The Mother of All Review Sheets (MOARS) – Part II

V. Jacksonian Democracy 1828-1840

- Popular Democracy on the Rise
  - Interest in politics grows greatly in the period 1824-1840.
  - Anger over the results of the Election of 1824, tariffs, and slavery bring about new parties—the National Republicans (Adams) and the Democrats (Jackson).
  - Universal Manhood Suffrage – most states drop property qualifications for voting during this period.

- Election of 1828 – “The Revolution of 1828”
  - Jackson (Democrat) v. JQ Adams (National Republican)
  - Andrew Jackson wins easily; promises to “restore democracy”
  - Jackson’s victory illustrated the growing power of the west, and the influence of the common man in politics as a result of changes to voter requirements in the 1800s.

- Jackson as President 1828-1836
  - Style: informal, champions the common man, westerner, decisive, stubborn, feisty
  - Meets with his "kitchen cabinet“ – informal advisors
  - Spoils System – Jackson removes loyal officials and replaces them with loyal members of his party. He calls this “rotation in office” and argues it helps keep fresh blood in the government.
  - Rise of the Common Man

- Issues
  - Nullification. Southern states are upset with the high tariffs (especially the Tariffs of 1828 & 1832) which raise prices and unfairly protect northern industry at the expense of southerners. John C. Calhoun—a southern champion of states’ rights—drafts the South Carolina Exposition in which he argues that states can nullify (declare void) any “unjust laws” passed by the Federal gov’t. In 1832, South Carolina carries through on this theory by nullifying the Tariff of 1832. Jackson threatens to send troops into South Carolina under the Force Act and it looks like a civil war might break out. Henry Clay (the Great Compromiser) resolves the issue by helping pass a lower tariff in 1833.
  - Indian Removal. As the nation grows, the US Congress passes the Indian Removal Act which calls for transplanting native tribes to reservations west of the Mississippi River. Some tribes sell land via treaty, others resist. In the Black Hawk War, the Sauk and Fox Indians of Illinois and Wisconsin fight for lands, but are defeated. The Seminole War is a lengthy resistance by Indians in Florida. The Cherokee fought removal in the courts. In Cherokee Nation v. Georgia and Worcester v. Georgia, John Marshall’s Supreme Court ruled that Indian nations were sovereign nations and that states could not encroach on their lands. Jackson famously replied “John Marshall has made his ruling, now let him enforce it” and refused to intervene as Georgians began moving onto Cherokee lands. In 1837, the last of the Cherokee were forced to leave Georgia on the Trail of Tears.
  - Bank War. Jackson and his supporters were opposed to the Bank of the United States, which they viewed as a corrupt and undemocratic institution. Jackson’s opponents—the Whig Party led by Henry Clay and Daniel Webster—tried to renew the Bank’s charter in 1832. Jackson vetoed the recharter Bank of the United States and following his reelection in 1832 withdrew all federal funds from the BUS and re-deposited them into state banks in loyal, democratic states. Consequences: a lack of a stable banking system results in the Panic of 1837 shortly thereafter.

- Opposition to Jackson: The Whig Party
  - After the Election of 1828, the National Republicans disappear. A new party—the Whig Party—emerges. The Whigs believed Jackson was too strong of an executive (calling him King Andrew the First) and opposed his policies and his tactics. The Whig Party was dominated by nationalists such as Henry Clay and Daniel Webster (who wanted tariffs, internal improvements, and a national bank), but it was really just an anti-Jackson party that included people of all kinds of differing viewpoints.

