

RECONSTRUCTION & THE NEW SOUTH

1865-1900

A15QW |

10.12.3

Guiding Questions

- **How did the Civil War & Reconstruction change the United States politically, socially and economically?**
- ▶ **Some historians have called Reconstruction a “Glorious Failure”? How accurate is this description?**

Key Questions



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graph TD; A[Key Questions] --> B[1. How to bring the South back into the Union?]; A --> C[2. How to rebuild the South after its destruction during the war?]; A --> D[3. How to integrate and protect newly-emancipated black freedmen?]; A --> E[4. What branch of government should control the process of Reconstruction?];
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1. How to bring the South back into the Union?

2. How to rebuild the South after its destruction during the war?

3. How to integrate and protect newly-emancipated black freedmen?

4. What branch of government should control the process of Reconstruction?

Stages of Reconstruction

- 1. Presidential Reconstruction**
(1863-1866)
- 2. Congressional (or Radical) Reconstruction** (1867-1877)
- 3. Redemption** (1877-1900)
(creation of the “New South”)

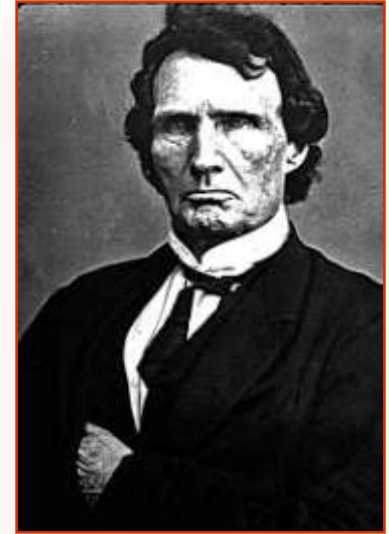
PRESIDENTIAL RECONSTRUCTION

1863-1866

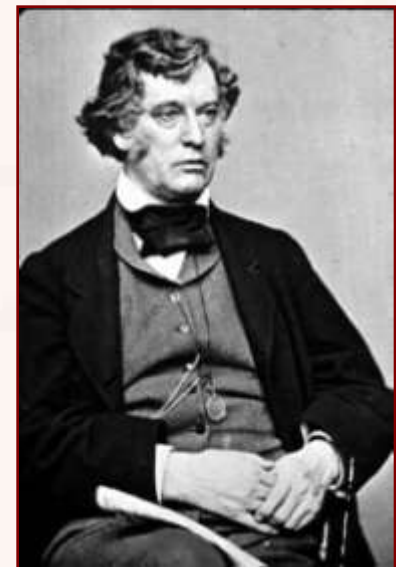
PRESIDENTIAL RECONSTRUCTION



- Lincoln's 10% Plan: TN, LA, AR
- Radical Republicans
 - Thaddeus Stevens (Rep.- PA)
 - Charles Sumner (Sen.- Mass)
- Wade-Davis Bill (1864)
- 13th Amendment (1865)
- Freedmen's Bureau
- 14th Amendment (1868)
- Lincoln's Assassination



Thaddeus Stevens



Charles Sumner

PRESIDENTIAL RECONSTRUCTION: Assisting Former Slaves

- **Thirteenth Amendment** (Ratified Dec. 1865)

“Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States or any place subject to their jurisdiction.”

“Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.”

PRESIDENTIAL RECONSTRUCTION

- **Lincoln's Assassination** (April 14, 1865)
- John Wilkes Booth

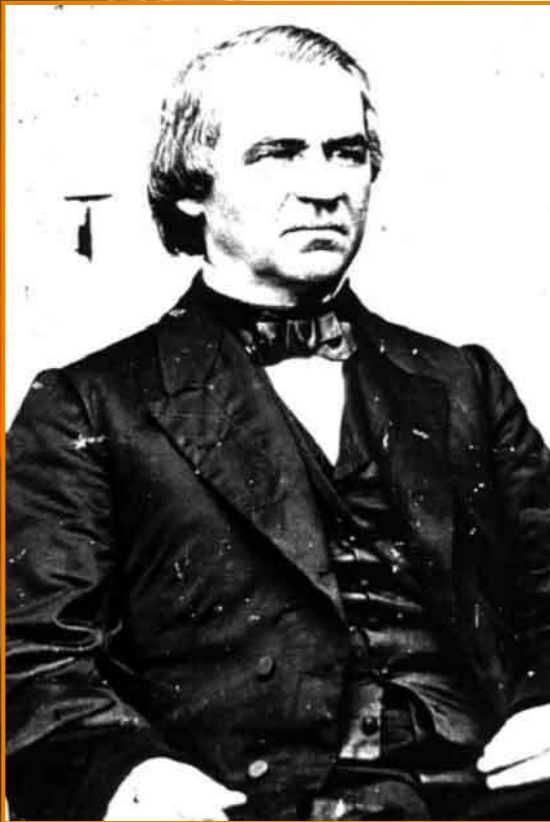


Ford's Theatre, April 1865



John Wilkes Booth (1862)

PRESIDENTIAL RECONSTRUCTION



- Andrew Johnson
- Johnson's Reconstruction Plan:
 - 1) Amnesty upon simple oath
 - Exceptions: Confederate government officials, military officers & those with property over \$20,000.
 - Pardons
 - 2) New state constitutions - repudiate Slavery, Secession, and Confederate debts.

