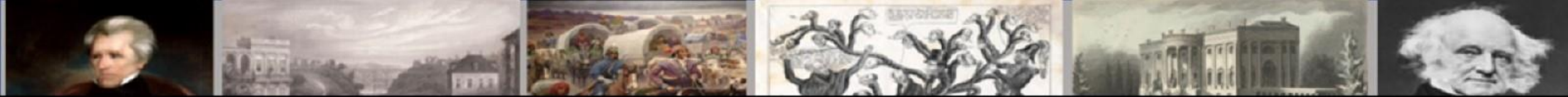


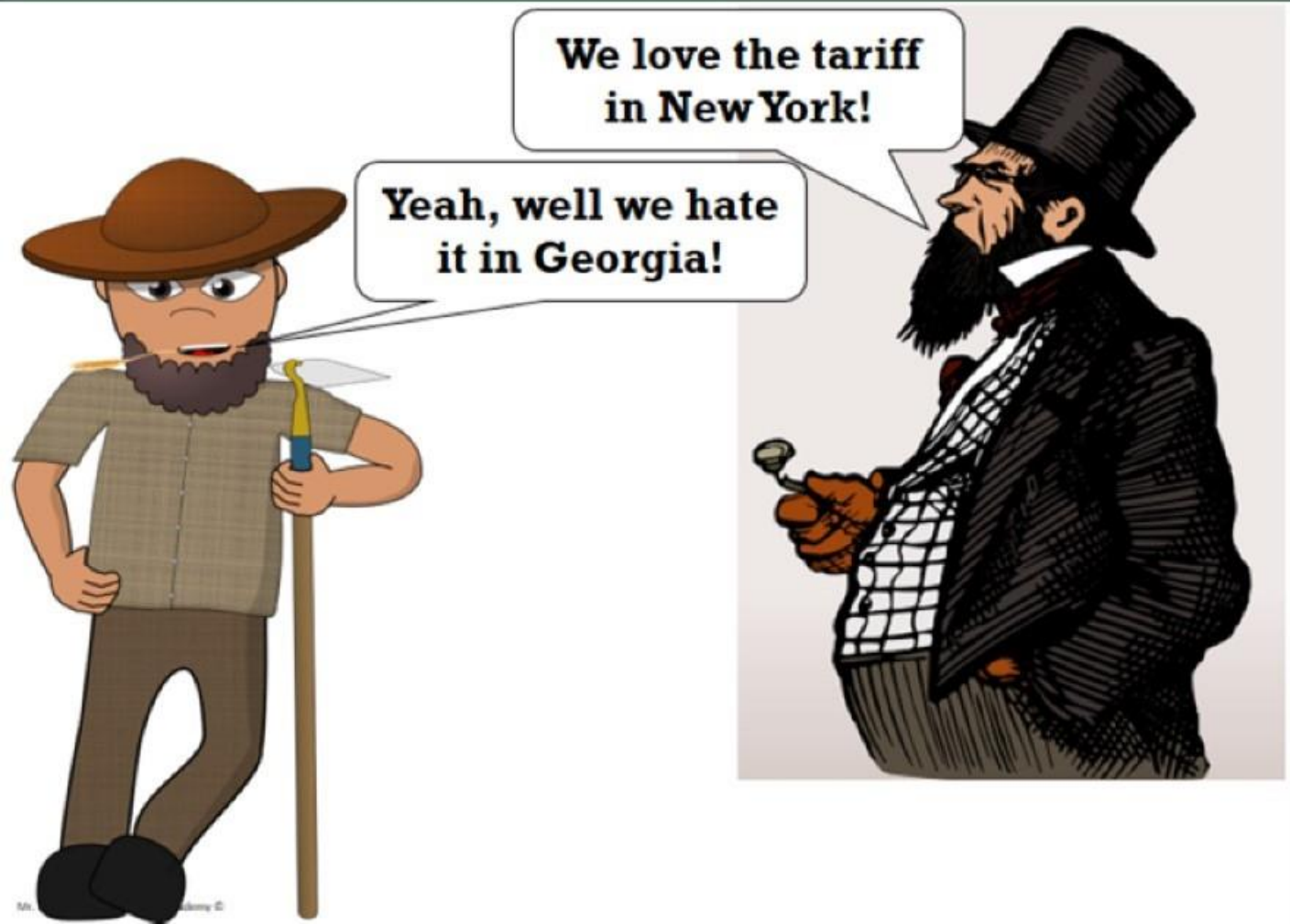


# Reconstruction: Part I

## Post-Civil War



# Previously: Pre-Civil War Sectionalism – Southern State's Rights



In a previous lesson, we learned about the concept of Sectionalism that divided the North & South leading up to the Civil War, with Southern states mostly favoring state's rights over a strong central or national government.



# Previously: Southern Destruction

We also learned how much of the South was destroyed during the Civil War leaving the region decimated.



*J. G. Hendry*

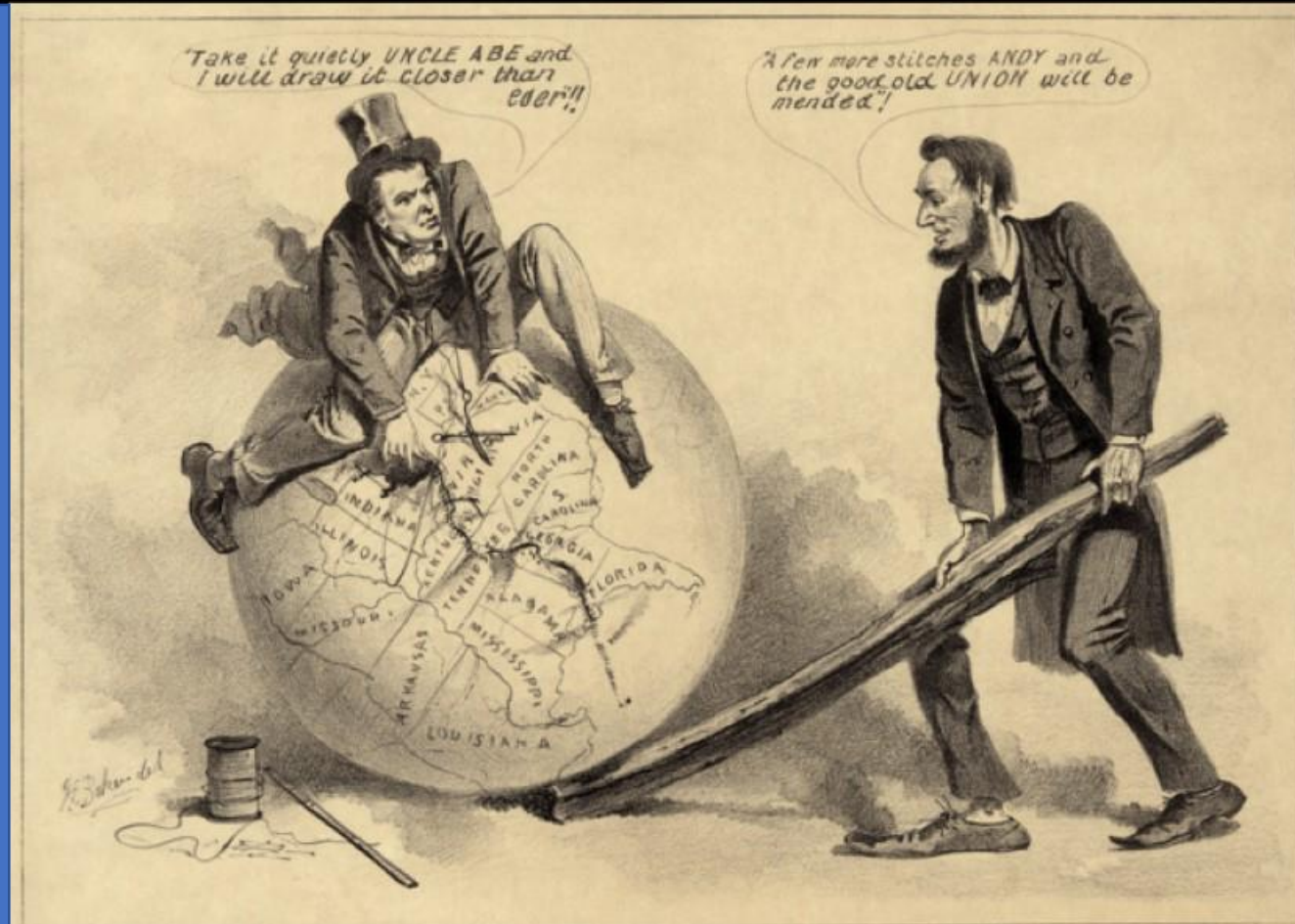




# What is Reconstruction?

Reconstruction was both a process and an era. Following the Civil War, Reconstruction encompassed two things:

- The rebuilding and transformation of the South
- The attempted integration and protection of the freed slaves



THE "RAIL SPLITTER" AT WORK REPAIRING THE UNION.



