 4) strengthen northern Democrats, who favored a peace treaty with the South.

On June 30, Lee's advance troops who were seeking supplies from a shoe factory in Gettysburg, spied Union soldiers on a nearby ridge. Lee, hearing this report, decided to attack the Union Army in Gettysburg.

From July 1 through July 3, 1863, Confederate General Robert E. Lee matched wits and about 75,000 soldiers with Union General George G. Meade and approximately 90,000 Union soldiers.

On July 3rd Lee ordered General George E. Pickett to march 15,000 troops almost a mile across an open field and up a slope to attack the Union Army, lined up and waiting on Cemetery Ridge. It was a disaster for the Confederates; they were mowed down by the Union soldiers. "It's all my fault," mourned Lee.

On July 4th, Lee retreated, having lost one-third of his army. Meade had lost one-fourth of his. Much to the dismay and anger of President Lincoln, Meade failed to pursue Lee and thus allowed the defeated Confederate Army to escape across the Potomac River into Virginia. Although the war lasted two more years, Gettysburg was the beginning of the end for the South.

THE CAPTURE OF VICKSBURG—July 4, 1863

Meanwhile, the Union Army under General Ulysses S. Grant captured Vicksburg, Mississippi, after an eight-month campaign, brilliant maneuvers in crossing the Mississippi River from the west bank, and a 6-week siege.

This strategic Union victory gave the North control of the Mississippi River and split the Confederacy, East and West.

In his 1885 *Memoirs*, Grant recalled the July 4, 1863, Vicksburg victory:

"The enemy surrendered this morning.... This news, with the victory at Gettysburg won the same day, lifted a great load of anxiety from the minds of the President, his Cabinet and the loyal people all over the North. The fate of the Confederacy was sealed when Vicksburg fell. Much hard fighting was to be done afterwards and many precious lives were to be sacrificed; but the MORALE was with the supporters of the Union ever after."

Both Union and Confederate presidents had known the importance of Vicksburg—nicknamed "the Gibraltar of the Confederacy" because of its fortified cliffs controlling access to the Mississippi River below.

President Abraham Lincoln said, "Vicksburg is the key. The war can never be brought to a close until the key is in our pocket." President Jefferson Davis said, "Vicksburg is the nail head that holds the South's two halves together." Both men were right.

Lincoln described the outcome of Vicksburg with relief: "The Father of Waters again goes unvexed to the Sea."

21-13 ★ THE GETTYSBURG ADDRESS, 1863

"That speech won't scour. It's a flat failure," said Abraham Lincoln after completing his Gettysburg remarks. "I should be glad if I could flatter myself that I came as near to the central idea of the occasion, in two hours, as you did in two minutes."—Edward Everett to Abraham Lincoln

On November 19, 1863, a ceremony was held at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, to dedicate a national cemetery for those who died there:

51,000 Union and Confederate soldiers.

A crowd of 20,000 gathered to hear the great orator Edward Everett speak for two hours. Following Everett, President Lincoln delivered the few "appropriate remarks" requested of him.

