

1865

The War's End,
What Could Have Been,
Some of the Outcomes, and
Why the Civil War is Important

“Let them down easy”
is part of what
doctrine?

How many Confederate
Soldiers were executed
by the Union after the
war?

Destruction

The only sizable portions of the Confederacy's heartland still untouched by invading Yankees were the interior of the Carolinas and most of Alabama.

Grant and Thomas planned a two pronged campaign to deal with the latter.

James H. Wilson, who had risen to command of Thomas's cavalry - took 13,000 troopers armed with repeating carbines on a strike from Tennessee into Alabama to destroy the munitions complex at Selma and seize the original Confederate capital of Montgomery.

Both were complete successes.

Wilson's raid burned or smashed or blew up great quantities of cotton, railroad bridges, rolling stock, factories, niter works, rolling mills, arsenals, navy yards, and captured Montgomery. He brushed aside Forrest's cavalry

As Sherman's army had approached Savannah in December 1864, Georgians said to Sherman: “Why don't you go over to South Carolina and serve them this way? They started it.” Sherman had intended to do this all along. He told Grant his idea, and on February 1 Sherman's 60,000 blue avengers left Savannah for their second march through the heart land of enemy territory.

March into South Carolina

“Valor alone is relied upon now for our salvation”

John B. Jones.

“Every one thinks the Confederacy will at once, gather up its military strength and strike such blows as will astonish the world.”

If Sherman had read these words he would have uttered a sigh of utter exasperation having bent but apparently not broken the South's “unconquerable defiance” his army was now smashing and burning its way through South Carolina to finish the job.

This one had two strategic purposes:

- To destroy all war resources in Sherman's path
- To come up on Lee's rear to crush the Army of Northern Virginia in a vise between two larger Union armies and “wipe out Lee.”

March in North Carolina

Any soldier caught looting or burning would be executed without trial

Sherman went out of his way to avoid conflict with Johnston's Army

Sherman was ruthless in war - very generous in peace

When Sherman's Army entered North Carolina the destruction of civilian property stopped. “Not a single column of fire or smoke which a few days ago marked the positions of the heads of the column, can be seen on the horizon...Not a house was burned, and the army gave to the people more than it took from them,” noted an officer after two days in North Carolina.

Unconditional Surrender

Southern professions of shock and betrayal at the North's demand for “unconditional surrender” were disingenuous, for Lincoln had never given them reason to expect otherwise

The South must fight on, said Davis that evening in a public speech which breathed “unconquerable defiance” and “humiliating surrender”

The South must fight on said Davis that evening in a public speech which breathed “unconquerable defiance” according to press reports. We will never submit to the “disgrace of surrender” declared the Confederate leader

Denouncing the northern president as “His Majesty Abraham the First” Davis predicted that Lincoln and Seward would find that ... they had been speaking to their masters – for southern armies would yet prevail

The press and public - in Richmond
at least-took their cue from Davis.
“To talk now of any other
arbitrament than that of the sword
is to betray cowardice or
treachery.”

CSA Ordnance Chief

Negro/Freed Slaves Join Confederate Ranks

The president pro tem of the Confederate Senate.

Robert M T. Hunker asked skeptically: "What did go to war for, if not to protect our property?"

Georgian Howell Cobb of the South's most powerful political generals, summed up the debate, fuming that "You cannot make soldiers of slaves, or slaves of soldiers. The day you make a soldier of them is the beginning of the end of the Revolution.

And if slaves seem good soldiers, then our whole theory of slavery is wrong."

Blacks (slaves) join the Confederate Army. Unlike the north, the regiment is integrated. This was slavery's death blow, regardless of outcome.

River Queen Doctrine

“I destroy my enemies when I make them my friends.” Lincoln years earlier

The act of reconciliation, “rights as citizens of a common country”

“Let them down easy”

For this reason, as Admiral Porter would later observe. Lincoln now “wanted peace on almost any terms.”

Lincoln thus enunciated to Grant and Sherman offering the South the most generous terms: “to get the deluded men of the rebel armies disarmed and back to their homes ... Let them once surrender and reach their homes. [and] they won't take up arms again:”

“Let them all go, officers and all. I want submission, and no more bloodshed ... I want no one punished: treat them liberally all around. We want those people to return to their allegiance to the Union and submit.”