Process: Provisional governors, elections for constitutional conventions.

PRESIDENTIAL RECONSTRUCTION

- Issues:
 - Pardons (over 13,500).
 - Former Confederates elected to state positions and Congress (Stephens)
 - Black Codes
 - Race riots – Memphis (May 1866), New Orleans (August 1866)
 - 14th Amendment
- Public Reaction in North?
- Election of 1866: Republicans 3-1 majorities in both houses and control of every northern state.
- Backlash against Johnson & new southern state gov'ts



Congress Ends Presidential Reconstruction

Why do the Radicals in Congress take control? How?

- Dec. 1865 - Congress bars Southern Senators and Congressmen elected under Johnson's plan
- Joint Committee on Reconstruction created.
- March 1866 – Congress passes the Freedmen's Bureau renewal bill and the 1866 Civil Rights Act over Johnson's vetoes (*1st veto overrides in U. S. history*)
- Nov. 1866 – After Johnson made a disastrous tour around the north pushing his plan, voters give Republicans 3-1 majorities in both houses and control of every northern state.
- Backlash against Johnson & new southern state governments



CONGRESSIONAL RECONSTRUCTION

1867-1877

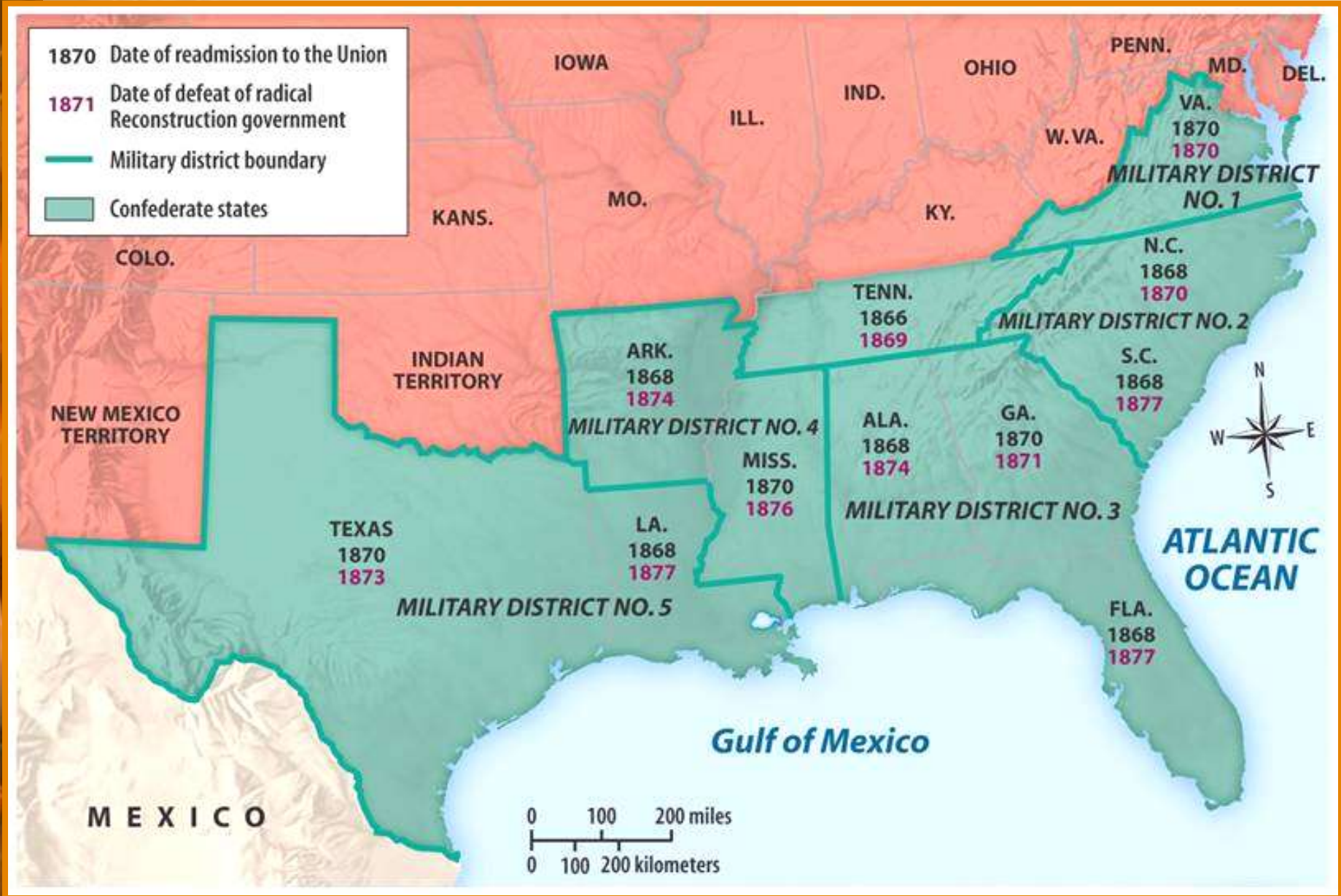
Radical Plan for Readmission

What is the Radical Plan?

