

The Legacy of the War

MAIN IDEA

The Civil War brought great changes and new challenges to the United States.

WHY IT MATTERS NOW

The most important change was the liberation of 4 million enslaved persons.

TERMS & NAMES

Thirteenth Amendment

John Wilkes Booth

CALIFORNIA STANDARDS

8.10.7 Explain how the war affected combatants, civilians, the physical environment, and future warfare.

8.12.1 Trace patterns of agricultural and industrial development as they relate to climate, use of natural resources, markets, and trade and locate such development on a map.

8.12.3 Explain how states and the federal government encouraged business expansion through tariffs, banking, land grants, and subsidies.

REP4 Students assess the credibility of primary and secondary sources and draw sound conclusions from them.

HI2 Students understand and distinguish cause, effect, sequence, and correlation in historical events, including the long- and short-term causal relations.

ONE AMERICAN'S STORY

In the spring of 1864, a year before the end of the Civil War, the Union army was running out of cemetery space to bury its war dead. The secretary of war ordered Quartermaster General Montgomery Meigs to find a new site for a cemetery. Without hesitation, Meigs chose Robert E. Lee's plantation in Arlington, Virginia, just across the Potomac River from Washington, D.C.

Meigs's decision to turn Lee's plantation into a Union cemetery was highly symbolic. The Union soldiers who died fighting Lee's army would be buried in Lee's front yard. That site became Arlington National Cemetery.



During the Civil War, the government turned Robert E. Lee's Virginia plantation into a graveyard.

1 Costs of the War

Many Northerners shared Montgomery Meigs's bitter feelings toward the South. At the same time, many Southerners felt great resentment toward the North. After the war, President Lincoln hoped to heal the nation and bring North and South together again. The generous terms of surrender offered to Lee were part of that effort. Hard feelings remained, however, in part because the costs of the war were so great.

The Civil War was the deadliest war in American history. In four years of fighting, approximately 620,000 soldiers died—360,000 for the Union and 260,000 for the Confederacy. Another 275,000 Union soldiers and 260,000 Confederate soldiers were wounded. Many suffered from their wounds for the rest of their lives.

Altogether, some 3,000,000 men served in the armies of the North and South—around 10 percent of the population. Along with the soldiers, many other Americans had their lives disrupted by the war.



Taking Notes

Use your chart to take notes about the effects of the Union's victory in the Civil War.

Emancipation Proclamation
War's Impact
Northern Victories in Battle
Union Wins Civil War

Reading History

A. Contrasting
How did government spending during the Civil War compare to that during previous years?

A. Possible Response The amount spent during the war was five times that spent during the previous 80 years.

The war also had great economic costs. Together, the North and South spent more than five times the amount spent by the government in the previous eight decades. Many years after the fighting was over, the federal government was still paying interest on loans taken out during the war.

2 The Thirteenth Amendment

One of the greatest effects of the war was the freeing of millions of enslaved persons. As the Union army moved through the South during and after the war, Union soldiers released African Americans from bondage. One of those released was Booker T. Washington, who later became a famous educator and reformer. He recalled the day a Union officer came to his plantation to read the Emancipation Proclamation.

A VOICE FROM THE PAST

After the reading we were told that we were all free, and could go when and where we pleased. My mother, who was standing by my side, leaned over and kissed her children, while tears of joy ran down her cheeks. She explained to us what it all meant, that this was the day for which she had been so long praying, but fearing that she would never live to see.

Booker T. Washington, quoted in his autobiography, *Up from Slavery*

Reading History

B. Making Inferences Why was an amendment needed to free enslaved persons even after the Emancipation Proclamation?

B. Possible Responses Many people were still enslaved in the border states. An amendment would be harder to overturn than a law passed by Congress.

The Emancipation Proclamation applied primarily to slaves in the Confederacy, however. Many African Americans in the border states were still enslaved. In 1864, with the war still under way, President Lincoln had approved of a constitutional amendment to end slavery entirely, but it failed to pass Congress.

In January 1865, Lincoln urged Congress to try again to end slavery. This time, the measure—known as the **Thirteenth Amendment**—passed. By year's end, 27 states, including eight in the South, had ratified the amendment. From that point on, slavery was banned in the United States.

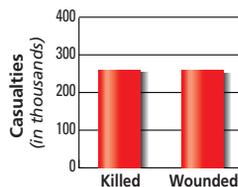
3 Lincoln's Assassination

Lincoln did not live to see the end of slavery, however. Five days after Lee's surrender at Appomattox, the president and his wife went to see a play at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C. During the play, a Confederate supporter, **John Wilkes Booth**, crept into the balcony where the president sat and shot him in the back of the head. Booth then jumped over the railing and landed on the stage. Although he broke his leg in the leap, he managed to escape the theater.

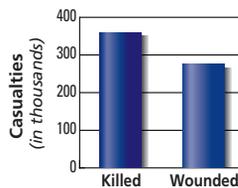
CONNECTIONS TO MATH

Costs of the Civil War

CONFEDERATE CASUALTIES



UNION CASUALTIES



Source: *World Book; Historical Statistics of the United States; The United States Civil War Center*

ECONOMIC COSTS

- Federal loans and taxes to finance the war totaled \$2.6 billion.
- Federal debt on June 30, 1865, rose to \$2.7 billion.
- Confederate debt ran over \$700 million.
- Union inflation reached 182% in 1864 and 179% in 1865.
- Confederate inflation rose to 9,000% by the end of the war.

SKILLBUILDER

Interpreting Graphs

1. About how many Confederate soldiers were killed in the Civil War?
2. Approximately how many soldiers were wounded in the war?

Skillbuilder
Answers
1. 260,000
2. 500,000