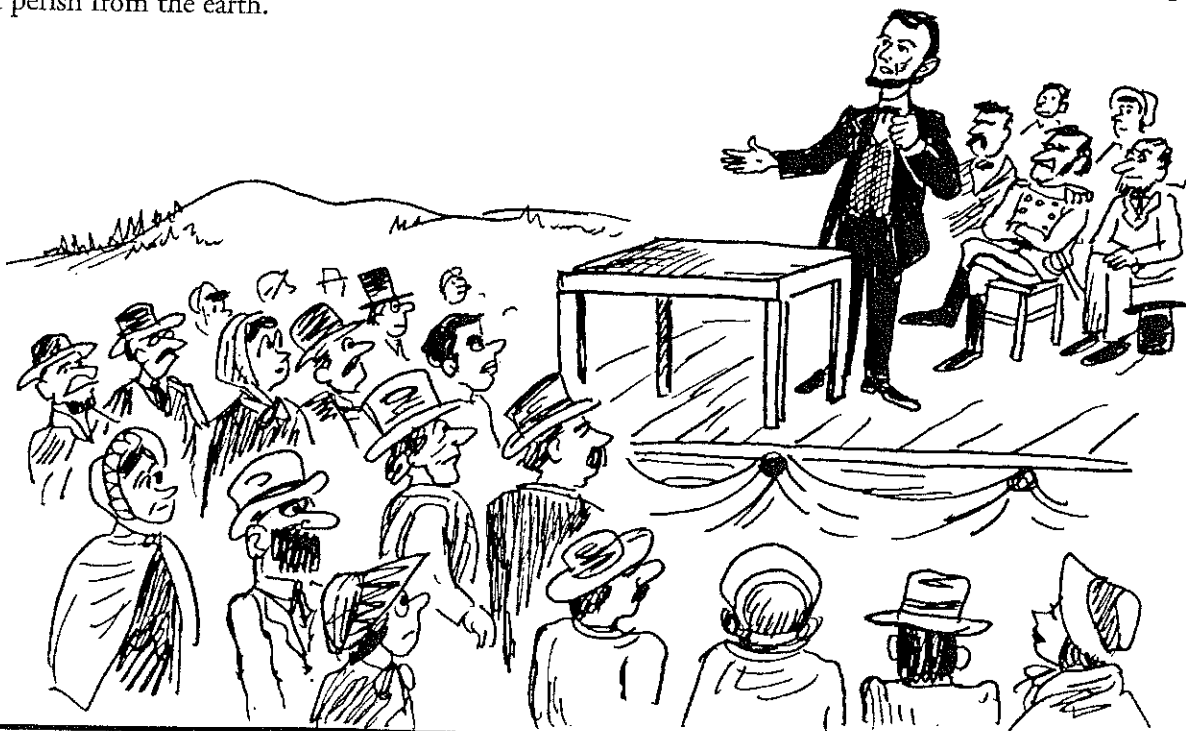
Lincoln spoke for two minutes.

In ten sentences Lincoln gave one of the world's great statements on democracy and the purpose in dying—and living—for it.

"Four score and seven years ago our Fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

"Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

"But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate—we can not consecrate—we can not hallow—this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth."



21-14 ★ PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION OF 1864: LINCOLN WINS AGAIN

1492

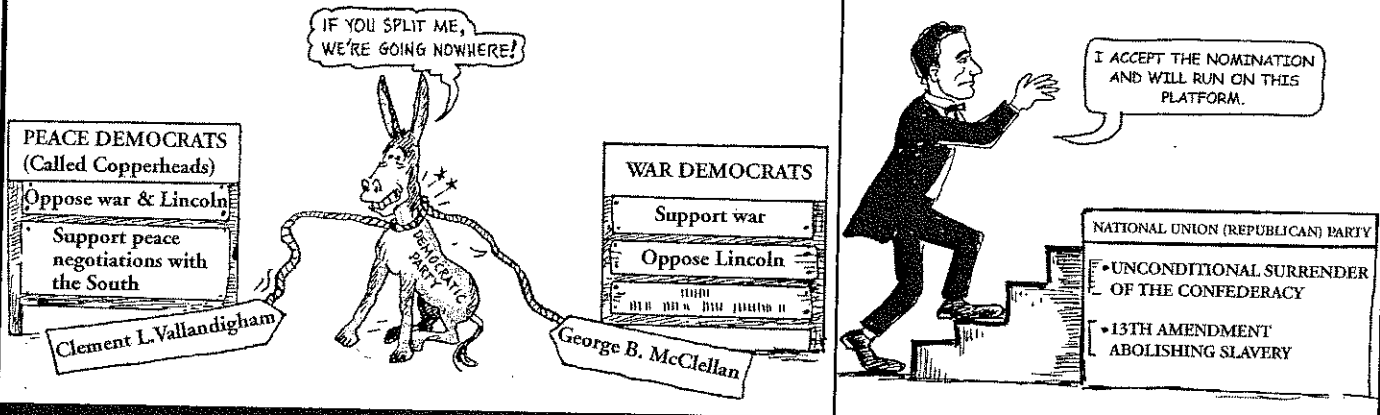
1864

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In 1864 the United States successfully faced an unprecedented challenge. It held a presidential election within a divided nation in the midst of a civil war—an election held only in Union States.

NORTHERN DEMOCRATS were split into war and anti-war factions. At the National Democratic Convention in Chicago the War Democrats prevailed. They nominated George B. McClellan, the Union general whom Lincoln had removed from command in 1862 for being overcautious. To accommodate the anti-war, faction the Democratic platform included a peace plank, but McClellan repudiated this plank.