Reconstruction Acts of 1867:

- Constitutions and governments set up under Johnson thrown out
- “Ironclad oath”
- New state constitutions - with black suffrage
- Ratification of Thirteenth & Fourteenth Amendments
- Military supervision: voter registration, constitution making, governments

Reconstruction Acts of 1867

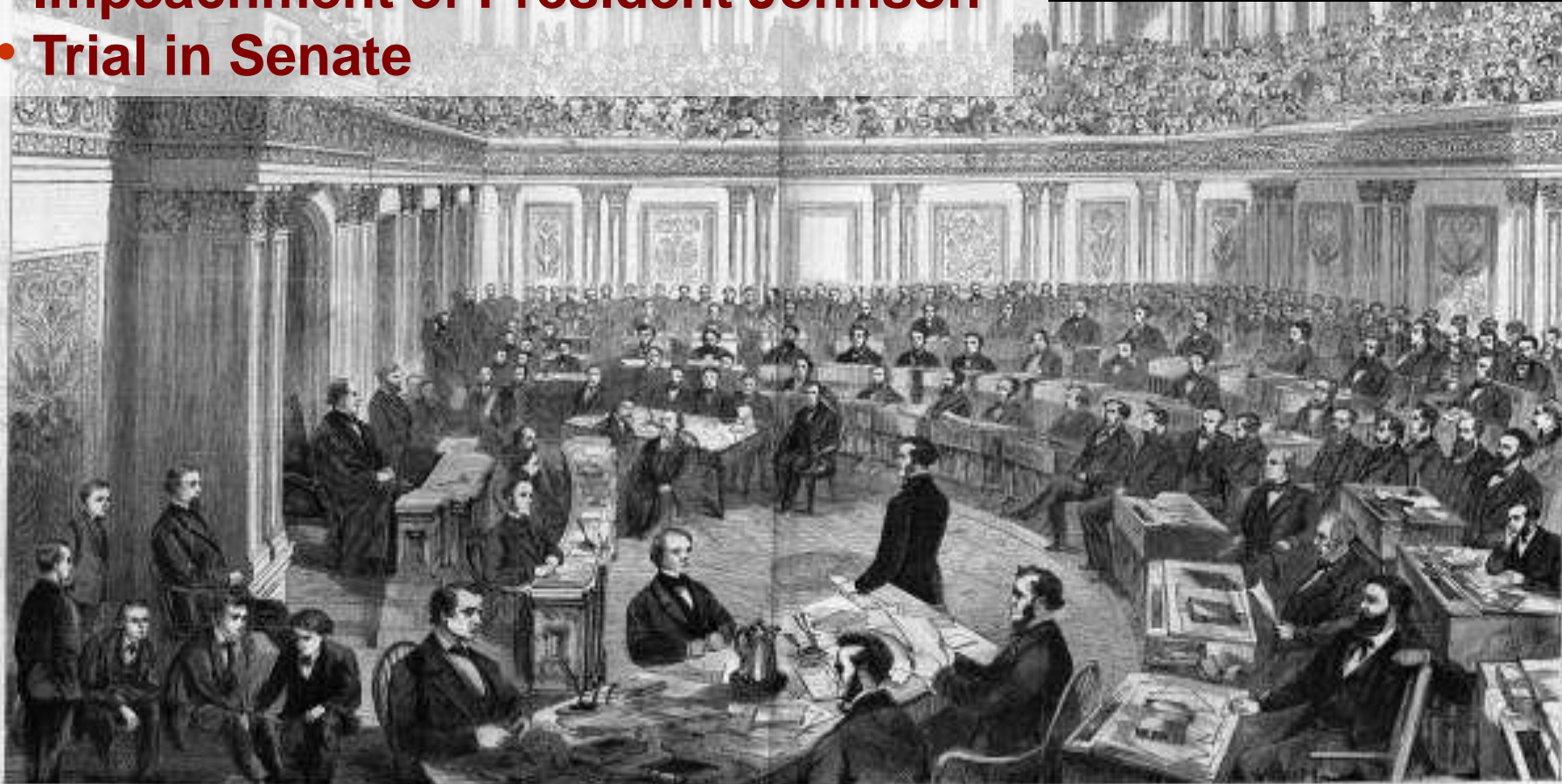


Fourteenth Amendment

- Ratified in July, 1868
- Defines U.S. citizenship for the first time
- Guarantees “equal protection under the laws” and the right to “due process”
- First amendment to explicitly apply to state governments
- Purposes?
 - guarantee rights and security of freedpeople.
 - prevent return of Confederate power.
 - Enshrined the national debt while repudiating that of the Confederacy.

Impeachment

- Tenure of Office Act
- Edwin Stanton
- Impeachment of President Johnson
- Trial in Senate