And its execution would be not just in Lincoln's hands, but most prominently, in the hands of his fierce fighting men. And for all of Grant's and Sherman's confidence no one could or did know what would follow in the days to come.

And this they did

Lincoln's Reinauguration

His Second Address he closes with:

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 a lasting peace among ourselves
and all nations.

Fall of Richmond

Jefferson Davis is notified by Lee that he can no longer defend Richmond

He leaves church and all the Confederate documents are put into railroad cars and Davis and Cabinet leave Richmond

In order to prevent the Union Army from using the arms, supplies, and liquor the CSA set them on fire and poured the liquor into the streets.

There was more self-inflicted damage to Richmond that night than all of Sherman's marches in Georgia and South Carolina.

Lincoln Visits Richmond

While Lincoln strolled through a smoldering Richmond and was asked by the commanding general in charge, General Godfrey Weitzel, how the defeated Confederates should be treated, he offered this homespun instruction:

“If I were in your place, I'd let'em up easy, let'em up easy.”

Lee is Surrounded

Army of Northern Virginia is
Surrounded and starving - Jefferson
Davis and other political leaders in
CSA want Lee and the other generals
not to surrender but to start a long-
term guerrilla war

The day after Richmond fell Davis had called on the on the confederacy to shift from a static conventional war in defense of territory.

We have now entered upon a new phase of a struggle the memory of which is to endure for all ages...Relieved from the necessity of guarding cities and particular points, important, but not vital to our defense, with an army free to move from point to point and strike in detail detachments and garrisons of the enemy, operating from the interior of our own country, where supplies are more accessible, and where the foe will be far removed from his own base and cut off from the succor in case of reverse, nothing is now needed to render our triumph certain but the exhibition of our unquenchable resolve....Let us but will it, and we are free.

Jefferson Davis

Lee's Finest Moment

Jefferson Davis, President of CSA and his Commander and Chief has ordered Lee not to surrender but to turn his men into a potent guerrilla force.

General Porter Alexander, one of Lee's trusted advisors, also, urges Lee not to surrender

“I should take your suggestion the men would be without rations and under no control of officers....They would be compelled to rob and steal in order to live. They would become...bands of marauders, and the enemy's cavalry would... overrun many sections they may never have occasion to visit...

No...

We would bring on a state of affairs it would take the country years to recover from. Then general, you and I as Christian men have no right to consider only how this would affect us. We must consider its effect on the country as a whole ... And as far myself you young fellows might go bushwhacking, but the only dignified course for me would be to go to General Grant and surrender myself and take the consequences of my acts.”

