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Reconstruction (1865-1876)

Ms. Susan M. Pojer
Horace Greeley HS Chappaqua, NY

13th Amendment

★ Ratified in December, 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.*

Freedmen's Bureau School



Freedmen's Bureau Seen Through Southern Eyes

*Plenty to
eat and
nothing to
do.*



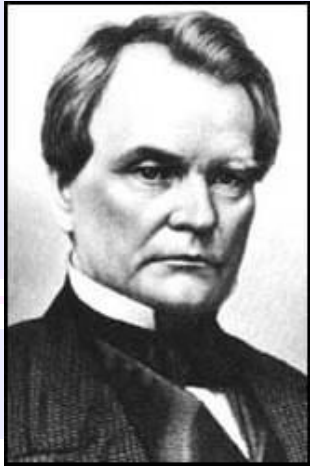
President Lincoln's Plan

★ 10% Plan



- 🏛️ Proclamation of Amnesty and Reconstruction (December 8, 1863)
- 🏛️ Replace majority rule with "loyal rule" in the South.
- 🏛️ He didn't consult Congress regarding Reconstruction.
- 🏛️ Pardon to all but the highest ranking military and civilian Confederate officers.
- 🏛️ When 10% of the voting population in the 1860 election had taken an oath of loyalty and established a government, it would be recognized.

Wade-Davis Bill (1864)



Senator
Benjamin
Wade
(R-OH)

★ Required 50% of the number of 1860 voters to take an "iron clad" oath of allegiance (swearing they had never voluntarily aided the rebellion).

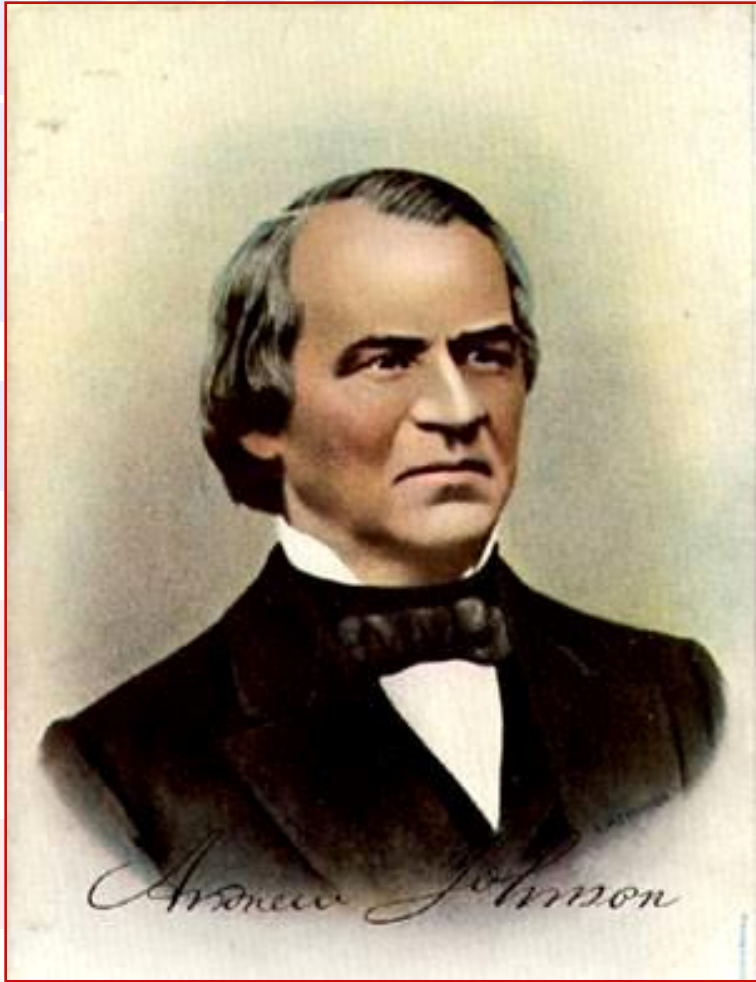


Congressman
Henry
W. Davis
(R-MD)

★ Required a state constitutional convention before the election of state officials.

★ Enacted specific safeguards of freedmen's liberties.

★ President Andrew Johnson



- ★ Jacksonian Democrat.
- ★ Anti-Aristocrat.
- ★ White Supremacist.
- ★ Agreed with Lincoln that states had never legally left the Union.

