LEQ: Where were the first shots of the Civil War?



This lithograph by Courier & Ives shows the bombardment of Fort Sumter which began on April 12, 1861. This image is courtesy of constitutionalcenter.org.

LEQ: Where were the first shots of the Civil War? Fort Sumter



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The American Civil War Begins



This mural shows cadets from The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina located in Charleston, South Carolina. The Citadel cadets are firing on the *Star of the West* on January 9, 1861. The ship was bringing supplies to the United States soldiers in Fort Sumter, which is shown on the left. The *Star of the West*, did not proceed to Fort Sumter after it was fired on. This mural was painted by David Humphreys Miller (1918-1992). It is displayed in the Daniel Library at the Citadel. This image is courtesy of posix.com.

LEQ: Where were fired the first shots of the Civil War?



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On March 4, 1861, Abraham Lincoln took the presidential oath of office.



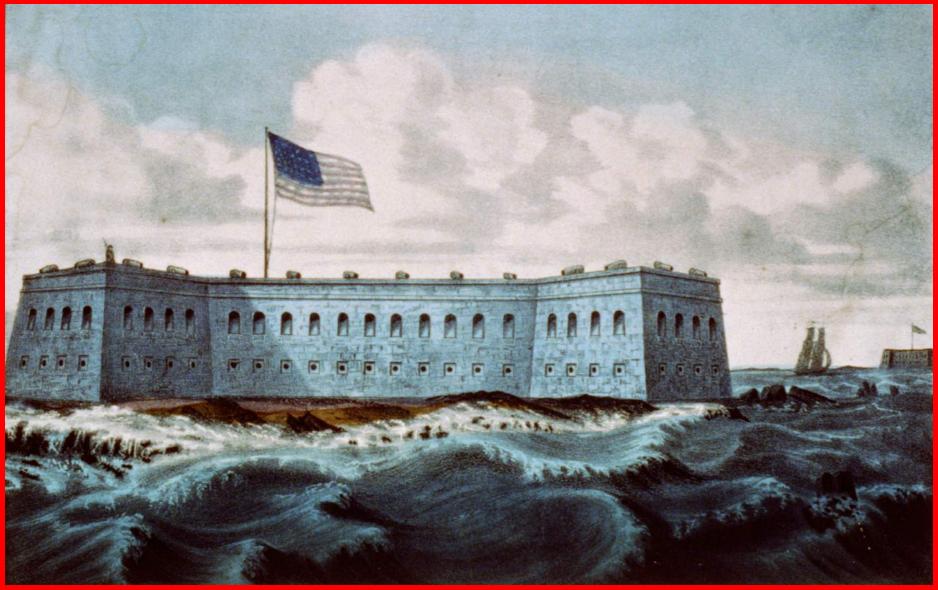
In his Inaugural Address, Lincoln insisted that the Union could not be divided and that secession was unconstitutional. He called Southerners his "fellow countrymen" and begged all Americans to listen to "the better angels of our nature." This image shows Lincoln taking the Oath of Office under the covered area on the east front of the United States Capitol. This image was taken on March 4, 1861 by an unknown artist. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

Lincoln warned that the federal government would "hold, occupy, and possess" all its property in the states that had seceded.



When Lincoln was inaugurated on March 4, 1861 the Capitol dome was under construction. This image shows the east side of the Capitol. Lincoln was inaugurated under the wooden canopy in the center of the steps on the capitol. This image was taken by an unknown photographer. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

When Lincoln spoke of federal property, he meant the post offices, forts, and military supply houses that the federal government controlled in each state.



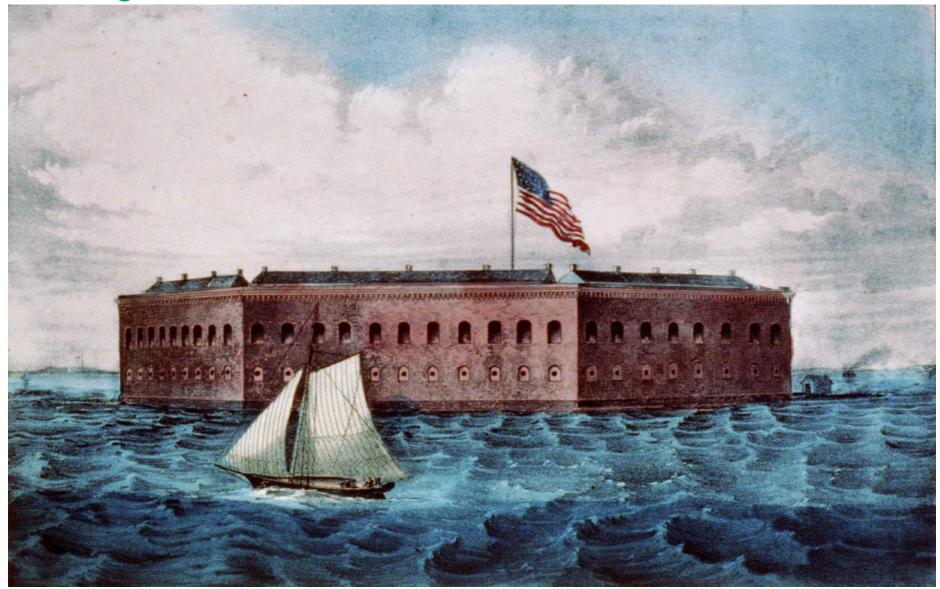
In 1861 many of the seceding states took over these federal operations. This painting created by Currier & Ives circa 1865 shows Fort Pickens in Pensacola Harbor, Florida. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

Confederates said they wanted to take over these federal properties because they did not want a government of "foreigners" conducting business on their soil.



This image shows the first Confederate flag, known as the Stars and Bars. It was flown from March 4, 1861 to May 1, 1863. The seven stars represent the first seven Confederate states. Its similarity to the United States flag led to confusion on the battlefield, and its design was not liked by a lot of Southerners. It would be replaced by the St. Andrews Cross flag in 1863. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

When Lincoln took the oath of office, the federal government still held two forts in the South.



One of them, Fort Sumter, stood on a rocky island in the harbor at Charleston, South Carolina. This hand colored lithograph was created by Currier & Ives circa 1865. This image is courtesy of The Library of Congress.

When the Fort Sumter ran short of supplies, its commander, Major Robert Anderson, informed President Lincoln that he needed more food, men, and ammunition.



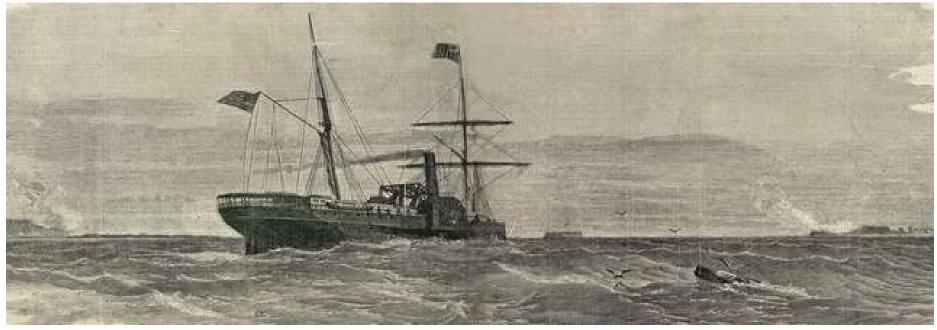
This photograph shows the United States officers at Fort Sumter on February 8, 1861. Back row from left to right are Captain Truman Seymour, Lieutenant George W. Snyder, Lieutenant Jefferson C. Davis, Lieutenant Richard K. Meade, and Captain Theodore Talbot. From row from left to right are Captain Abner Doubleday, Major Robert Anderson, Surgeon Samuel W. Crawford, and Captain John G. Foster. The photographs were taken by Charleston, South Carolina photographer George S. Cook from 1:00-2:00 PM that day. This image is courtesy of The Library of Congress.

A general in the Confederacy's new army, P.G.T. Beauregard, surrounded the harbor and the fort with cannon.



Pierre Goustave Toutant Beauregard intended to stop any federal reinforcements from reaching the fort. The Confederates waited for Major Anderson to surrender. This photograph was taken circa 1863. This photograph is courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration.

Lincoln sent a fleet of ships with supplies to the fort.