R.E. Lee

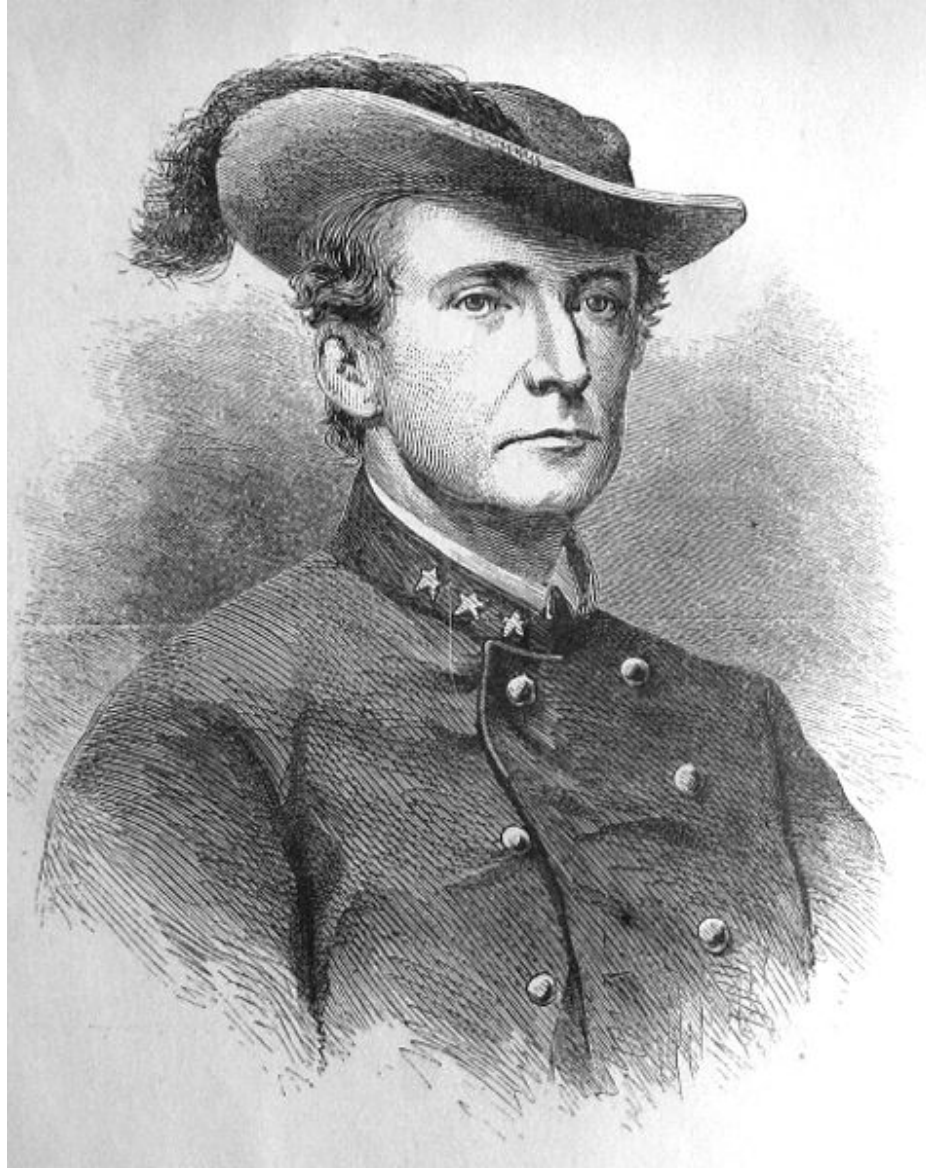
Guerrilla Warfare Partisan Ranger Act of April 1862

John Mosby (43rd Battalion) - Virginia

Nathan Bedford Forrest – Sherman called
Forrest the most remarkable man our civil
war produced on either side -

William Clark Quantrill - Missouri
- a butcher of civilians

Repealed in February 1864 –at R.E.Lee's
request



John Mosby

Appomattox Court House

Now it was Grant's turn: Grant was determined not to destroy their dignity

Above all, this surrender defied millenniums of tradition in which rebellions typically ended in a greater shedding of blood

Previous Insurrections

Harsh suppression of the peasants revolt in Germany in the sixteenth century

The ravages of the Alva during the Dutch rebellion

The terrible punishments inflicted on the Irish by Cromwell and then on the Scots after Culloden

French Revolution

Napoleonic restoration

In our own time - the incalculable horrors of the Russian, Nazi, and Spanish revolutions and civil wars

The more recent bloodstained retribution in Cambodia, Yugoslavia, and Rwanda

Union Terms of Surrender

Offices and men are paroled

Arms surrendered

Officers keep the side arms (swords) and
private horses

Men allowed to return to their homes

No prisoners of war

No trials

Formal Surrender on April 12

April 14, 1865 - Good Friday

Sherman and Johnston discuss terms of surrender.

Lincoln meet Vice President Andrew Johnson for the first time

Lincoln tells his cabinet in no uncertain words, there is “no greater or more important [issue] before us, or any future Cabinet” than

Reconstruction. This avatar of total war *is* a staunch advocate of a soft peace, a generous peace, a magnanimous peace, just as Grant has tarried out at Appomattox. It is his River Queen Doctrine writ large.

Succession of Johnson

Article 2 - Section 1

In Case of the Removal of the President from Office. or of his Death, Resignation, or Inability to discharge the Powers and Duties of the said Office, the Same shall devolve on the Vice President. and the Congress may by Law provide for the Case of Removal. Death, Resignation or Inability, both of the President and Vice President. declaring what Officer **shall then act as President** and such Officer shall act accordingly, until the Disability be removed, or a President shall be elected.

