

SECTION REVIEW

- 1. KEY TERMS** Battle of Bull Run, Battle of Shiloh, Seven Days' Battle
- 2. PEOPLE AND PLACES** Manassas Junction, Stonewall Jackson, George B. McClellan, Ulysses S. Grant, Nashville, David Farragut
- 3. COMPREHENSION** What was the effect of the Battle of Bull Run on the North?
- 4. COMPREHENSION** Why were Union victories in the West strategically important?
- 5. CRITICAL THINKING** Explain why the naval war between North and South was as much an economic contest as a military one.

1,200 men, the dashing Stuart rode around the whole Union army in four days and reported its size and position to Lee. Lee attacked McClellan on June 26, 1862. The two armies clashed repeatedly for an entire week in what became known as the Seven Days' Battle. The Virginians suffered heavier losses, but it was McClellan's army that was forced to retreat.

In late August the Confederates won a second decisive victory at Bull Run, this time routing Union forces under General John Pope. With Washington in danger, Union troops withdrew from much of Virginia to protect the capital. By the end of the summer of 1862, Confederate troops once again stood on the banks of the Potomac.

5 The Union Victorious

★ Section Focus

★ **Key Terms** Battle of Antietam ■ Emancipation Proclamation ■ Copperhead ■ Battle of Gettysburg ■ Battle of Vicksburg ■ total war

★ **Main Idea** Union forces stopped Lee's invasions of the North and invaded the South. In 1865 the Confederacy surrendered.

★ **Objectives** As you read, look for answers to these questions:

1. Why did Lee invade the North in 1862? In 1863?
2. Why did Lincoln free some of the slaves but not all of them?
3. How did the North force the Confederacy to surrender?

Riding a wave of Confederate victories, General Lee decided to invade the Union in the fall of 1862. It was a crucial time, for the fate of the Confederacy was at stake.

Lee had several motives for taking the war north. A significant victory in the enemy's territory would, he hoped, force Lincoln to negotiate peace. The invasion, too, would give northern Virginia a rest from war during the harvest season and at the same time let the hungry Confederates fill their stomachs with northern food. And, finally, Lee hoped the invasion would bring the diplomatic recognition the South so craved.

By now, both Britain and France were leaning

toward recognizing the Confederacy. They were impressed by Lee's military successes, and their textile mills were closing down for lack of cotton. The Confederates knew that diplomatic recognition would help ensure their survival. At the most, it would mean financial and military aid. At the very least, it would prompt the Europeans to try to convince Lincoln to leave the South alone.

THE BATTLE OF ANTIETAM

Lee's drive into the North was stopped on September 17, 1862, at Antietam Creek near Sharpsburg, Maryland. The Battle of Antietam was the bloodiest single day of the war. The

two armies fought all day, and at nightfall they held the same ground that they had held in the morning. The only difference was that 23,000 men were dead or wounded. Lee, who had lost one-fourth of his army, withdrew to Virginia. The ever-cautious McClellan declined to follow, missing a chance to finish off the Confederate army.

Although a military draw, Antietam was a political victory for the Union. It caused the British and French to delay any plans to recognize the Confederacy. It also marked a new stage in Lincoln's conduct of the war. After Antietam, Lincoln announced his intention to free all slaves in the rebelling states as of January 1, 1863. Accordingly, on New Year's Day he issued the **Emancipation Proclamation**.

THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION

The call for emancipation changed the character of the war. The old South was to be destroyed and, in Lincoln's words "replaced by new propositions and ideas." The abolitionists were ecstatic. "We shout for joy that we live to record this righteous decree," wrote Frederick Douglass. Abolitionists brought new energy and renewed dedication to the war effort.

Some 200,000 black soldiers served in the Union forces, and 38,000 died during the war. Black soldiers suffered especially harsh treatment if captured. PARTICIPATION Why might blacks have been particularly motivated to fight in the Civil War?



BIOGRAPHY

SOJOURNER TRUTH (1797?–1883) was born into slavery in New York but was freed in 1828. She became an evangelical preacher whose message was caring for others. Sojourner Truth spoke out for women's rights and the abolition of slavery. Born Isabella Baumfree, she took the name Sojourner Truth to reflect her life's work: to travel (or sojourn) and preach the truth.