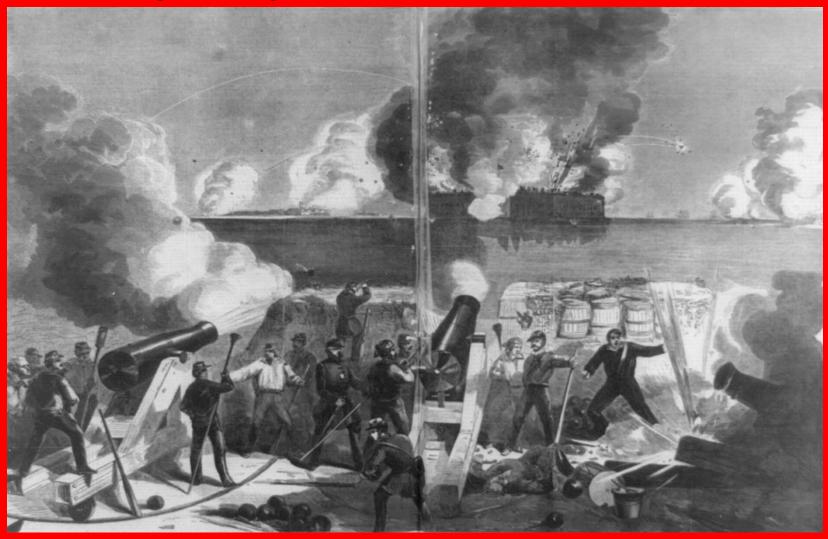
Lincoln decided against sending soldiers knowing it would only anger the Confederates more. This image shows the Steamship *Star of the West* as it approached Fort Sumter. This image appeared in *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper* on January 19, 1861. This image is courtesy of dickinson.edu.

Confederates viewed Lincoln's orders to send supply ships as an act of war.



This image is titled "Firing on the 'Star of the West' From the South Carolina Battery On Morris Island, January 10, 1861." Lincoln would send another fleet of ships with supplies in April, 1861. This image appeared in the January 16, 1861 edition of *Harper's Weekly*. This image is courtesy of philaprintshop.com.

When the Confederacy learned of the approaching supply ships, Beauregard began to bombard the fort on April 12, 1861.



One of the soldiers in the fort described the bombardment as "showers of balls... and shells... poured into the fort in one incessant stream, causing great flakes of masonry to fall in all directions." This image is titled "Bombardment of Fort Sumter by the Batteries of the Confederate States. This image appeared in the April 27, 1861 edition of Harper's Weekly. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress. A former Senator from Texas, Louis Wigfall, arrived at Fort Sumter in a boat, noticed the flames all around the fort and asked Major Anderson if he would surrender.



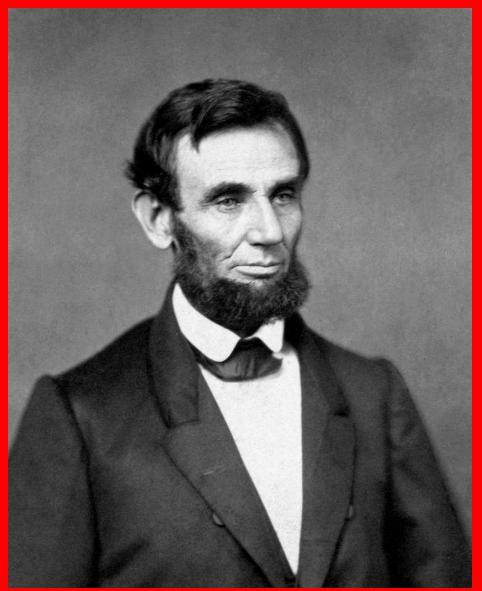
Anderson reluctantly agreed. This image is titled "Exterior View of the Gorge of Fort Sumter on the 14th April 1861 After its Evacuation by Major Robert Anderson 1st Art. U.S.A. Commanding, Showing that Portion Towards Cummings' Point, Morris Island." This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

After 34 hours of bombardment, but with no loss of life, Fort Sumter surrendered.



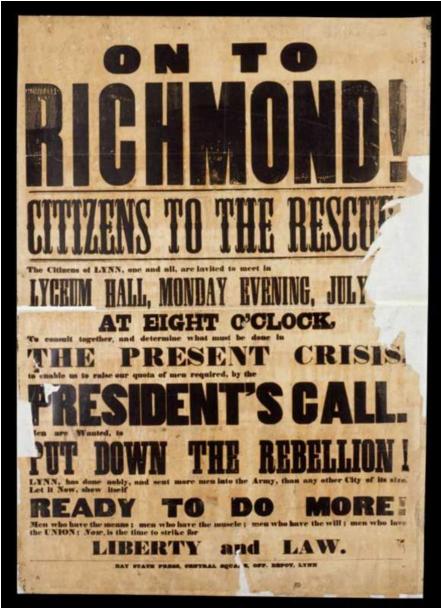
The United States soldiers fired a salute as they lowered their flag. One soldier, Daniel Hough, was killed when the cannon they used for the salute exploded. Five other soldiers were wounded and one of the wounded soldiers, Edward Galloway, died five days after the ceremony. Confederates then raised their flag over the fort. This image was taken on April 16, 1861 by Alma A. Pelot. This image is titled "Confederate Flag Flying Over Sumter After the Evacuation of Maj. Anderson– Interior View." This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

Almost immediately Lincoln began organizing the North for war.



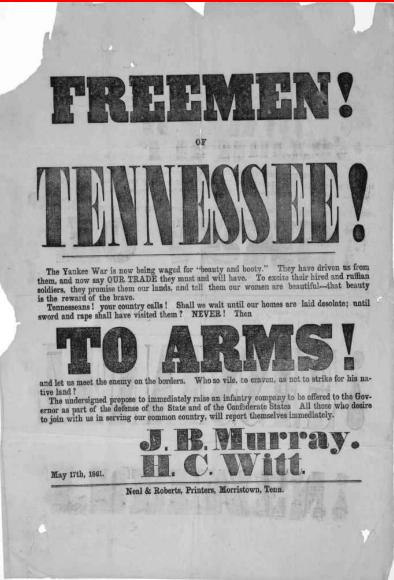
The Civil War had begun. Lincoln began to mobilize the North. Mobilizing means to organize the country's military, industry, and transportation for service to the government in time of war. This photograph was taken by an unidentified photographer between March 1, 1861 and June 30, 1861. This image is courtesy of Christies.com.

News of the attack on Fort Sumter stirred nationalist feelings in the North.



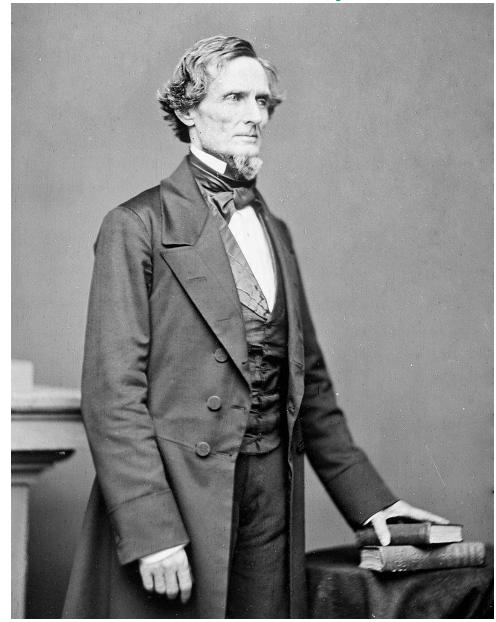
When Lincoln requested 75,000 volunteers for 90 days to help restore order in the South, more people responded than could be equipped or trained. This image was created by Bay State Press in 1861. This image is courtesy of publications.newberrry.org.

Although the Confederate states had hoped for a peaceful withdrawal from the Union, the news of the skirmish at Fort Sumter aroused intense emotions.



This recruiting poster was produced soon after Tennessee seceded from the United States. This image is courtesy of paperlessarchives.com.

Jefferson Davis, the President of the Confederacy called for 100,000 volunteers.



A visitor to the South found "revolutionary fever in full sway...Young men are dying to fight." This image is courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration.

Both sides expected to win the war and to win it quickly.



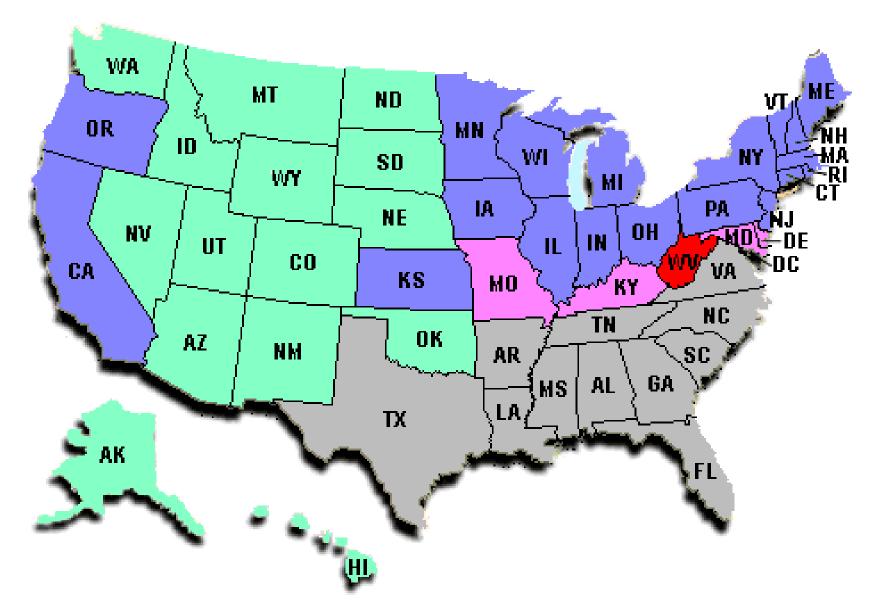
This image usually referred to as "Young Confederates Off to War" has been identified by some historians as Company A, First Virginia Infantry, the "Richmond Grays." They are at John Brown's execution at Charles Town, Virginia (now West Virginia) in October, 1859. This image is courtesy of the Valentine Museum.