- Hard Cider Campaign 1840 - After unsuccessfully attempting to oust Jackson in 1832 and his successor, Martin Van Buren, in 1836, the Whigs “out-Jacksoned Jackson” by running a war hero in 1840. The campaign ignored issues and instead focused on hoopla to sell the President. William Henry Harrison (“Old Tippecanoe”) was marketed as a common man who was born in a log cabin and drank hard cider (thus the “Hard Cider and Log Cabin” campaign), while Martin Van Buren—whose presidency was marred by the Panic of 1837—was depicted as a wealthy dandy who sipped champagne in the White House. Harrison won. Unfortunately for Henry Clay and Daniel Webster, who sought to control Harrison, he died only 30 days after his inauguration.
VI. The Era of Reform

- The rise of the common man in the 1820s-40s leads to a wave of reforms during the period to respond to changes in society such as immigration, industrialization, and urbanization. These reforms illustrated the growing participation of people in their government, but not all reformers had the interest of the lower classes in mind.

  o Immigration. During the 1840s there was a sharp increase in immigration, especially among the Irish and German immigrants. The Potato Famine in Ireland in the mid-1840s resulted in a surge of Irish immigrants. Mostly poor and fleeing starvation, these tended to settle in major cities, where urban conditions grew progressively worse. German immigration increased following failed democratic revolutions in Germany in 1848, but Germans tended to have more wealth and settled in farming areas in the Midwest (Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota). Nativists—those who opposed immigration and gave preference to native-born Americans—formed the Know-Nothing Party in an attempt to halt immigration. They believed immigrants undermined American values, traditions, and democracy. Anti-Catholicism played a major role in their attitudes, especially towards the Irish.

  o Abolition. (see section VII below).

  o Second Great Awakening. This was a religious movement that became popular among the common man. It emphasized emotionalism over intellectualism, and religious revivals called camp meetings held in rural areas attracted tens of thousands of participants. The religious fervor was especially strong in western New York, which became known as the “burned over district.” New religious sects emerged, including the Mormons, the Millerites (who believed the end of the world was imminent), as well as evangelical Protestant denominations such as the Methodists and Baptists.

  o Communitarianism. In response to the changing economic realities (e.g., rapid industrialization and competition), some tried to find alternative ways of living; most failed to be profitable and collapse after a few years:
    - Brook Farm – a transcendentalist commune based on the concept of “cooperation, hard work, and intellectual pursuits.”
    - Oneida – noted for its unorthodox sexual practices, the Oneidas embraced communism. No ownership of property was allowed; the Oneida’s shared all things (including their spouses—they called it “complex marriage”). Children were raised by the community, not individual parents.
    - New Harmony – an attempt to create an alternative to industrial capitalism, the workers at New Harmony shared the profits of their labor and were given fair wages, good hours, schooling, and housing.

  o Public Schools. If the common man was going to be entrusted with the right to vote, then it stood to reason that the gov’t should provide an education to ensure voters were capable of self-gov’t. Horace Mann was a Massachusetts educator who fought for standardizing the length of the school year and better training for teachers. William McGuffey’s Readers became the most common textbook of the time, teaching not only reading and writing, but also civic values such as patriotism, hard work, honesty, kindness, and thrift.

  o Prison Reform. Dorothea Dix fought for the creation of more humane asylums for the treatment/care of the mentally ill as well as improvement of prisons. The goal became reform of prisoners (thus, they were called “penitentiaries” or “reformatories,” rather than simply the jailing of them).

  o Temperance. This movement aimed to curb the consumption of alcohol, which was a major problem in America. Advocates of temperance argued that alcohol hurt families and resulted in a poor and unreliable workforce. Maine is the first state to ban alcohol in 1853.

  o Women’s Rights – Women played a major role in the many of the reform movements above, so it stood to reason that some would begin to advocate for themselves as well. The Seneca Falls Convention in 1848 was the first women’s rights convention, organized by reformers such as Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton. It issued the Declaration of Rights which borrowed language from the Declaration of Independence saying that “all men and women are created equal” and demanded the right to vote. Some men and women opposed this, suggesting that women's role in the home and family was too important and that women should focus on this sphere. This notion was sometimes called the “cult of domesticity.”
VI. Growth and Expansion

- Manifest Destiny -- During the 1840s the spirit of “manifest destiny”—the belief that Americans were destined by God to expand across the continent—swept the nation.

