THE COPPERHEAD PARTY.——IN FAVOR OF *A VIGOROUS PROSECUTION OF PEACE!*

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The American Civil War Behind the Battlelines

Women played very important roles during the American Civil War. This image is titled "In the Hospital, 1861." It shows a Confederate hospital ward with a woman reading to a patient to help lift his spirits. This image was created circa 1900. This image was painted by William Ludwell Sheppard (1833-1912). This image is courtesy of The Museum of the Confederacy.

LEQ: **What was the name given to Peace Democrats in the North who called for ending the war at any price?**

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The Civil War was the largest war ever fought on the North American continent.

Approximately 900,000 white males served in the Confederate army and around 2,000,000 white males served in the United States army. This image shows the camp of the 50th NY Engineers Regiment in their camp at Rappahannock Station, Virginia in March, 1864. Their winter huts are on the right. Their pontoon boats are on the left. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

In addition, more than 200,000 African Americans fought and served in the Union military, and thousands more performed manual labor.

This flag for the 127th Regiment, United States Colored Troops has the motto "We Will Prove Ourselves Men." This image is courtesy of insidetheconveratorsstudio.blogspot.com.

More Americans lost their lives in the Civil War than in any other conflict in the history of the United States.


This image is titled "Confederate Soldiers as They Fell Near the Center of the Battlefield of Gettysburg." However the split rock in the right background helped historians discover that the image was taken at the south end of the battlefield near Rose's Woods. This image was taken by Alexander Gardner (1821-1882) in July, 1863. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

As the war dragged on, the Union suffered terrible casualties but grew materially stronger.

The North had more men than the South to take the place of its battlefield casualties. Also, words spoken by President Lincoln at the dedication of the Gettysburg National Cemetery (his Gettysburg Address) helped to inspire the United States to fight for the cause of freeing people, so that the United States dead did not "die in vain." This image is titled "Gettysburg, Pa. November 1863. Dedication of Gettysburg Battlefield." This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

Confederate losses, however, gradually weakened the South's will to fight.
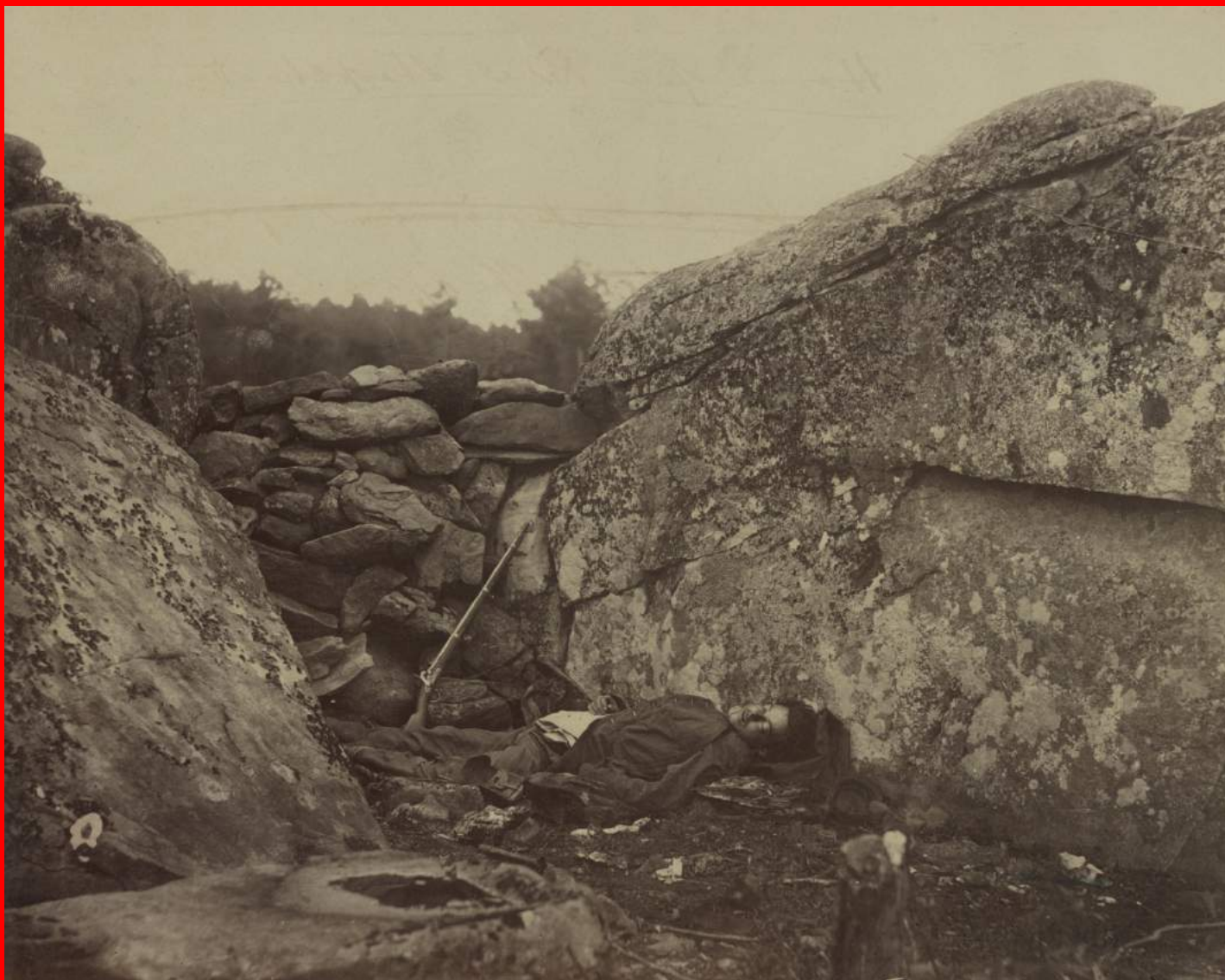
This image is titled "Home of a Rebel Sharpshooter." It was taken at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in July, 1863 by Alexander Gardner (1821-1882). Historians have discovered that Gardner and/or his assistants moved the body to this location from another location in the area of Devil's Den/Houck's Ridge. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

In long wars, fought across large areas, victors are decided as much by government policies behind the lines as on the battlefield.