President Lincoln's primary goal was to reunite the country.



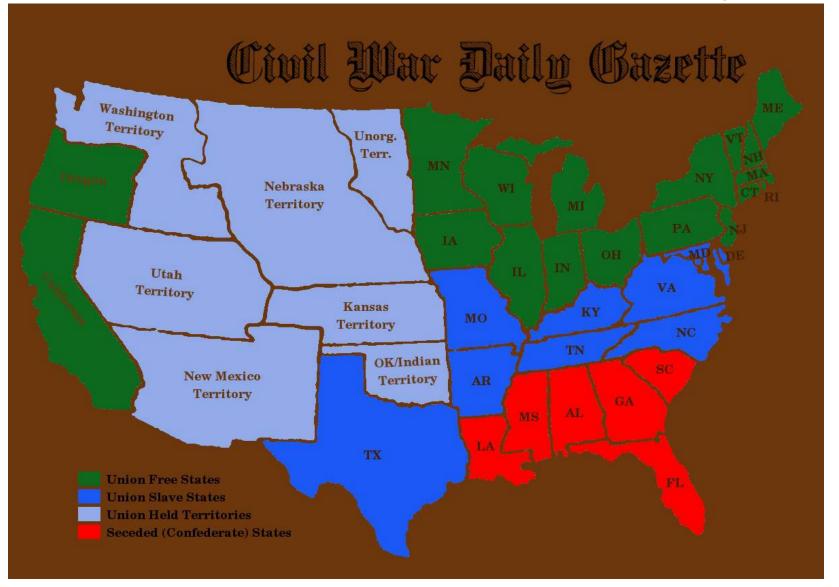
He wanted to avoid making the abolition of slavery a goal of the war, though. In the first place, not all Northerners agreed on abolition. This image was created by Josiah Wedgwood (1730-1795) and either William Hackwood or Henry Webber as a cameo at Wedgwood's pottery factory. This was the official medallion for the British Anti-Slavery Society. The medallion was created in 1787. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

In the second place, Lincoln wanted to hold on to the border states.



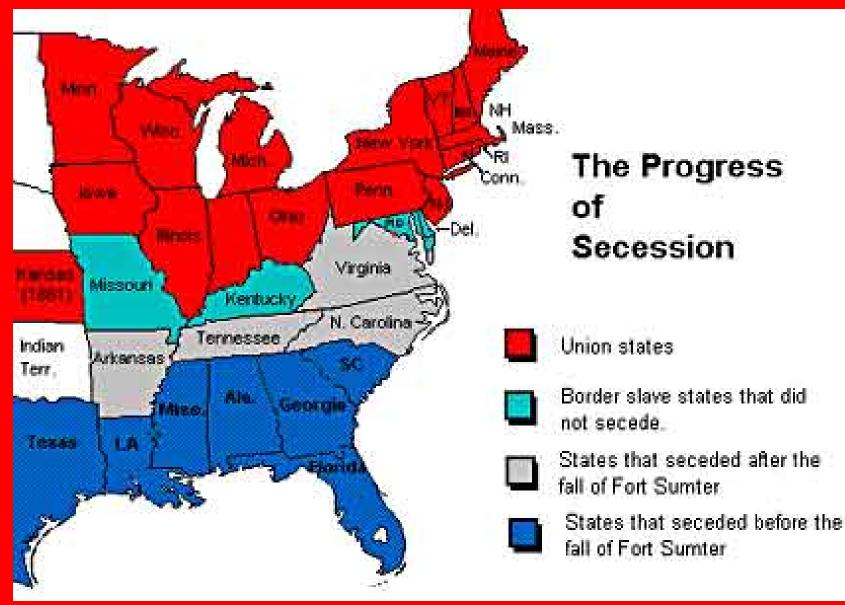
The border states were Delaware, Maryland, Kentucky, and Missouri. West Virginia would break away from Virginia during the war to form its own state. This image is courtesy of faculty.weber.edu.

The border states lay directly north and south of a line that divided the Union and Confederacy.



All of the border states permitted slavery. Although it is colored blue on this map, Texas was not considered to be a border state. This image is courtesy of civilwardailygazette.com.

The border states on the south side of the line—Virginia, North Carolina, Arkansas, and Tennessee seceded soon after the attack on Fort Sumter.



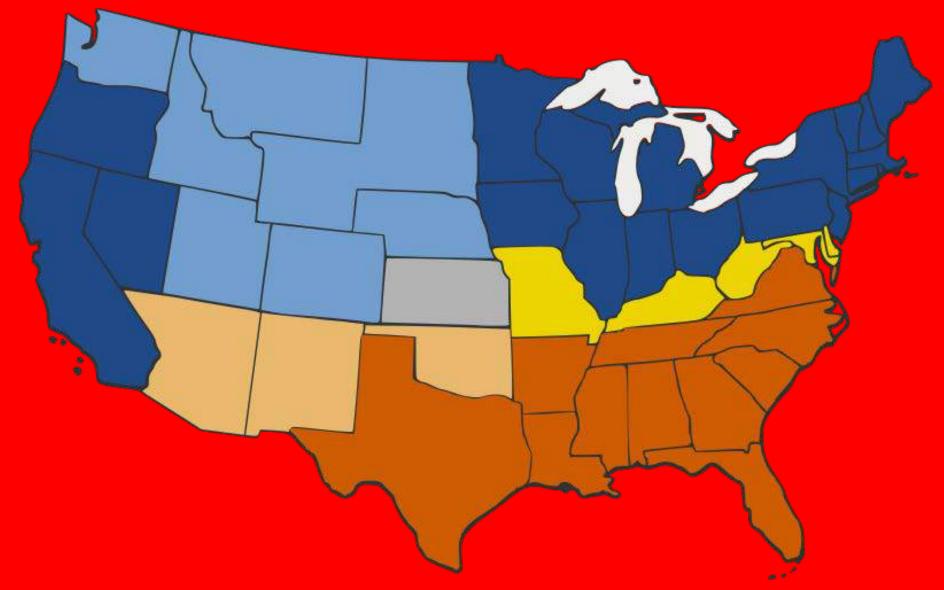
The states that seceded after the fall of Fort Sumter are colored gray. This image is courtesy of ushistory.org.

West Virginians did not want to secede with the Virginia state government.



By 1863 West Virginians organized the state of West Virginia and sided with the Union during the Civil War. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

The border states to the north—Delaware, Maryland, Kentucky, and Missouri supported the union but not the abolitionist cause.



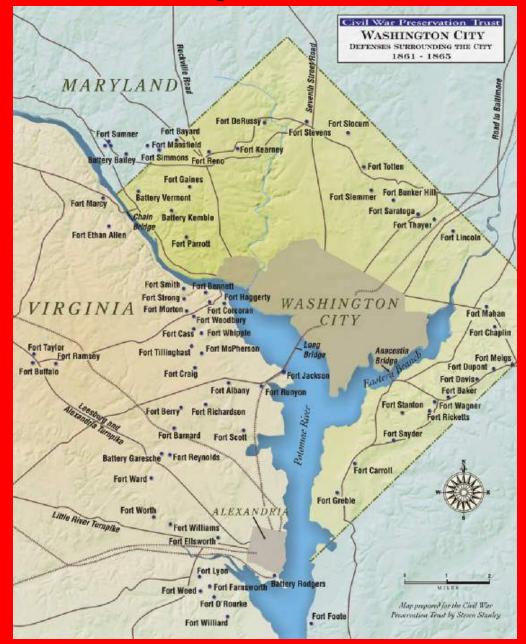
The border states shown in yellow from left to right in this image are Missouri, Kentucky, West Virginia, Maryland, and Delaware. This image is courtesy of the awesomestories.com.

Virginia's secession put the federal capital, Washington, D.C., in danger.



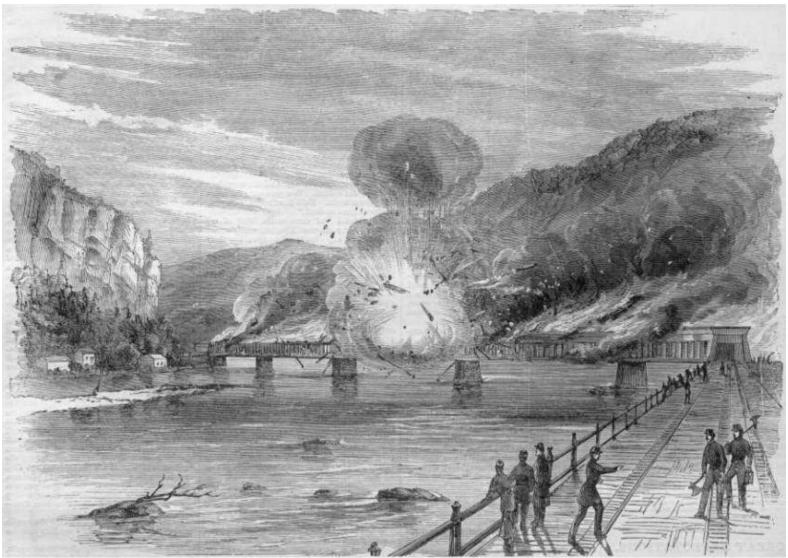
To its south lay Virginia, which had recently seceded, and where the capital of the Confederacy had been relocated. To the north of Washington, D.C. was Maryland, where many people held slaves and supported the Confederacy. This image is courtesy of flotechonline.com.