- James K. Polk & Election of 1844 – In 1844, James K. Polk was elected President on a platform of expansion. He called for the annexation of Texas, and full occupation of the Oregon Territory, as well as the acquisition of California.

- Texas’ annexation. Texas had won its independence from Mexico in the 1830s, but Jackson refused to annex Texas due to fears that it would start a fight over slavery. Texas remained independent as the Lone Star Republic until 1845 after the election of Polk.

- 54º 40’ or Fight! Polk also called for the full occupation of the Oregon Territory (up to the 54º 40’ parallel), which had been jointly occupied with Britain since the 1820s. However, Polk negotiated with Britain and settled on dividing the territory at the 49º parallel.

- The Mexican War
  o Causes
    ▪ California – The US sends James Slidell (Secretary of State) to attempt to buy California for $20 million but Mexico refused. The US then looked to gain California through military means.
    ▪ Texas Border Dispute – Mexico claimed the US-Mexico border was at the Nueces River; the US claimed it was at the Rio Grande.
    ▪ After Mexico refused to sell California, Polk moves troops into the disputed territory along the Rio Grande and provokes Mexico into attacking. Congress declares war after Polk states “American blood has been shed on American soil.”
  o Opposition to the War
    ▪ Came primarily from “conscience” Whigs and abolitionists who felt the war was being fought to add slave territory. Among these was Abraham Lincoln, whose “spot resolutions” demanded that Polk tell Congress the precise spot where American blood had been shed. The resolutions are defeated numerous times in the House.
  o Consequences of the War
    ▪ Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo (1848). The US takes California, Utah, and Nevada; pays Mexico $15 million. In the Gadsden Purchase (1854), the US paid an additional $10 million for a gila-monster infested strip of desert just south of the border. The land was purchased because it was the easiest route to lay a transcontinental railroad.
    ▪ The US—which had been the protector of countries in Central and South America—is now seen as an aggressive nation.
    ▪ The slavery issue comes to the forefront.
  o Slavery and the Mexican War
    ▪ The Wilmot Proviso – during the war, the US House of Representatives passed the Wilmot Proviso, which declared that “neither slavery, nor indentured servitude” would be allowed in any territories won in the Mexican war. Southerners in the Senate blocked the measure, which signaled that a fight over slavery would erupt again over the question of whether slavery would be allowed in California, Utah, and New Mexico.

VII. Slavery & Abolition

- During the antebellum period, slavery became an increasingly troublesome issue. Due to the cotton gin, southerners had grown dependent on King Cotton and the slave labor that helped harvest it. However, the rise of abolitionism and a number of slave revolts resulted in increased anxiety about the future of slavery in the United States. In order to defend slavery, southerners began to argue that slavery was not just a “necessary evil” but actually a “positive good” for America.
  o King Cotton & the Slave Kingdom
    ▪ Cotton becomes the major crop in the Deep South. The cotton growing states have a concentration of slaves and are known as the Black Belt.
Most southerners (over 6 million) in the south did not own any slaves. Of those that did, most owned between 1 and 5 slaves. Less than 2,000 southern families owned more than 100 slaves. Slave required a huge investment on the part of slave-owners. Because of this, cotton production came to be dominated by an oligarchy of large planters who controlled the southern economy, politics, and society. Slave life was full of hardships. Slaves worked long hours (from "kin to kint"), had no protection for their marriages, saw children and relatives sold or willed away, were denied education, lived in primitive conditions, and were subjected to cruel punishments. Slaves resisted through any number of means. Armed revolts were the least common and least successful form of resistance. Slaves ran away, sometimes on the Underground Railroad, fleeing to Mexico, Canada, or unorganized territories. Everyday resistance such as work slowdowns, feigning illness, breaking tools, and continuing cultural practices (such as songs, music, and religious rites) were more common.