# What is Reconstruction?

4 million newly freed slaves were entering society after 250 years of slavery, and their status was very contentious.

The Southern States had been built economically around the large production of cash crops utilizing slave labor, and it had to be brought back into the United States following their devastating loss.





# When was Reconstruction? 1865 - 1877?

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Home World U.S. Politics Economy Business Tech Markets Opinion Arts Life Real Estate

## U.S. Confederate Flag Removed From South Carolina Statehouse

Move comes after weeks of emotional debate; banner to be taken to state museum



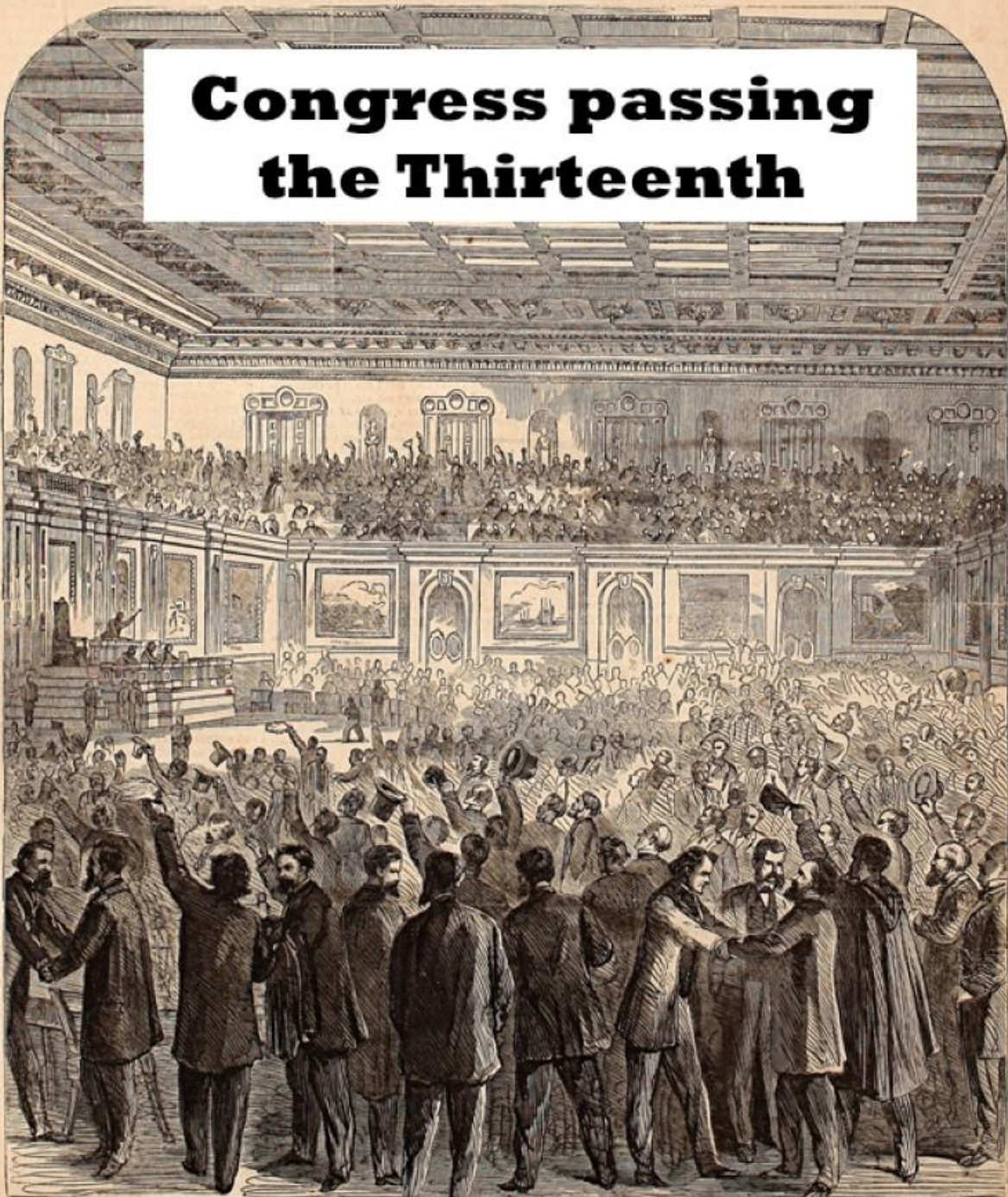
Confederate Flag Removed From  
South Carolina Statehouse

The Confederate battle flag was ceremoniously removed from South Carolina's Statehouse Friday morning after a decision brought on by the shooting of churchgoers in Charleston. Photo: AP

So when was Reconstruction? While most historians use the dates of 1865 with the end of the Civil War to 1877 with the withdrawal of Federal troops to delineate Reconstruction. However, there are those that would argue that it lasted until the Civil Rights Era of the 1960s and some would say it continues to this day.



## Congress passing the Thirteenth



SCENE IN THE HOUSE ON THE PASSAGE OF THE PROPOSITION TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION, JANUARY 31, 1865.

# Thirteenth Amendment

The Thirteenth Amendment was passed by Congress in 1865 which abolished slavery. However, it needed to be ratified by the states.



# The 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment



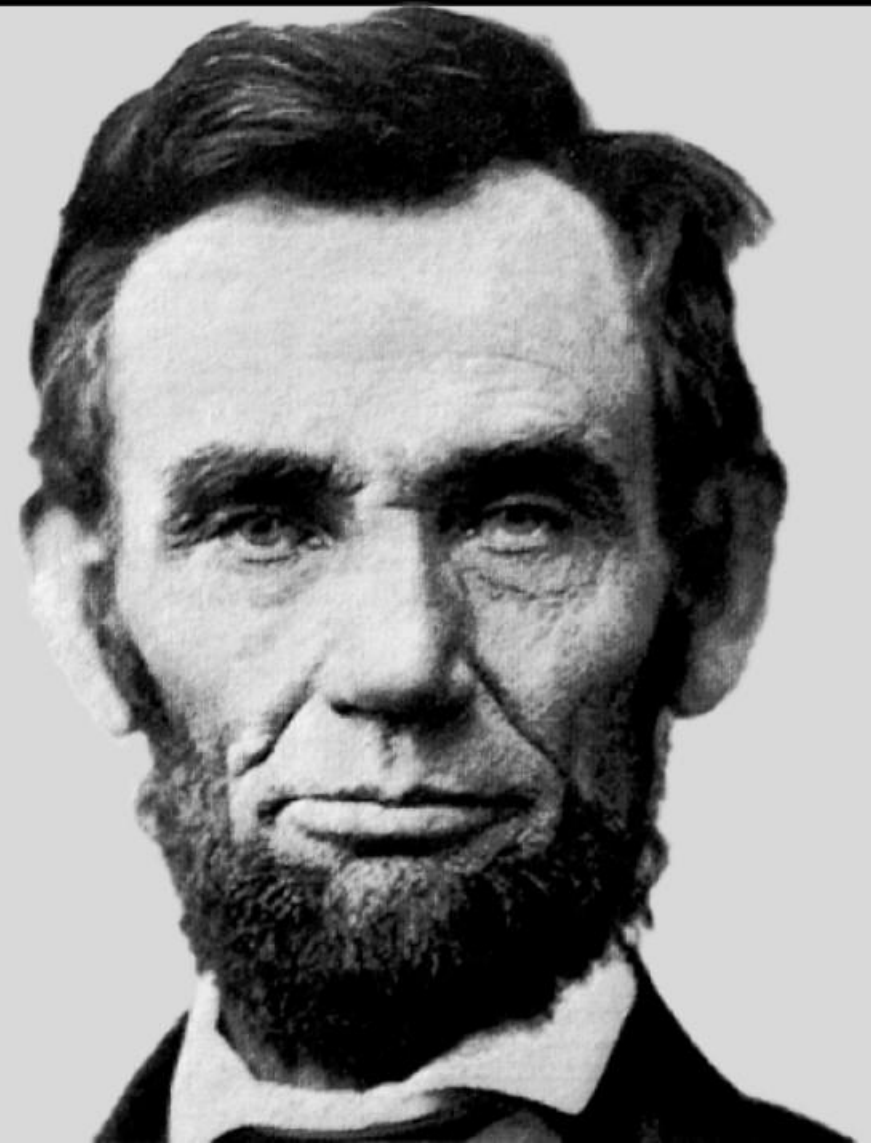
**Abolished slavery**





# Lincoln's 10% Plan

However, the process of Reconstruction had begun while the Civil War was still being fought. In his 1863 Proclamation of Amnesty and Reconstruction, Lincoln had proposed a plan of readmitting Confederate states if 10% of its voters swore a loyalty oath to the Union, and he was prepared to pardon former Confederates if they took the oath and promised to eliminate slavery.