If Maryland seceded, Washington, D.C. would be in enemy territory.



Lincoln determined to hold Maryland at all costs. This image is courtesy of thomaslegion.net.

Some Confederates supporters in Maryland turned to violence, burning railroad bridges and even stealing the mail.



This is the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Bridge at Harpers Ferry. Confederates exploded the bridge at 5:00 AM on June 14, 1861. The bridge led to the Maryland side of the Potomac River. This image is from the July 6, 1861 edition of *Harper's Weekly*. It is courtesy of mdcoveredbridges.com.

A week after the bombing of Fort Sumter, a mob sympathetic to the Confederacy attacked Union troops as they passed through Baltimore, Maryland, on their way to Washington, D.C.



Soldiers and civilians opened fire and killed about 16 people. This image is titled "First Blood.– The Sixth Massachusetts Regiment Fighting Their Way Through Baltimore, April 19, 1861. This image appeared in the May 4, 1861 edition of *Harper's Weekly*. This image is courtesy of masamaryland.gov.

Lincoln responded by placing Baltimore under martial law, a form of military rule that includes suspending Bill of Rights freedoms.



United States government authorities arrested people who advocated secession or otherwise openly supported the Confederacy and held them without trials. Although tensions remained high throughout the war, Lincoln's action helped to keep Maryland in the Union. This image shows Cook's Battery, of the Boston (Massachusetts) Light Artillery guarding the Thomas Viaduct over the Patapsco River. This image is courtesy of the Maryland State Library.

Lincoln considered the border states of Missouri and Kentucky important to the Union because they controlled the Mississippi and the Ohio rivers.



The states colored orange are Confederate States. This image is courtesy of 1boringoldman.com.

Kentucky had elected a pro-Union government by a very narrow margin.



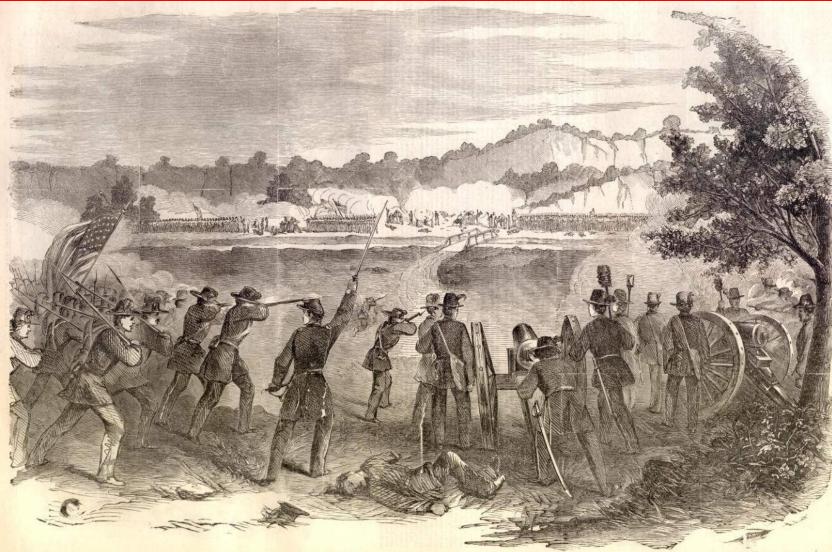
Although Kentucky declared itself to be neutral at the beginning of the war, it remained in the Union. This image shows the arrival of the 49th Ohio Infantry Regiment in Louisville, Kentucky. This image appeared in the October 19, 1861 edition of *Harper's Weekly*. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

In Missouri slaveholders controlled the state.



President Lincoln supported a revolt against the pro-Confederate elected state government. This image shows the State Capitol in Jefferson City, Missouri in the 1850s. This daguerreotype was taken by Thomas Easterly. This image is courtesy of the Missouri History Museum.

Although "guerrilla warfare" plagued Missouri for the rest of the war, Missouri did not officially leave the Union.



Guerrilla warfare is when members of a of a small unit are engaged in fighting or sabotage against an occupying army. This image shows the Battle of Carthage, Missouri. It appeared in the August 3, 1861 edition of *Harper's Weekly*. This image is courtesy of sonofsouth.net.

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LEQ: Where were the first shots of the Civil War? Fort Sumter



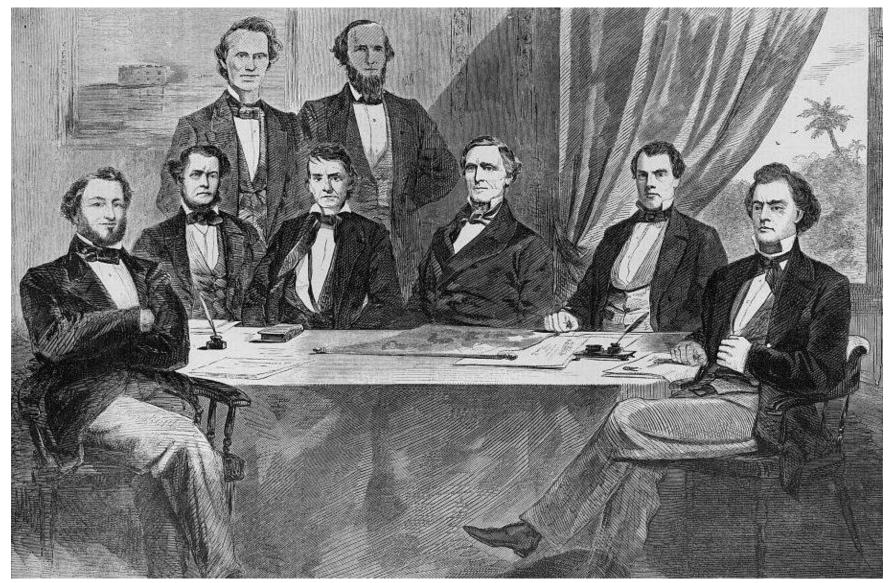
This lithograph by Courier & Ives shows the bombardment of Fort Sumter which began on April 12, 1861. This image is courtesy of constitutionalcenter.org.

At the beginning of the war, neither the North nor the South seemed prepared to fight.



Each side had advantages and disadvantages. This image is courtesy of edwinsetiadi.com.

The Confederacy considered itself to be an independent nation.



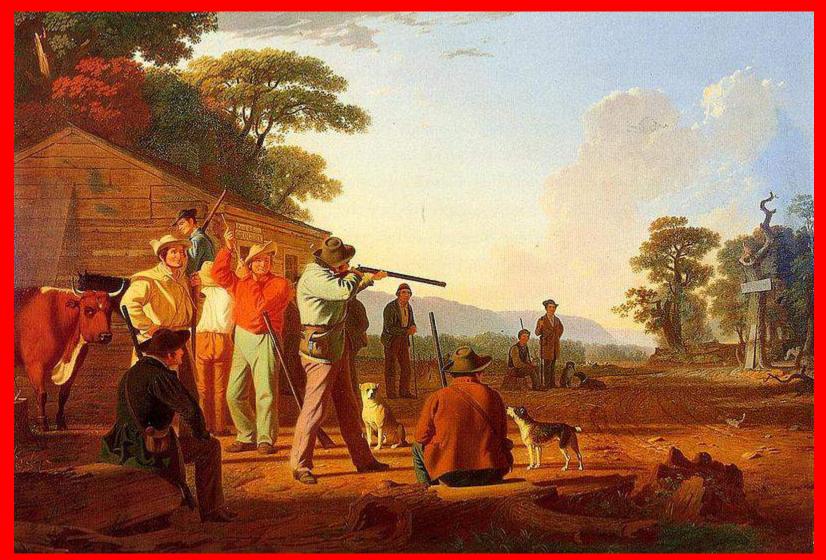
White Southerners, fighting for independence on home soil, could win simply by holding out against Union attacks. This image shows Confederate President Jefferson Davis, center, with his cabinet in Montgomery, Alabama in 1861. This image was produced for the June 1, 1861 edition of *Harper's Weekly*. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

White Southerners fought to preserve their way of life-- the cotton economy and the plantation culture dependent on slave labor.



This image is titled A Cotton Plantation on the Mississippi. This image was created in 1848 by W.A. Walker. It was published by Currier & Ives in 1884. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

White Southerners, many of whom were skilled with rifles and horses, had a tradition of military service that made them excellent soldiers.