Why, critics charged, did Lincoln free slaves in the rebellious South and not in the loyal border states? The reason lay in the Constitution. Freeing Confederate slaves weakened the South and was thus considered a military necessity. As commander-in-chief of Union forces, Lincoln had the authority to do this. But the Constitution did not give the President the power to free slaves within the Union. Lincoln did recommend, however, that Congress gradually abolish slavery throughout the land.



The Emancipation Proclamation also stated that freedmen willing to fight “will be received into the armed service of the United States.” From the start of the Civil War blacks had served in the navy, but the army had rejected black volunteers. As of 1863, however, free blacks in Louisiana, Kansas, and the South Carolina Sea Islands formed their own military regiments. Massachusetts later raised two black regiments.

Black troops were led by white officers and for most of the war were paid less than whites. Despite such unequal treatment, black leaders urged blacks to enlist. Once the black man had been a soldier and fought for his country, Douglass said, “there is no power on earth which can deny that he has earned the right to citizenship.” By war’s end about 200,000 black men had served in the Union army and navy. Black women, too, organized aid societies and worked behind the lines. Harriet Tubman, a famous “conductor” of the Underground Railroad, accompanied Union gunboats evacuating slaves to freedom.

★ Historical Documents

For the text of the Emancipation Proclamation, see page R19 of this book.

THE ROAD TO GETTYSBURG

President Lincoln’s great frustration was finding a general who would take the offensive against Lee. Lincoln tried and then discarded one general after another. General McClellan was put to pasture after his failure to pursue Lee at Antietam. His successor, Ambrose Burnside, fared no better. He lost his job after Lee defeated him in December 1862 at Fredericksburg, Virginia. General “Fighting Joe” Hooker took on Lee the next spring at Chancellorsville. Although Hooker had 130,000 troops to Lee’s 62,000, he too was defeated by the brilliant southern general.

By summer 1863 the Confederate army seemed invincible. Lee decided to head north once again, this time from the Shenandoah Valley into Pennsylvania.

Lee had two goals in heading north. First of all, he needed food and supplies for his army. His men

were as thin and ragged as scarecrows, and horses were dying of starvation. Second, Lee hoped to force a peace settlement.

Time was running out for the Confederacy. The northern blockade was causing severe economic hardship. What had cost one dollar in 1861 now cost seven dollars. With the men gone, small-farm production dropped. Many of the men in gray deserted to help their families survive. “We are poor men and are willing to defend our country, but our families [come] first,” a Mississippi soldier wrote the governor. Things were no better in the cities. Just a few months earlier a mob in Richmond had rioted, shouting for bread and breaking into stores.

Lee knew that northerners were growing tired of the war. For lack of volunteers, Congress had recently imposed a draft that was highly unpopular. More and more people were listening to the **Copperheads**—northern Democrats who called for peace and a compromise with the South. A successful invasion of the North, Lee figured, would encourage the “peace party” and thereby divide and weaken the enemy. Lee also hoped that an invasion would revive European interest in recognizing the Confederacy and helping end the war.

THE BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG

In late June 1863, Lee’s army crossed into the fertile farmlands of southern Pennsylvania. “You never saw such a land of plenty,” a Confederate soldier wrote home. “We could live here mighty well for the next twelve months. . . . Of course we will have to fight here, and when it comes it will be the biggest on record.” The soldier was right.

In a line parallel to Lee’s, the Army of the Potomac marched north along the east side of the Blue Ridge Mountains. “We cannot help beating them if we have the man,” Lincoln said. But Lincoln was still not satisfied that he had the right general. Lee’s army was already in Pennsylvania when Lincoln replaced General Hooker with General George Meade.

Meanwhile, morale had risen in the oft-defeated Army of the Potomac. The men knew that they would be fighting to protect their own soil. “They are more determined than I have ever before seen them,” a Union doctor wrote.

THE CIVIL WAR, 1863



MAP SKILLS

By mid-1863, Union forces had repulsed the Confederate invasion of the North. What important battle was fought in Pennsylvania? Which side controlled the Mississippi River in 1863? **CRITICAL THINKING** Why was the Union able to control port cities on the southern coast?

Neither Meade nor Lee planned to fight at Gettysburg. It just happened. On July 1, 1863, Lee sent troops into the prosperous town of Gettysburg to get a supply of shoes. There the Confederates stumbled upon a Union cavalry force, and the **Battle of Gettysburg** was on.