This image is titled "Confederate White House, Home of Jefferson Davis in Richmond." This image was taken circa 1904 by the Detroit Publishing Company. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

Both Union and Confederate government leaders greatly increased their powers to raise and supply their armies…

…finance the war, and to suppress antiwar opinions. This image is titled "Northwest Façade of the White House." It features the Presidential Mansion in Washington, D.C. circa 1865. This image was taken by Bell & Brother, Photographers. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

# Many Northerners criticized the government during the war.
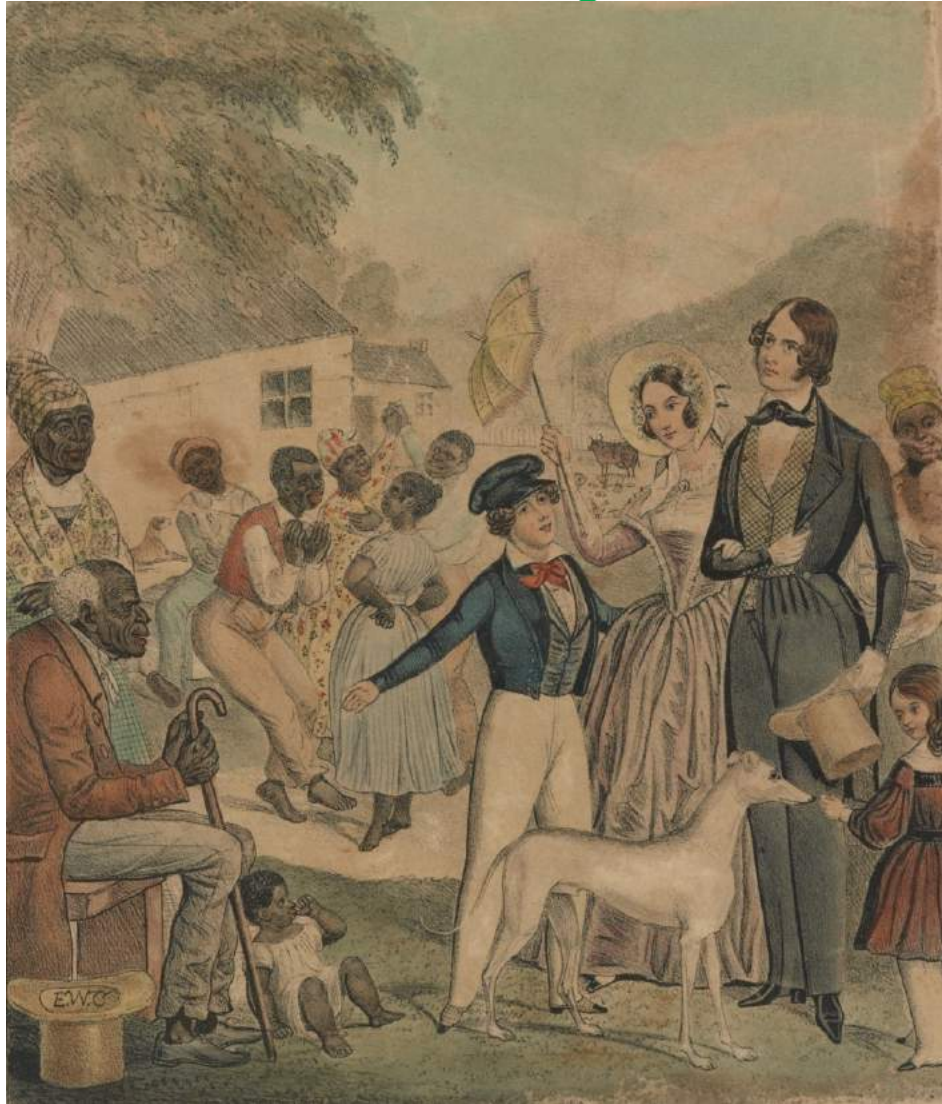
Angry abolitionists condemned Lincoln's accommodating attitude toward slavery and his refusal at the beginning of the war to make the end of slavery a goal of the war. This image is titled "America." It presents an idealized portrayal of American slavery and the conditions of African Americans under this system in 1841. The slaves are thanking their master for feeding them and clothing them. This image was created by Edward Williams Clay (1799-1857) in 1841. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

Members of Lincoln's own party in Congress, a faction called the Radical Republicans, joined the opposition.
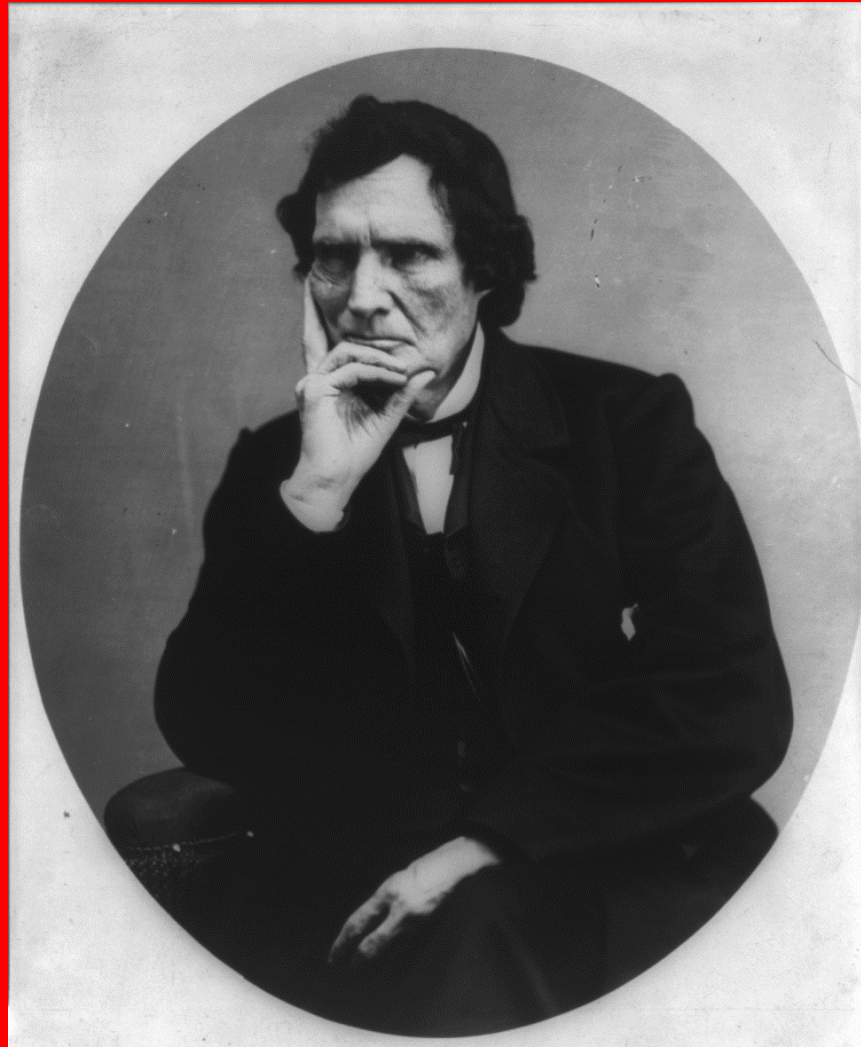
Radical Republicans opposed Lincoln's view that the war was about preserving the Union. One of the most famous Radical Republicans was Thaddeus Stevens (1792-1868), who practiced law in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, and later became a Congressman while living in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