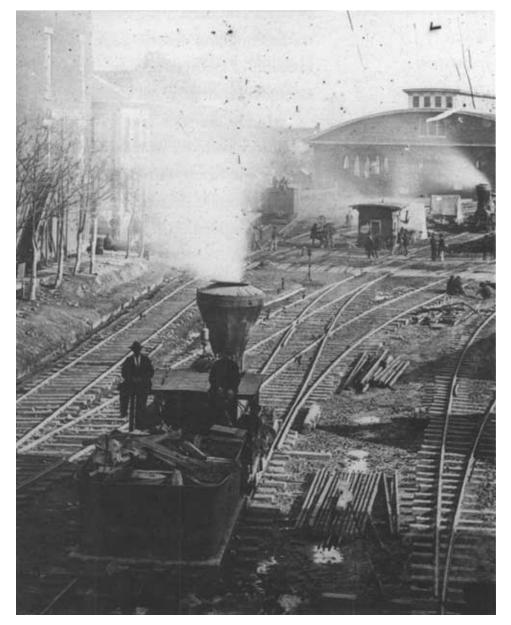
This painting shows men competing with each other to see who is the best shot. The winner won the cow shown on the left. This painting is titled "Shooting for the Beef." It was created by George Caleb Bingham (1811-1879) circa 1850. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

However, the South was not prepared to fight a long war.



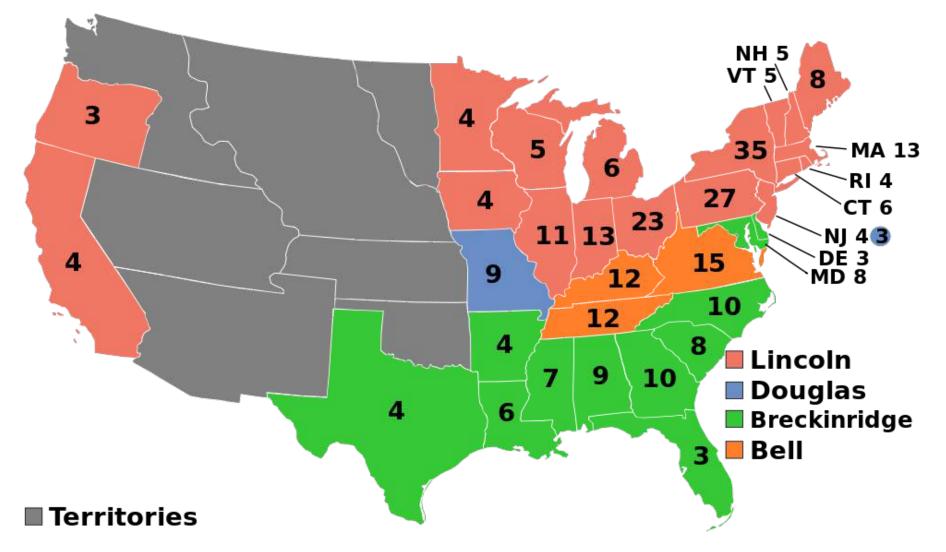
The South faced difficulties in producing weapons and other military supplies because it had few factories. This image shows the Tredegar Iron Works in Richmond, Virginia. This image was taken by Alexander Gardner in 1865. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

Compared to the North, the South had few railroads to move troops and supplies.



This image shows the buildings and rail yard in Atlanta, Georgia. In the right background is a train shed. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

The South's population was much smaller than the North's population.



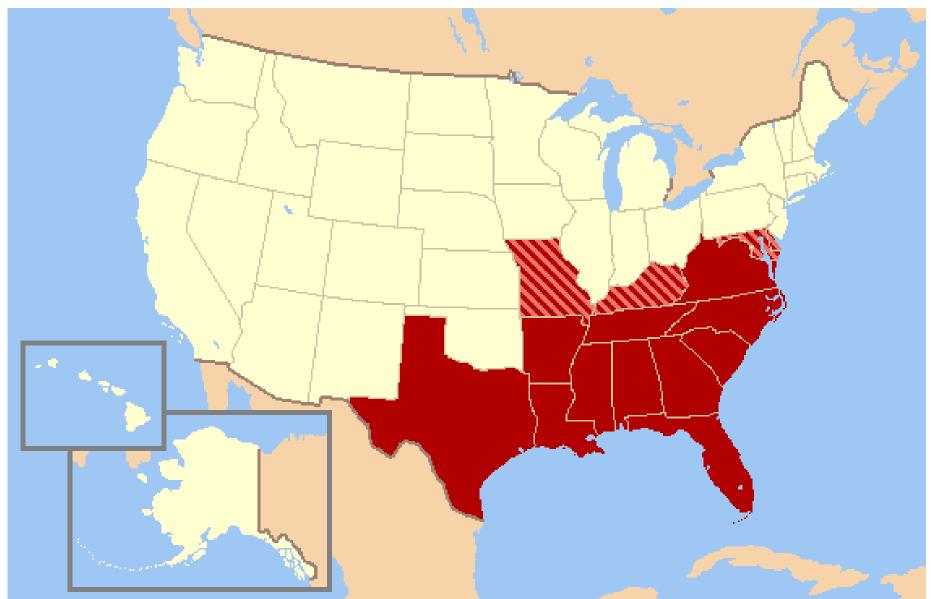
The North's population was 23 million and the South's population was 9 million in 1860. One third of the South's population, or 3 million, were enslaved African Americans. One can tell the population of the two sections by the electoral votes each state possessed in the 1860 election. This image is courtesy of the Commonwealth of Virginia, and of Wikimedia Commons.

The South was reluctant to use slaves as soldiers, and they would find it difficult to raise a large army.



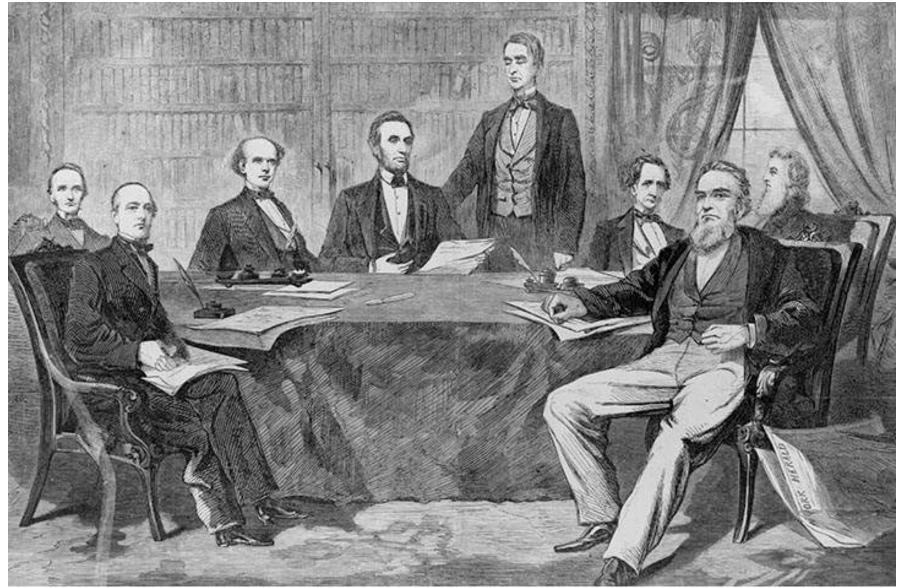
This image shows Andrew Martin Chandler of the 44th Mississippi Infantry Regiment and his slave Silas Chandler circa 1861. Although African Americans were not allowed to serve in the Confederate army in large numbers until the end of the war, slaves were in the camps as body servants for their white masters. This image is courtesy of opinonator.blogs.nytimes.com.

The Confederacy remained open to attack along its border with the Union States and along its extensive coastline.



This maps shows the Confederate states in red, and the border states with red and a lighter colored stripes. This image is courtesy of kidsmaps.com.

While white Southerners had a clear, emotional picture of what they fought for, at first Northerners fought to simply reestablish the Union.



This image shows President Abraham Lincoln, seated at the center of the image, and his cabinet. This image was created for the July 13, 1861 edition of *Harper's Weekly*. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

Many Northerners did not consider the elimination of slavery to be important.



