



# Reconstruction: The New South

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# Chapter 15 Section 1: Presidential Reconstruction

Concerning Reconstruction there are 3 'what if' questions that historians must consider

1. Was Reconstruction a failure?
2. What if Lincoln had lived?
3. What lasting effects did Reconstruction have on politics, culture, and race relations in the American South?

## Discussion Questions

- What was the legal conundrum regarding Southern states at the end of the Civil War?
- What was the Wade-Davis bill? What was its significance regarding Reconstruction?
- How did Andrew Johnson, a Democrat, become Abraham Lincoln's running mate and Vice President in 1864?
- What were the fundamental differences between Lincoln & Johnson's Reconstruction plan, with those of the Radical Republicans?
- What was the Freedman's Bureau?

# What was Lincoln's plan to restore the Union?



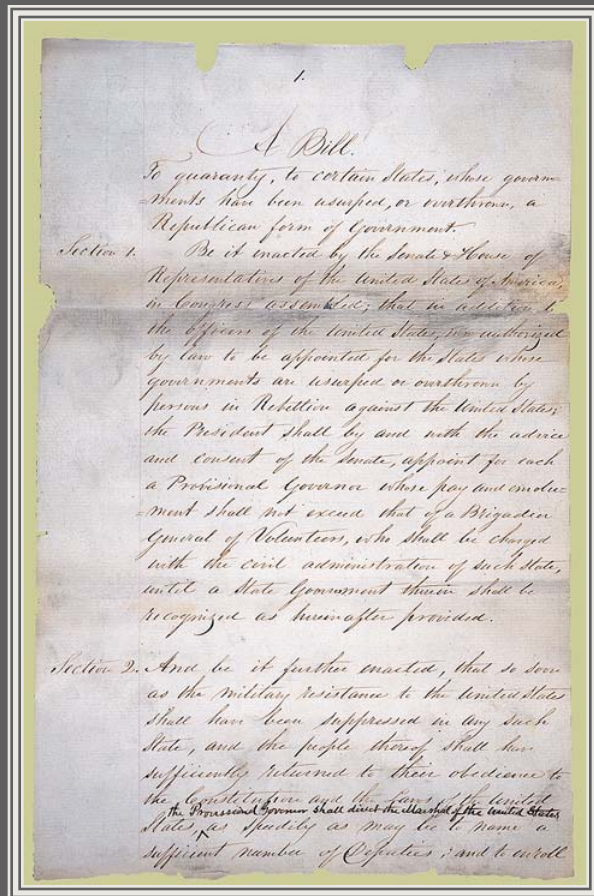
- ⇒ A general amnesty would be granted to all who would take an oath of loyalty to the United States and pledge to obey all federal laws pertaining to slavery.
- ⇒ High Confederate officials and military leaders were temporarily excluded from the process.
- ⇒ When 10% of the voters who had participated in the 1860 election had taken the oath in each state, then that state could start a new government and send representatives to Congress.

# What was Lincoln's plan for the newly freed slaves?

- ⇒ Strongly backed the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment to end slavery.
- ⇒ Favored colonization of former slaves to Africa.
- ⇒ Those who could read or write and those who served in the Union could vote.
- ⇒ Willing to let the South handle the matter.



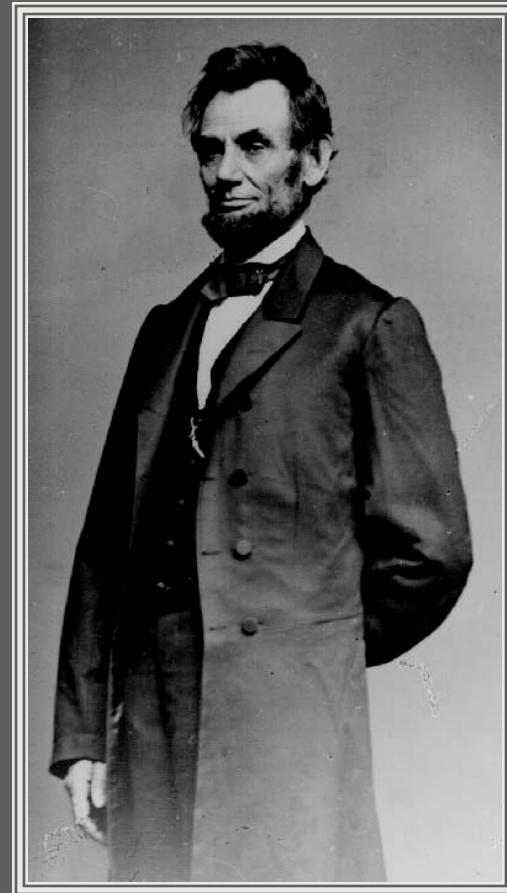
# What was the Wade-Davis Bill of 1864?



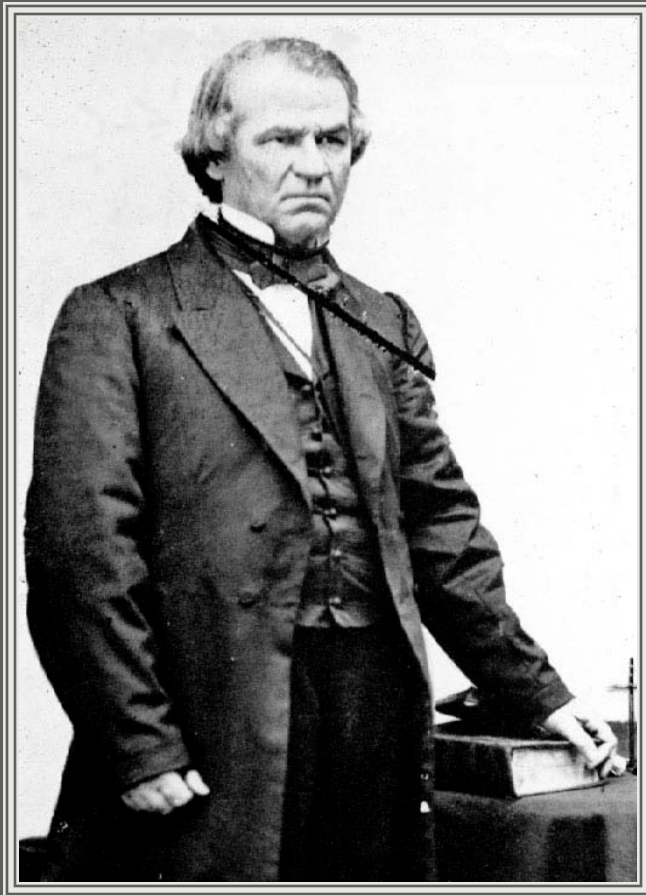
- ➔ Radical Republican plan for Reconstruction.
  - South would be put under military rule.
  - Required the majority of the state's electorate to take the loyalty as a condition of readmission.
  - Lincoln killed the bill with the use of a pocket veto.

# What happened when Tennessee, Louisiana, and Arkansas met Lincoln's conditions for readmittance to the Union?

- ⇒ Congress refused to readmit them to the Union and refused to seat their delegates.
- ⇒ Lincoln realizes that there is a battle brewing between his plan and Congress's plan for reconstruction.
- ⇒ Lincoln is assassinated at this point!!!

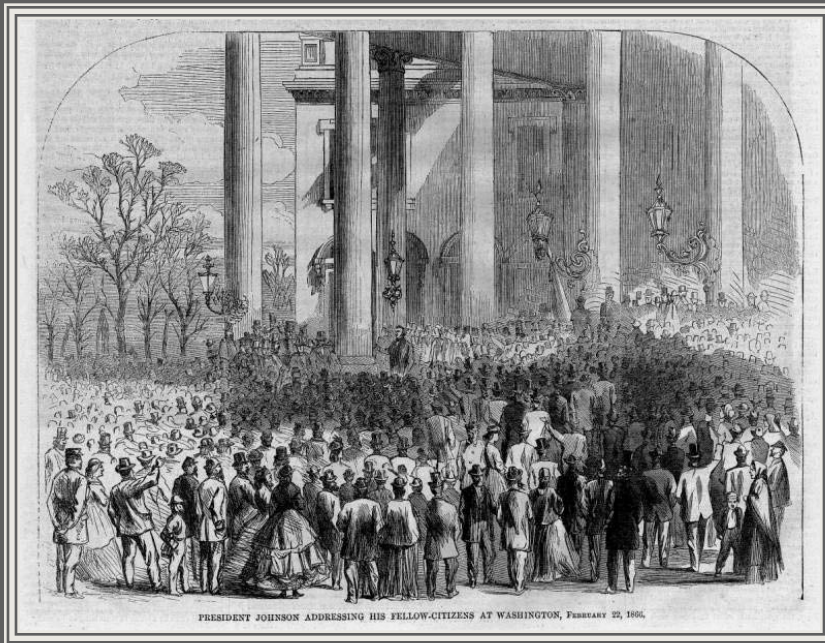


# What was Andrew Johnson's plan for Reconstruction?



- ⇒ Each Southern state abolish slavery.
- ⇒ Repeal its ordinance of secession.
- ⇒ Repudiate its war debts.

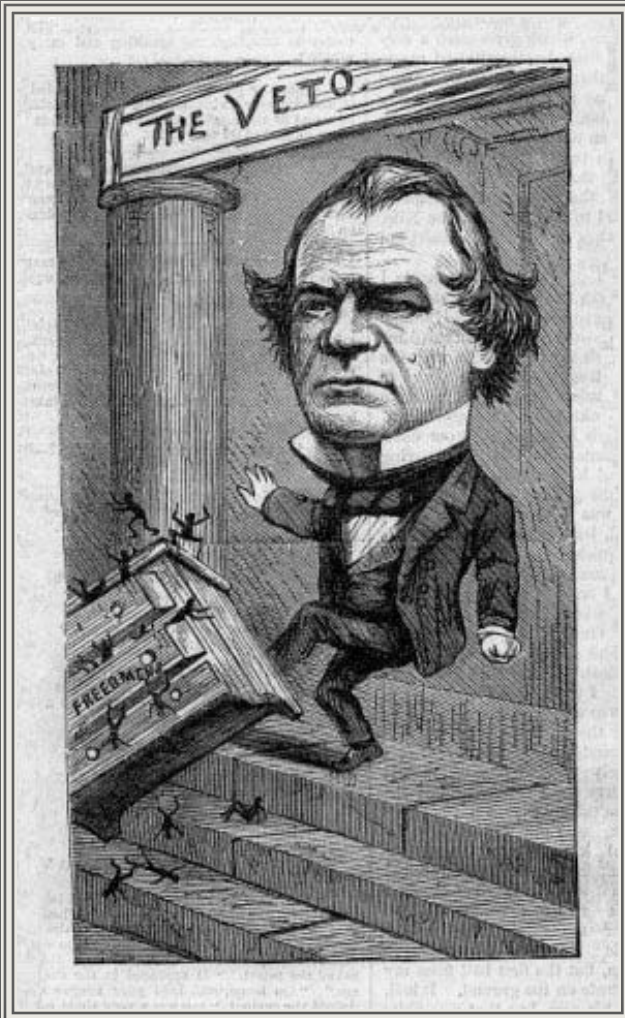
# What hampered President Johnson in his attempt out carry out his Reconstruction plan?



- ➔ He was a former Democrat.
  - Could not command the Republican majority in the Congress.
- ➔ Unelected President so he had little popular following.
- ➔ Former slave holder from Tennessee.