President Johnson's Plan (10%+)

- ★ Offered amnesty upon simple oath to all except Confederate civil and military officers and those with property over \$20,000 (they could apply directly to Johnson)
- ★ In new constitutions, they must accept minimum conditions repudiating slavery, secession and state debts.
- ★ Named provisional governors in Confederate states and called them to oversee elections for constitutional conventions.

EFFECTS?

1. Disenfranchised certain leading Confederates.
2. Pardoned planter aristocrats brought them back to political power to control state organizations.
3. Republicans were outraged that planter elite were back in power in the South!

★ ★ Growing Northern Alarm!

- ★ Many Southern state constitutions fell short of minimum requirements.
- ★ Johnson granted 13,500 special pardons.
- ★ Revival of southern defiance.



BLACK CODES

Black Codes

★ Purpose:

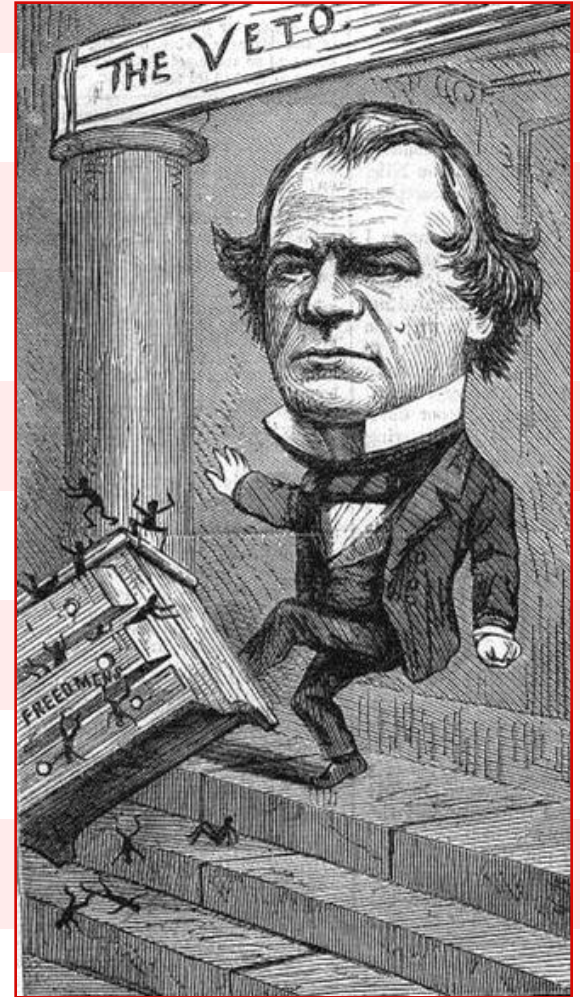
- 🏛️ Guarantee stable labor supply now that blacks were emancipated.
- 🏛️ Restore pre-emancipation system of race relations.

★ Forced many blacks to become **sharecroppers** [tenant farmers].



Congress Breaks with the President

- ★ Congress bars Southern Congressional delegates.
- ★ Joint Committee on Reconstruction created.
- ★ February, 1866 → President vetoed the Freedmen's Bureau bill.
- ★ March, 1866 → Johnson vetoed the 1866 Civil Rights Act.
- ★ Congress passed both bills over Johnson's vetoes → 1st in U. S. history!!



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Radical (Congressional) Reconstruction

14th Amendment

★ Ratified in July, 1868.