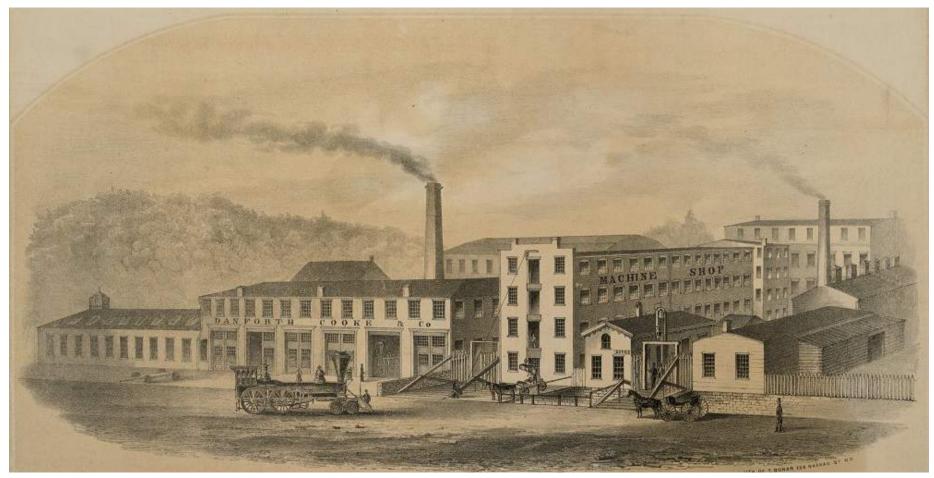
This shows a slave market in Atlanta, Georgia in 1864. This image was taken by George Barnard (1819-1902) after the United States Army occupied Atlanta. This image is courtesy of sonofthesouth.net.

To win, the North would need to invade the South to bring it back into the Union.



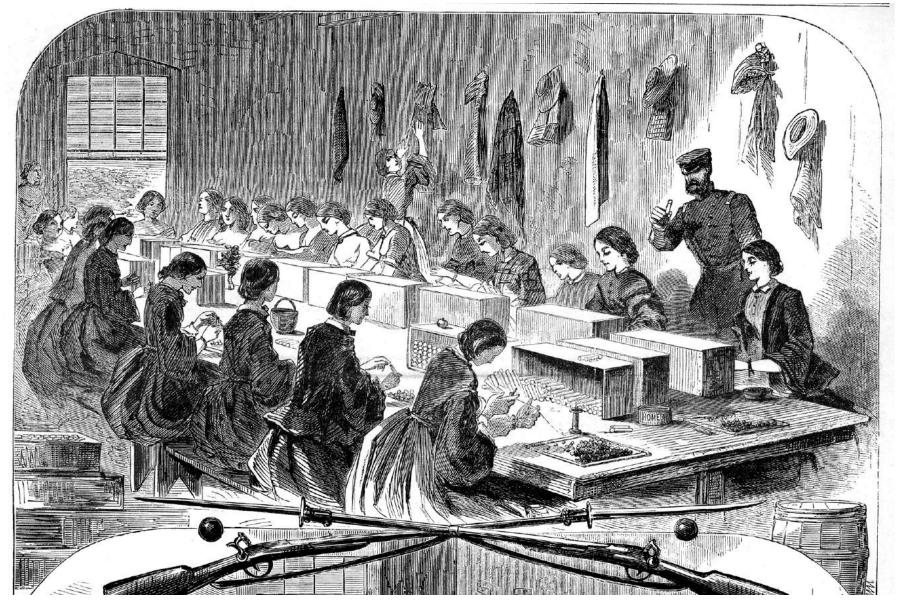
The North could lose the war if its people lost the desire to continue the war. This image is titled "First at Vicksburg." It depicts the 1st Battalion, 13th United States Infantry Regiment attacking Confederate lines near Vicksburg, Mississippi on May 19, 1863. This image is courtesy of the United States Army Center of Military History and of Wikimedia Commons.

The North enjoyed superiority in resources of every sort– population, money, transportation, food, and manufacturing.



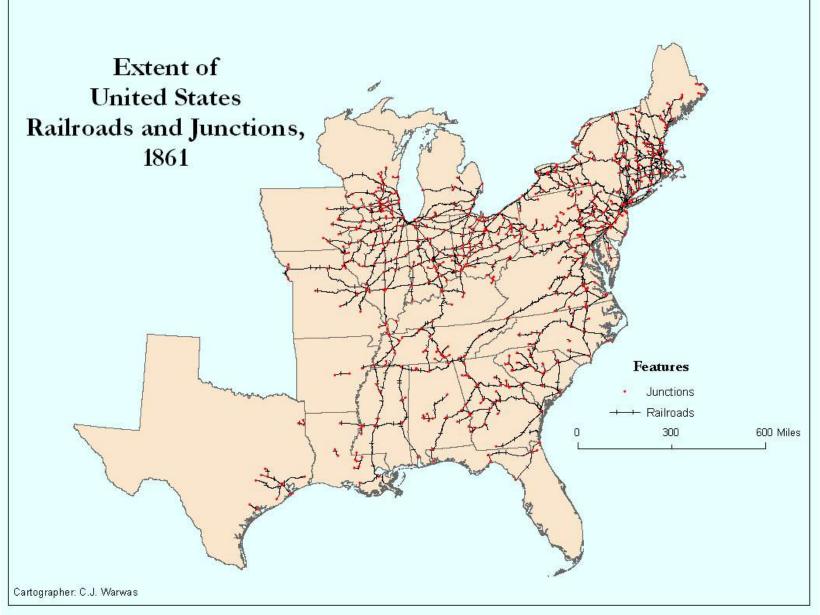
Industry in the North proved a decisive advantage for the Union army. This image shows the Danforth, Cooke & Company's Locomotive & Machine Works located in Paterson, New Jersey. This image is courtesy of history1800s.about.com.

Factories quickly went from producing peacetime goods to making war supplies.



This image shows women making cartridges for the United States Army Watertown Arsenal in Watertown, Massachusetts. This image was created by Winslow Homer for the July 20, 1861 issue of *Harpers Weekly*. This image is courtesy of illinoiscivilwar150.org.

The North's vast railroad system provided the means for moving men and supplies.



In 1860 there were 22,000 miles of railroads in the North and 9500 miles of railroads in the South. This image is courtesy of railroads.unl.edu.

When Fort Sumter fell, the United States army included about 16,000 soldiers, which was not enough to win this war.



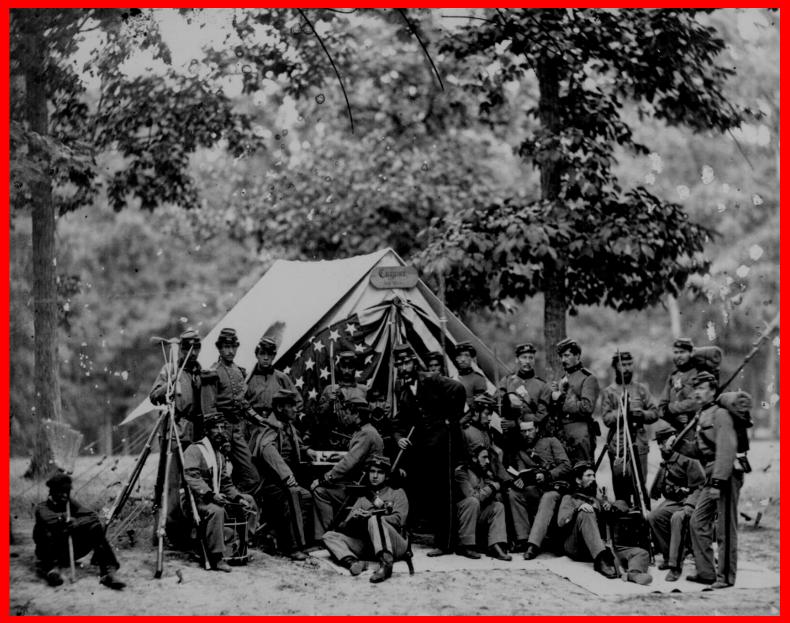
After Lincoln's called for soldiers to join the United States Army, so many Northerners tried to join the military that recruiters had to turn volunteers away. This image is courtesy of goroart.com.

Those who joined the army organized into regiments and headed to major cities such as Washington, D.C. or Richmond, Virginia.



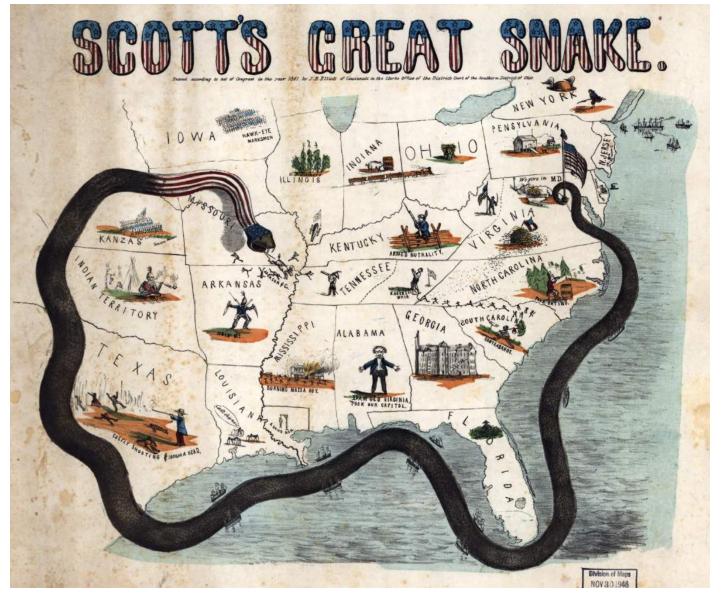
A regiment was about 1000 men at the beginning of the Civil War. By the time that they came to Gettysburg to fight in July, 1863, halfway through the war, regiments only averaged about 350 men each. This image shows a regiment on dress parade with Sibley tents in the background. This image is courtesy of lancasteratwar.com.