At the other extreme stood a faction of Democrats, or Peace Democrats, who called for ending the war at any price.
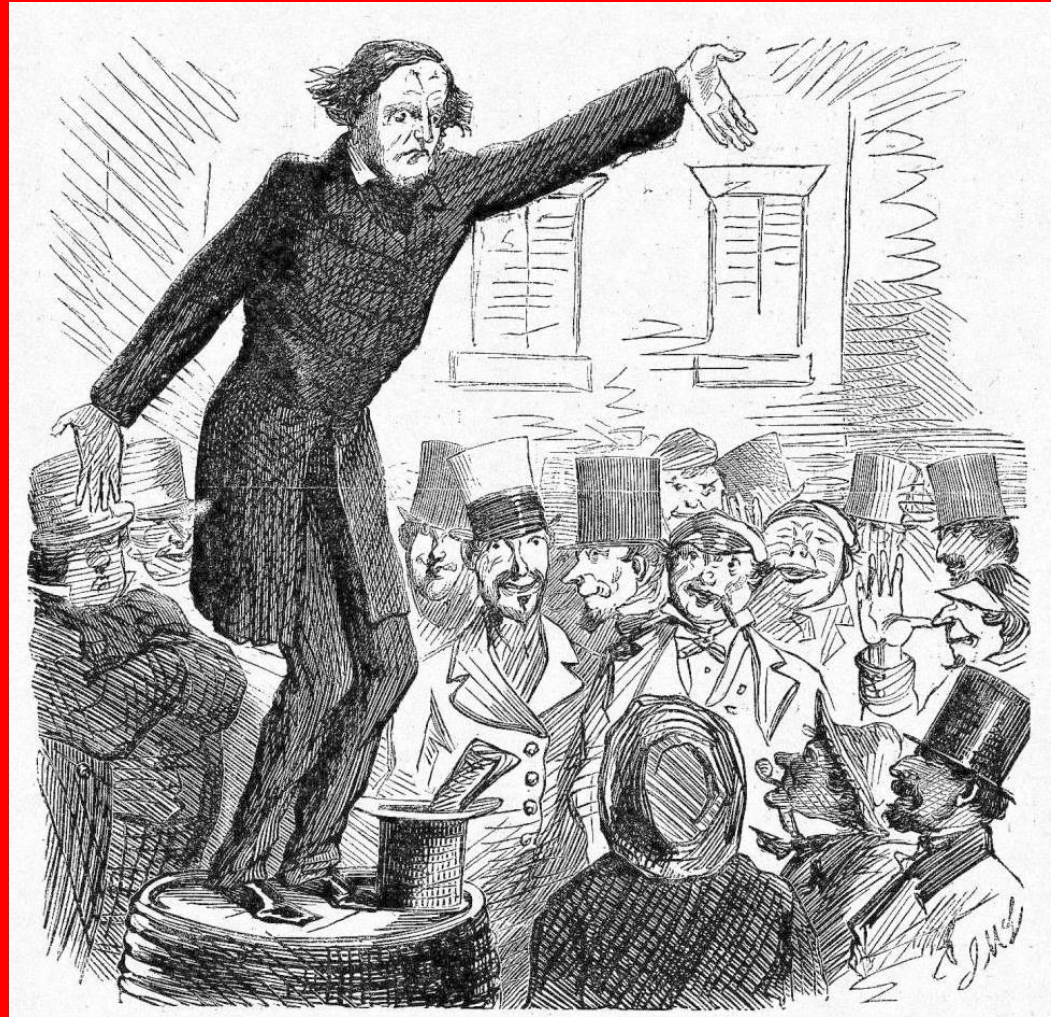
The Peace Democrats felt that they could end the war either by welcoming the South and slavery back into the Union, or by letting the slave states separate in peace. This image is titled "How the Bower Boys Amuse Themselves." The image states: "Great Copperhead Orator (foaming at the Mouth), "To Arms! To Arms! Let us resist the Laws, and crush the Lincoln Despotism!!" This image was created for the March 28, 1863 edition of *Harper's Weekly*. This image is courtesy of harpweek.com.

Many Republican newspapers compared the Peace Democrats to the poisonous copperhead snake.

THE COPPERHEAD PARTY.——IN FAVOR OF *A VIGOROUS PROSECUTION OF PEACE!*

The term caught on and Peace Democrats came to be known as Copperheads. This image shows three Copperheads advancing on Columbia who holds a sword and a shield labeled "Union." This image, titled "The Copperhead Party– In Favor of a Vigorous Prosecution of Peace!" was created for the February 28, 1863 edition of *Harper's Weekly*. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

Some Copperheads encouraged Northerners to resist the war and others openly supported the South.

Some Peace Democrats attempted to have themselves labeled "copperheads" turned into a positive. A copperhead was also the nickname for the penny which had Lady Liberty on the front. Because the Copperheads were deeply concerned about constitutional freedoms, Copperheads made pins of the pennies, and wore them with Lady Liberty displayed. They were these in the lapels of their jackets so that one could easily understand their feelings about politics. This image is courtesy of allisoninternsi.blogspot.com.