- **Abolitionism** – had been on the rise since the American Revolution.
  - **American Colonization Society** – the colonization movement was formed in the late 1790s and sought to free slaves and send them back to Africa. Liberia was founded as a colony for free black. However, few African-Americans wanted to return to Africa; for them, America was home.
  - **William Lloyd Garrison** – in 1831, he began publishing The Liberator an anti-slavery newspaper. In 1833, Garrison founded the American Anti-Slavery Society, the first abolitionist organization to call for “immediate, uncompensated emancipation.”
  - **Frederick Douglass** – one of the most important African-American abolitionists, Douglass was a runaway slave who fled to the north and began speaking out against slavery. To prove he was a slave, Douglass published his biography A Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass. He also published The North Star, the first black anti-slavery newspaper.
  - **Harriet Tubman** – Also called “Moses,” Tubman was one of the most wanted “conductors” on the Underground Railroad. She made 19 trips into the south to liberate slaves, and by 1856 a $40,000 reward was offered for her capture.

- **Slave Revolts and Uprisings in the Antebellum Period**
  - **Gabriel Prosser’s Plot (1800)** – A plot to lead slaves to seize Richmond, Va and take Governor James Monroe hostage. The plot cannot be carried out on schedule because of rains and floods, and is betrayed by a participant the next day.
  - **Vessey Plot (1822)** – A massive plot for slaves to rise up in Charleston, South Carolina. The plot may have involved thousands of slaves. It was discovered and following a lengthy trial, Vesey and thirty-six others were hanged.
  - **Nat Turners Rebellion (1831)** – One of the few plots to actually be carried out, Nat Turner and four slaves began killing slave-owners in Virginia, going from plantation to plantation and picking up more slave soldiers along the way. By the time white authorities suppress the rebellion, over 55 white slaveowners (men, women, and children) had be shot, stabbed, and hacked to death. In response, 55 slaves are tried, convicted and hanged; another 200 African-Americans (many not involved in the plot at all) were killed by white mobs.

- **Reactions of Southerners**
  - Southerners begin tightening controls on slaves, enacting tougher slave codes and restricting their movement.
  - **Gag Rule (1835)** – the House of Representatives bans the reading of anti-slavery petitions on the House floor because the debates are taking up so much time.
  - Abolitionist literature is banned from the US mail in 1835. Southerners claim it is “incendiary.” One such pamphlet was David Walker’s Appeal to the Colored Citizens of the World which in was published in 1829 and called upon African-Americans in the south to rise up and take arms against southern slaveowners.
  - Defenses of slavery are drafted proclaiming that slavery is a good thing. A common theme in southern pro-slavery literature suggests that slaves are better cared for than northern factory workers and that slaves are happy on plantations and would suffer greatly if freed.
V. Events Leading to the Civil War, 1850-61

- The period 1850-1860 was marked by a series of events that led to the breakup of the Union in 1861. The years were marked by growing distrust between free and slave states, and the failure of political compromises.

- **California.** As a result of the discovery of gold in California in 1848, California's population boomed and it petitioned for admission to the Union as a free state in 1850. Southerners resisted the addition of this free territory, and it appeared the impasse might lead to the collapse of the Union. At one point in the debate in Congress, John C. Calhoun even proposed amending the Constitution to create a system with two presidents—one from the North and one from the South, each holding a veto over the other! In an attempt to hold the nation together, Henry Clay proposed the **Compromise of 1850**, a series of laws which would help give both the north and the south a bit of what they wanted. The Compromise did the following:
  - Admit California as free state;
  - Ban the slave trade in Washington, D.C.,
  - Allowed Utah and New Mexico to decide whether they would be slave or free based on **popular sovereignty** (a vote of the people in those territories).
  - A more stringent federal **Fugitive Slave Law** was passed, requiring states to help return runaway slaves.  
    - This law becomes very controversial, as it required northerners to become complicit in helping preserve slavery.
- **Uncle Tom's Cabin** (1854) – Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel about slave life dramatically portrayed the plight of slaves attempting to run to freedom. The book became a best seller in the north and fuel at book-burning parties in the South.