The fighting lasted for three days in what would be the greatest single battle of the Civil War. The most famous, and most pivotal, moment of the battle was Pickett's Charge. For two days the armies had held their positions on opposite ridges. Then on the third day, Lee ordered George Pickett to lead a charge of 15,000 men in an assault on the Union center on Cemetery Ridge. Pickett's troops had to cross a wide-open field in order to reach the Union army. Within half an hour, intense Union

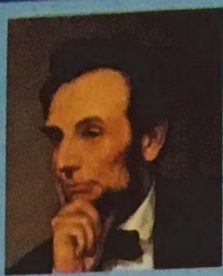
gunfire had leveled half the rebels. Most of Pickett's men never even saw the enemy.

Pickett's Charge ended the Battle of Gettysburg. Lee's hopes of victory were dashed. "It's all my fault," he said, and ordered a retreat. Meade was amazed at his own success. "I did not believe the enemy could be whipped," he said.

What neither Lee nor Meade realized was that the Confederates lost the Battle of Gettysburg largely because new technology had made Lee's tactics obsolete. By 1863 rifles had replaced the old, inaccurate muskets that soldiers on both sides had carried at the beginning of the war. Rifling—the cutting of spiral grooves in a gun's bore—multiplied the gun's accuracy and range. Soldiers who were marching in close formation, as they did



THE PRESIDENTS



Abraham Lincoln

1861–1865

16th President, Republican

- Born February 12, 1809, in Kentucky
- Married Mary Todd in 1842; 4 children
- Lawyer; representative from Illinois
- Lived in Illinois when elected President
- Vice Presidents: Hannibal Hamlin; Andrew Johnson
- Died April 15, 1865, in Washington, D.C., after being shot by an assassin
- Key events while in office: Civil War; Emancipation Proclamation; Gettysburg Address; Kansas, West Virginia, and Nevada became states; Confederacy surrendered

in Pickett's Charge, could be mowed down from a half mile away.

General Meade was so pleased with the Union victory that he did not pursue and finish off Lee's army. Lincoln was distraught. When would he find a general who was a match for Lee?

Then came news of the **Battle of Vicksburg**. On July 4, 1863, the day after Pickett's Charge, General Grant had taken Vicksburg after a three-month siege. The victory was even more important than Gettysburg, for it gave the Union complete control of the Mississippi. The Confederacy had been cut in half. "Grant is my man," exulted the President.

THE GETTYSBURG ADDRESS

In November 1863, Lincoln journeyed to Gettysburg to dedicate the cemetery in which about 6,000 battle dead lay buried. The speech he gave

that day was short, but powerful. He wanted to make it clear that the Union soldiers were fighting for the preservation of democracy. The nation, Lincoln said, was founded on "the proposition that all men are created equal." The "great task remaining" was "that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth." No one has ever expressed better the spirit of democracy.

★ Historical Documents

For the text of the Gettysburg Address, see page R20 of this book.