Many of the measures Lincoln used to quiet opposition violated constitutional guarantees of free speech, press, and assembly.
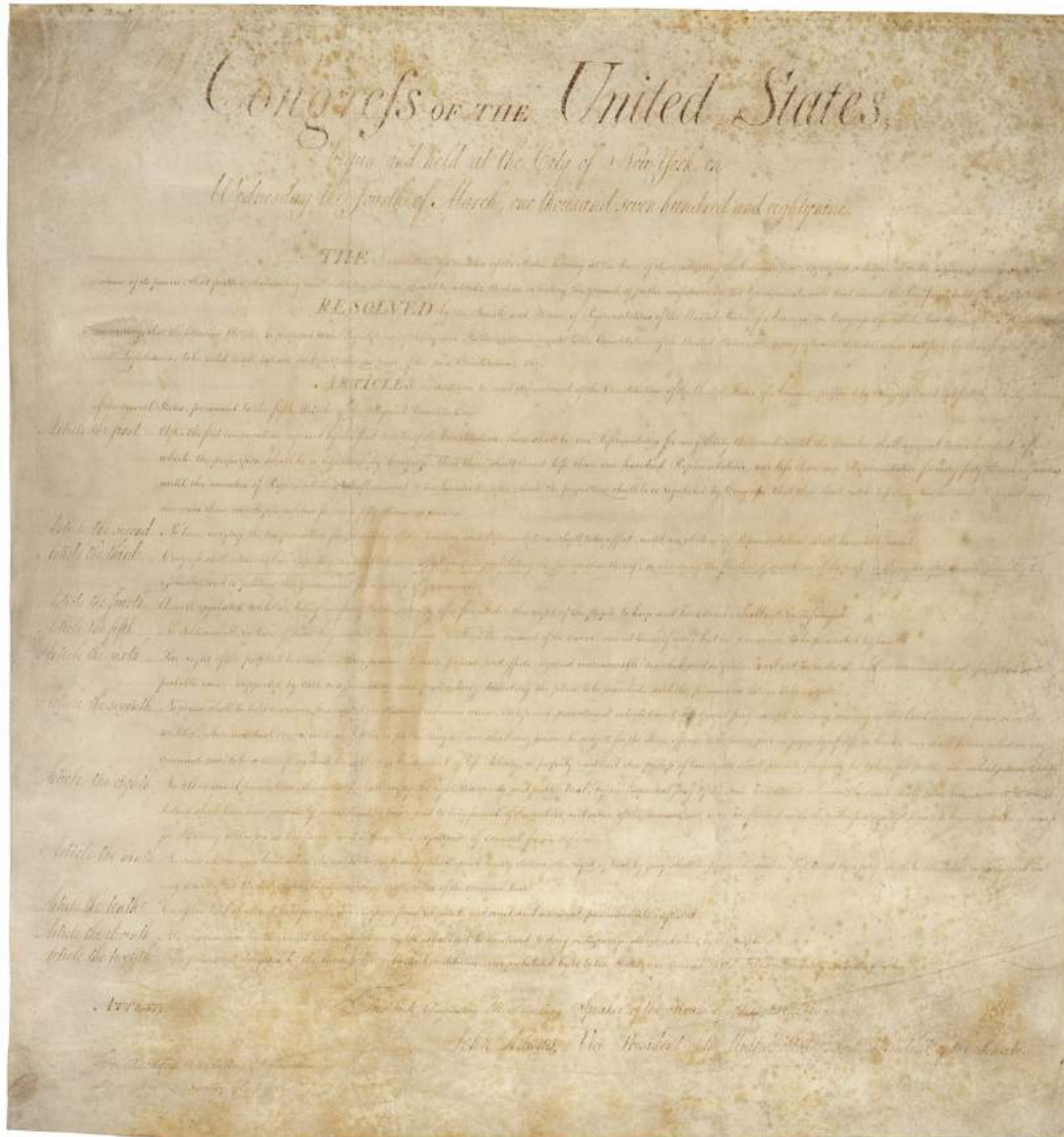

This image shows the Bill of Rights, or the first ten amendments to the United States Constitution. This image is courtesy of the National Archives.

Lincoln prevented the Maryland state legislature from meeting in order to stop Maryland from seceding from the United States.

Kemp Hall, 1870. MSA SC 4702-1-8

After pro-Southerners fired on Massachusetts soldiers marching through Baltimore, Maryland Governor Thomas Hicks called for a meeting of the Maryland Legislature. It did not want it to meet in Annapolis, which he felt was too pro-Confederate. Instead he chose the pro-Union town of Frederick, Maryland. From late April through early August, 1861 the legislature met in this building, Kemp Hall. They debated whether Maryland should secede from the Union, but did not reach a decision. They were to reconvene on September 17, 1861 when United States soldiers and Baltimore police officers arrived to arrest pro-Confederate members of the legislature. This image shows Kemp Hall in 1870. This image is courtesy of the Maryland State Archives.

Lincoln denied some opposition newspapers to use the mails and used the army to shut other newspapers down.
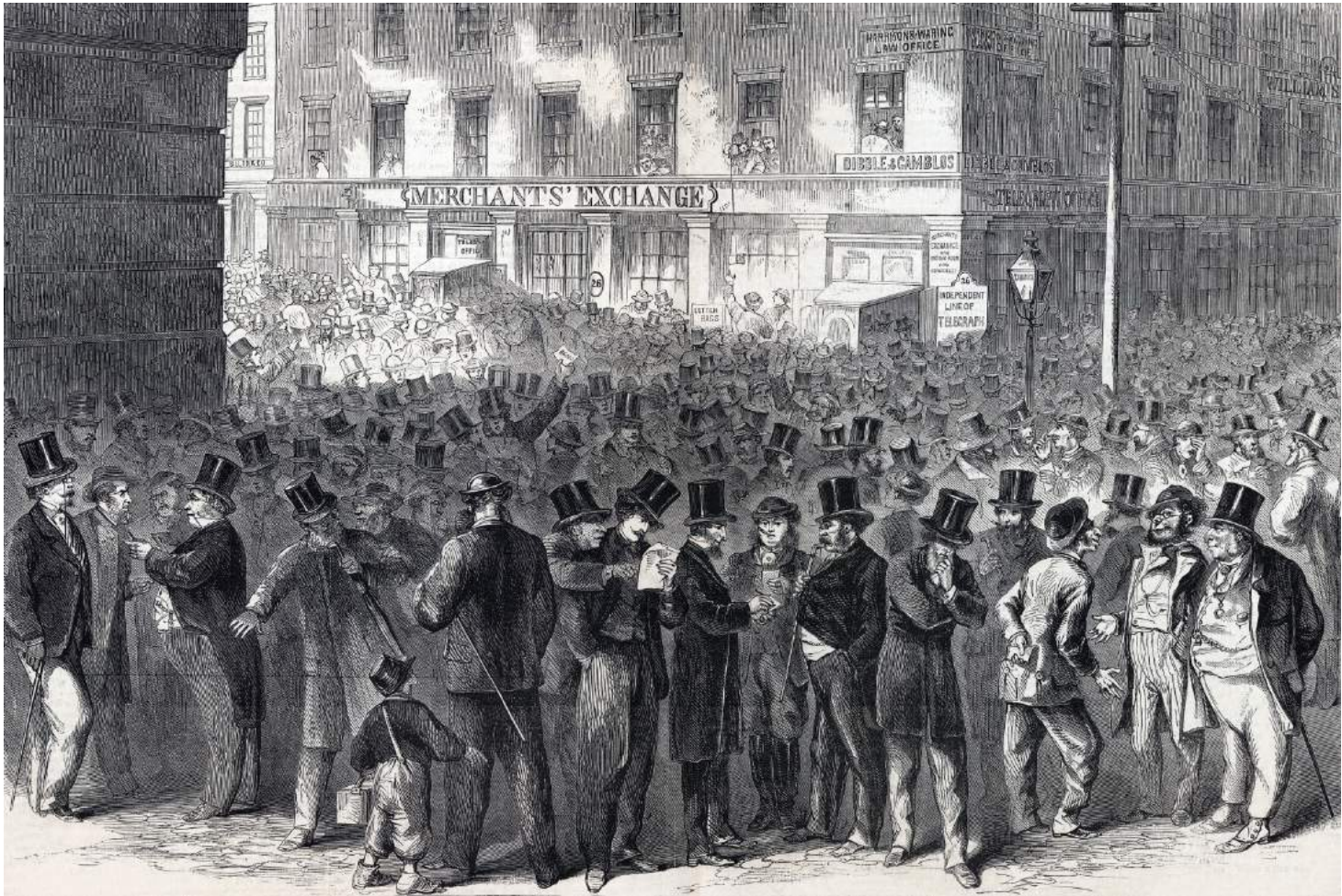
Abraham Lincoln shut down the *New York World* and the *Journal of Commerce* after they wrongfully printed that Lincoln had issued a proclamation ordering the conscription of an additional 400,000 men into the Union army. This image was created for the May 7, 1864 edition of *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*. Citizens in the North, thinking the war was not going well, began to buy gold, which was considered to be a safe investment. Lincoln shut the newspapers down. This image is titled "The Gold Fever in New York." This image is courtesy of housedivided.dickinson.edu.