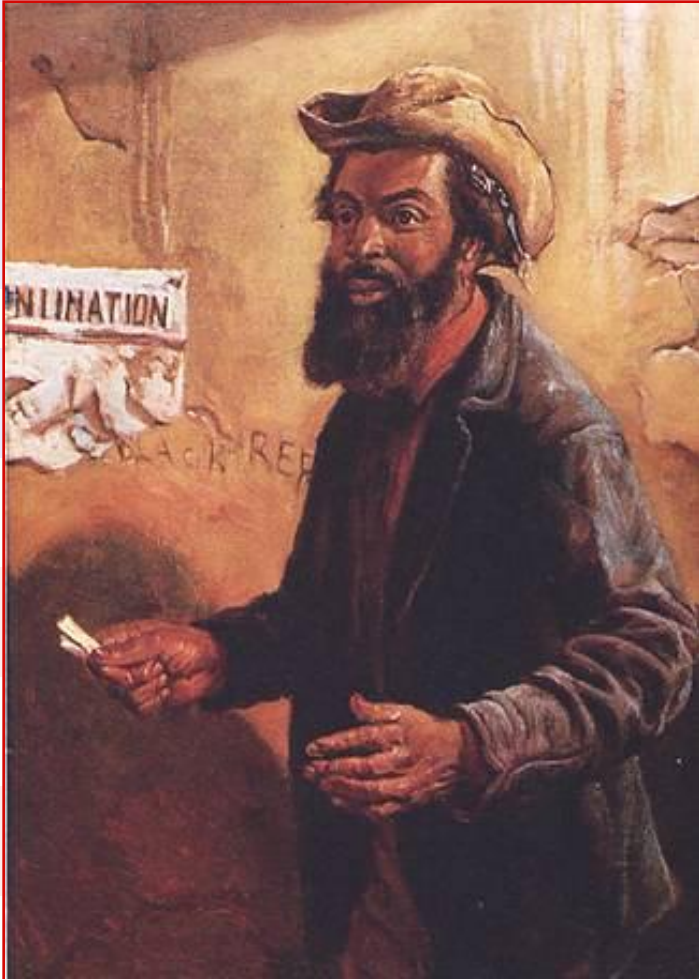
🏛️ Provide a constitutional guarantee of the rights and security of freed people.

🏛️ Insure against neo-Confederate political power.

🏛️ Enshrine the national debt while repudiating that of the Confederacy.

★ Southern states would be punished for denying the right to vote to black citizens!

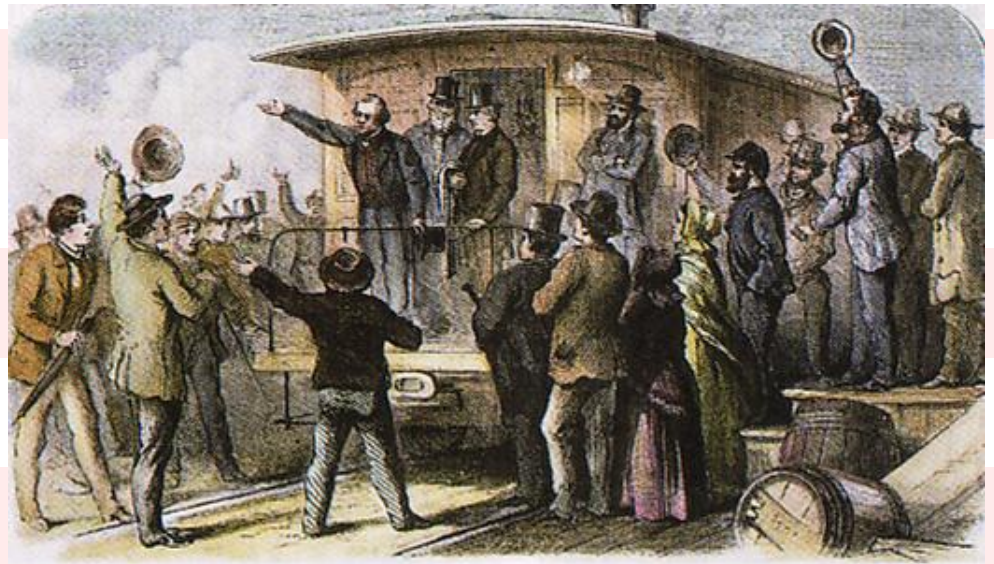
The Balance of Power in Congress



| State | White Citizens | Freedmen |
|-------|----------------|----------|
| SC | 291,000 | 411,000 |
| MS | 353,000 | 436,000 |
| LA | 357,000 | 350,000 |
| GA | 591,000 | 465,000 |
| AL | 596,000 | 437,000 |
| VA | 719,000 | 533,000 |
| NC | 631,000 | 331,000 |

The 1866 Bi-Election

- ★ A referendum on Radical Reconstruction.
- ★ Johnson made an ill-conceived propaganda tour around the country to push his plan.
- ★ Republicans won a 3-1 majority in both houses and gained control of every northern state.