# What happened to each bill that the Congress passed to aid the African Americans?



- ⇒ Freedmen's Bureau Bill 1865
  - Vetoed
  - attacked it as race legislation that would encourage a life of wasteful laziness for southern blacks.
- ⇒ Civil Rights Bill of 1866
  - Vetoed
  - Johnson tried to strike down the law as a violation of states' rights

# How did Southern states use black codes to give African Americans a subordinate status in society?

- ➔ Black Codes severely limited the rights of African Americans.
- ➔ African Americans were to have a subordinate status in the South.
- ➔ Required to:
  - Have steady work
  - Limit job opportunities to farmers and servants.
- ➔ Denied the right to:
  - Vote
  - An education
  - Testify against whites
  - Handle weapons
  - Serve on juries

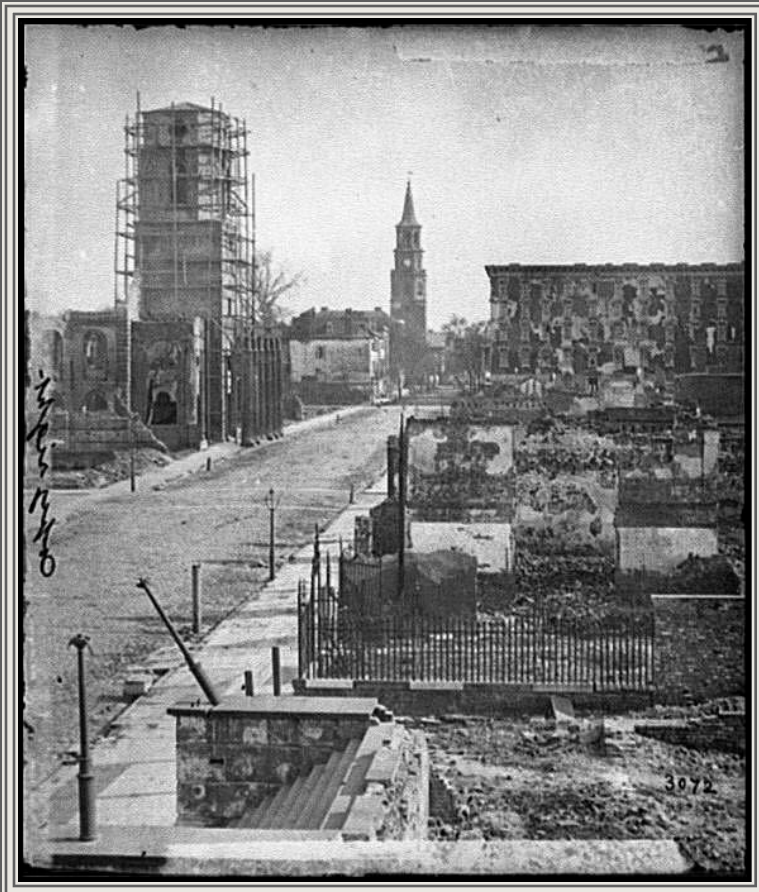


# What was the purpose of the Civil Rights Bill of 1866?

- ➔ Granted citizenship to African Americans
- ➔ Gave the federal government the power to intervene to protect the rights of freed men and women.
- ➔ Johnson vetoed it and Congress overrode it.



# How did Harry Hammond get his former plantation to work after the Civil war was over and his slaves were gone?



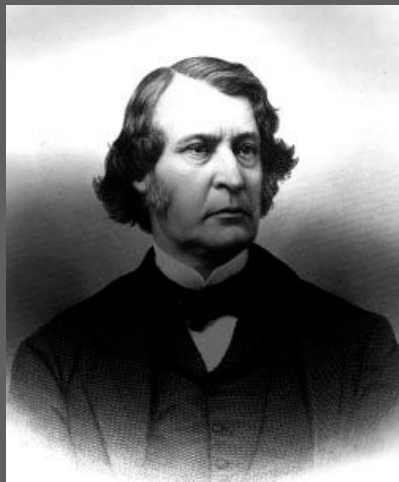
- ➔ He tried to sell his land, but there was no one interested in buying it.
- ➔ Most of the 300 former slaves stayed to help him work the land.
- ➔ He offered them the following:
  - Housing, firewood
  - Weekly food allotments
  - Every other Saturday off
  - \$15.00 a year cash and he loaned them a mule and plow to grow their own crops.

# Chapter 15 Section 2: Radical Reconstruction



**Thaddeus Stevens**

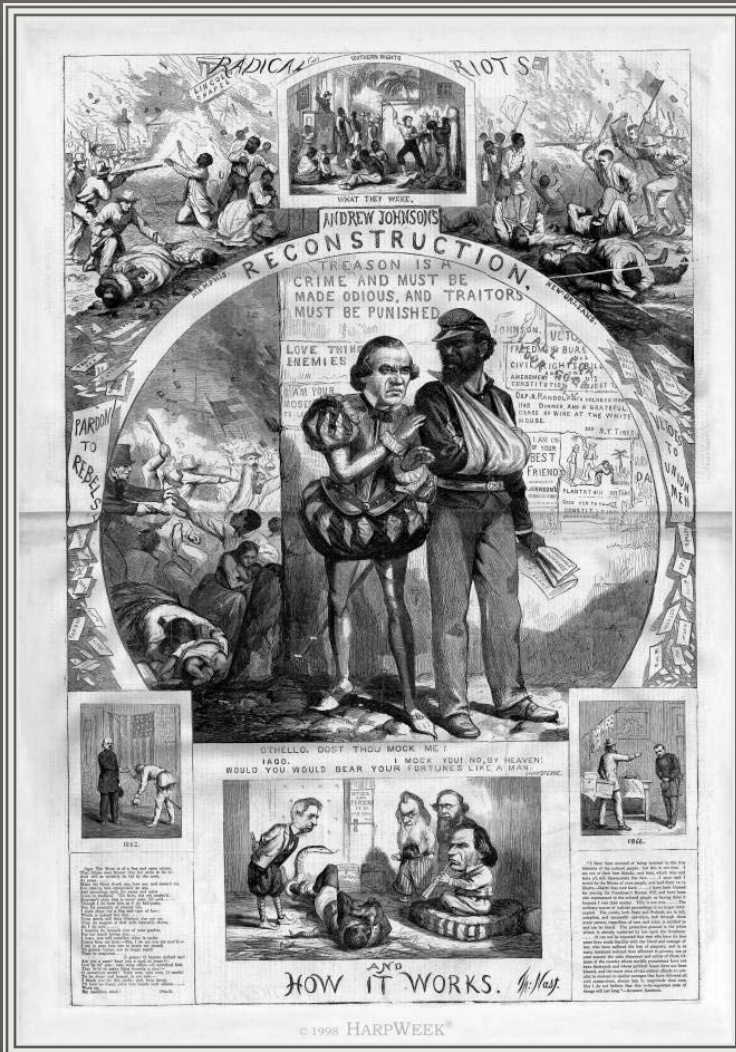
- ⇒ Following their sweeping electoral victory in 1866 what was their first piece of Reconstruction legislation?
- ⇒ How was the Tenure of Office Act an attempt by the Radical Republicans to curb President Johnson's powers?
- ⇒ Why was President Johnson impeached in 1868? Why was Johnson acquitted?
- ⇒ The 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment forbade states to deny citizens suffrage on the grounds of "race, color, or previous condition of servitude." Despite this blacks and women were still for the most part disenfranchised. Why?
- ⇒ What methods did the Republicans use to maintain rule in the South during Reconstruction?



**Charles Sumner**

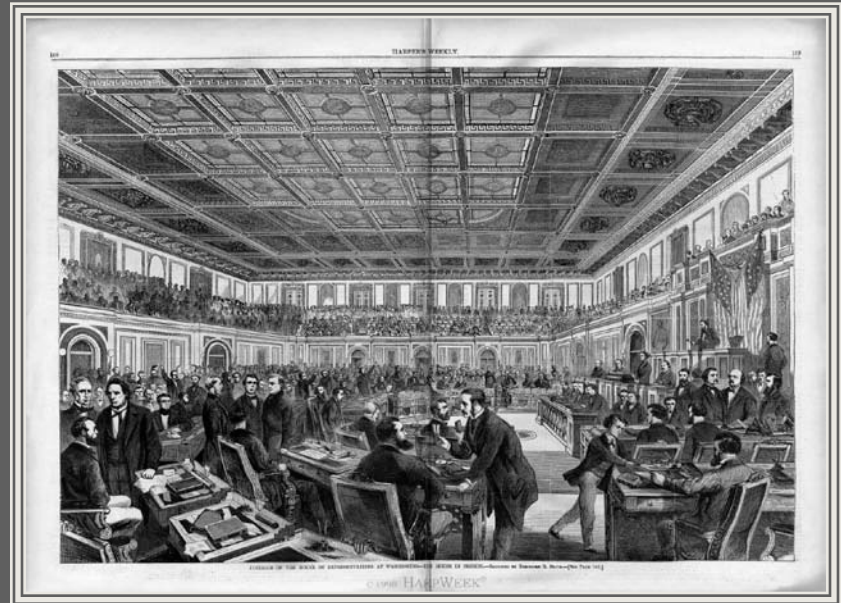
# How did the election of 1866 determine the course of Reconstruction and who won?

- ➔ It made clear who would control Reconstruction the Congress or the President.
- ➔ Radicals gained an overwhelming victory controlling both houses of Congress.
  - Had the strength to override any presidential veto.
- ➔ Believed that Congress had been given the mandate to enact their own Reconstruction plan.

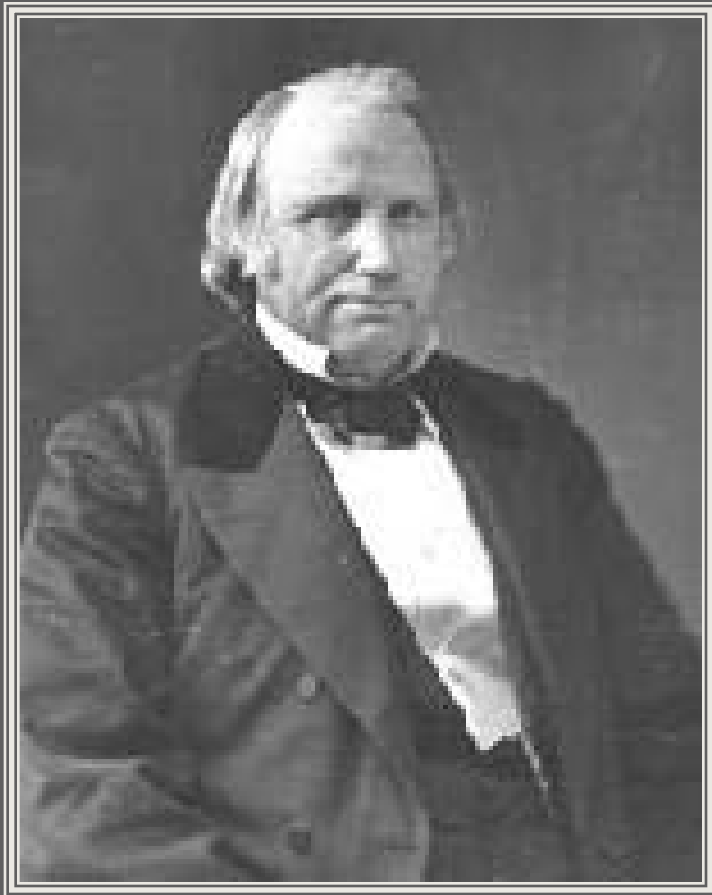


# What were the goals of the Radical Republicans for Reconstruction?

- ⇒ Sweep away the new Southern state governments and replace them with military rule.
  - Desire to punish the South
- ⇒ Ensure former Confederate leaders would have no role in governing the South.
- ⇒ Freed African American's right to vote was protected.
  - Expected that the newly freed blacks would vote Republican.