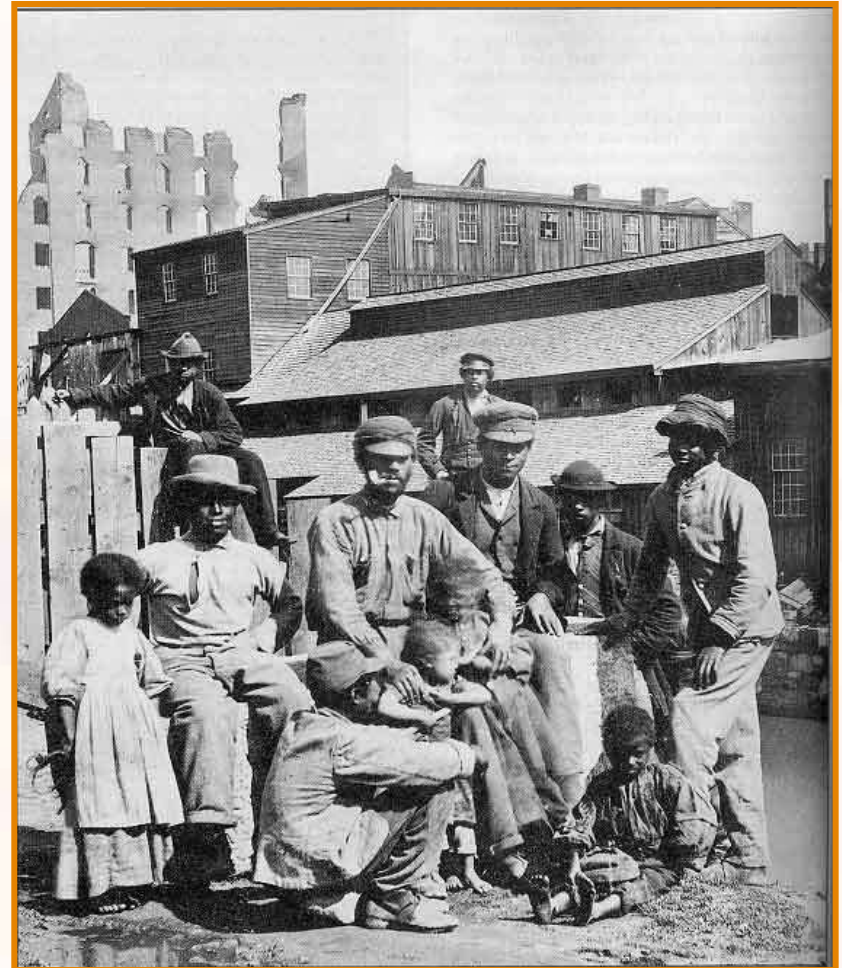
THE SENATE IN A SESSION OF TESTIMONY FOR THE TRIAL OF ANDREW JOHNSON—Seated at Thomas B. Evans of the West Point.

CONGRESSIONAL RECONSTRUCTION in the South

- “40 acres and a mule”
- tenants
- Sharecroppers
- crop lien system



Sharecropper's cabin, North Carolina, 1914



Freedmen in Richmond, Virginia, 1865

Tenancy & the Crop Lien System

FURNISHING MERCHANT

- Loans tools & seed @ up to 60% interest to farmer to plant spring crop
- Also provides food, clothing, etc. on credit until the harvest.
- Holds “lien” on part of future crops

TENANT FARMER

- Plants crop, harvests in fall.
- Turns over up to $\frac{1}{2}$ of crop to owner as rent.
- Gives remainder of crop to merchant to pay debt.

LANDOWNER

- Rents land to tenant in exchange for $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of tenant farmer's future crop.