# Lincoln is Forgiving

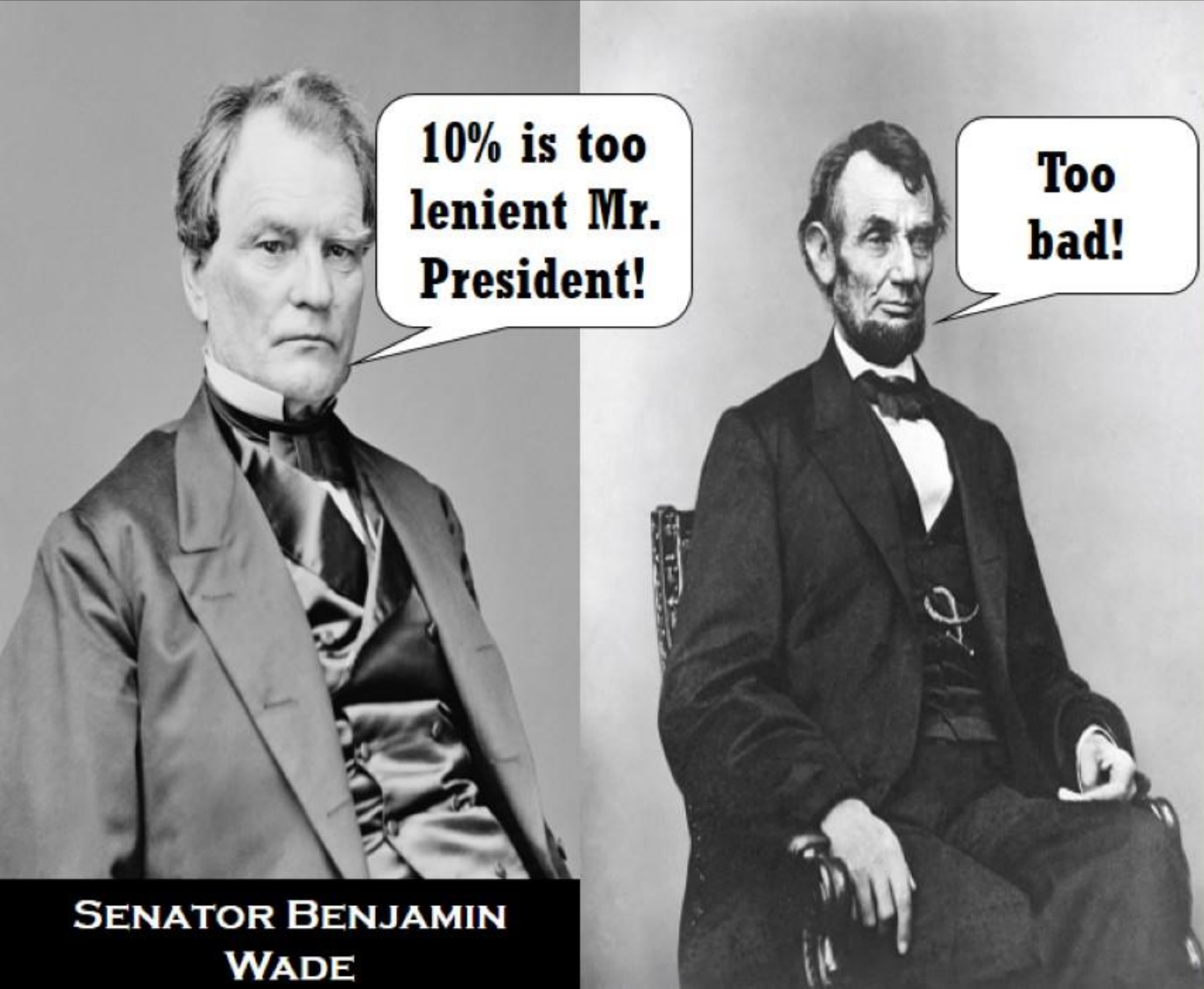
We spoke of Lincoln's call to reunify the nation without punishing the South during his 2nd Inaugural Address, with "malice toward none and charity for all." However, Lincoln's 10% Plan seemed way too lenient to many Congressional Republicans.







# Wade-Davis Bill: Congress is not Forgiving



10% is too lenient Mr. President!

Too bad!

SENATOR BENJAMIN WADE

Congress passed a much harsher plan called the Wade-Davis Bill in 1864 requiring 50 percent of Southern state voters to take the oath of loyalty, and forbid any active members or supporters of the Confederacy to approve new state constitutions. Lincoln, favoring a more lenient approach, pocket-vetoed the bill just letting it **die**.





# What Might Have Happened?



*Maj. Rathbone.*

*Miss Harris.*

*Mrs. Lincoln.*

*President.*

*Assassin.*

**THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN.**

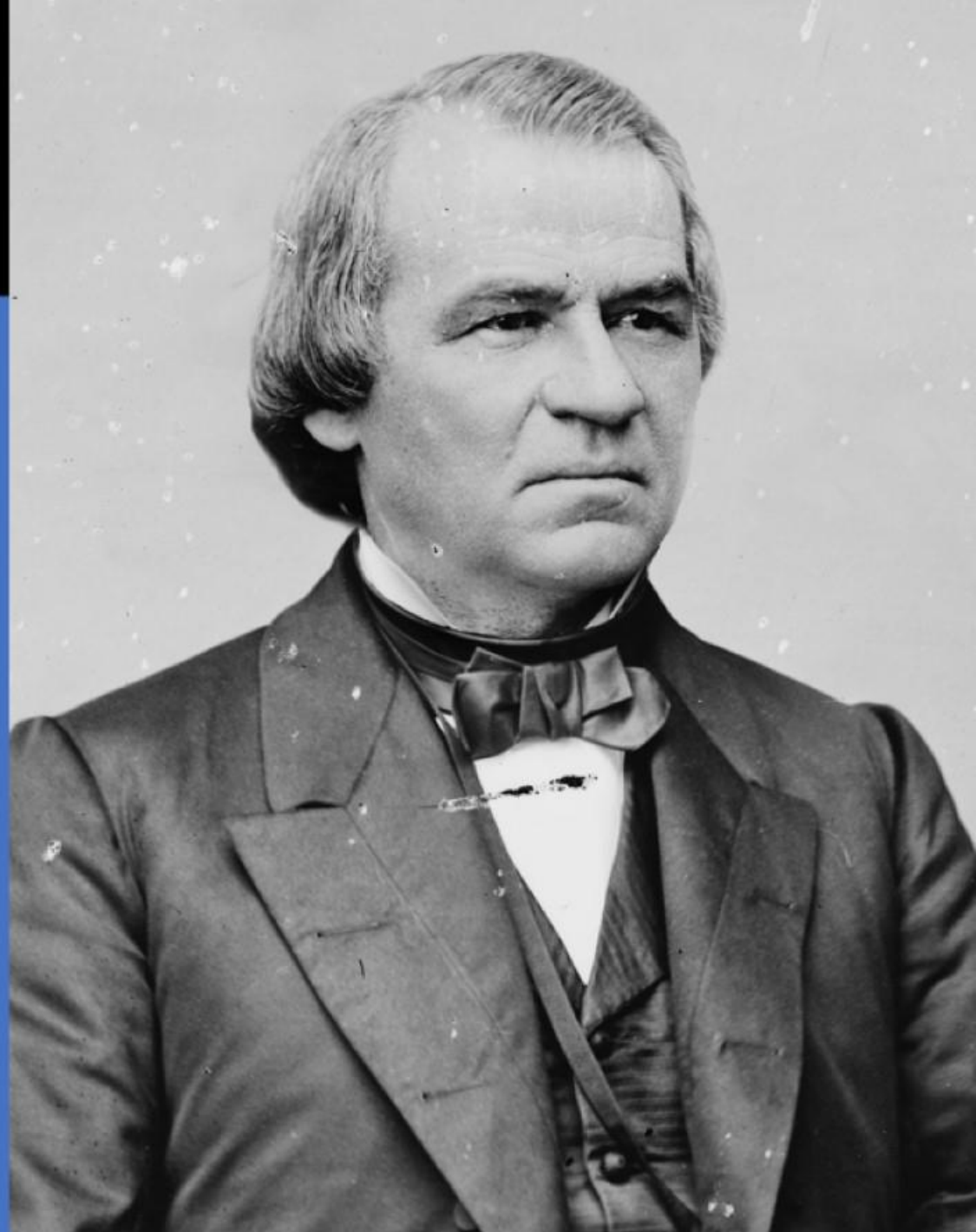
AT FORD'S THEATRE WASHINGTON, D.C. APRIL 14<sup>TH</sup> 1865.