REPUBLICANS nominated Lincoln for re-election as president. Seeking a centrist coalition, they nominated for vice president Andrew Johnson, a War Democrat from Tennessee, and they called themselves the National Union Party.



Lincoln defeated McClellan by a huge margin: 212 to 21 electoral votes. He became the first president to win re-election since Andrew Jackson in 1832.



In his eloquent Second Inaugural Address, considered one of the most important speeches in America's history, President Lincoln called for a time of healing.



“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.”

magnanimity—a generous, forgiving spirit regarding insults and injuries; noble; high-minded

ON APRIL 9, 1865, THE WAR ENDED IN A UNION VICTORY.

GENERAL LEE, OUTFOUGHT AND OUTNUMBERED (1,000,000 TO 1,000,000,000), SURRENDERED HIS CONFEDERATE ARMY TO GENERAL GRANT AT APPOMATTOX COURT HOUSE, A VILLAGE IN VIRGINIA.

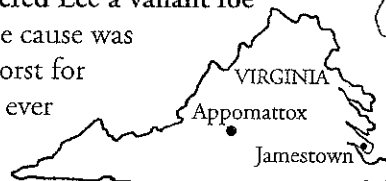


General Lee told his officers April 8th that there was nothing left for him to do but go and see General Grant—adding, “I would rather die a thousand deaths.” He sent a messenger with a white towel, and Grant accepted the surrender offer.

Lee went to meet Grant dressed in his finest uniform and carrying his engraved sword because he expected to become Grant’s prisoner and wanted appear his best.

General Grant’s officers wept at the surrender offer. As for Grant, he suddenly felt free of a headache he had suffered since early morning.

Grant considered Lee a valiant foe but one whose cause was “one of the worst for which people ever fought.”



(Appomattox is near Jamestown, where America’s experiment in self-government began.)



UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER—MAGNANIMOUS TREATMENT

Lee and Grant met in the home of Wilmer McLean. Ironically, McLean had moved to Appomattox to escape the war after having the first Battle of Bull Run fought in his back yard.

GENERAL LEE, YOUR MEN WILL NEED THEIR HORSES FOR SPRING PLOWING. THEY MAY KEEP THEM.

THAT’S VERY GENEROUS, GENERAL GRANT. MY MEN WILL BE PLEASED.



Under Lincoln’s authority, Grant gave unconditional terms of surrender, along with generous concessions.

Grant told Lee: “Peace being my great desire, there is but one condition I would insist upon...that the men and officers surrendered shall be disqualified for taking up arms again, against the Government of the United States.”

Then, enacting Lincoln’s policy, Grant added one of the most humane conditions in military history. After signing paroles, the Confederate soldiers were free to go home and were “not to be disturbed by the United States authorities.”

Thus, there would be no imprisonment or punishment of Confederate soldiers, including Lee. Neither Lincoln nor Grant wanted to punish the Confederate army.

LINCOLN, LEE AND GRANT: MODELS OF MAGNANIMITY

In one of history’s miracles, the United States would successfully reunite after four years of fighting—unlike some countries that hold post-civil war grudges for hundreds of years. Lincoln, Lee, and Grant were magnanimous in setting a policy and tone of reconciliation for their fellow Americans.

As Lee rode away following the surrender, Grant silenced Union cheers, saying, “The war is over. The rebels are our countrymen again.”

Lee swore allegiance to the United States, influencing thousands of his devoted ex-soldiers to do the same. He became president of Washington College in Lexington, Virginia (later named Washington and Lee University), where he told students: “Make your sons Americans.”

Lee once warned a professor to stop speaking disrespectfully of Grant, under penalty of being fired.

April 14, 1865—Five days after the war ended, John Wilkes Booth, an actor seeking vengeance for the South, assassinated President Lincoln at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C.

Lincoln died the next day, and Vice President Andrew Johnson became President. Johnson was a southern Democrat, from Tennessee, who remained loyal to the Union,

On April 26, members of the army and Secret Service captured and killed Booth near Bowling Green, Virginia. Four of his accomplices were hanged, and four were imprisoned.



Walt Whitman expressed the nation's grief in poetry:

"O CAPTAIN! MY CAPTAIN!

"O Captain! my Captain! our fearful trip is done....

The ship has weather'd every rack, the prize we sought is won...."

Would the country remember Lincoln's words from his Second Inaugural Address a month earlier?

"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."