Johnson's "Swing around the Circle"

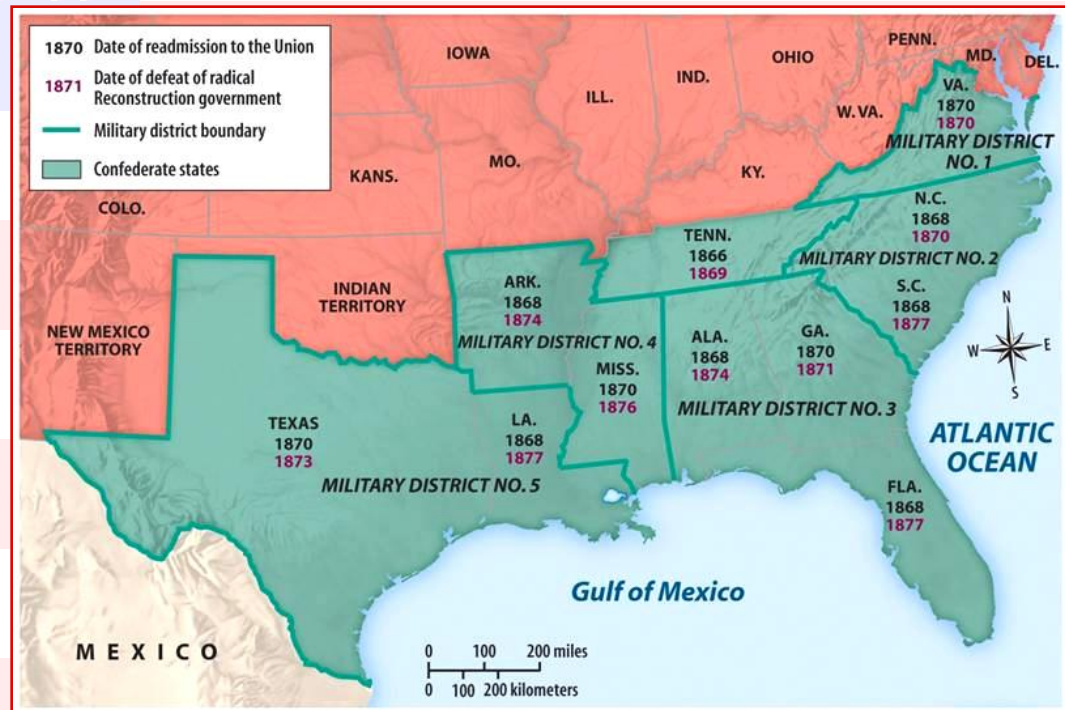
★ Radical Plan for Readmission

- ★ Civil authorities in the territories were subject to military supervision.
- ★ Required new state constitutions, including black suffrage and ratification of the 13th and 14th Amendments.
- ★ In March, 1867, Congress passed an act that authorized the military to enroll eligible black voters and begin the process of constitution making.

Reconstruction Acts of 1867

★ Military Reconstruction Act

- 🏛️ Restart Reconstruction in the 10 Southern states that refused to ratify the 14th Amendment.
- 🏛️ Divide the 10 “unreconstructed states” into 5 military districts.



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 were furious that they were not granted the vote!

Black Senate & House Delegates



★ ★ ★ ★ Black Reconstruction



- ★ • Between 1868-1876 14 black
★ congressman and two black senators were
★ elected into office
- Hiram Revels and Blanche Bruce were
Senators both from MO who moved to MS
- Many blacks also served as lieutenant
governors and representatives for state
governments
- Many served as mayors, sheriffs, and
justices of the peace for local gov.

★ ★ ★ ★ White Support for Black ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Suffrage

- ★ ★ • Scalawags-Pro Union White Southerners, hated by Southern Whites
- ★ ★ • Carpetbaggers-nicknamed because many came to the South with belongings in a carpet suitcase. Northerners who came South looking for political or business careers. Wanted to take advantage of new black suffrage.

The "Invisible Empire of the South"



The Failure of Federal Enforcement

★ Enforcement Acts of 1870 & 1871 [also known as the KKK Act].



Federal Troops were able to stamp out most of the "open Klan"

Damage was already done, many Klansman used other groups as a front for their fight for White Supremacy

★ ★ The Civil Rights Act of 1875

- ★ Crime for any individual to deny full & equal use of public conveyances and public places.
- ★ Prohibited discrimination in jury selection.
- ★ Shortcoming → lacked a strong enforcement mechanism.
- ★ No new civil rights act was attempted for 90 years!