25th Amendment (1967)

In case of the removal of the President from office or of his death or resignation, the **Vice President shall become President.**

Daniel Webster was Sec. of State under Harrison, he wanted the Cabinet to run the government with Tyler as a voting member

Johnson had already diminished himself with his drinking and poor behavior at the inauguration. There was discussion by Sen. Charles Sumner that Johnson resign.

Regardless, the succession took place without any of the issues that Tyler had.

Johnson was born in SC; he was more successful as a politician than Lincoln. Served as an appointed Democratic Governor of Tenn. He was loyal to the Union.

Johnson did not show the compassion of Lincoln and sided with the Republicans seeking revenge on the Confederacy. On April 19, Jefferson Davis learned about Lincoln's assassination. "Certainly, I have no special regard for Mr. Lincoln, but there are great many men of whose end I would rather hear than his, I fear it will be disastrous for our people and I regret it." What he feared even more was Andrew Johnson whom he regarded as a bitter and vindictive man, who, unlike Lincoln, would grossly punish the South

Johnson was as narrow minded, bigoted, and his administration poor. Military rule followed in south and the rise of the Ku Klux Klan

Lee's farewell address to his
army

Lee tells Mosby “go home.” Help
to build up shattered fortunes”

April 15, Lee condemns the
assassination “deplorable”

“A crime” “unexampled”

“I am rejoiced that slavery is
abolished”



Formal Surrender of Johnson at Durham Station

Johnston would later note that United States troops, remaining on military duty, treated the Southerners as kindly as they “would those of Ohio or New York.”

He wrote to Sherman “The enlarged patriotism exhibited in your orders reconciles me to what I have previously regarded as the misfortune of my life that of having to encounter you in the field.”

To his own men, Johnston enjoined them to “observe faithfully the terms of pacification agreed upon, and to discharge the obligations of good and peaceful citizens...By such a course you will best secure the comfort of your families and kindred, and restore tranquility to our country”

End of the War

St. Paul's Episcopal Church in May 1865

Final Battle May 12-13 Palmito Ranch -
Texas - resounding Confederate Victory

War's End – June 23 1865 - General Watie
surrendered

The South's Losses

Politically - Before the War

72 years in the republic

49 of those years – President was from a state that was part of CSA

36 speakers of the house

13 speakers from those 11 States in the CSA

24 presidents pro term in senate

Of the 35 Supreme Court Justices

20 from CSA States

Economics

Gun powder mills, ordnance plants, machine shops,
destroyed

Killed: 25% of the Confederacy's white men of
military age.

Killed 40% of southern livestock, wrecked half of
the farm machinery, ruined thousands of miles of
railroad, left scars of thousands of farms and
plantations in weeds

67% assessed southern wealth vanished in the war
1860 the southern states had 30% of the national
wealth

1870 only 12%

Constitutional Amendments

Three Constitutional Amendments were added in five years

The 13th Amendment (1865) prohibited slavery (the Emancipation Proclamation was an Executive Order and did not apply to states that did not secede)

14th Amendment (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.

15th Amendment (1870)

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.

24th Amendment (1964)

The right of citizens of the United States to vote in any primary or other election for President or Vice President, for electors for President or Vice President, or for Senator or Representative in Congress, shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any state by reason of failure to pay any poll tax or other tax.

Impact of These Amendments

Elevated position on the National Government
over the States

Bill of Rights applies to the the States

Adamson Vs. California (1947) – dissent by
Hugo Black

Baker v. Carr and its progeny

Footnotes

1869 Texas v White Case involved sale of bonds by the Confederate Republic. Supreme Court rules that states cannot secede.