Unfortunately, we will never know what path Lincoln would have ultimately followed during Reconstruction as he was killed before it could start in earnest.



# President Andrew Johnson

With Lincoln's death, his Vice-President **Andrew Johnson**, a **Southern Democrat** from Tennessee who opposed secession which he blamed on the Plantation elite, had been put on the ticket in 1864 as a sign of unity. Johnson promised to continue Lincoln's plan for Reconstruction keeping his 10% plan.

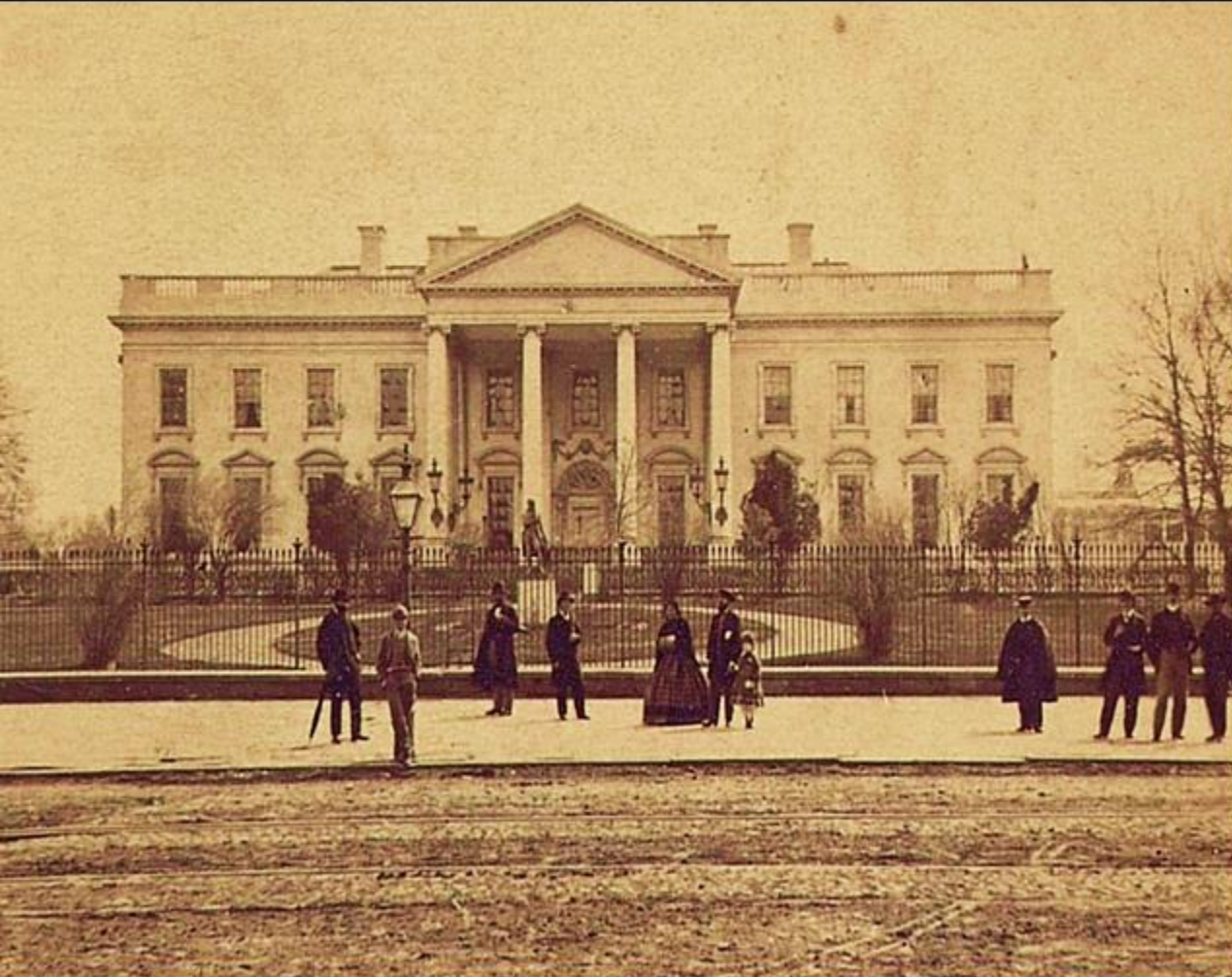




# 2 Reconstructions

**Presidential 1865 - 1867**

**Congressional 1867 - 1877**

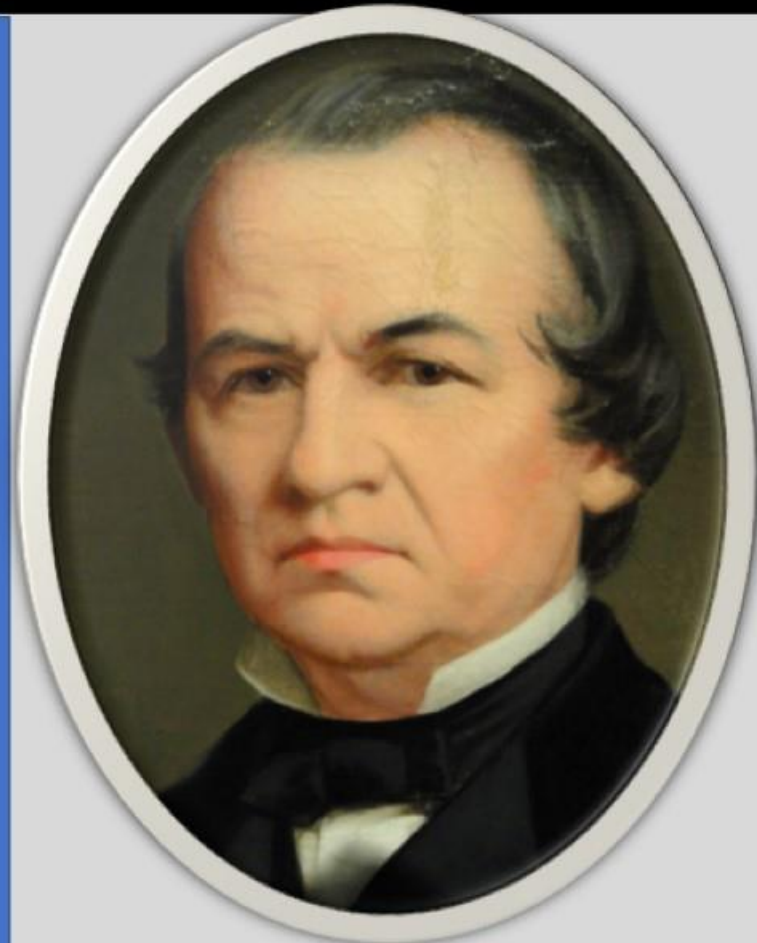