Lincoln suspended the right of a person to appear before a judge in a court of law, and he jailed thousands of suspected Confederate sympathizers.
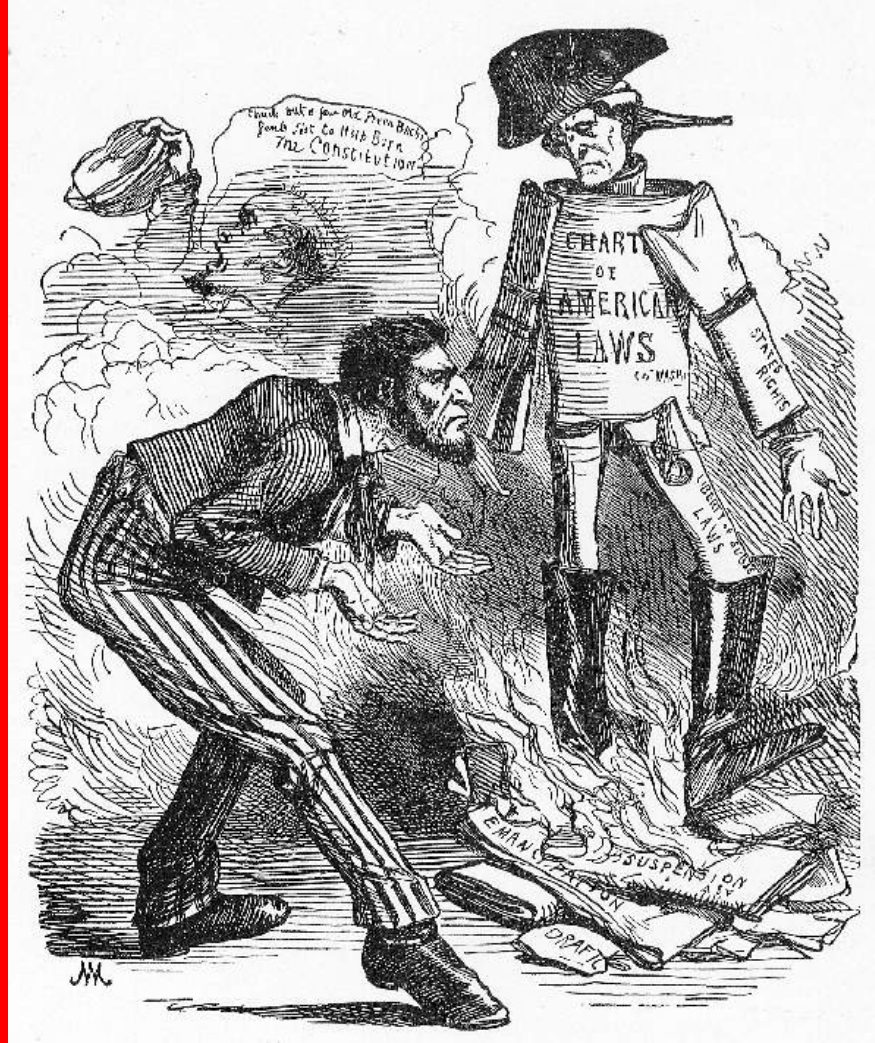
Habeas corpus is the right that guarantees that a person who is arrested has the right to appear before a judge in a court of law. This political cartoon shows Abraham Lincoln burning American liberties by his actions of Emancipation, the draft, and the Suspension of Habeas Corpus. Lincoln is saying, "Your old Constitution won't do for U.S.!" This image is titled "Downfall of the Idol of '76'." This image appeared in the London magazine *Fun* in 1863. This image is courtesy of abrahamlincolnclassroom.org.

Lincoln agonized over these decisions, but he believed that the survival of the Union during an emergency overrode the Constitution.

This image is titled "Lincoln Crushing the Dragon of Rebellion." He is attempting to strike the dragon with a railsplitter maul but is handicapped by being chained to the ideals of democracy and the Constitution. This image was created by David Bilmour Blythe (1815-1865) in 1862. This image is courtesy of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, Massachusetts.

The South also had its share of problems.

In some areas, white citizens opposed the war, as did enslaved African Americans. This image shows women rioting in Richmond, Virginia on April 2, 1863 to protest food shortages, and spiraling inflation. This event became known as the "Richmond Bread Riot." This image was created for the May 23, 1863 edition of Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper. This image is courtesy of the National Park Service. .

Some "white" people, especially those in areas that limited slavery, refused to recognize the Confederate government or to serve in the Southern army.

White Southerners in eastern Tennessee, western North Carolina, and western Virginia lived in mountainous regions where there was not a large need for slaves because their farms were smaller. Many of these people were pro-Union, and more than a few joined the United States Army. The photograph shows the Henry Whitehead Cabin in Cades Cove, Tennessee. It is part of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

In addition, Confederate President Jefferson Davis encountered opposition to creating a strong central government.


Davis had to turn rebels into citizens and create loyalty to a new government out of disloyalty to an old one. This lithograph is titled "Jefferson Davis and His Cabinet." This image is courtesy of fineartamerica.com.