Few, if any, of the soldiers and officers had much fighting experience.



Amateurs led amateurs in both armies. This image shows officers and men of the 8th New York State Militia in 1861. This image is courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration.

General Winfield Scott's Strategy to Win the War for the Union



The most experienced American general was Winfield Scott. President Lincoln put Scott in charge of the Union armies. Scott devised a three-step plan, or strategy, to defeat the South. His plan was known as the Anaconda Plan. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

Scott planned to: 1) Blockade Confederate ports to ruin the South's economy and cut off supplies from Europe.



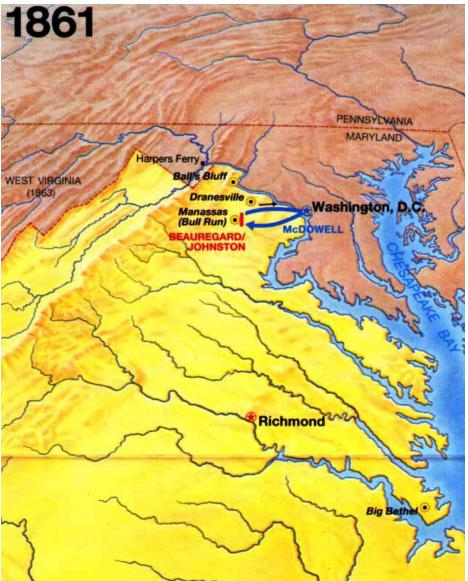
The ships in the ocean represent the United States Navy's attempt to blockade Confederate ports. They were trying to keep goods from moving in and out of the Confederacy. This image is courtesy of juniorgeneral.org.

2) Take control of the Mississippi River to split the South and prevent the Confederacy from using the river to supply troops...



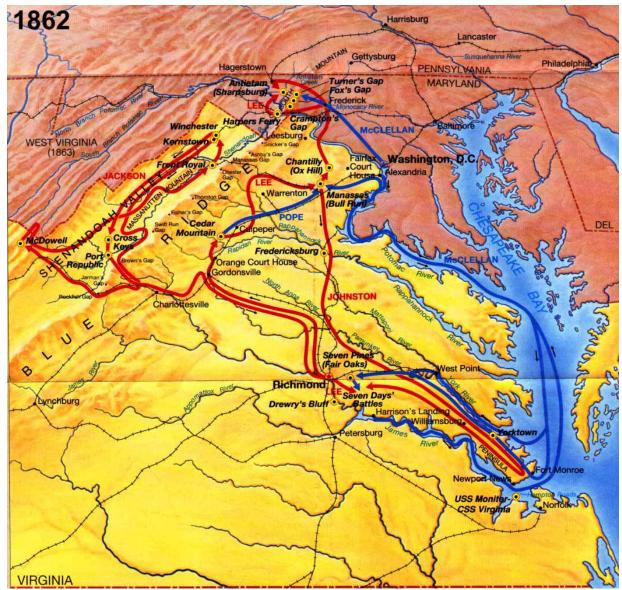
This map shows that if the Union controls the Mississippi River, not only will the South be split into two large sections, but goods from the north can float to the Gulf of Mexico at New Orleans. This image is courtesy of thomaslegion.net.

3) Capture the Confederate capital city of Richmond, Virginia in order to seize the Confederate government.



Most of the land battles in Virginia during the Civil War will be between the two capital cities of Washington and Richmond. This image is courtesy of thomaslegion.net.

During the Civil War, there would be two main theaters of war: The Eastern theater extended from the Atlantic Ocean to the Appalachian Mountains.



The Eastern theater mainly concerned the area of Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania. This image is courtesy of americancivilwar.com.

The Western theater extended from the Appalachian Mountains to the Mississippi River.



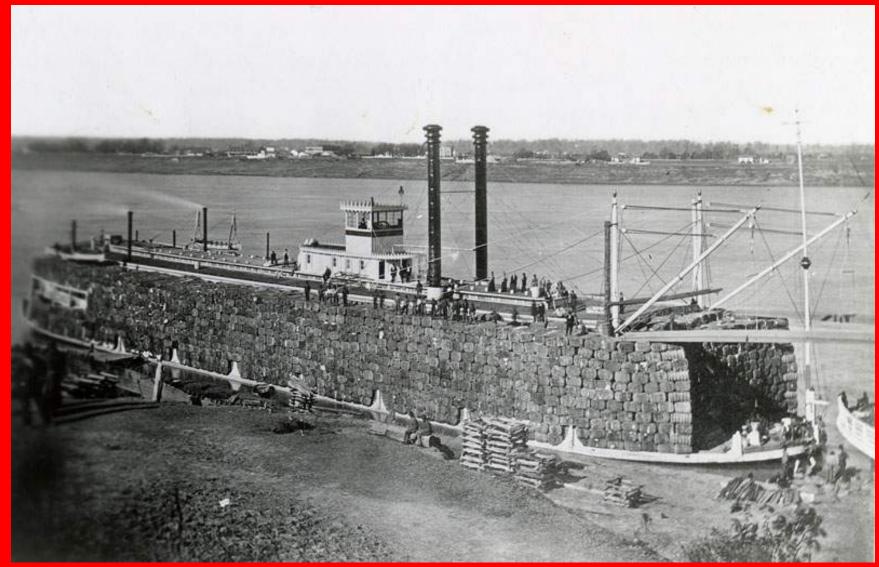
The theater of war west of the Mississippi River was called the Trans-Mississippi Theater. This image is courtesy of americancivilwar.com.

The Confederate army mostly practiced a very simple strategy-fight a defensive war.



To win, the South did not have to do anything except to hold out against enemy attacks. This image is courtesy of humboldt.edu.

Because European nations bought most of their cotton, Southerners were counting on Europeans to provide war materials and other supplies.



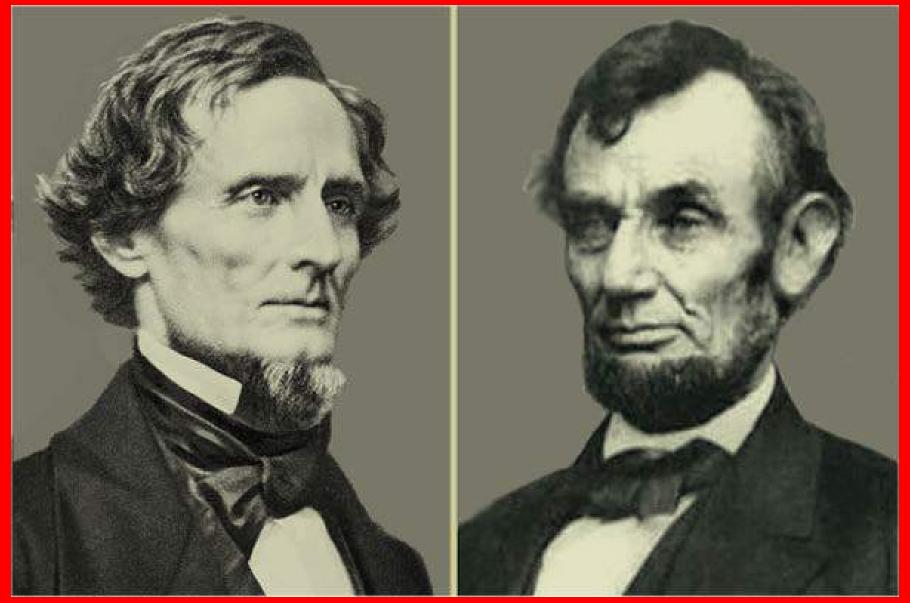
European factories purchased over 4 million cotton bales from the South in 1860. This image shows some of the 7818 cotton bales on board the steamship *Charles P. Chouteau* at Natchez, Mississippi in 1878. This image is courtesy of wisconsinhistory.org.

To have any chance of winning the war, each side would have to rely on strong leaders who could make difficult decisions.



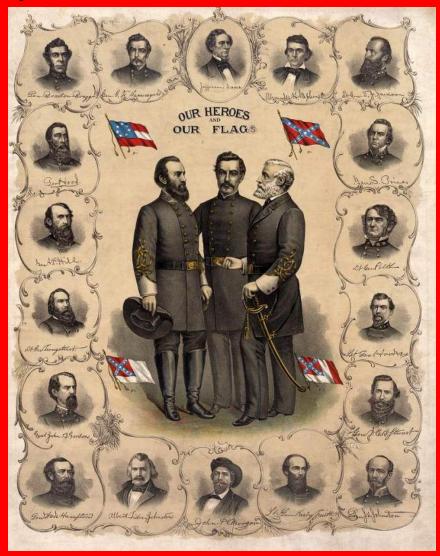
This image shows the statue of United States General George Gordon Meade at Gettysburg National Military Park. This image was taken by Robert Housch on June 23, 2014.