GRANT TAKES COMMAND

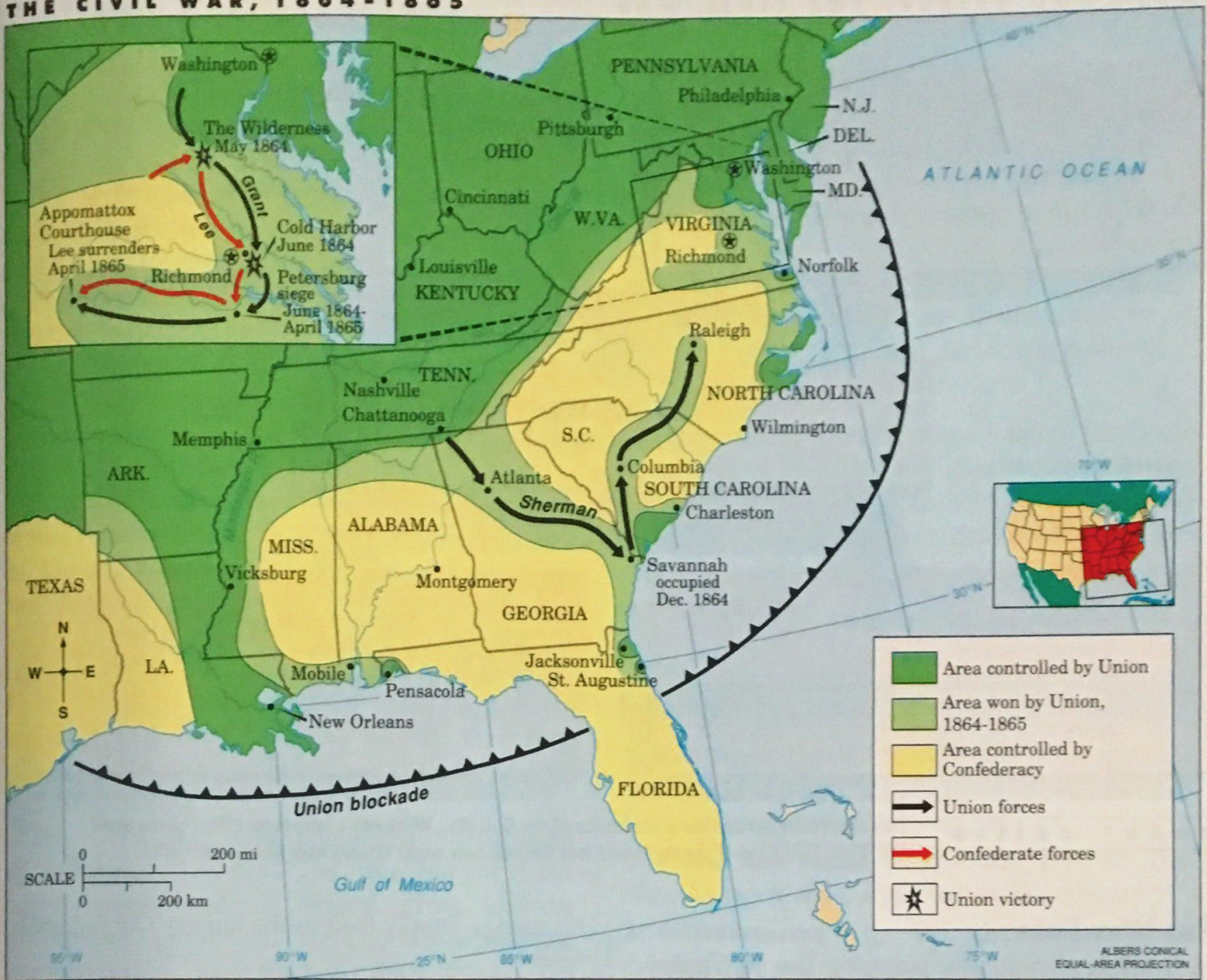
The battles of Gettysburg and Vicksburg marked the turning point of the war. From then on, it was all downhill for the Confederacy. Late in 1863, Grant broke a Confederate siege around Chattanooga, Tennessee. He thereby opened up another invasion route into the lower South.

Impressed with Grant's ability to get things done, Lincoln decided to give him command of all the Union armies. In the spring of 1864, Grant was in Washington. His strategy was to attack the Confederacy on all fronts. He planned to go into the field himself to pursue Lee. Admiral Farragut was to go after Mobile, one of the few remaining ports in Confederate hands. William Tecumseh Sherman, who had assumed command of Grant's old army, was to advance southeast from Chattanooga to Atlanta.

Sherman took Atlanta in September 1864. He then set out on a march to the sea, cutting a swath of destruction through Georgia. Leaving his supply trains behind, Sherman told his men to live off the land. He was the first American general to wage **total war**—a war designed to destroy not only enemy troops, but also enemy factories, fields, railroads, and livestock. A Georgia girl described the scene after Sherman had passed through:

There was hardly a fence left standing all the way from Sparta to Gordon. The fields were trampled down and the road was

THE CIVIL WAR, 1864-1865



MAP SKILLS

This map shows the final events of the war. Sherman advanced through Georgia in his famous march to the sea. Grant advanced on the Confederate capital at Richmond (inset). **CRITICAL THINKING** In what ways did the waging of total war represent an important change from previous military strategy?

lined with carcasses of horses, hogs, and cattle that the invaders, unable either to consume or to carry away with them, had wantonly shot down, to starve out the people and prevent them from making their crops. The stench in some places was unbearable.

Sherman himself was not apologetic. "We are not only fighting hostile armies, but a hostile people, and must make old and young, rich and poor, feel the hard hand of war," he said. In December 1864, Sherman's army reached the port city of Savannah. Behind him lay a corridor of devastation 60 miles wide and nearly 300 miles long.