Many Southerners strongly supported states' rights, resisted paying taxes to a central government, and did not fully support the military.
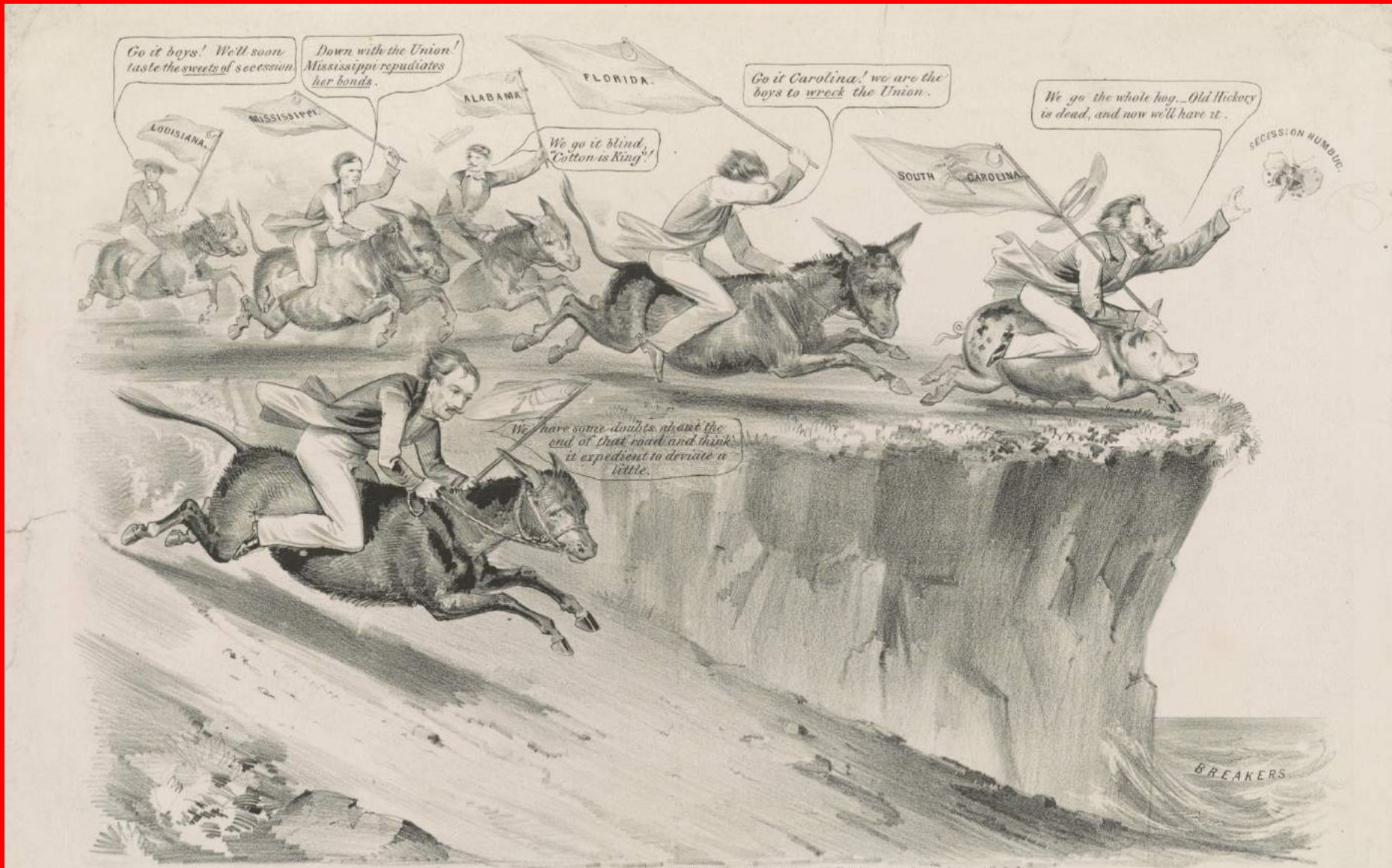
This image is titled "The Secession Movement. It shows each state's reasons for leaving the United States. This image was created by Currier and Ives circa 1861. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

# In the beginning, both the North and the South relied on volunteers to build up their armies.
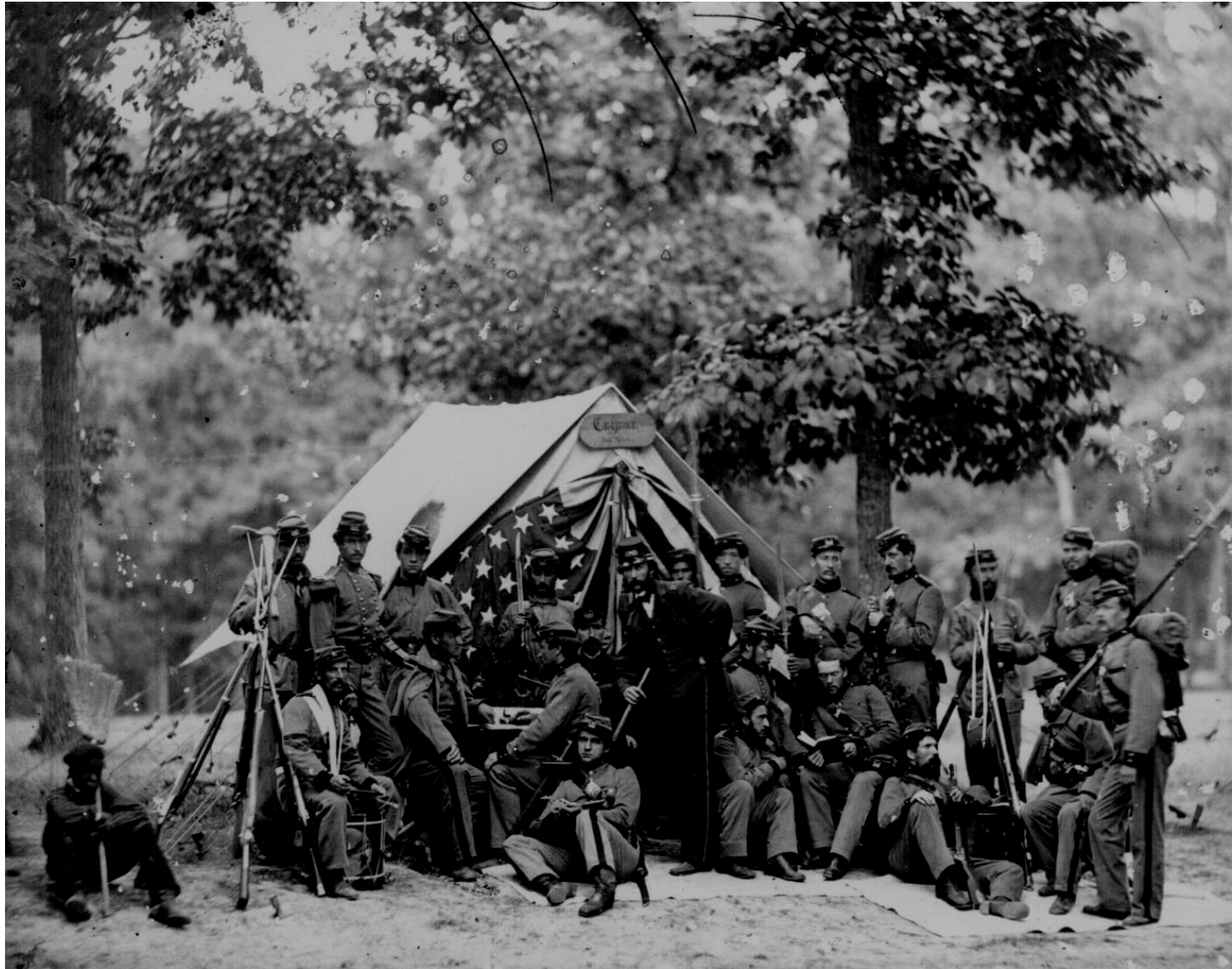
The rising number of casualties, however, reduced enthusiasm for the war, and enlistments decreased. This image shows Engineers of the 8th New York State Militia in 1861. This image is courtesy of the National Archives.