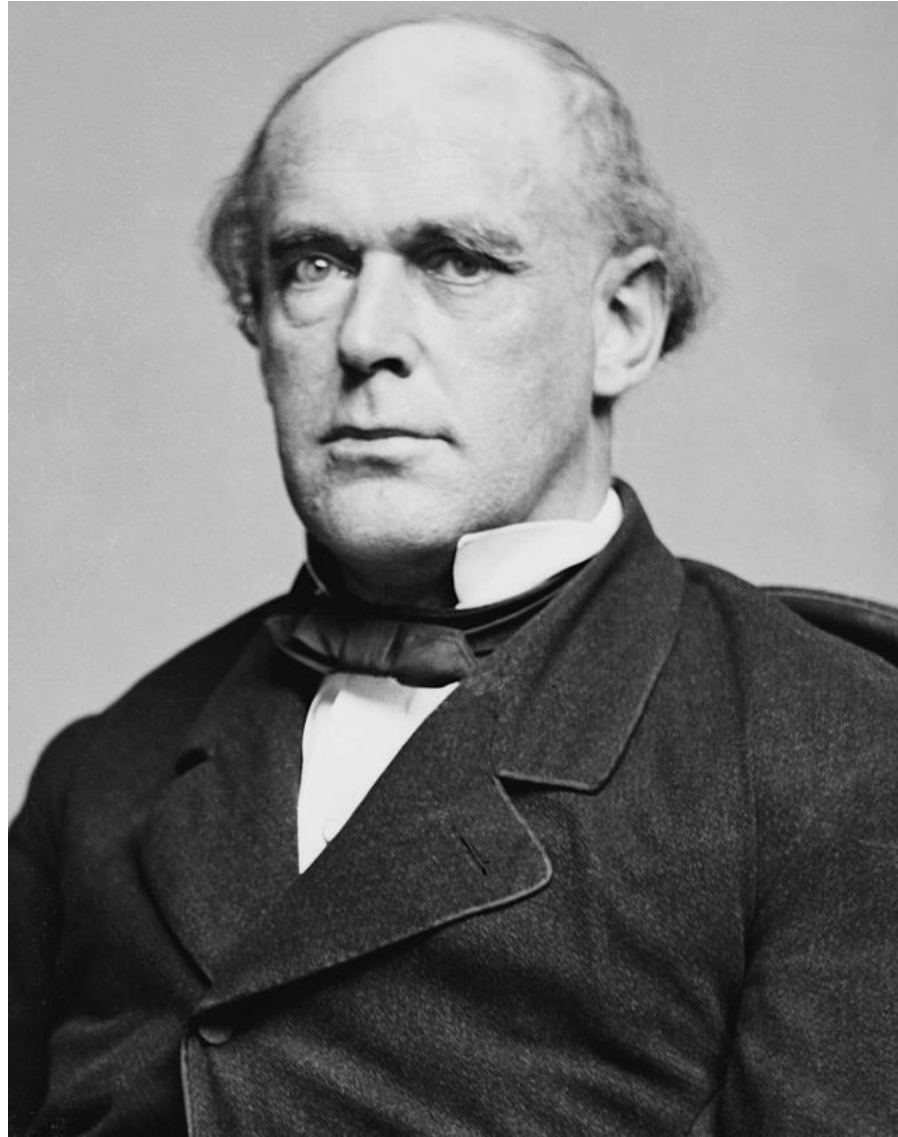
Article 4

Section. 3.

New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union; but no new State shall be formed or erected within the Jurisdiction of any other State; nor any State be formed by the Junction of two or more States, or Parts of States, without the Consent of the Legislatures of the States concerned as well as of the Congress.

Section. 4.

The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government, and shall protect each of them against Invasion; and on Application of the Legislature, or of the Executive (when the Legislature cannot be convened), against domestic Violence.



Salmon P. Chase

The Union of the States never was a purely artificial and arbitrary relation. It began among the Colonies, and grew out of common origin, mutual sympathies, kindred principles, similar interests, and geographical relations. It was confirmed and strengthened by the necessities of war, and received definite form and character and sanction from the Articles of Confederation. By these, the Union was solemnly declared to 'be perpetual.' And when these Articles were found to be inadequate to the exigencies of the country, the Constitution was ordained 'to form a more perfect Union.' It is difficult to convey the idea of indissoluble unity more clearly than by these words. What can be indissoluble if a perpetual Union, made more perfect, is not?

Salmon Chase

1870 Jefferson Davis' Senate seat is
filled by the first black man to be a
Senator

The United States is a republic

We became a nation

Washington mentioned “nation” once in his Farewell Address

Lincoln uses “nation” four times in his Gettysburg Address

Occupation of the South

Reconstruction and Repression

What could have happened

Why is the Civil War Important?

Slavery

Secessionism

States Rights

Economies

Thank You