BIOGRAPHY

ULYSSES S. GRANT (1822–1885), a native of Ohio, graduated from West Point and served in the Mexican War. Later, he was posted to the Oregon Territory where, depressed and lonely, he became an alcoholic and resigned his commission. Grant rejoined the army at age 39. His courage in battles against Confederate forces in the West led Lincoln to appoint him commander of the Union armies. He later became the eighteenth President.

CAUSE AND EFFECT: THE CIVIL WAR

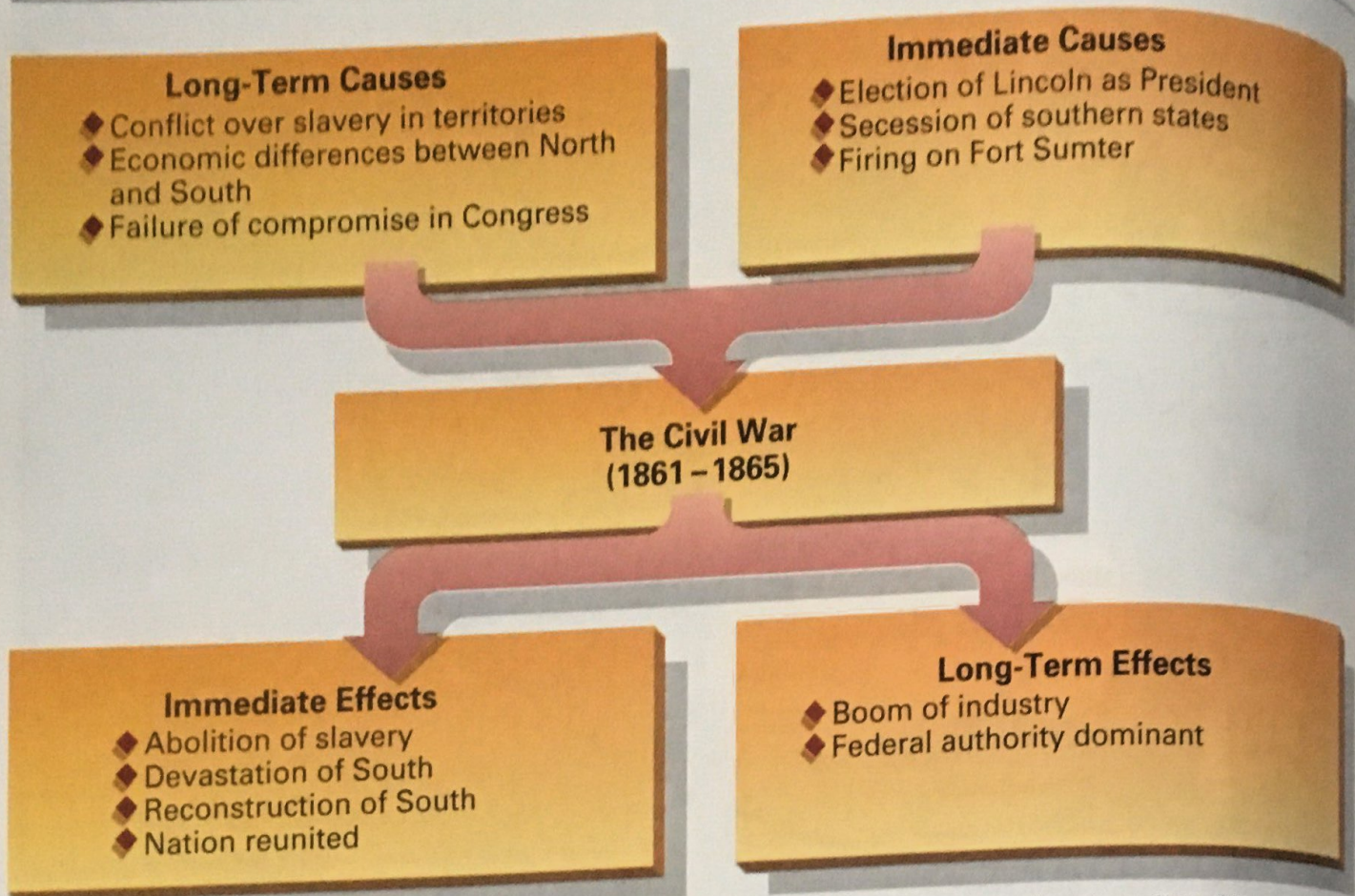


CHART SKILLS

This chart summarizes the significance of the Civil War. What was a long-term effect of the war?
CRITICAL THINKING If the North had lost the war, how might history have been different?