# Presidential Reconstruction

From 1865 to 1867 is the period known as **Presidential Reconstruction.**





# Johnson's Reconstruction

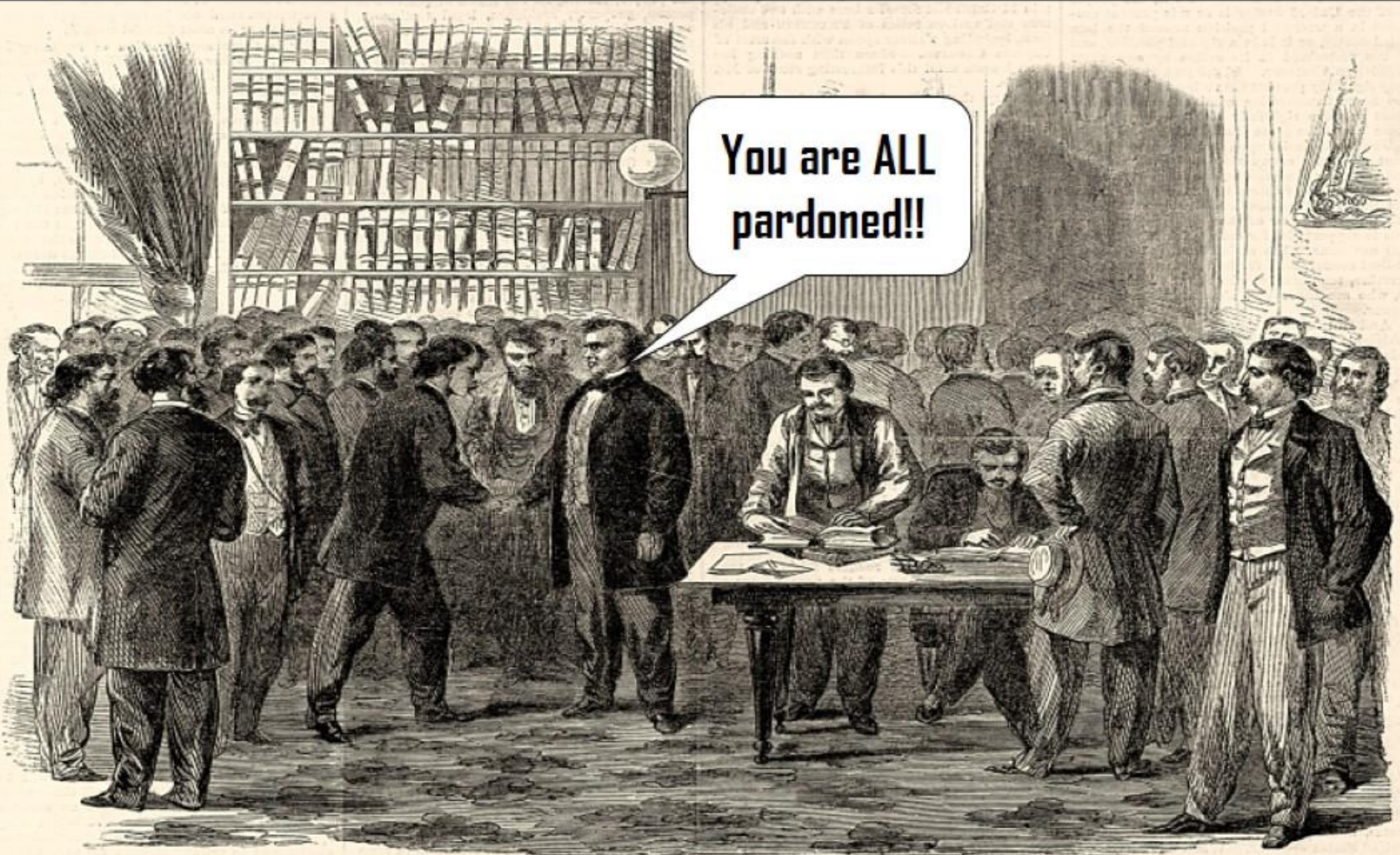


At first, some Radical Republicans were optimistic that Johnson might be tougher on the Confederates than Lincoln, as he took away the right to vote from former Confederate leaders and wealthy planters with assets of more than \$250,000.





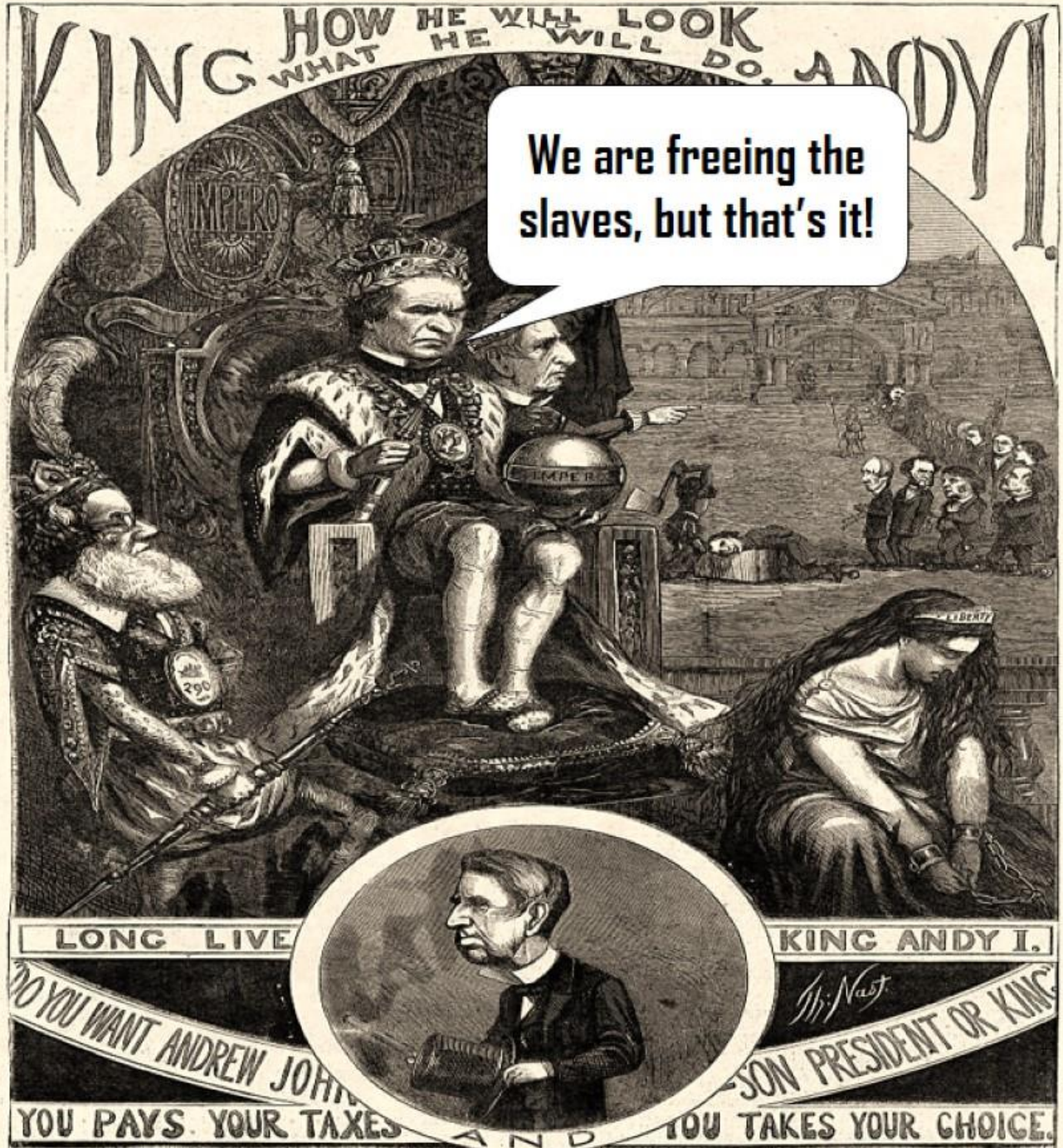
# Johnson's Pardons



PRESIDENT ANDREW JOHNSON PARDONING REBELS AT THE WHITE HOUSE.—[SKETCHED BY MR. STANLEY FOX.]

However, Republicans soon realized how wrong they were as Johnson quickly began pardoning much of the old Confederate elite.