# Senator Henry Wilson

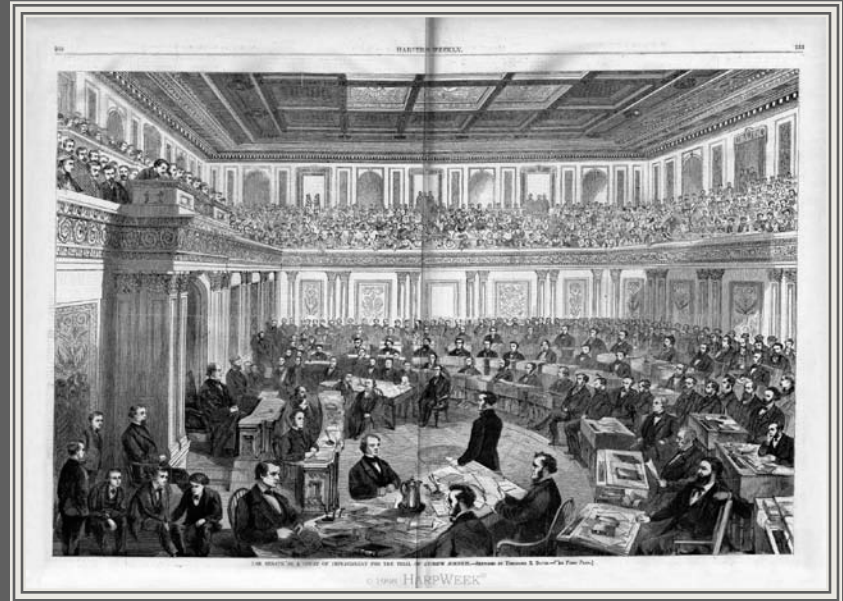


- ➔ “[Congress] must see to it that the man made free by the Constitution is a freeman indeed; that he can go where he pleases, work when and for whom he pleases...go into schools and educate himself and his children; that the rights and guarantees of the common law are his, and that he walks on earth proud and erect in the conscious dignity of freeman.”



# What were the terms of the Reconstruction Act of 1867?

- ➔ Abolished the South's new state governments and put them under military rule.
- ➔ South divided into 5 military districts, each under the command of a Union general.
- ➔ Each state required to hold a constitutional convention to frame a constitution that gave African Americans the right to vote.

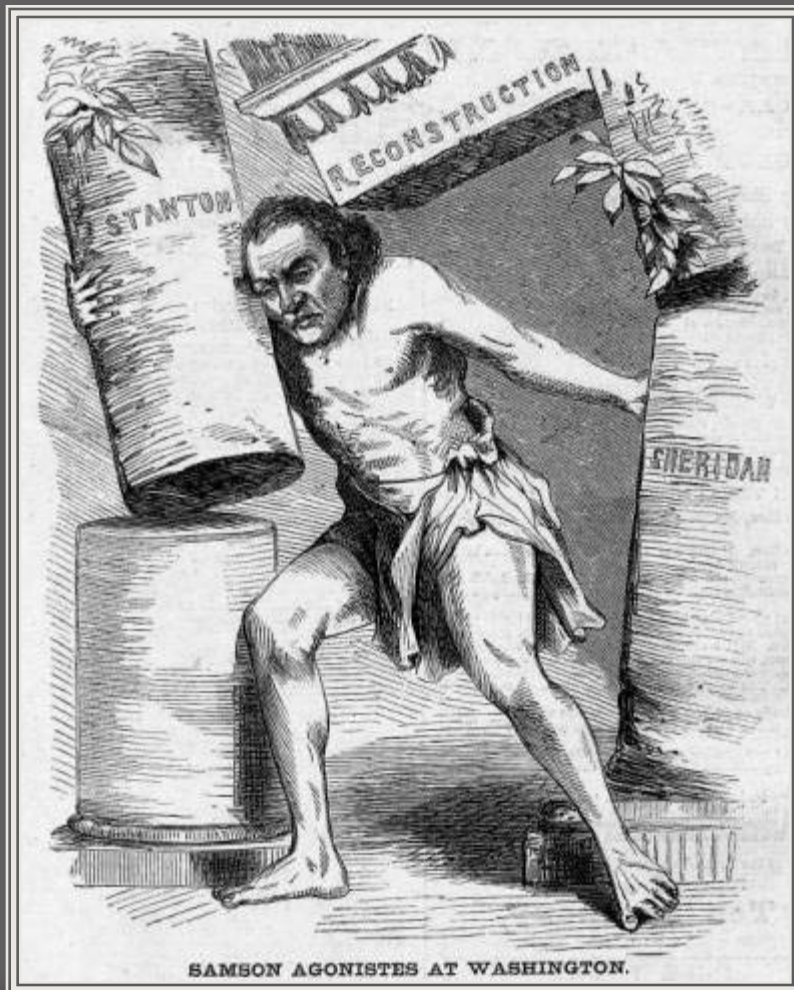


# What were the terms of the Reconstruction Act of 1867?



- ⇒ If Congress approved of the constitution, and the state ratified the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment, and if the amendment became a part of the Constitution, then the state could be readmitted to the union.
- ⇒ Another later requirement was the ratification of the 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment.

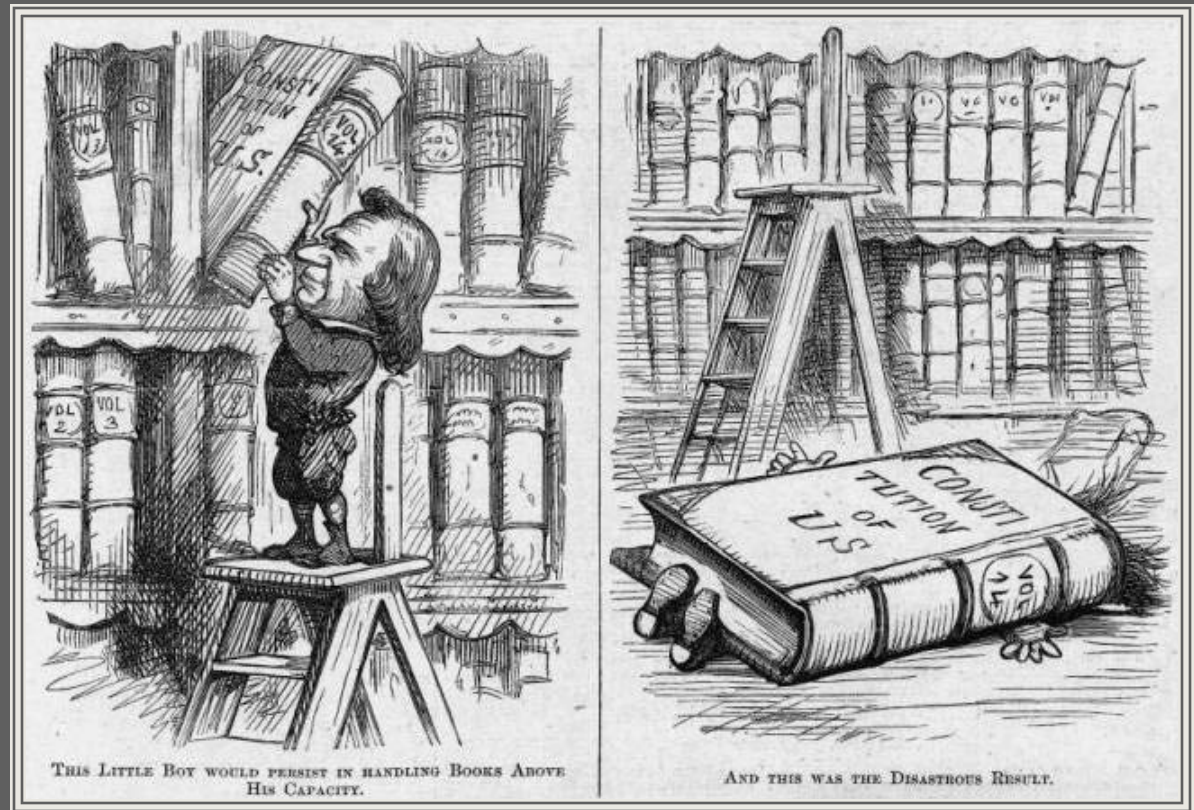
# Why did the Congress pass the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment?



- ⇒ They feared that the Supreme Court would overturn the Civil Rights Act of 1866.
- ⇒ Amendment provided the following:
  - Citizenship for African Americans
  - Equal protection under the law.
  - Barred Confederate leaders from holding political offices.

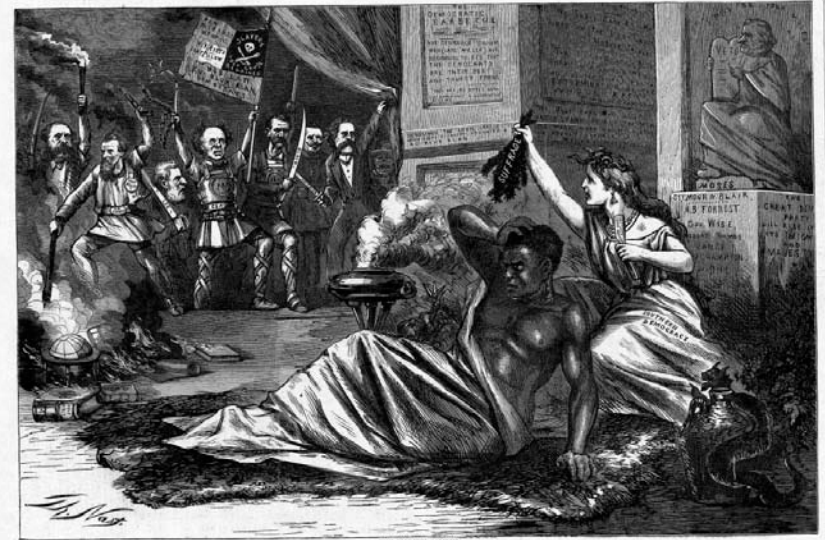
# What was President Johnson's reaction to the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment?

- ➔ Attacked the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment
- ➔ Campaigned against its ratification.

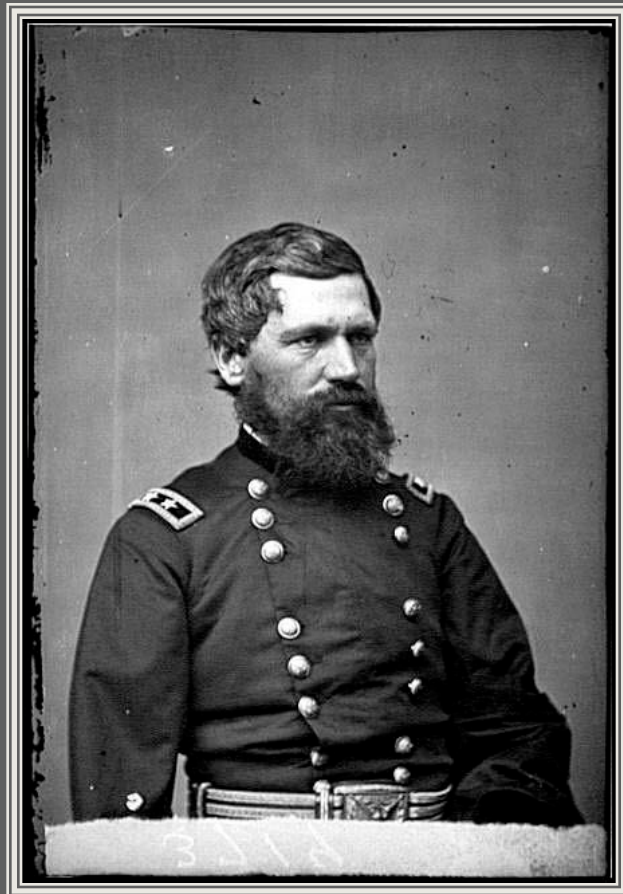


# Why did Congress pass the 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment?

- ➔ The right to vote shall not be denied on the basis of race, color or previous condition of servitude.
- ➔ Attempting to guarantee the right of African Americans to vote.