THE WAR ENDS

Meanwhile, Grant was pursuing Lee in Virginia. In May and June of 1864, their forces clashed at the Wilderness and at Cold Harbor. Grant then laid siege to Petersburg, which controlled the rail lines to the Confederate capital of Richmond.

The noose was tightening around Lee's army. By the spring of 1865, Grant had an army twice the size of Lee's—120,000 to Lee's 55,000. In addition, Sherman was now moving north from Savannah. Lee decided to abandon Richmond and head for the mountains. But then he learned that Sheridan was ahead of him. Trapped, Lee made the decision to surrender.

On April 9, 1865, in the small Virginia town of **Appomattox Courthouse**, Lee and Grant arranged the terms of surrender. Operating under Lincoln's instructions, Grant was generous. The Confederate soldiers were to return to their homes, and those who owned horses or mules could keep them. When Lee left Appomattox, Grant ordered

his men to supply food to the hungry Confederate soldiers.

The final act of the Civil War tragedy was now played out. A few days after Appomattox, President and Mrs. Lincoln went to the theater to see a popular comedy. During the third act John Wilkes Booth, a Confederate sympathizer, shot Lincoln in the back of the head. Early the next morning, April 15, 1865, Lincoln died from the assassin's bullet. With Lincoln's last breath rose up a wail of grief from freedom-lovers the world over.

ASSESSING THE WAR

The Civil War was the most wrenching experience this nation has ever endured. The Union was preserved and slavery abolished, but at a frightening cost. In four years 620,000 men had died—360,000 for the Union, 260,000 for the Confederacy. No other war in our history has caused such loss of life.

Throughout most of the war, the outcome was in doubt. Even today historians cannot with confi-

dence say exactly why the North won and why the South lost. They do agree, however, that final Union victory reflected the far-sighted leadership of Abraham Lincoln. During the darkest hour in the history of the Union, he held firm to the principles of freedom and democracy. And as great leaders must, he bore the terrible burden of responsibility for the fate of his nation.

The consequences of the war were enormous. In fighting to defend the Union, people accepted that the nation itself was more important than the states that composed it. After 1865 people no longer said "the United States are," but instead, "the United States is."

Prior to the Civil War, the federal government was a relatively small body with limited responsibilities and powers. By placing staggering new demands on the government, the war gave rise to a vastly larger bureaucracy. This expanded government began to play an important role in the day-to-day life of its citizens in such areas as taxation, banking, and education. The growth in federal power would continue long after the guns of war had fallen silent.

The Civil War also stimulated the growth of industrial America. The war nurtured the early development of several great postwar enterprises—petroleum, steel, food processing, manufacturing, and finance. Such trends too would continue for decades after the end of the war.

These legacies of the Civil War—the growth of the federal government and industry—must have seemed especially bitter to southerners. For as historian David M. McPherson has written, the

South had left the Union to protect itself from exactly these sorts of changes:

The South fought to preserve its version of the republic of the founding fathers—a government of limited powers that protected the rights of property and whose constituency comprised an independent gentry and yeomanry [upper and middle class] of the white race undisturbed by large cities, heartless factories, restless free workers, and class conflict.

Change would probably have come to the South in any event. But the war speeded the changes southerners had fought to hold back. The challenge facing the South after 1865 would be to construct a new society to deal with the realities of postwar America.

SECTION REVIEW

- 1. KEY TERMS** Battle of Antietam, Emancipation Proclamation, Copperhead, Battle of Gettysburg, Battle of Vicksburg, total war
- 2. PEOPLE AND PLACES** Sharpsburg, Harriet Tubman, George Meade, Appomattox Courthouse
- 3. COMPREHENSION** Why did the Emancipation Proclamation not apply to slaves in Union states?
- 4. COMPREHENSION** What did Lee hope to gain when he invaded Pennsylvania?
- 5. CRITICAL THINKING** Explain this statement: "The war aims of North and South ensured that the war would continue until one side won total victory."

CHAPTER 8 TIMELINE