The Constitutions of both governments made President Lincoln and President Davis the Commander in Chief of their military forces.



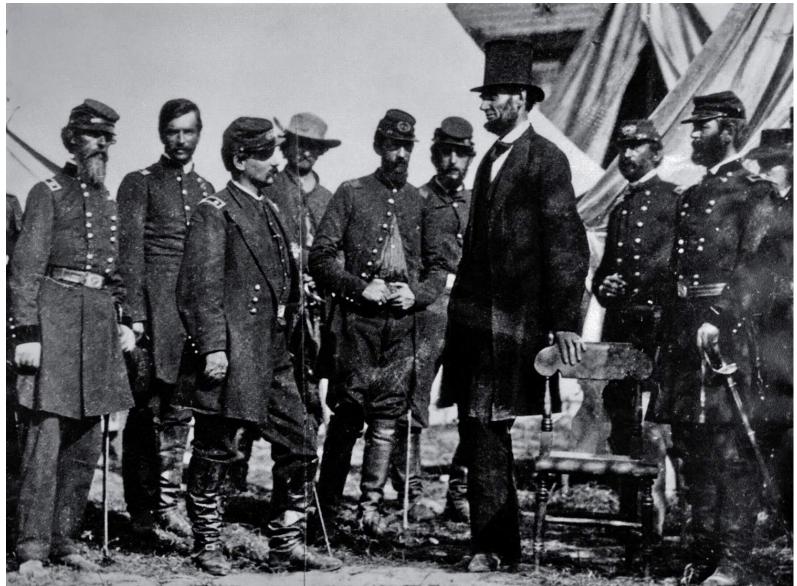
Jefferson Davis is on the left, and Abraham Lincoln is on the right. This is courtesy of ironbrigader.com.

During the early years of the war, the South had the better army in the Eastern Theater of the war.



Many of the Southern officers had attended the United States Military Academy at West Point before the war began. Many of these officers resigned from the United States army to fight for the Confederacy. This image is courtesy of sonofthesouth.net.

President Lincoln had little fighting experience, but he would prove to be a strong leader for the United States.



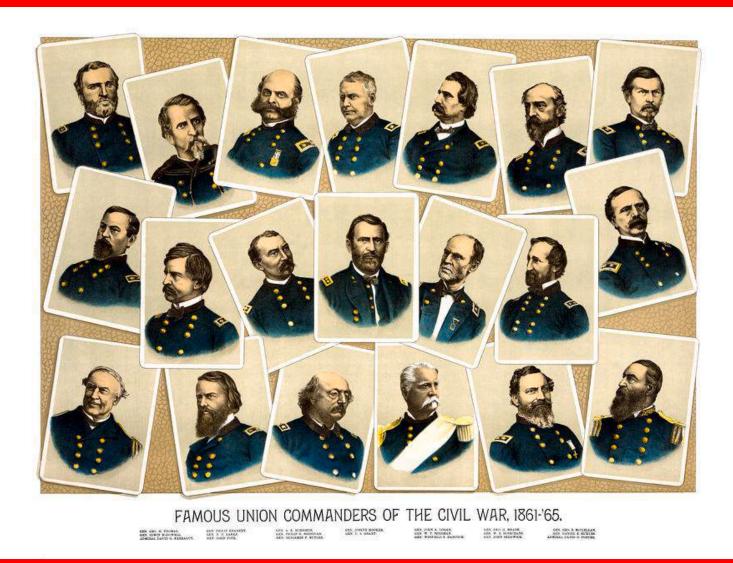
Most Americans considered him to be cool-headed and fair. This image shows Abraham Lincoln and Major General George B. McClellan after the Battle of Antietam. This image is courtesy of thecodecoach.blogspot.com.

General Winfield Scott, the commander of the Union army, earned the nickname "Old Fuss and Feathers" because of his extraordinary neatness and strict adherence to military rules.



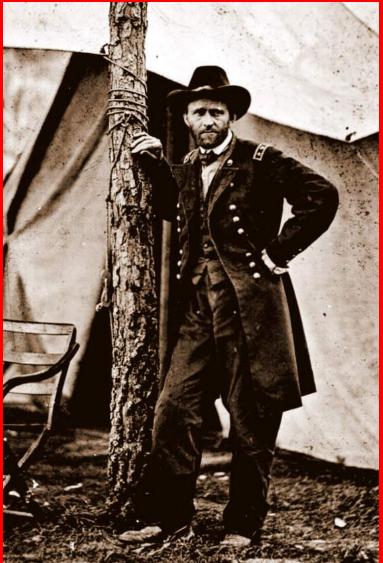
The elderly Scott, however, would not last long as commander of the Union forces. It became evident that Scott was unprepared to handle the thousands of new inexperienced recruits, and Lincoln replaced him as the war progressed. This image is courtesy of civilwar-online.com.

Lincoln would have to go through several leaders in the Eastern Theater before he found one that he could put his faith in.

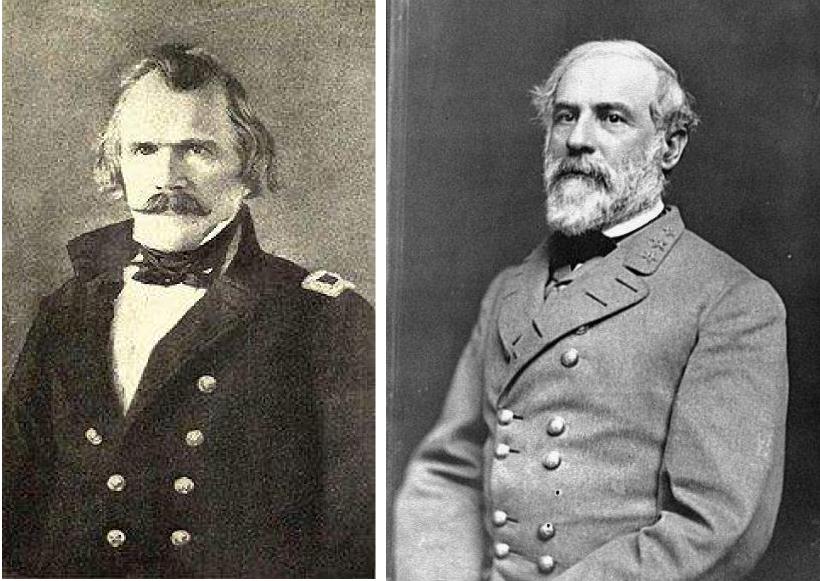


Some of the Union generals in this image include George H. Thomas, Ambrose Burnside, Joseph Hooker, George G. Meade, George B. McClellan, Daniel Sickles, William Rosecrans, William Sherman, and Phil Sheridan. This image is courtesy of fineartamerica.com.

Eventually Lincoln discovered that his best leader, Ulysses S. Grant, was fighting in the Western Theater.



Many military experts claim that Grant's strength lay in his ability to move quickly and outmaneuver the enemy, and his desire to never give up and to do whatever it took to try and find a way to win. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons. Confederate President Jefferson Davis chose Albert Sidney Johnston to lead forces in the Western Theater, and Robert E. Lee to lead forces in the Eastern Theater.



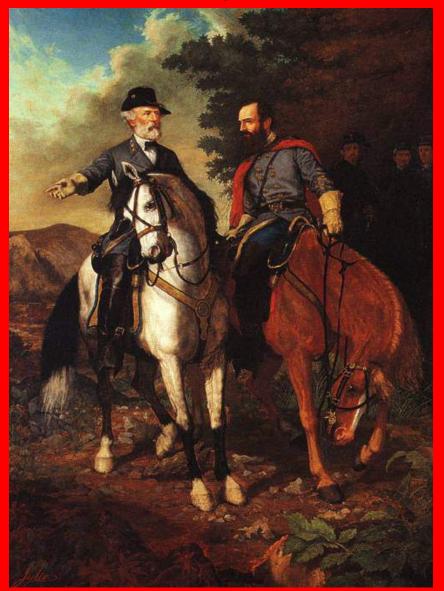
Robert E. Lee was not Davis' first General to lead Confederate forces in the Eastern Theater. Joseph E. Johnston had that job until he was wounded in 1862. The photograph of Albert Sydney Johnston and the photograph of Robert E. Lee are courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

Lee understood the battlefield as well as anyone on both sides.



General Lee seemed able to predict the movements of the Union commanders and seemed to know their weak points. This image shows General Lee on his horse Traveler in 1866. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

Lee was willing to take risks, and many times he did not wait to be attacked.



Often Lee would make the first move and do the attacking. This image, titled "The Last Meeting of Lee and Jackson" shows the generals after they planned to attack the Union army at the Battle of Chancellorsville in May, 1863. This painting was created by Everett B.D. Julio. This image is courtesy of the Museum of the Confederacy.

LEQ: Where were the first shots of the Civil War?



This lithograph by Courier & Ives shows the bombardment of Fort Sumter which began on April 12, 1861. This image is courtesy of constitutionalcenter.org.

LEQ: Where were the first shots of the Civil War? Fort Sumter



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