Both the North and South enforced conscription, or the drafting of men for military service.
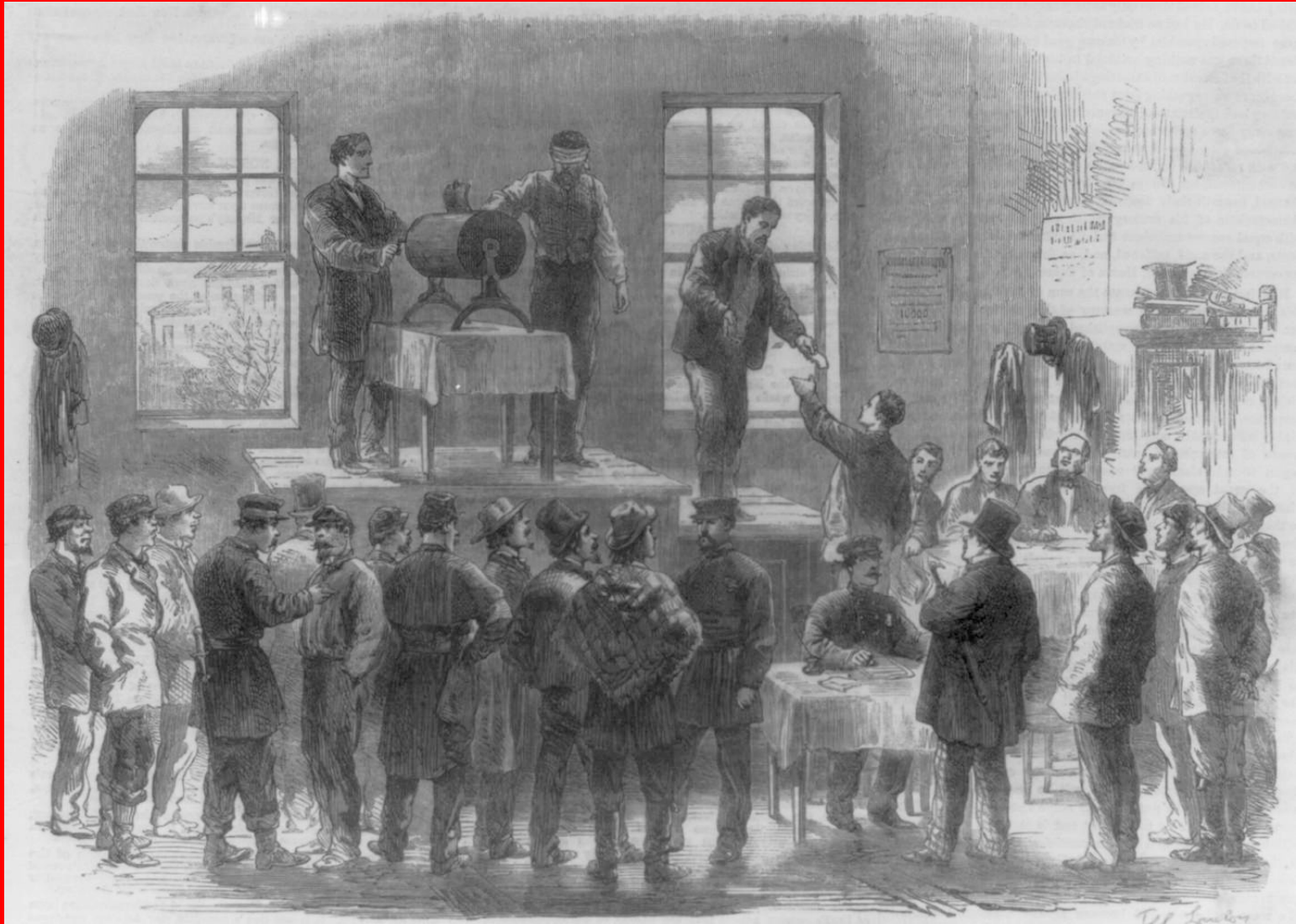
This image is titled "The War in America: The Conscription in New York." This image shows a blindfolded man is drawing slips of paper from a revolving cylinder. If your number was pulled, then you were drafted. This image was created in 1865 for the *Illustrated London News*. This image is courtesy of The Library of Congress.