# Who led the Freedmen's Bureau?



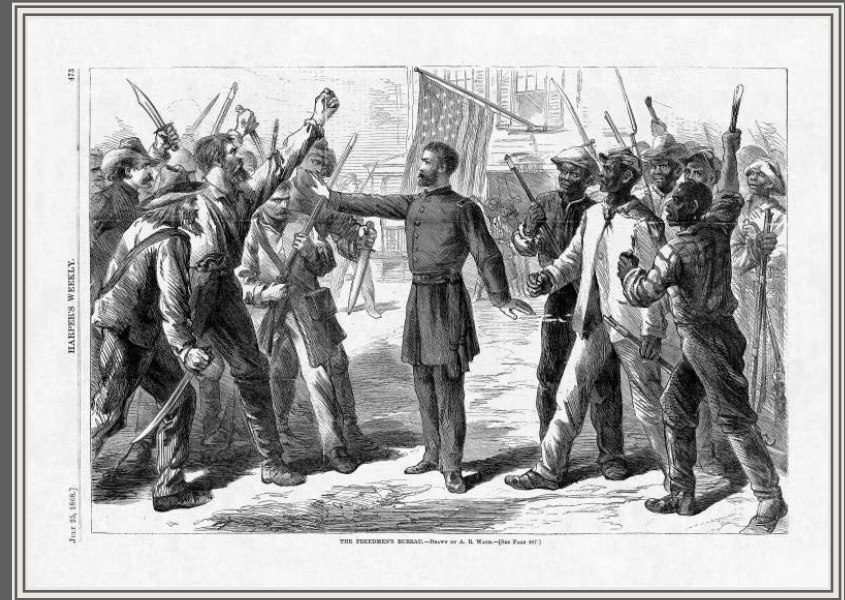
## ➔ General O. Howard

- Served as commissioner of the bureau from 1865 – 1872.
- Lost his right arm in the Peninsular Campaign
- Fought from Bull Run through Gettysburg in the East and with Sherman in his march to the sea.
- Devoted to the cause of the betterment of the blacks.

# What were the primary missions of the Freedmen's Bureau?

➔ To help African Americans adjust to their new freedom.

- Food
- Clothing
- Medical Care
- Jobs
- Education
- Land



# What three colleges were founded to train African American teachers?

- ⇒ Howard University
- ⇒ Hampton Institute
- ⇒ Fisk University



Howard University

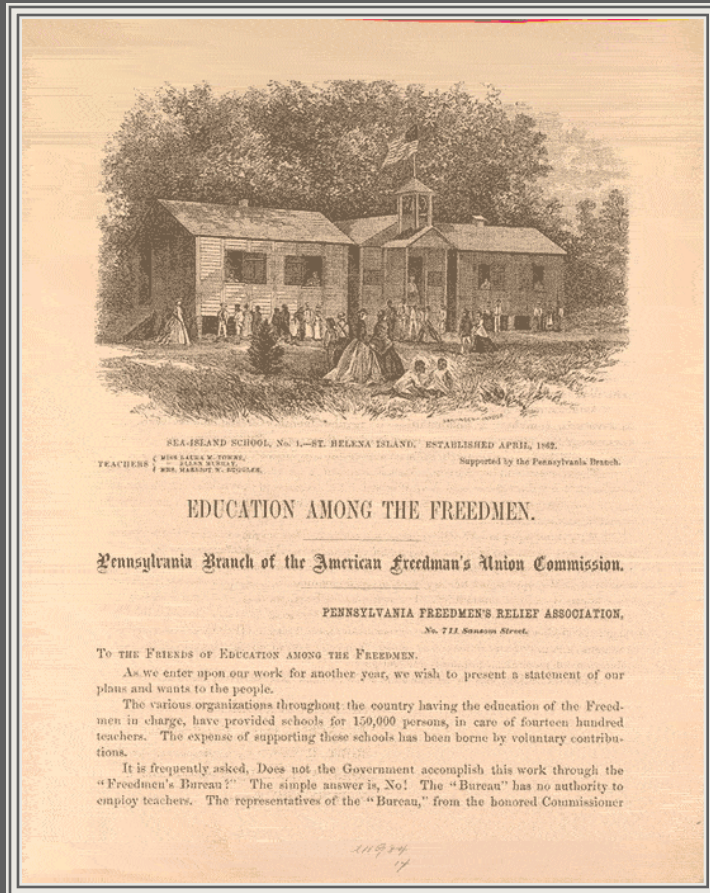


# How did the Freedmen's Bureau try to protect African Americans from being swindled by southern planters?

- ⇒ Encouraged them to sign labor contracts.
  - To provide work in return for wages.
  - To provide work in return for a share of the crops.
- ⇒ African Americans could not read or write.
  - Agents of the Freedmen's Bureau would attempt to prevent them from being cheated.
  - Never had enough agents to do this job fully.



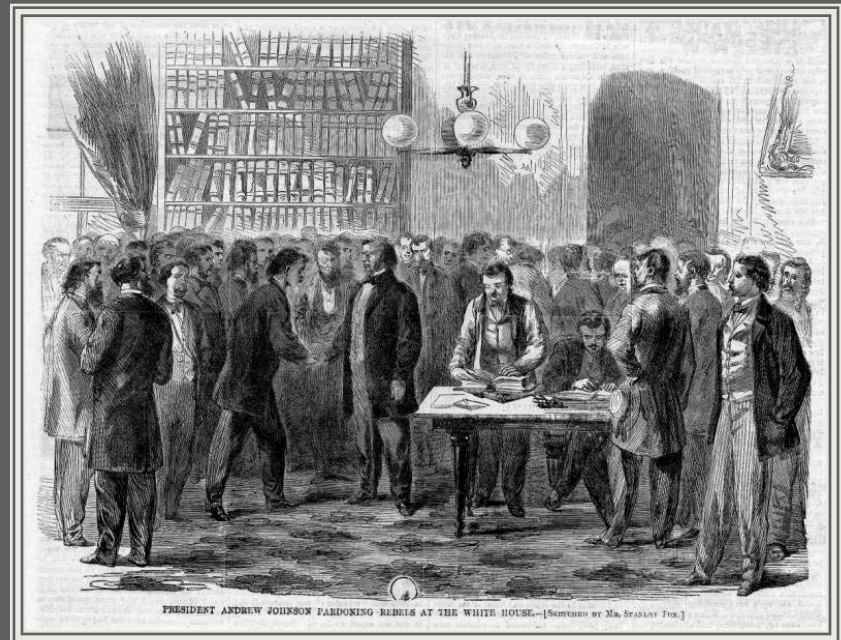
# What were the efforts by the Freedmen's Bureau to provide land to the newly freed African Americans?



- ➔ During the war Union soldiers seized large amounts of land from Southern planters.
  - Congress decided to distribute some of this land back to the freedmen.
  - Sea Islands off of South Carolina.
    - Sell or lease tracts of land up to 40 acres.
    - And a mule to help them start their lives anew.

# How did the efforts of the Freedmen's Bureau to provide land fail?

- ➔ Andrew Johnson pardoned Confederates and restored their property rights.
  - Land distributed to African Americans were returned to their owners.
  - O Howard had to return to Sea Island and convince the inhabitants to sign labor contracts to work the land.
    - Most refused to sign and decided to resist.
    - Many evicted against their will

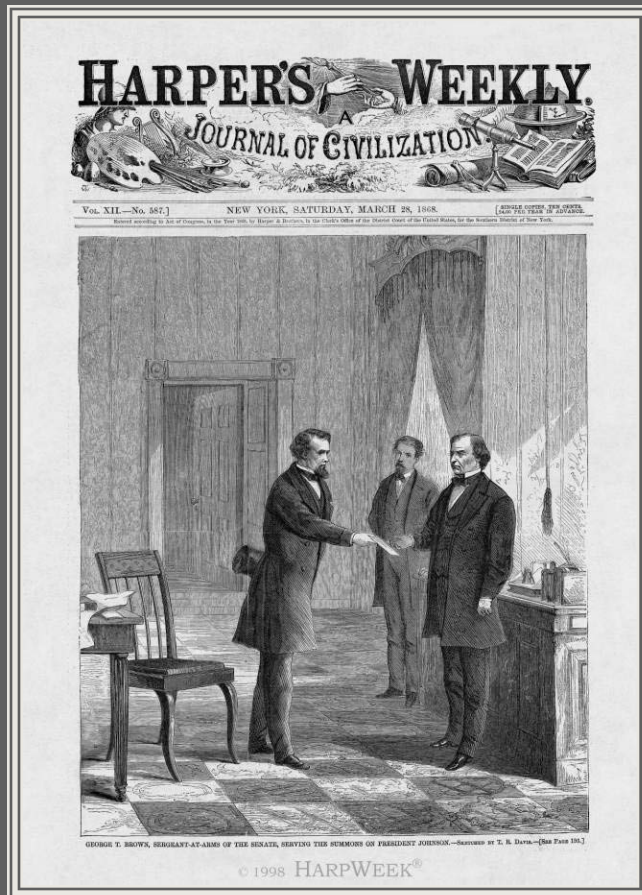


# How did President Johnson challenge the Tenure of Office Act?

- ➔ Johnson wants to remove Lincoln's Secretary of War Edwin Stanton who supports the Radicals.
- ➔ Removed Secretary of War Stanton in favor of General Grant.
  - Congress rejects Stanton's removal, and Grant resigns in favor of Stanton.
  - Johnson fires Stanton again and tries to replace him with General Lorenzo Thomas
  - Stanton barricades himself in his office.



# Why did the House of Representatives impeach President Johnson?

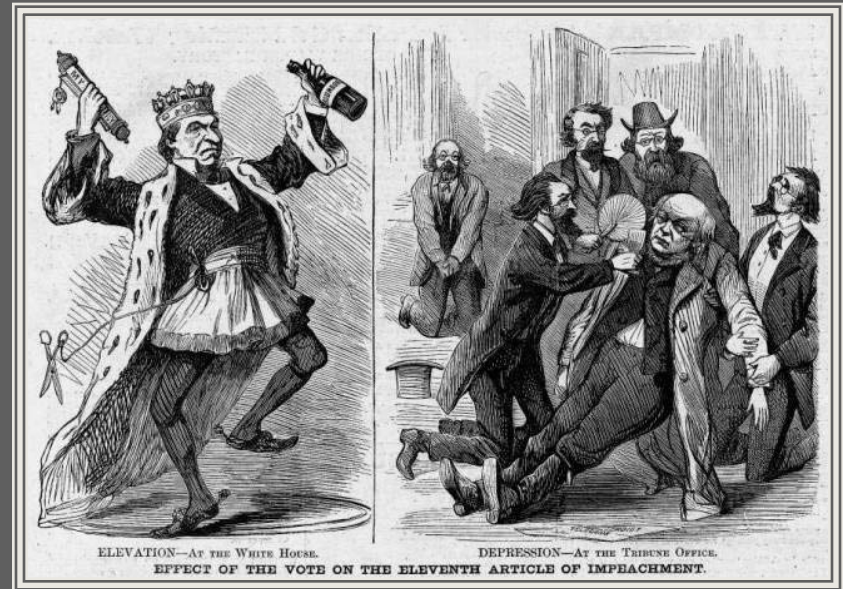


## ⇒ Impeach

- Charge with high crimes or misdemeanors
- House acts as the prosecutor
- Chief justice is the judge
- Senate is the jury
- Attorney General is the defense attorney.