- **Kansas-Nebraska Act** (1854) – Stephen Douglas, a northern Democrat from Illinois proposed the Kansas-Nebraska Act as a way of gaining southern support for a northern transcontinental railroad to connect Illinois and California. The act called for the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, and the opening of the Kansas and Nebraska territories based on **popular sovereignty**.

- **Bleeding Kansas** – with the future of the Kansas territory open to a vote, pro- and anti-slavery settlers began moving to Kansas to be a part of the vote. On the day of the vote, pro-slavery “**border ruffians**” from Missouri crossed the border and illegally voted in the territorial election, resulting in the election of a pro-slavery government with its capital in Lecompton, Kansas. Anti-slavery politicians cried foul and refused to accept the results of the election, setting up their own govt at Topeka, Kansas. Over the next two years, a miniature civil war broke out in Kansas, and fighting between the two groups resulted in hundreds of deaths. Following the “**sack of Lawrence**”-an attack on an anti-slavery town, John Brown and his sons lead a raid that resulted in the murder of five pro-slavery settlers by hacking them to death with broadswords. This event became known as the **Pottawotamie Massacre**.

- **Sumner-Brooks Affair** – just days before Brown’s attack on Pottawatomie, Senator Charles Sumner was severely beaten with an 11 ounce cane by Congressman Preston Brooks on the floor of the US Senate. Brooks was enraged by disparaging comments Sumner had made about his uncle (a South Carolina senator), the south, and slavery. Brooks resigned from the House of Representatives but was reelected overwhelmingly. Southerners sent him baskets of new canes, some engraved with sentiments such as “**Hit Him Again!**” The incident illustrated the rising passions over the issue of slavery.

- **Dred Scott Case (1856)**- In 1856, the Supreme Court ruled that in **Dred Scott v. Sanford** that a) African-Americans (whether slave or free) were not citizens under the Constitution; b) the Congress could not prevent slave owners from bringing slaves (which are simply property) anywhere in the nation. Scott, a slave, had argued that because his master (an army surgeon) had been stationed in the free territory of Wisconsin, he should be freed. This decision in essence overturned both the Northwest Ordinance of 1787’s prohibition on slavery and the Missouri Compromises barring of slavery north of 36º 30’.
- **John Brown’s Raid** on Harpers Ferry – one of the final events leading to the break up of the Union was John Brown’s raid on Harpers Ferry. Brown’s plan was to seize the Federal arsenal, take the weapons, and lead a slave revolt in Virginia. The plan was ill-conceived and Brown and his band of followers was captured. Brown’s raid convinced many southerners that all northerners were all stark-raving made lunatics bent on destroying the south. During his trial, Brown gave stirring speeches that turned him into a martyr for the anti-slavery cause, even if most disagreed with his tactics.

- **Election of 1860.** In 1860, a four-way race broke up the national parties and paved the way for Southern secession. The Democratic Party split into northern and southern wings, each running a candidate: Stephen Douglas in the North and John Breckenridge in the South. The new Republican Party ran Abraham Lincoln, a virtual unknown. Lincoln was not on the ticket in 10 southern states, won no states in south, but still won a majority of electoral votes and was elected president. For southerners, the election confirmed their belief that they had no political voice in the Union. Although Lincoln promised not to interfere with slavery, South Carolina seceded from the Union a month after the election; by February 1861, the Confederate States of America had formed with seven southern states; 4 states (VA, NC, TN, ARK) were still teetering on the verge of secession, while the Union feared that Kentucky, Missouri, and Maryland might secede as well.

VIII. The Civil War, 1861-1865

- Causes of the War
  - Slavery, disagreement over states rights (e.g., tariffs, slavery), secession of southern states.
  - Attack on Ft. Sumter begins the war.