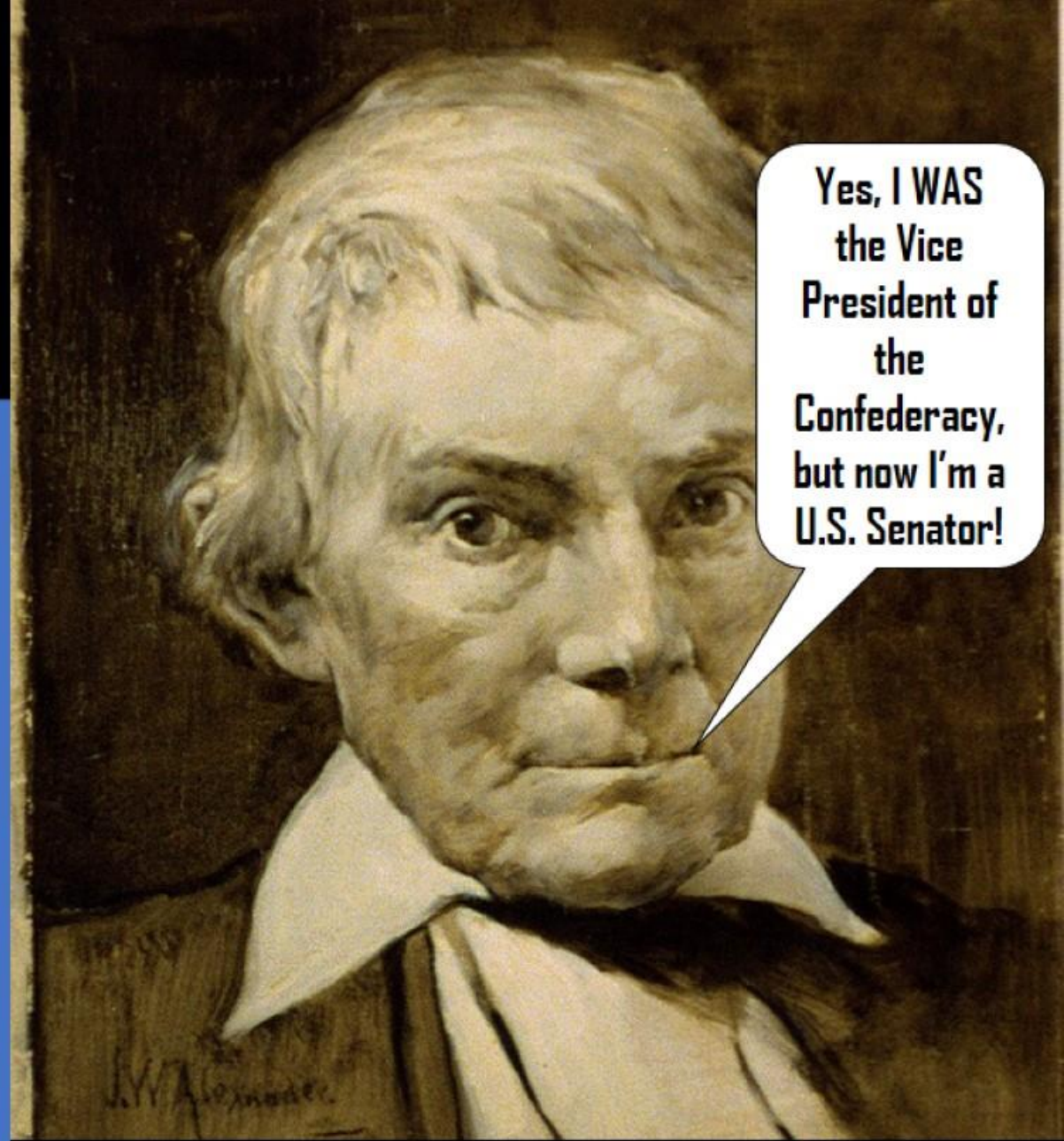
# Johnson the Racist

While Johnson reluctantly required the Southern States to ratify the 13th Amendment before readmission, he favored a quick restoration of the Southern states into the Union, and his racist views offered no protection for the rights of the former slaves.



# **The South Elects Former Confederate Leaders!**

Johnson called for the creation of provisional governments, and Congressional **Republicans** were **outraged** when many of these were made up of prominent Confederates. The Southern states also elected **Confederate leaders**, such as **Alexander Stephens** the **Vice President of the Confederacy** to the **U.S. Congress**.



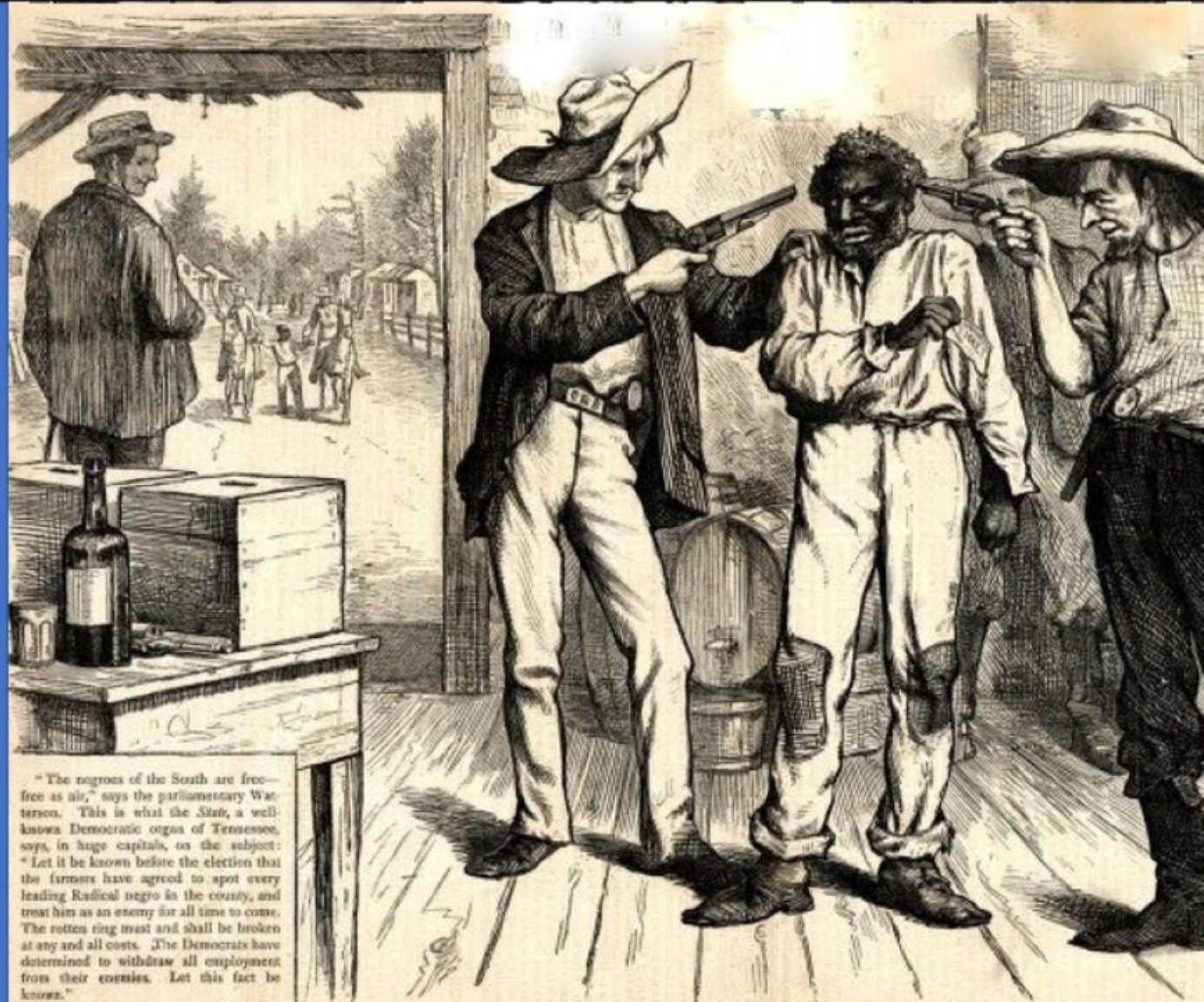
Yes, I WAS  
the Vice  
President of  
the  
Confederacy,  
but now I'm a  
U.S. Senator!

**Former Vice President of the Confederacy Alexander Stephens**



# The Black Codes

As Congress adjourned for the Election of 1866, the Southern states implemented what were known as the **Black Codes**. Black Codes were a series of laws which required blacks to obtain passes to travel and forbid them from owning or renting land often forcing many blacks to work on their old plantations, where they were forced to sign labor contracts.



"The negroes of the South are free—free as air," says the parliamentary Waterston. "This is what the Star, a well-known Democratic organ of Tennessee, says, in huge capitals, on the subject: "Let it be known before the election that the farmers have agreed to spot every leading Radical negro in the county, and treat him as an enemy for all time to come. The rotten ring must and shall be broken at any and all costs. The Democrats have determined to withdraw all employment from their enemies. Let this fact be known."

"OF COURSE HE WANTS TO VOTE THE DEMOCRATIC TICKET!"  
Democratic "Reproser." "You're as free as air, ain't you? Say you are, or I'll blow yer Black head off!"





# The Black Codes



Many states had "vagrancy" laws which incentivized the arrest of freedmen who would be leased out for farm labor

Under this system, the freed slaves were unable to vote or serve on juries. States often took their old slave laws and replaced the word "slave" for "Negro." In essence **life for African-Americans was almost exactly as it had been under slavery.**





# The Freedmen's Bureau



THE FREEDMEN'S BUREAU.—Drawn by A. R. WALKER.—[See Page 407.]

Increasingly the victims of violence, Freed slaves often turned to The **Freedman's Bureau**, an agency created to provide aid, schools, and powers to deal with **conflicts** between the freed slaves and their new employers, who in many cases were their former masters.





# The Freedmen's Bureau

The Freedman's Bureau often struggled with funding and a hostile Southern population, as well as reluctance of the Federal Government to give it the support it needed. It's greatest success was providing an education to the freed slaves, something that was very important to them.



THE MISS COOKE'S SCHOOL ROOM, FREEDMAN'S BUREAU, RICHMOND, VA.—FROM A SKETCH BY JAM. E. TAYLOR.





# Desire for Land

Beyond an education, what the freed slaves wanted more than anything was land to farm.

Inspired by an order General Sherman had given known as **Field Order 15**, calling for the confiscation of Confederate land and providing freedmen with “**40 Acres and a Mule**,” the freed slaves felt entitled to the land they had worked for generations.





# Sharecropping



What mostly developed was a system known as **sharecropping**, in which African-Americans would “**lease**” land in exchange for giving the landowner a percentage of their crop. The landowner would deduct expenses such as housing, food and farming supplies.



# Sharecropping



This system usually left the former slaves in a state of continuous debt as the owners would deduct more in expenses than the tenant would earn off of the sale of their crop. Sharecropping would keep former slaves, and many poor whites, living in a state of massive poverty for generations.