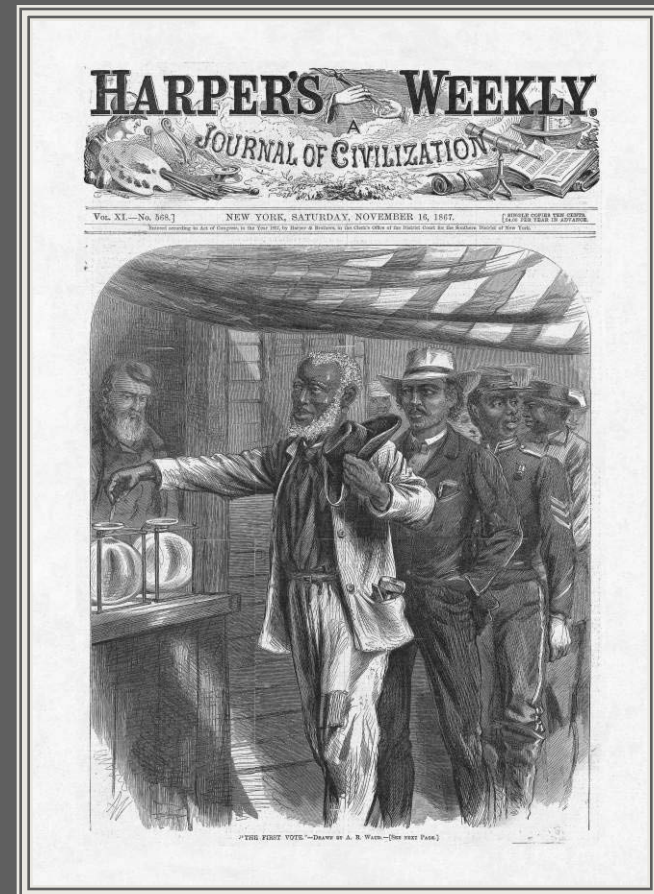
# Why did the House of Representatives impeach President Johnson?

- ➔ Thaddeus Stevens presented the case against Johnson.
- ➔ Johnson's lawyers argued that Lincoln appointed Stanton to the cabinet and therefore that the Tenure of Office Act did not apply.
- ➔ Johnson escaped impeachment by one vote 35 to 19 to find Johnson guilty. One vote short of conviction.

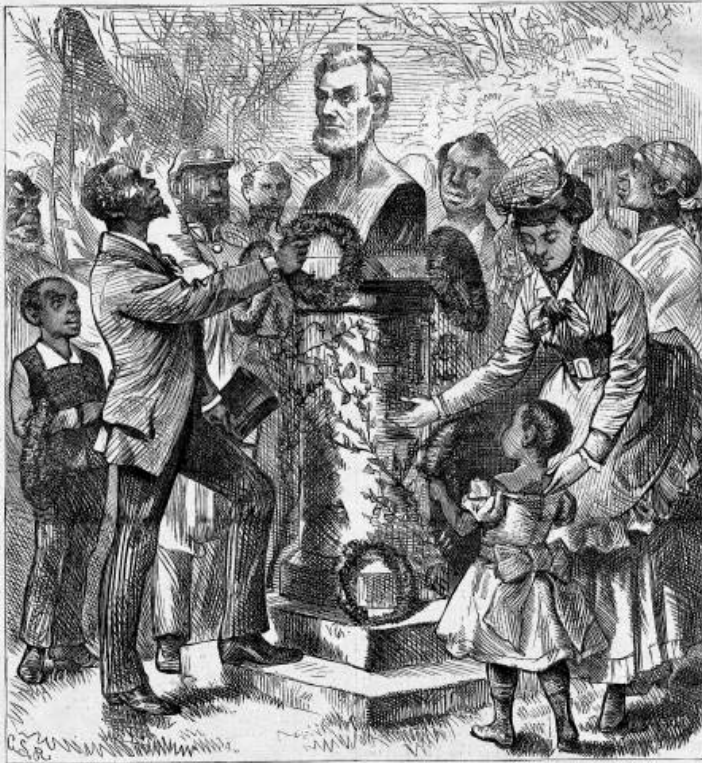


# What is disenfranchised?

- ⇒ To take away a persons right to vote.
- ⇒ Whose right to vote had been taken away?
  - Former Confederates
  - Many Southern white men refused to vote.
- ⇒ Whose right to vote had been insured?
  - African Americans



# Who were the carpetbaggers and scalawags?



LINCOLN, THE EMANCIPATOR—(DRAWN BY G. & R. REIDMAN)

## ⇒ Carpetbaggers

- Northerners who came to the south after the war.
  - Some respectable and honest men.
  - Some took bribes and were greedy and self-seeking
  - Reputation for fraud and waste in government

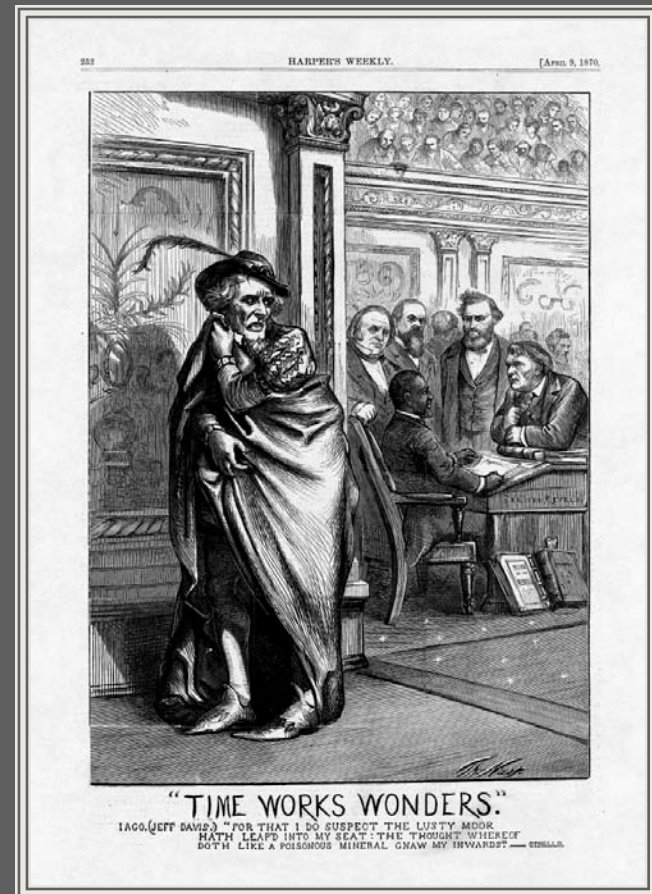
## ⇒ Scalawags

- Southerners who sympathized with the Union

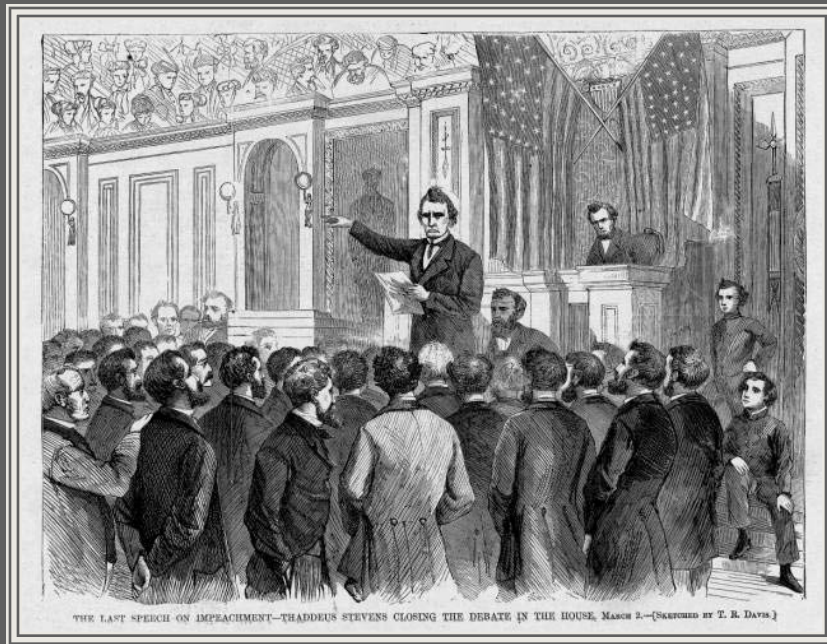


# What party did African Americans tend to vote for ?

- ⇒ Republican Party
  - Over 700,000 African American Voters
  - White voters only numbered 625,000
- ⇒ How many African Americans were elected to the Congress and to the Senate?
  - Senate: 2
  - House of Representatives: 15



# What two acts did Congress pass that were intended to reduce Presidential power?



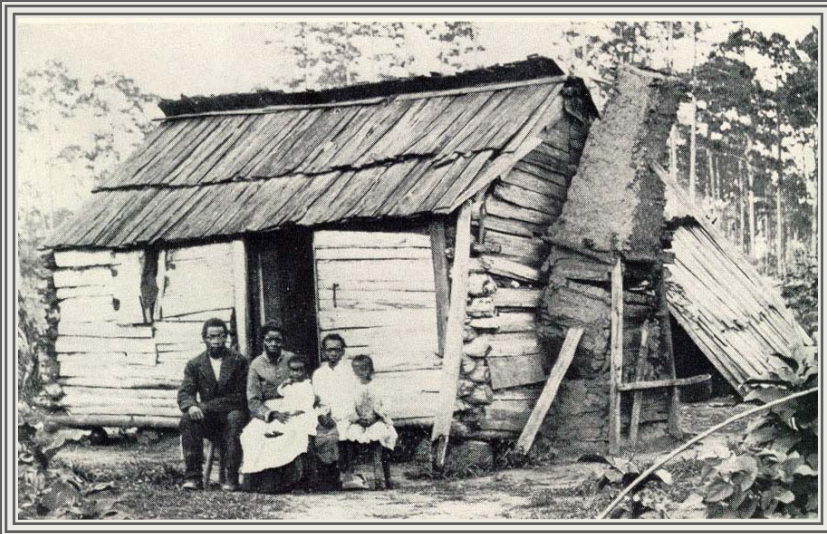
- ➔ Army Appropriation Act
  - Reduced the president's power as commander in chief.
  - provided that all orders to the U.S. army issue through the general of the army who was not to be removed without the consent of the U.S. Senate.
- ➔ Tenure of Office Act
  - Required Senate approval for the President to remove any government official whose appointment had required its consent.

# What are tenant farmers?

- ⇒ Poor African American and whites had little money to buy land even at very low prices due to a lack of currency in the South.
- ⇒ Many rented land in exchange for usually half of the crop.
- ⇒ Tenant farmers often were required to borrow money for seed and tools as well as food until the crops came in.