SHARECROPPING & THE CYCLE OF DEBT



**Poor whites & freedmen have
no jobs, homes, or \$ to buy land**

**Sharecropper cannot
leave farm as long as he
is in debt to landlord.**

**Poor whites & freedmen
sign contracts to work
landlord's acreage for
part of the crop.**

**At harvest, sharecropper
owes more to landlord
than his share of the crop
is worth.**

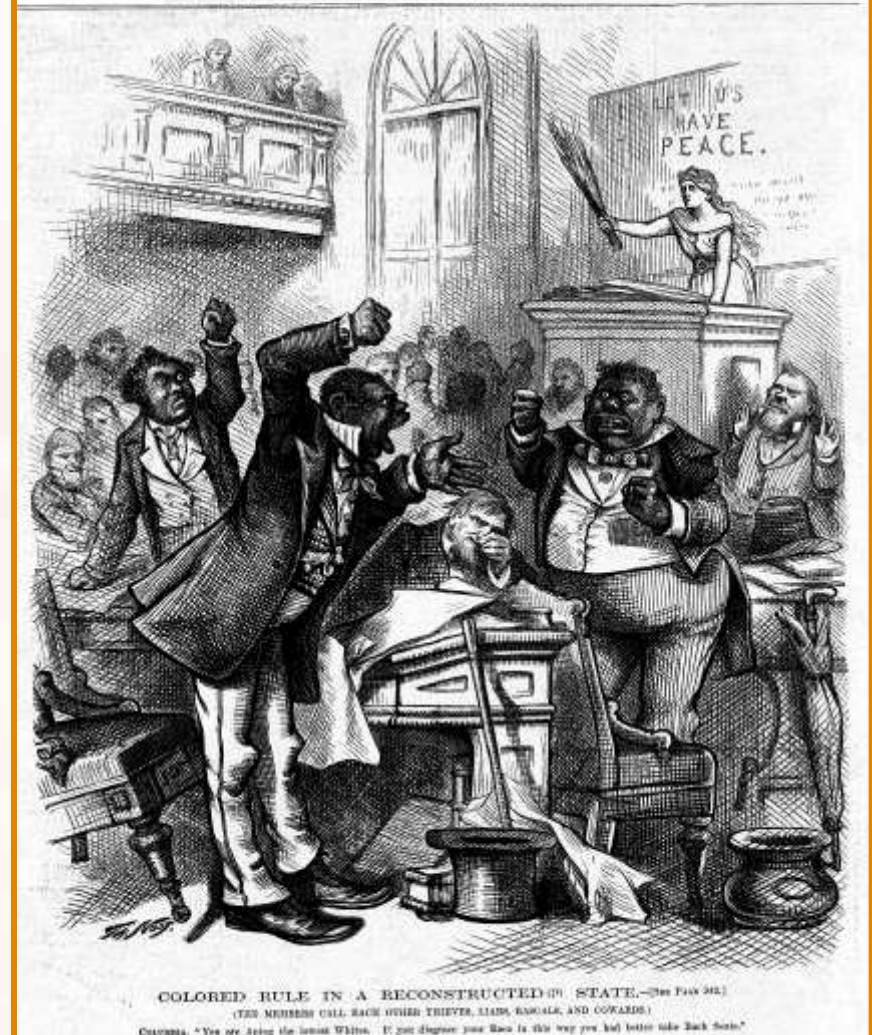
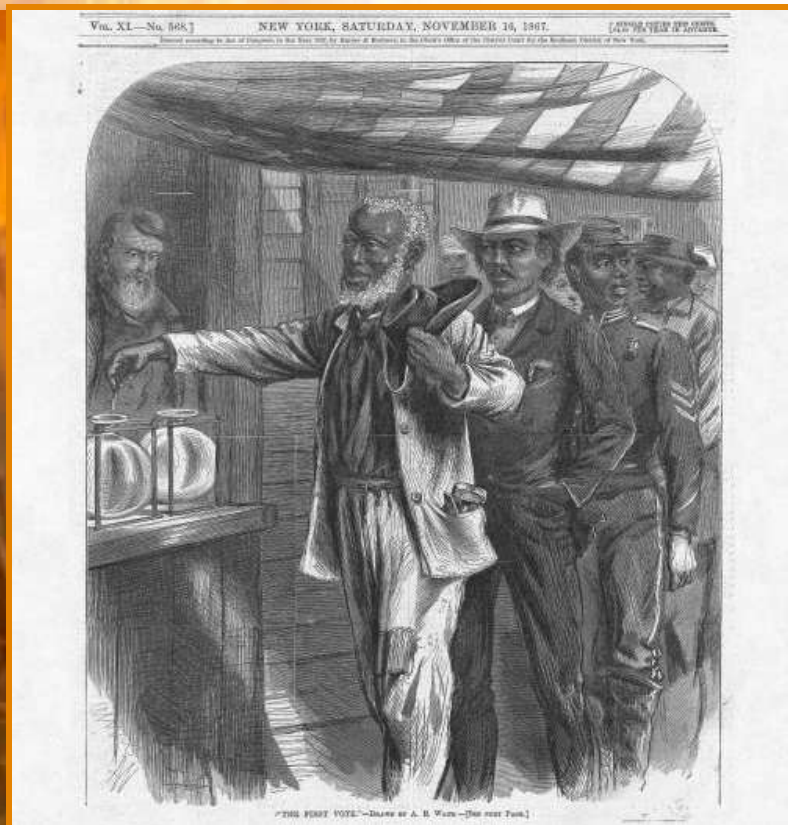
**Landlord keeps track of
the \$\$ that sharecroppers
owe for housing and food.**

Congressional Reconstruction

Reconstruction Governments

- “carpetbaggers”
- “scalawags”
- freedmen

- myth of “black rule”
- Accomplishments?



First Black U.S. Senators & Congressmen, 1872



15th Amendment

- Ratified in 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.

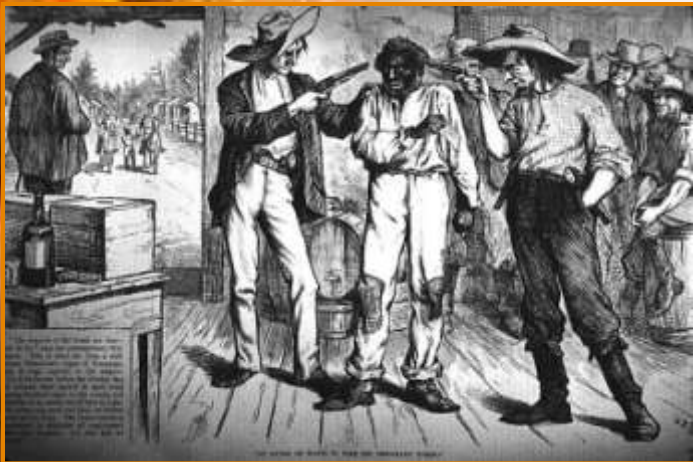
The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.”

• Women's rights groups furious - they were not granted the vote!

Racial Violence & Intimidation

How does the South regain control?