## The Sharecropper Cycle of Poverty



6 To pay debt, sharecropper must promise landowner a greater share of next year's crop.



5 When settling up, landowner says that sharecropper owes more than he has earned.



1 Sharecropper is provided land and seed. In exchange, he promises landowner half the crop.



2 Sharecropper buys food and clothing on credit from landowner's store.



3 Sharecropper plants and harvests crop.



4 Sharecropper gives landowner crop to sell. Sharecropper will get half the earnings, minus the cost of his purchases for the year.

By the time sharecroppers had shared their crops and paid their debts, they rarely had any money left. Often they were uneducated and could not argue with landowners or merchants who cheated them. A sharecropper frequently became tied to one plantation, having no choice but to work until his debts were paid.

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# Congress Fights Back!

As the post-Civil War South looked more and more like the pre-war South, Americans went to the polls to vote. Republicans resorted to what was called “*waving the bloody shirt*,” evoking their losses in the Civil War as a call for action.

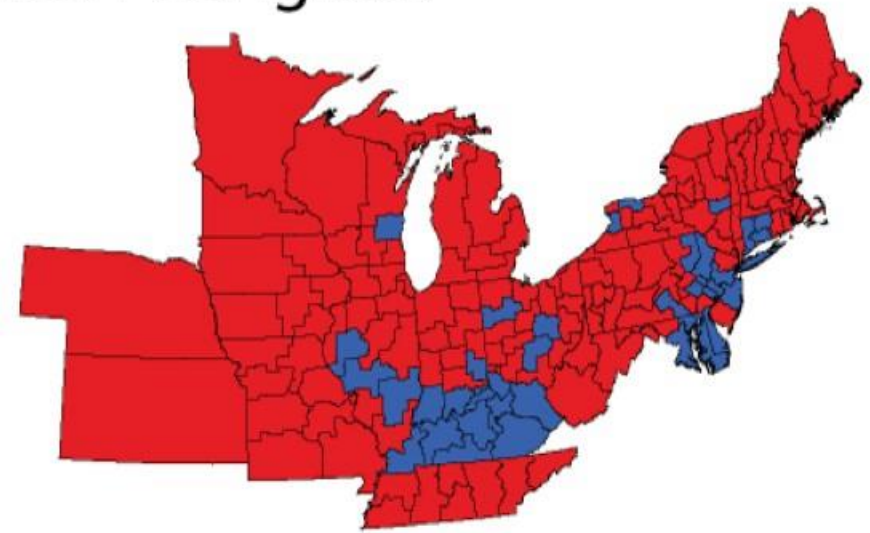




# Election 1866: Republican Sweep

Outraged by the Black Codes and Johnson's leniency towards the South, moderate and radical Republicans swept Congressional elections gaining more than a two-thirds majority in both houses of Congress.

House Election, 1866  
40th Congress



- Democrat
- Republican
- Independent

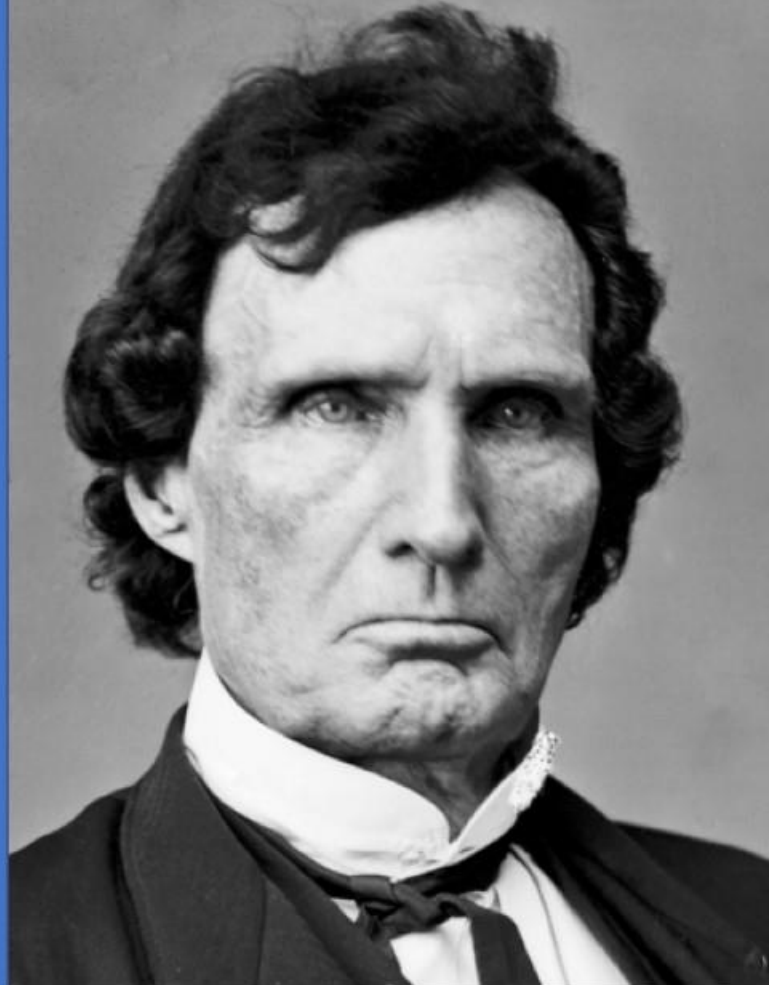




THE FREEDMAN'S BUREAU!  
AN AGENCY TO KEEP THE NEGRO IN ORDER BY THE EXPENSES OF THE VOTE HAS  
TWICE TESTED BY THE PRESIDENT, AND MADE A LAW BY CONGRESS.  
SUPPORT CONGRESS & YOU SUPPORT THE NEGRO. SUSTAIN THE PRESIDENT & YOU PROTECT THE WHITE MAN

# Congressional Reconstruction

What followed is known as **Congressional Reconstruction (1867 – 1877)** led by **Republicans** such as Pennsylvania's **Thaddeus Stephens** and Massachusetts' **Charles Sumner**.



**Representative Thaddeus Stephens**



**Senator Charles Sumner**



# Civil Rights Act of 1866



Congress was determined to protect the rights of the newly freed slaves. They passed the **Civil Rights Bill** of 1866 aimed at destroying the Black Codes by giving African Americans full citizenship. Johnson vetoed the bill, to which the Republicans quickly overturned his veto with a 2/3rds vote.





# 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment

All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

**Worried that future Congresses might overturn their bill, the Republicans proposed the 14th Amendment to make the protection of civil rights more permanent.**



# 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment

- **Established freed slaves as citizens** (overturning Dred Scott)
- **States can't deny the Bill of Rights**
- **State's must provide "due process" and "equal protection under the law"** (still used today!)

"No State shall deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

Fourteenth Amendment  
U.S. Constitution



# 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment

Finally, it blocked  
Confederate officers  
from holding state and  
federal office, and the  
possibility of losing  
proportional  
representation in the U.S.  
Congress if African  
Americans were denied  
the right to vote.





# 1867 Military Reconstruction Act

In 1867, Congress passed the **Military Reconstruction Act**:

- **Divide South into 5 military districts**
- **Must ratify the 14<sup>th</sup>**
- **Provide male suffrage**
- **Readmission into Union**