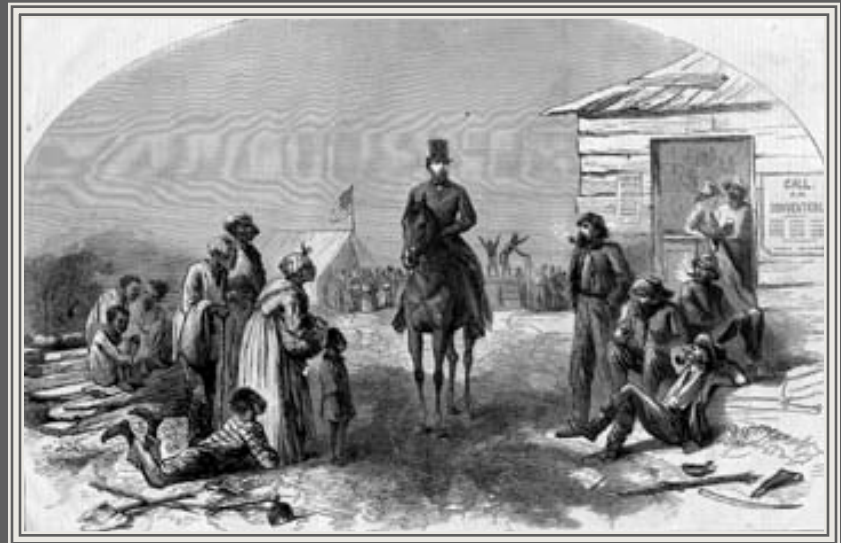
# What are sharecroppers?



- ➔ Similar to tenant farmers, but in this case the land was not rented, but worked using the land owner's tools, animals and seed in exchange for a portion of the crop.
- ➔ In both instances falling crop prices caused most tenants and sharecroppers to go deep into debt to the land owners keeping them in a perpetual state of slavery.

# Why did debt-ridden landowners want their tenants to grow cotton and tobacco?

- ➔ These were cash crops that should produce the largest economic return for the acre planted.
- ➔ Unfortunately to avoid soil depletion farmers should have planted a variety of crops using a crop rotation scheme.
- ➔ The failure to rotate the crops will lead to bankrupt soil and lower crop yields.



# How did poor tenants get the supplies they needed to seed the land, and how did this keep the tenants in perpetual slavery?



- ⇒ Bought everything on credit.
  - Food
  - Seed
  - Fertilizer
  - Work Animals
- ⇒ Interest rates as high as 40%.
- ⇒ Fell deeply into debt, and no way to leave the land until the debts were paid.
- ⇒ No freer to leave than when they were slaves.

# Why was the black man's freedom little better than slavery.

- ⇒ "Lincoln got praise for freeing us, but did he do it? He gave us freedom without giving us any chance to live to ourselves and we still had to depend on the southern white man for work, food, clothing, and he held us through our necessity and want in a state of servitude but little better than slavery."



# What act was passed in 1875 to protect Africa American civil rights?

⇒ Civil Rights Act of 1875:

- Required all people to have equal access to public places and transportation facilities.

⇒ 1883 Supreme Court declared the act unconstitutional.

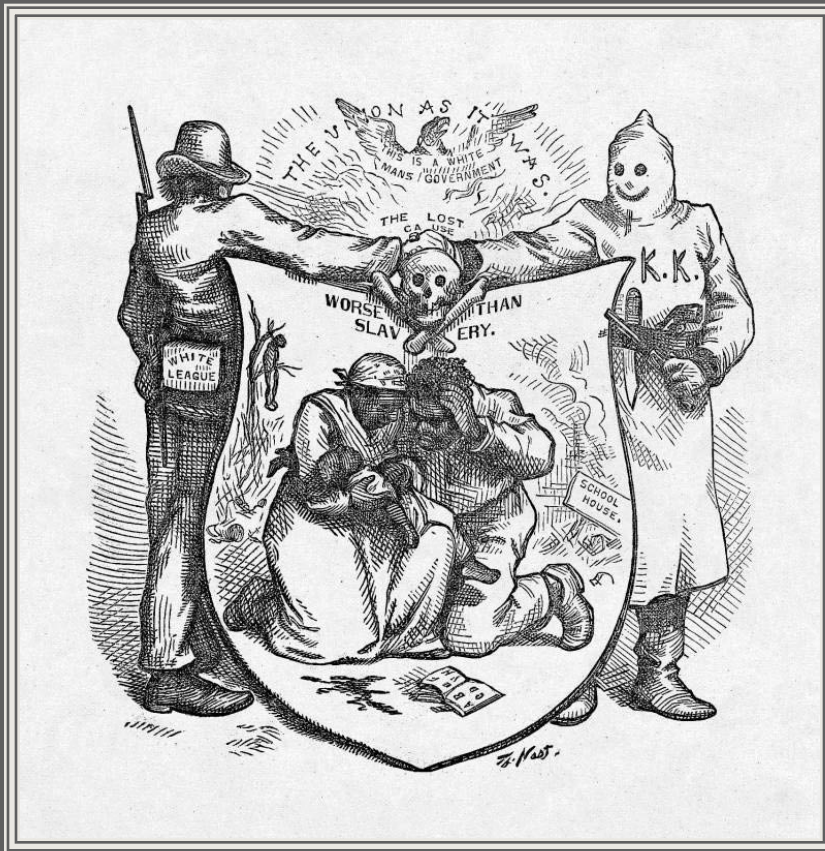




# Chapter 15 Section 3: The Undoing of Reconstruction

- ➔ What were some of the tactics used by ex-Confederates and planter elites who staged a massive “counter revolution” in the South during Reconstruction?
- ➔ In what ways, and why did the North become acquiescent regarding Reconstruction during the late 1860s and early 1870s?
- ➔ How did the Republican party transform under the Grant administration?
- ➔ What was the political crisis of 1877? What affect did this crisis have on Reconstruction?

# Why was the Ku Klux Klan formed in 1866?



- ➔ Southerners were not able to strike openly at the federal government.
- ➔ Formed secret societies to strike back.
- ➔ Ku Klux Klan started in Tennessee in 1866

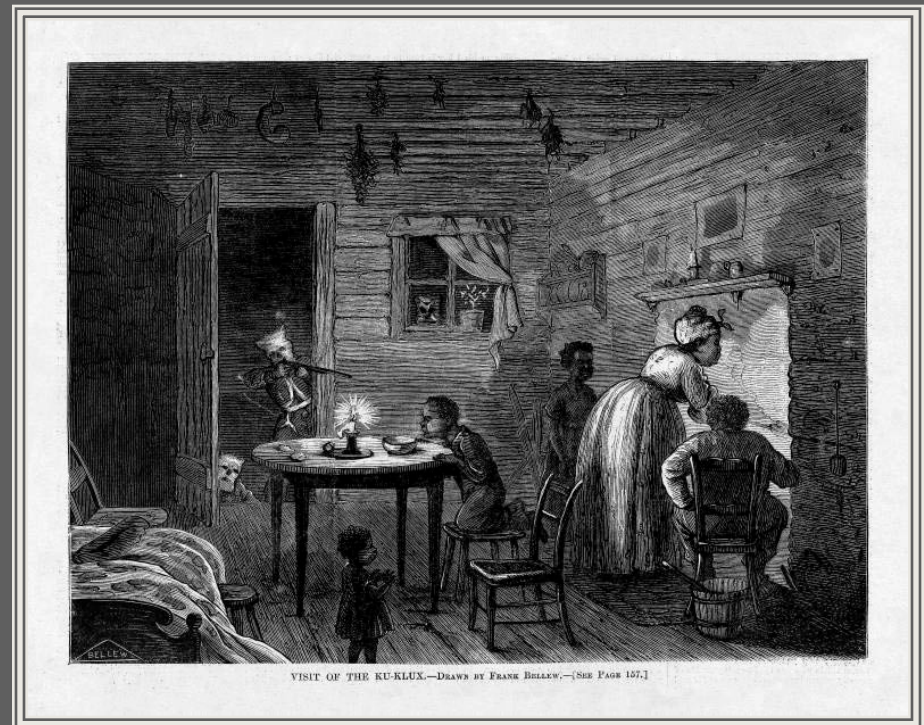
# Why was the Ku Klux Klan formed in 1866?

⇒ Klan members threatened:

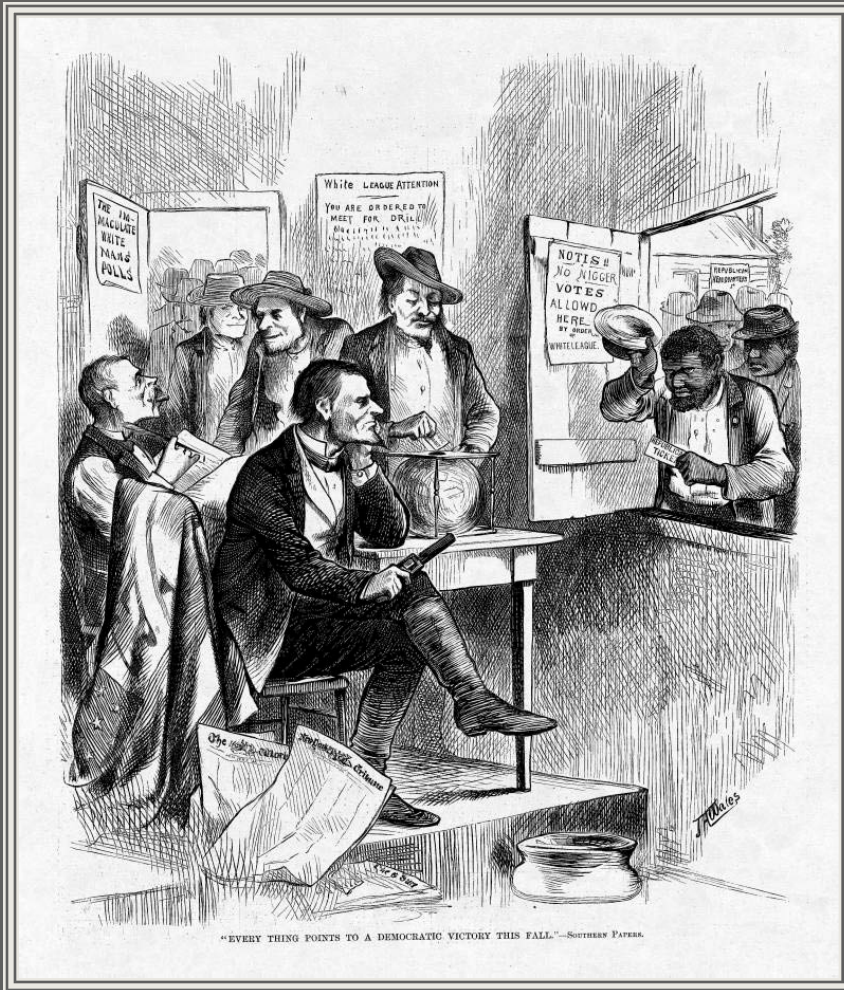
- Carpetbaggers
- Teachers
- African Americans as well

⇒ Methods:

- Beatings
- Murders
- Violence
- Broke up Republican meetings
- Drove Freedman's Bureau officials out of communities.
- Disrupted African American voting.