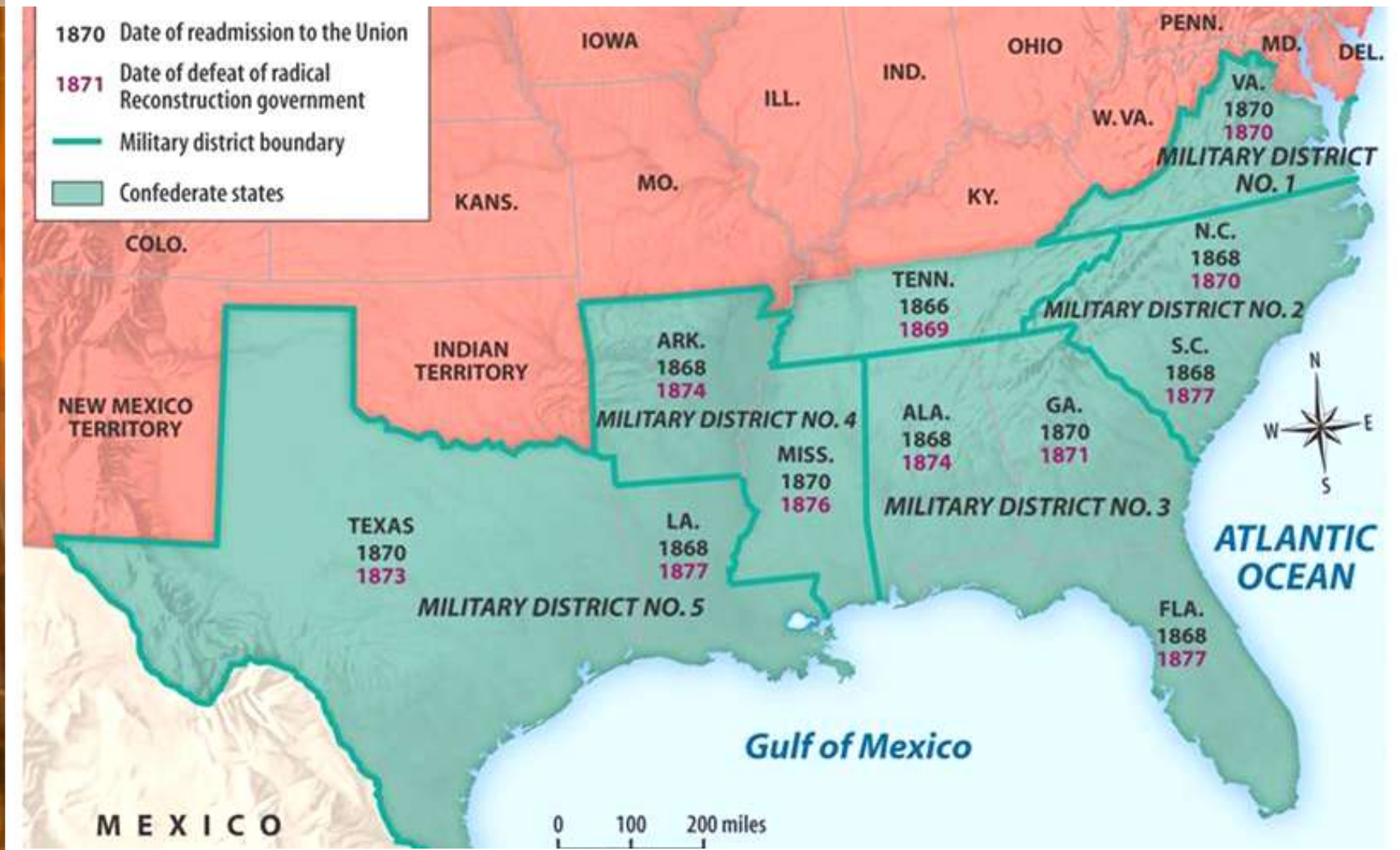
- Knights of the White Camellia
- White Leagues
- Ku Klux Klan



Mississippi Klansman, 1871
(Courtesy of Mr. Herbert Peck, Jr.)

The Failure of Federal Enforcement

- ❖ Enforcement Acts of 1870 & 1871 [KKK Acts]
- ❖ Rise of the “Bourbons”
- ❖ Civil Rights Act of 1875
- ❖ Redeemers





END OF RECONSTRUCTION

1877

Northern Support Wanes: Grant Administration

Why?