- Politics during the War
  - Border states – Maryland, Kentucky, and Missouri remained in the Union, but were slave states. To keep these states loyal, Lincoln used his war powers to suspend the *writ of habeus corpus*, institute martial law, censor newspapers, seize telegraph offices, etc. The border states were critical to Union success, so Lincoln avoids making statements about slavery that might cause the border states to leave.
    - **Political Issues**
      - **Copperheads** – A faction of the northern Democratic Party that opposed the war and Lincoln’s policies. Ohioan Clement Vallangdigham was a Copperhead that Lincoln had arrested and exiled to the south for “treasonous” statements against the government.
      - **Emancipation Proclamation** – after it was clear that border states were secure, Lincoln issued his Emancipation Proclamation. The act went into effect on Jan. 1, 1863, and declared that slaves in all states still in rebellion were free. It also permitted the Union to enlist African-American soldiers. The EP did NOT free slaves in the border states or states that had already been conquered by the Union army.
      - **Foreign Policy** – The CSA was hoping to gain recognition and support from European nations (esp., Britain and France) during the war. The USA sought to prevent this and keep European nations out of the war. Several events threatened this neutrality:
        - **Trent Incident** – The US stopped and boarded a British ship that was carrying two Confederate diplomats and arrested them. Britain protested that its rights as a neutral nation were being violated and threatened to go to war with the US. Lincoln said “one war at a time” is enough, and apologized to the British gov’t.
        - **Alabama Claims** – the Alabama was a British-built Confederate warship that attacked Union shipping. Ships like the Alabama sunk hundreds of Yankee merchant ships, and in 1872 the British gov’t agreed to pay $15.5 million dollars in damages to the US.
        - **Maximillian II** – taking advantage of the United States’ preoccupation with the Civil War, France installed a puppet emperor—Maximillian II—in Mexico during the war. Although this was a clear violation of the Monroe Doctrine, France was gambling that the South would win and a weakened US would not be able to remove them from Mexico. After the northern victory, France faced a powerful US military machine with a massive army of seasoned veterans. It withdrew support from Maximillian, who was immediately overthrown by the Mexican people and executed.
• **Conscription** (the "draft") – The armies were primarily filled with volunteers, something encouraged in the north by the payment of **bounties** (bonuses) for enlisting. However, both the US and the CSA employed a draft, and both allowed exemptions for the wealthy. In the north, the wealthy hired substitutes or paid a $300 commutation fee to avoid the draft (leading to the name **$300 Men**). In the south, property owners with more than 20 slaves were exempt. Critics of the draft in both the north and south complained that this was a "rich man's war and a poor man's fight."

• **New York City Draft Riots** – In July 1863, opposition to the draft among Irish-Americans and racial antagonism led to 3 days in rioting in which over 100 persons were killed.

• **Election of 1864.** In 1864, Lincoln is challenged by both anti-war Democrats (who wanted an immediate end to the war) and radical Republicans (who wanted a harsher plan for dealing with the states and more rights for African-Americans). The anti-war Democrats (the Copperheads) selected **George MacClellan** as their candidate. In response, Lincoln created a coalition of pro-war Republicans and pro-war Democrats which he called the **National Union Party** and chose Tennessee Democrat Andrew Johnson as his running mate. As a result of key Union victories in the fall of 1864, Lincoln’s popularity grows and he was re-elected.

- **Economics**
  - In the North – the war stimulated the industrial economy. The war was funded by new taxes, including an income tax, and the selling of bonds. A new National Bank was created (the first since Jackson) and issued millions of dollars in **Greenbacks** (paper money) as a new national currency.
  - In the South – the war destroyed the southern economy. Shortages of food and supplies were common due to the loss of manpower, emancipation of slaves, and Union occupation. The Union blockade hurt cotton exports and prevented needed industrial goods from coming in. **Inflation** was rampant, hit over 9000% by the end of the war.