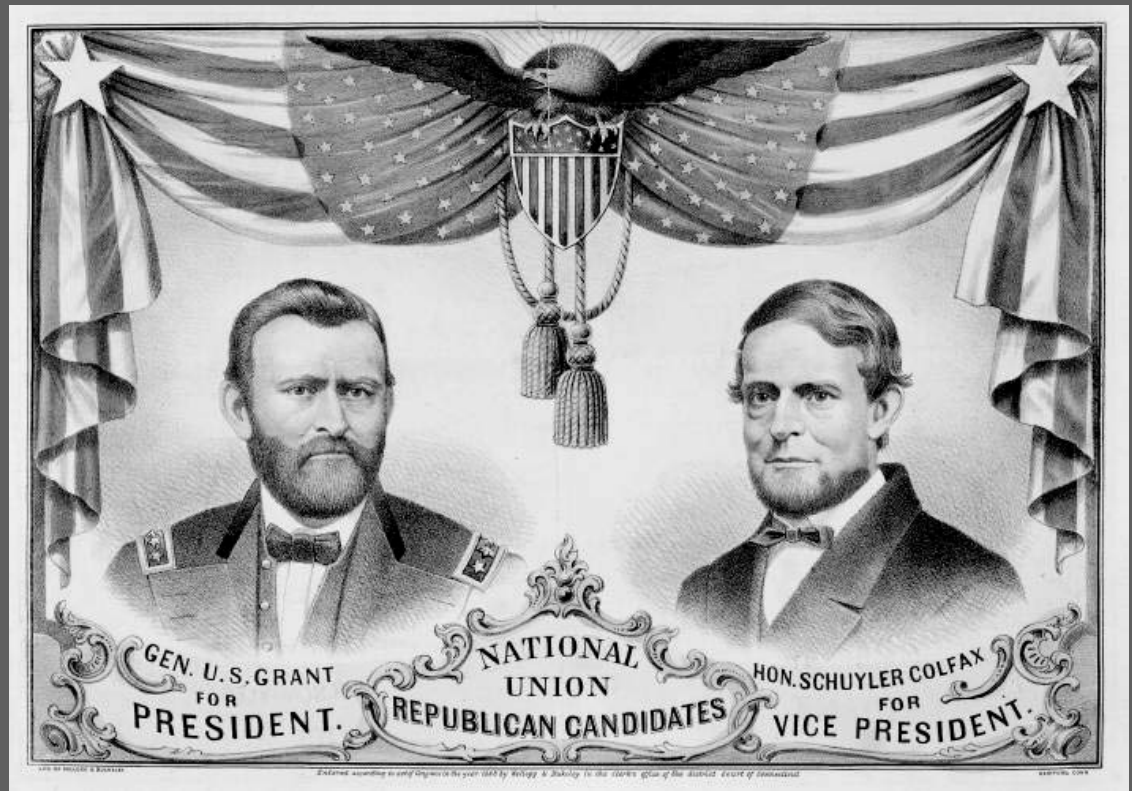
# Why did the Democrats in the South regain control of their government?



- ➔ Southern Democrats
  - Called Redeemers
  - Often former Confederates
- ➔ Liberal Republicans
  - Northerners growing tired of Radical Reconstruction
  - 1872 opposed the Radicals and Grant
  - Nominated Horace Greeley to run against Grant.
- ➔ Weakness of Grant
  - Less troops sent to the South to protect African American rights.
  - White political power was restored.
  - By 1876 only SC, FL, and La. Were not controlled by Democrats.

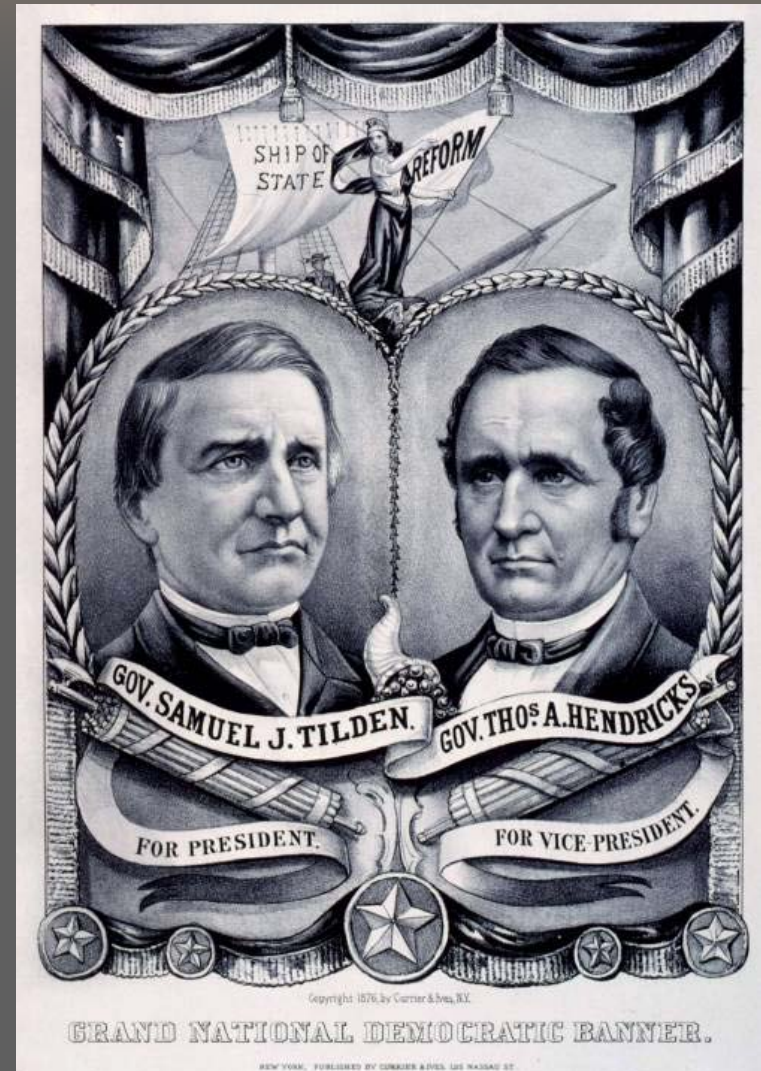
# Who was elected President in 1868?

- ⇒ Ulysses S. Grant
  - 214 to 80

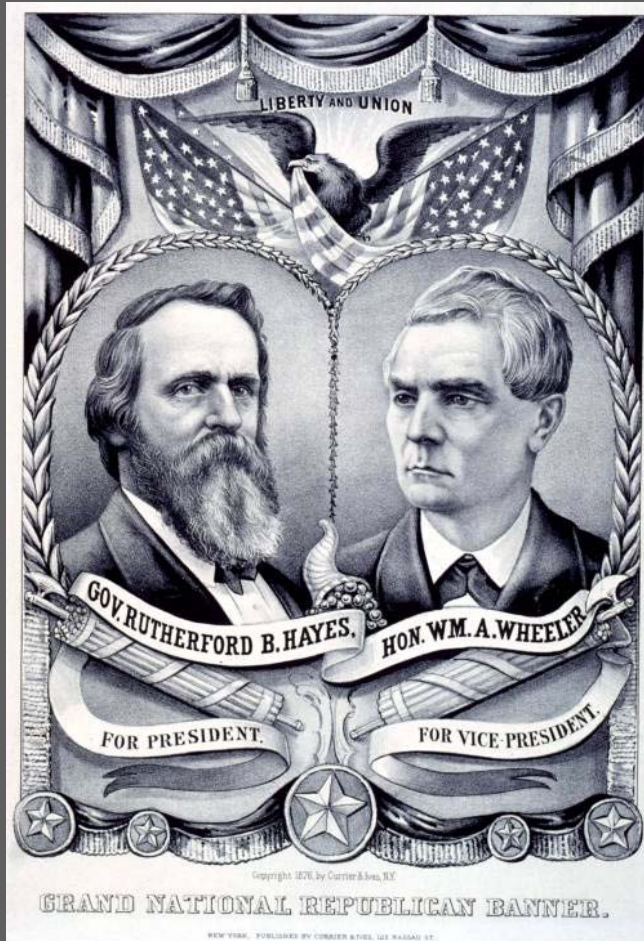


# Who were the candidates in the election of 1876?

- ⇒ Democratic Party
  - Samuel J. Tilden
  - Supported by Liberal Republicans
  - Supported by the South
  - Promises Reform
  - Claim of corruption in the Republican government of Grant



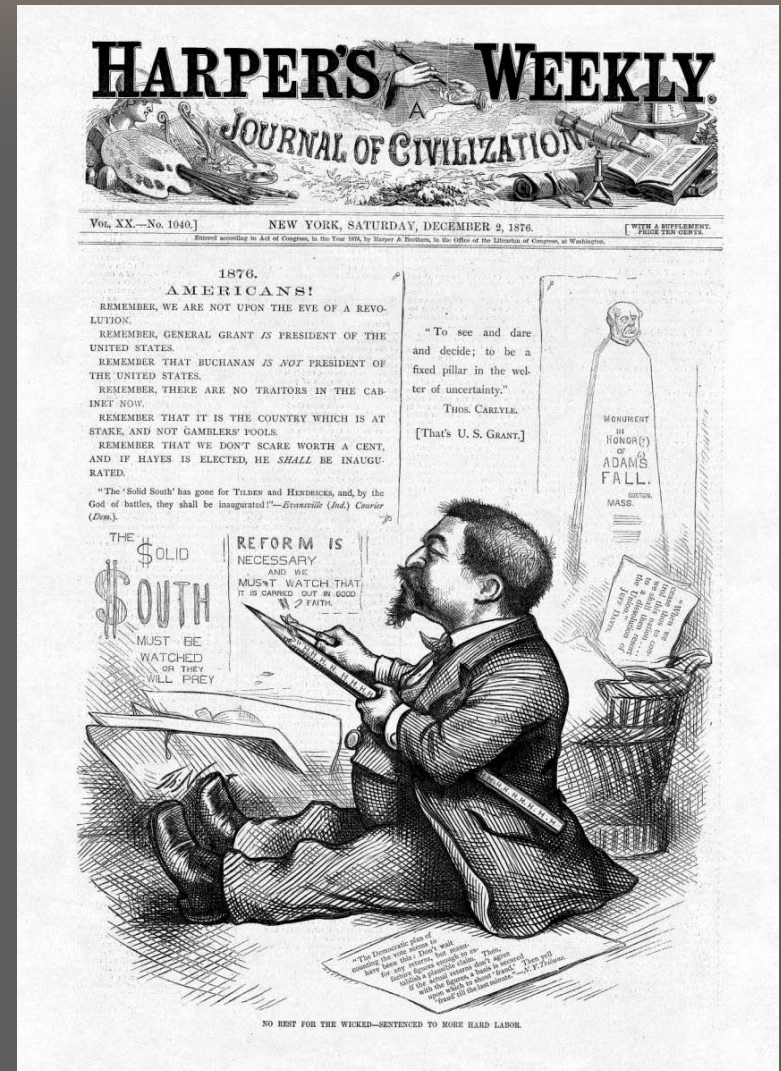
# Who were the candidates in the election of 1876?



- ⇒ Rutherford B. Hayes
  - Republican
  - Waved the bloody shirt to help stir up memories of the war.

# Who won the most popular votes?

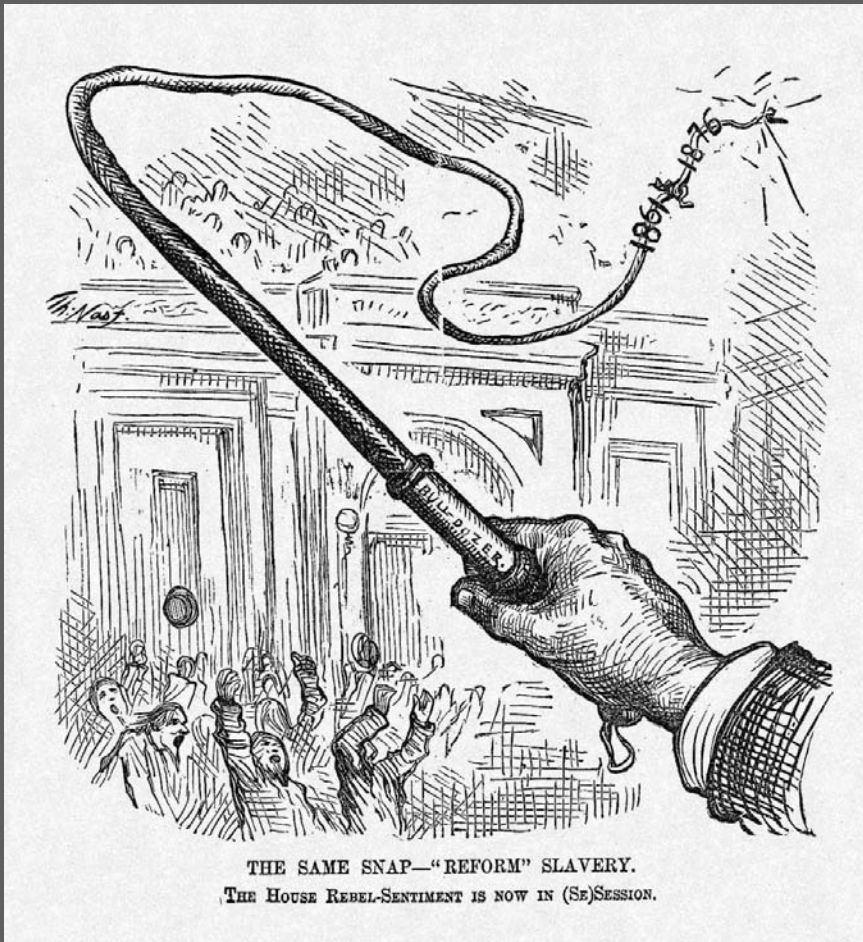
➔ Samuel Tilden wins the popular vote with 250,000 more votes than Hayes.