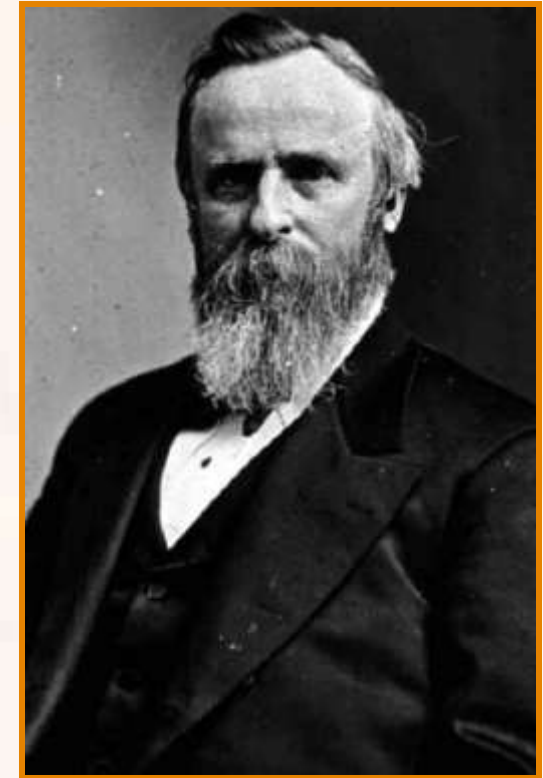
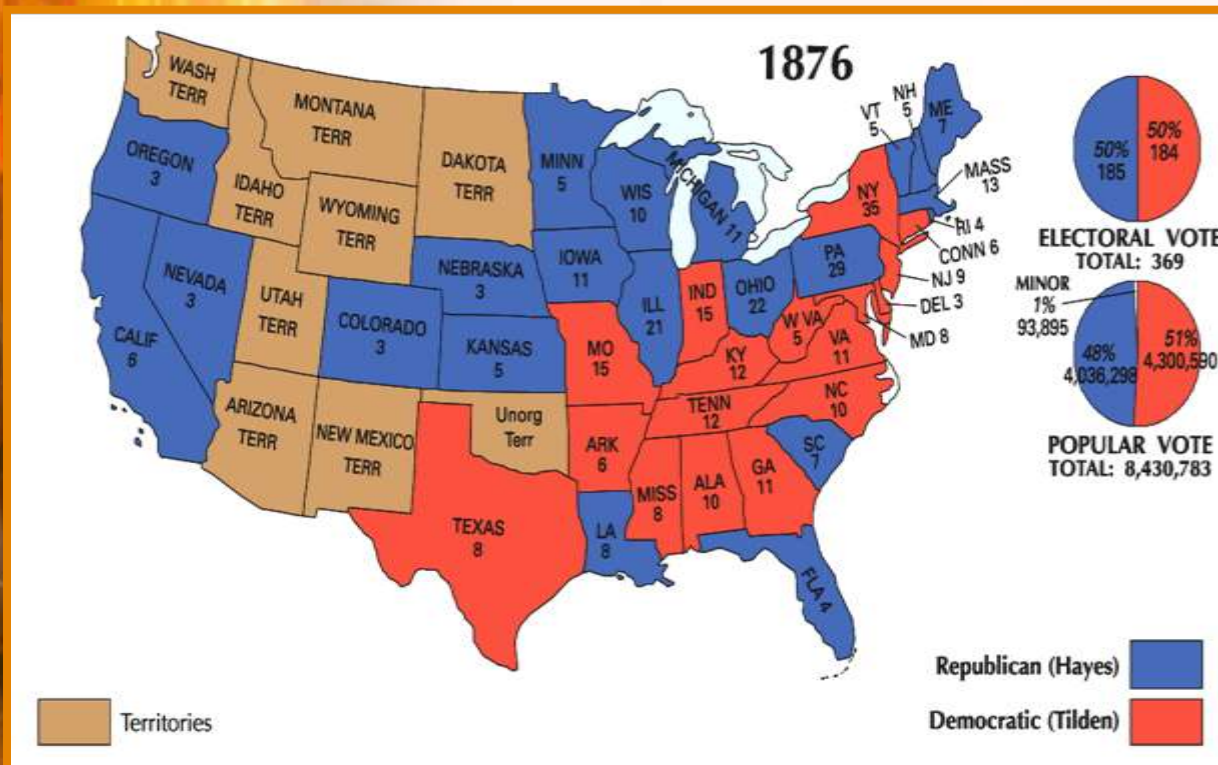
- President U.S. Grant (1869-1877)
- “Grantism” & corruption
- Credit Mobilier
- Panic of 1873 (6 yr. depression)
- Concern over westward expansion and Indian wars
- Why else?



END OF RECONSTRUCTION

Why?

- Election of 1876
- Rutherford B. Hayes
- Compromise of 1877



Rutherford B. Hayes

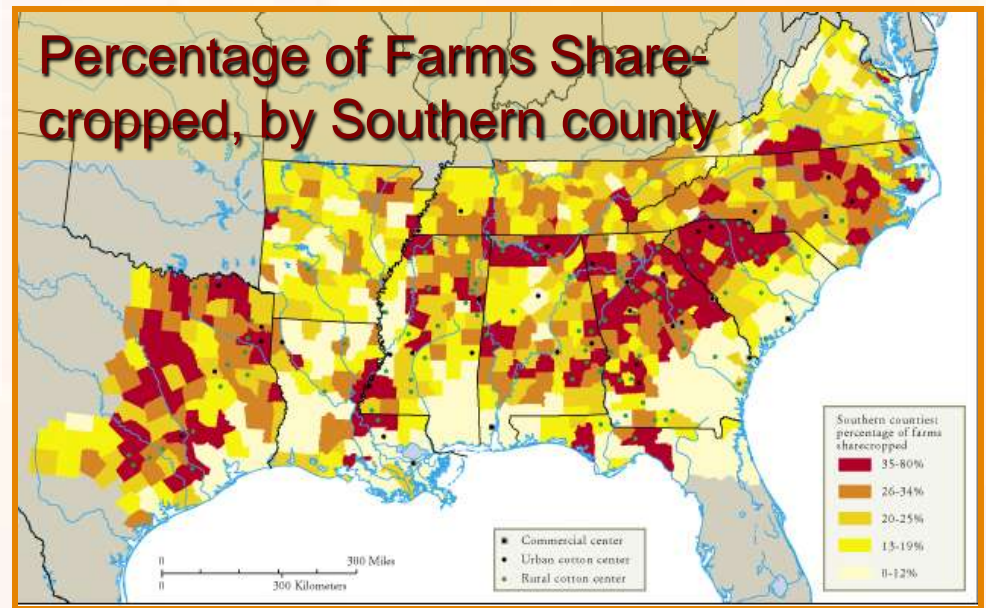


REDEMPTION AND THE “NEW SOUTH”