Each district was under the supervision of a Union General





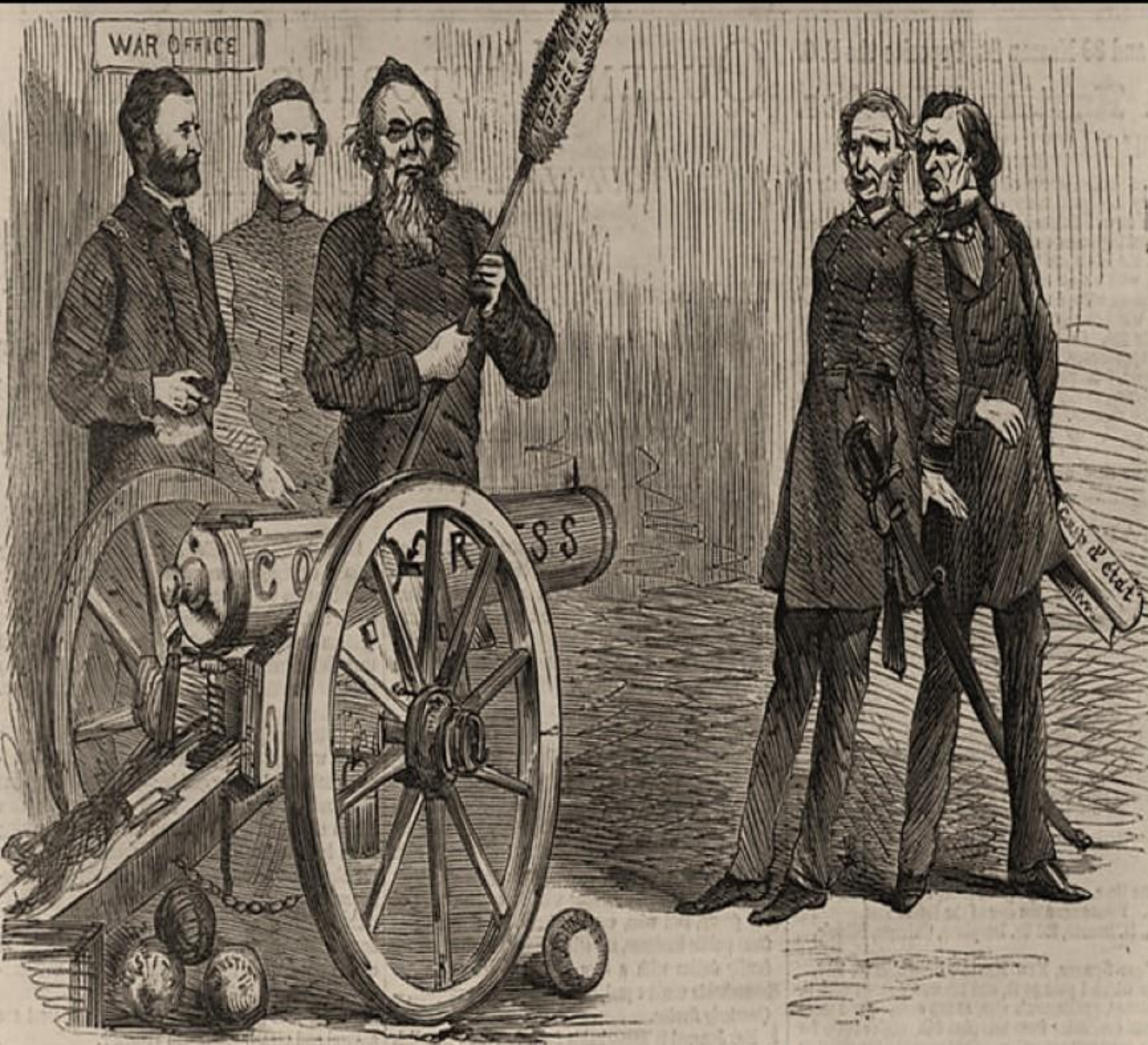
# The South Under Martial Law

This act essentially left the South under a state of martial law. It also abolished all of the state governments that had been created under Lincoln's 10% plan.





# Protecting Lincoln's Cabinet

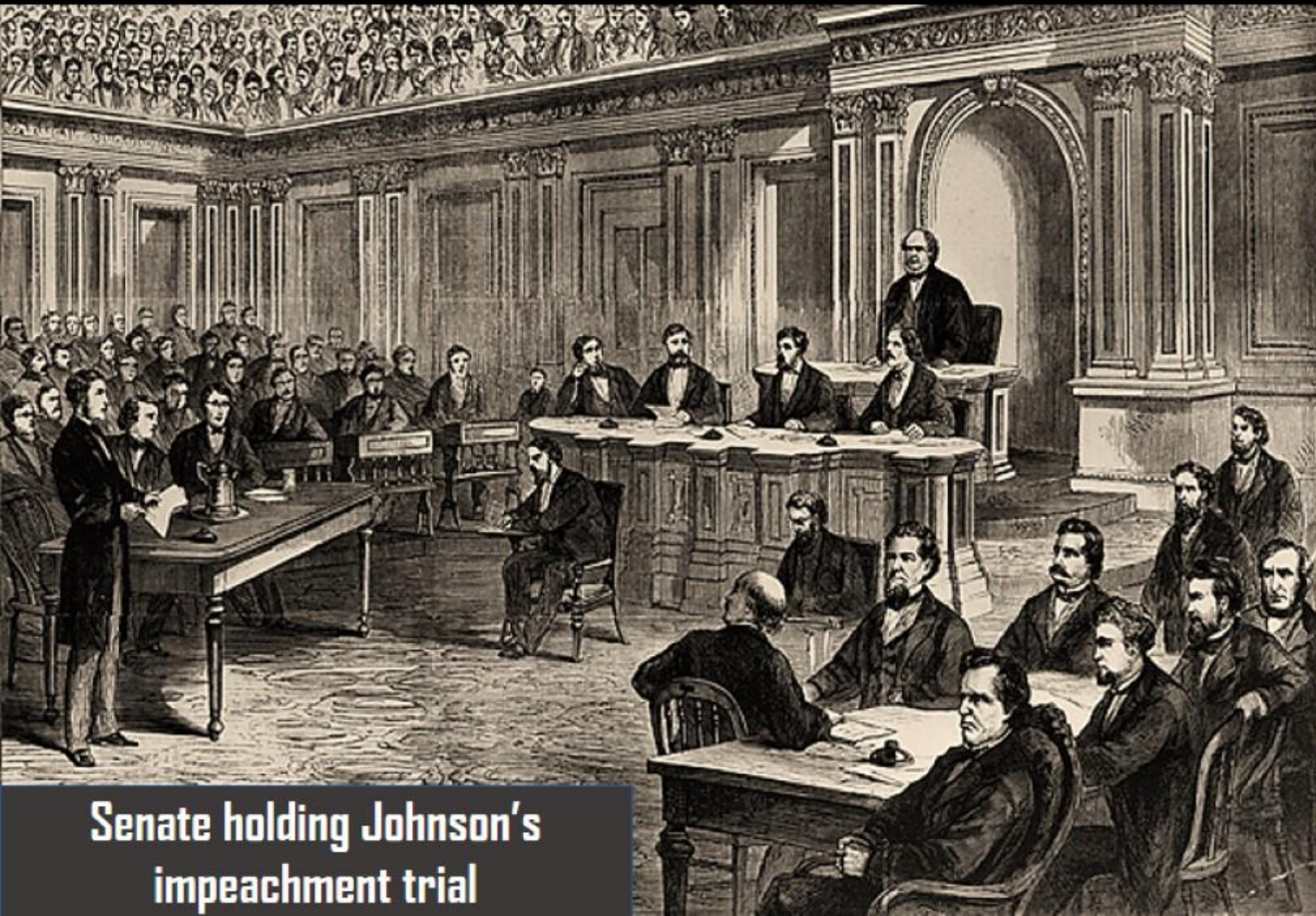


Again Johnson vetoed the act, and again his veto was overridden. At this point, Congress was fed up with Johnson. Johnson's cabinet, made up of mostly Lincoln holdovers, were turning on him as well. Congress passed the Tenure of Office Act making it illegal for the president to fire a federal appointee without Congressional approval.





# Impeaching President Johnson



Senate holding Johnson's impeachment trial

When Johnson fired Lincoln's Secretary of War Edwin Stanton, the House of Representatives promptly brought impeachment charges against him. After being impeached by the House, the Senate came up one vote short of the 2/3rds required to convict him.





# President Johnson is Done

However, the writing was on the wall for Johnson, and he served out the remainder of his term as a lame duck. And that is where we will pick up next time with Part II of Reconstruction. But before we do, let's review...



"FAREWELL, A LONG FAREWELL, TO ALL MY GREATNESS!"





**What was Lincoln's plan of readmitting the States known as?**

**The 10% Plan**





# What did the Wade-Davis Bill require?

**50% of voters to take  
loyalty oath**





**What are the two periods of Reconstruction known as?**

**Presidential & Congressional Reconstruction**





# What angered Congressional Republicans about Johnson?

- **Quick pardoning & leniency on the South**
- **Failing to protect the rights of the freed slaves**





**What were the series of laws meant to keep African-Americans in a semi-state of slavery after the war?**

**The Black Codes**





**This agency was established to provide aid for the freed slaves?**

**The Freedmen's Bureau**





# What was the Freedmen's Bureau's greatest success?

**Education**





**Freed slaves were often stuck in this system in which a tenant uses the land in return for a share of the crops produced?**

**Sharecropping**





**What was the purpose of  
the Civil Rights Act of  
1866?**

**Make the freed slaves  
citizens**





**To protect the right of  
citizenship Congress  
passed?**

**The 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment**





# What other protections does the 14th Amendment provide?

- **State's must incorporate the Bill of Rights**
  - **Equal protection under the law & due process**
- **Limited political role of ex-Confederates**





# What did the Military Reconstruction Act do?

- **Divided the South into 5 military districts**
  - **Must ratify the 14th**
  - **Provide male suffrage**
- **Before readmission into Union**





**When Johnson broke this law,  
they brought him up on  
impeachment charges?**

**Tenure of Office Act**





**How many presidents have  
been impeached by the  
House of Reps?**

**Two**





**How many have been found guilty by the Senate?**

**Zero**





**Johnson avoided  
impeachment by how many  
votes?**

**One**