# What happened in the Electoral College?

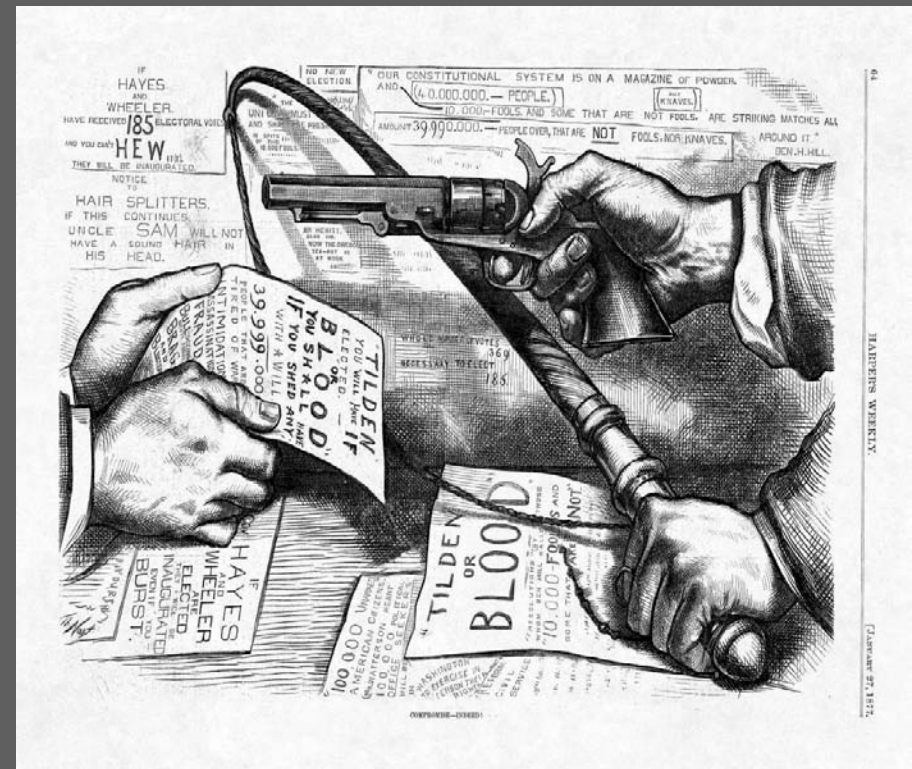
- ➔ Tilden needs 1 more vote to win the presidency.
- ➔ Hayes needs all 20 disputed votes to win the presidency.
- ➔ Votes were disputed because 3 states filed two sets of elections returns.
  - Florida
  - South Carolina
  - Louisiana



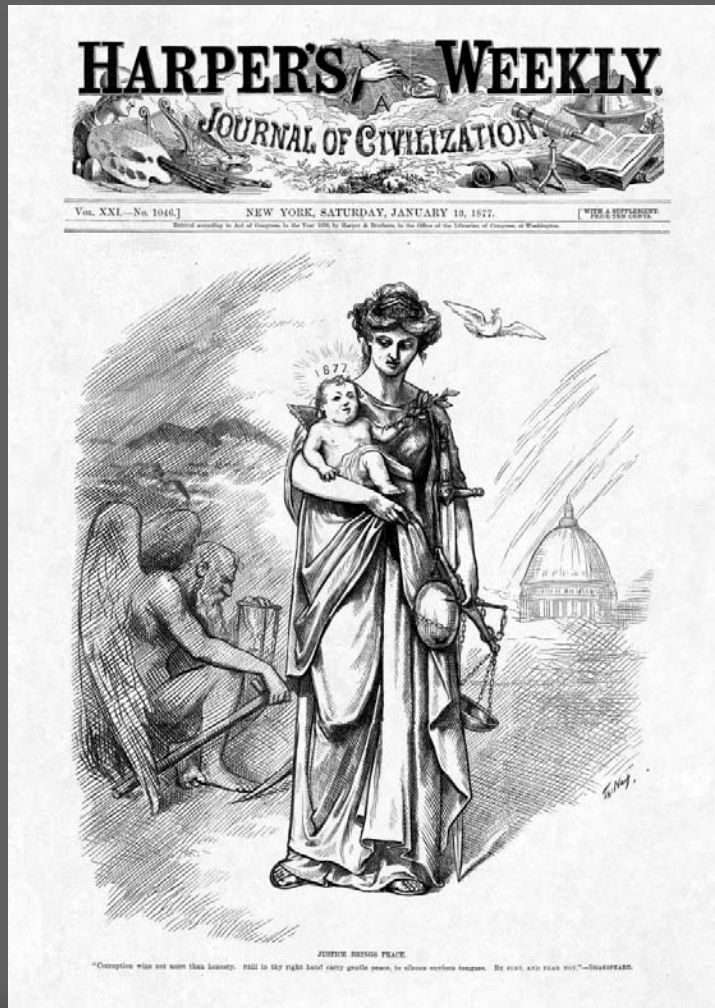
# How did the Congress solve the problem of the disputed returns?

## ⇒ Election Commission

- 5 members from the House
- 5 members from the Senate
- 5 Supreme Court Judges



# What were the results of the commission?



- ➔ All 20 votes given to Hayes when the members vote strictly along party lines.
- ➔ Hayes becomes President on March 4, 1877
- ➔ Democrats are outraged and threaten Civil War!!

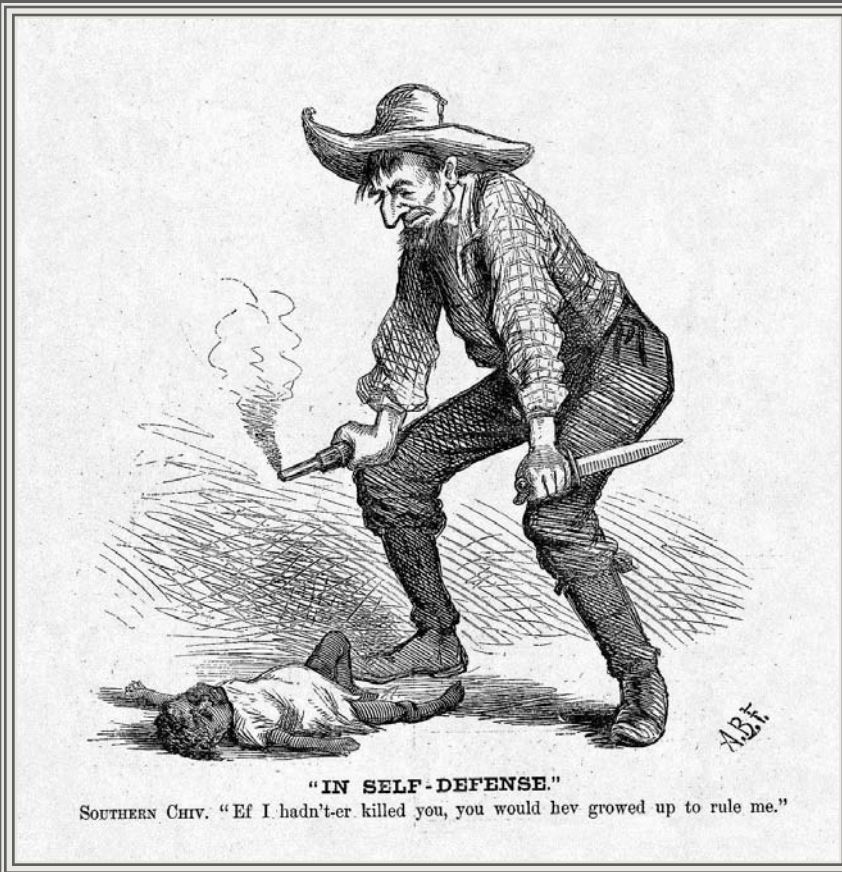
# What was the Compromise of 1877?

- ⇒ Southerner to become postmaster general.
- ⇒ Federal funds for internal improvements to the South
- ⇒ Withdraw remaining federal troops from the South.
- ⇒ The end of Reconstruction



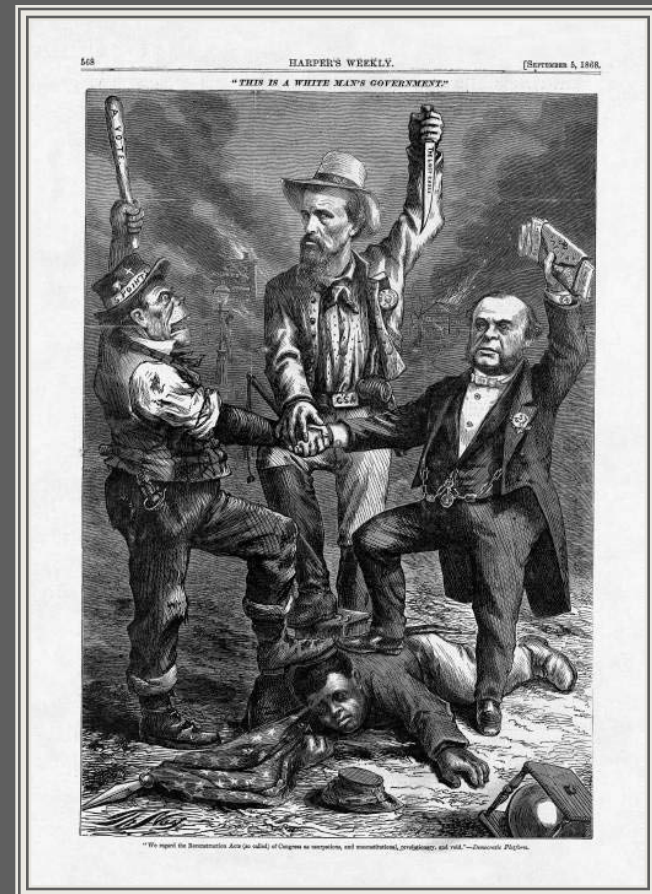
# What happened to African American Civil Rights after the end of Reconstruction?

- ➔ The South after Reconstruction was similar to the South before the Civil War.
- ➔ African Americans lost many of their civil rights.



# What is segregation?

- ➔ The practice of separating people on the basis of race, or religion.
- ➔ Areas of Segregation
  - Travelers
    - Railroads
    - Coaches
    - Steamboats
    - Hotels
  - Schools
  - Churches
  - Hospitals
  - Cemeteries



# What were Jim Crow laws?

- ➔ Laws which legally separate blacks from whites.
- ➔ African Americans protested against segregation winning a new law from Congress in 1875.