1877-1900

Redemption & the “New South”

- “Redeemers”
- “New South”
- Agriculture
- Industry
- “Lost Cause”



Pig iron, Birmingham, 1877 (*Harper's Weekly*, March 26, 1877)

Jim Crow and Segregation

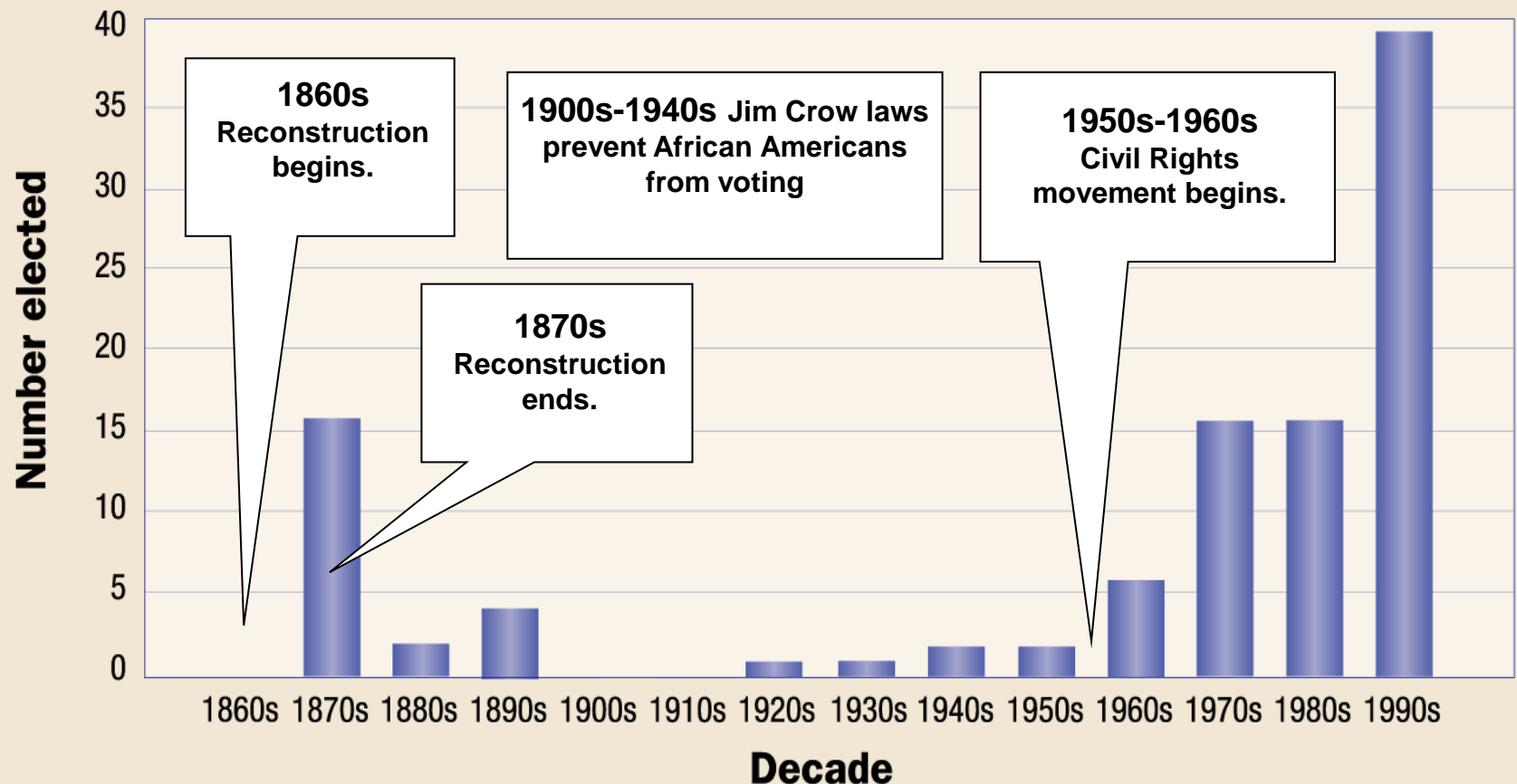
- Jim Crow – **When?**
- Poll Tax
- “literacy” test
- grandfather laws
- *Plessy v. Ferguson* (1896)
- effects
- lynchings
- Ida B. Wells

Voting Restrictions	States										
	AL	AR	FL	GA	LA	MS	NC	SC	TN	TX	VA
Grandfather Clause											
Property Test											
Literacy Test											
Poll Tax											

SOURCE: *The American Record: Images of the Nation's Past*

Jim Crow and Segregation

African Americans Elected to the U.S. Congress



SOURCE: *Congressional Black Caucus*

African-American Response

- Booker T. Washington
- Tuskegee Institute
- Atlanta Compromise



Booker T. Washington

Results?

How did the Civil War & Reconstruction change the United States politically, socially & economically?

Results CW and Reconstruction

- ✓ Slavery ended –13th Amendment
- ✓ Northern industrial economy triumphed
- ✓ South economically depressed
- ✓ 14th and 15th Amendments
- ✓ Free public schools in South
- ✓ Some African Americans served in state and federal govt
- ✓ Ultimately unsuccessful in South