- **Major Battles & Significances**
  - Ft. Sumter – April 1861 – The opening of the war; the CSA fires upon Ft. Sumter after Lincoln decides to send more supplies (but not military reinforcements) to the fort. After the surrender of Sumter, Lincoln called for 75,000 troops for 3 month enlistments. This prompted the secession of the states of VA, NC, TN, and ARK.
  - First Battle of Bull Run – July 1861 – The first major battle of the war, Union forces are stopped as they attempt to march toward Richmond, Va. The battle illustrates that the war will not be won easily, or over in one quick battle.
  - The Peninsula Campaign – June 1862 – The Union’s second attempt to take Richmond. **Gen. George MacClellan**, an intelligent, but overly cautious general, took over 85,000 troops up the York peninsula, but took so long in doing so (despite outnumbering the Confederates) that Robert E. Lee was able to fortify Richmond and drive MacClellan back down the peninsula to the sea.
  - Antietam – September 1862 – In the fall of 1862, Robert E. Lee decided to invade Maryland in an attempt to pry Maryland away from the Union and gain foreign recognition. After discovering Lee’s battle plans (which were found wrapped around a package of cigars), MacClellan inexplicably hesitated for 16 hours before pursuing Lee. The forces met at Sharpsburg, Maryland near the Antietam Creek in a battle that became the bloodiest single day of fighting in the war. The Union won, but MacClellan failed to pursue Lee who escaped back into Virginia with his army. The Union victory secured Maryland, kept Britain and France out of the war, and gave Lincoln the victory he was looking for before issuing the **Emancipation Proclamation**. MacClellan was fired by Lincoln after this battle.
  - Gettysburg – July 1-3, 1863 – A turning point battle in the Civil War. At Gettysburg, Lee once again invaded the north by going into Pennsylvania, but was defeated in a 3-day battle. However, Lee was able to escape with his army once again.
  - Vicksburg – July 4, 1863 – After a number of successes in the west, including the fall of Tennessee, **General Ulysses S. Grant** turned his attention on Vicksburg, the last Confederate stronghold on the Mississippi. Vicksburg surrendered after a 48-day siege of almost constant shellings. The news of the back-to-back Union victories at Gettysburg and Vicksburg quieted helped turn the tide of the war.
  - Sherman’s March to the Sea – September 1864 – **William Tecumseh Sherman** was ordered to attack the transportation, communication, and economic infrastructure of Georgia. His troops cut a swathe through the south, destroying plantations, rail lines, telegraphs, warehouses, and freeing slaves as they marched from Atlanta (which was burned) to Savannah, Georgia. After his march to the sea, Sherman moved north into Columbia, South Carolina—the "hell hole of secession"—where his men left the capitol city in ruins.
  - Appomatox Court House – April 1865 – After unrelenting attacks on Lee’s army by US Grant, Lee finally surrendered his forces in the town of Appomatox Court House, Virginia in April 1865. Grant was surprisingly lenient in his terms of surrender, allowing CSA soldiers to keep their horses and personal possessions, along with three-days rations for the journey home.
Significances of the Civil War

- Ends the debate over the legality of secession. The federal union is “inseparable.”
- New freedoms for African-Americans.
  
  - The Thirteenth Amendment is ratified in 1865, abolishing slavery throughout the nation.
  - Despite discrimination (they were paid $3 less per month than white soldiers and were not allowed to by commissioned as officers) African American soldiers had shown their fighting ability in the war, which many African-American leaders believed proved they were ready for citizenship. The Massachusetts 54th Regiment gained recognition for its heroism fighting in South Carolina, just one example of about 180,000 black soldiers who fought for the Union. In all, African-Americans made up 10% of the Union army, even though they were only 1% of the total population of the North. 85% of all eligible black men in the north enlisted.

- The economy transformed. The north goes through rapid industrial growth as a result of the war and emerges even more powerful—cities such as Cleveland, Buffalo, Pittsburgh, and Chicago boom during this time. A new National Bank and higher tariffs were created during the war, and work on a transcontinental railroad began. With slavery gone, the south would have to look for a new labor system and many hoped would industrialize.