In 1862, the South, with less than half the population of the North, began drafting men ages 18 to 35 years old.
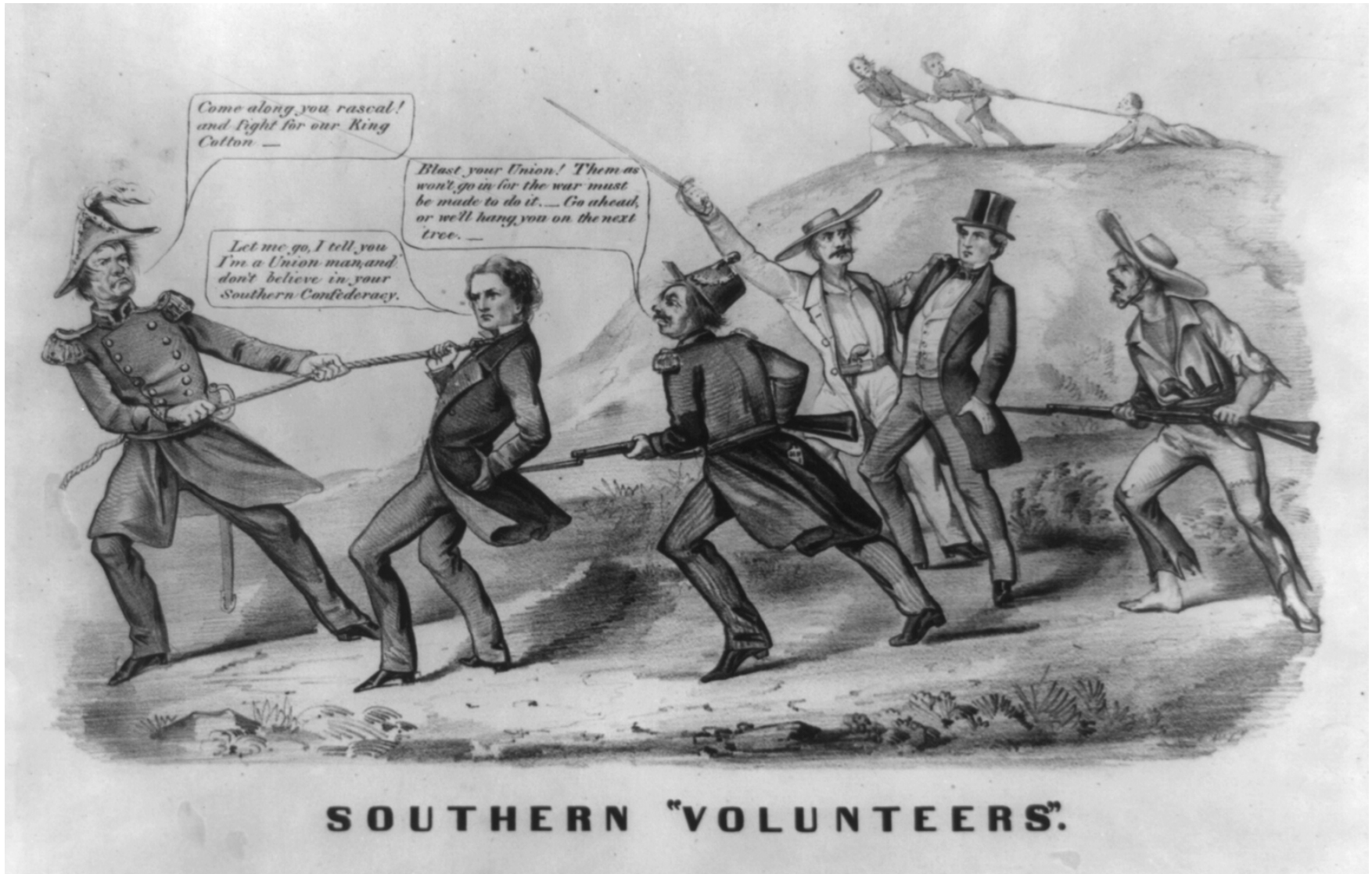
SOUTHERN "VOLUNTEERS".

These men had to serve as long as the war lasted. Later, as the ability to keep men in the army became more challenging, the Confederate Congress raised the upper age limit to 50. This item is titled "Southern 'Volunteers.'" It was created by Currier & Ives circa 1862. This image is courtesy of The Library of Congress.

Conscription, or the draft, began in the North in 1863.

The Enrollment Act decreed that men between 20 and 45 join the military for three years. This image is a recruiting poster from New York City. It was printed by Baker & Godwin on June 23, 1863. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

When the federal government needed soldiers, it specified a quota, or fixed number, from each state.
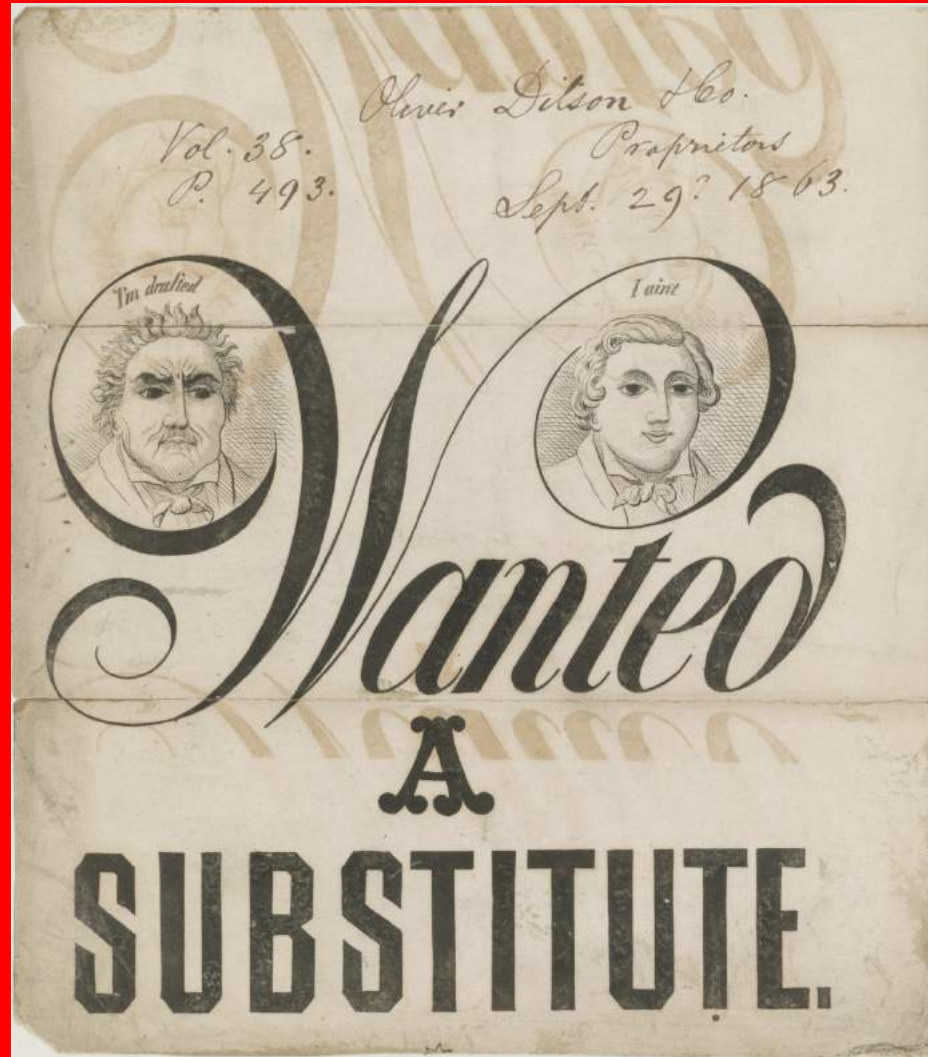
A man could excuse himself by paying $300, or by hiring a substitute to take his place. This law favored the wealthy over the poor. This image shows an illustrated sheet music cover which protests against the inequalities of the Conscription Act. This image was created by Oliver Ditson & Co. in 1863. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

Such substitutions aroused criticism that the war appeared to be "a rich man's war and a poor man's fight."

This image is titled "Gettysburg, Pa. Dead Confederate Soldiers in the 'Slaughter pen' at the Foot of Little Round Top." This image was created by Alexander Gardner (1821-1882) in July, 1863. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

The draft was unpopular in the North and the South.
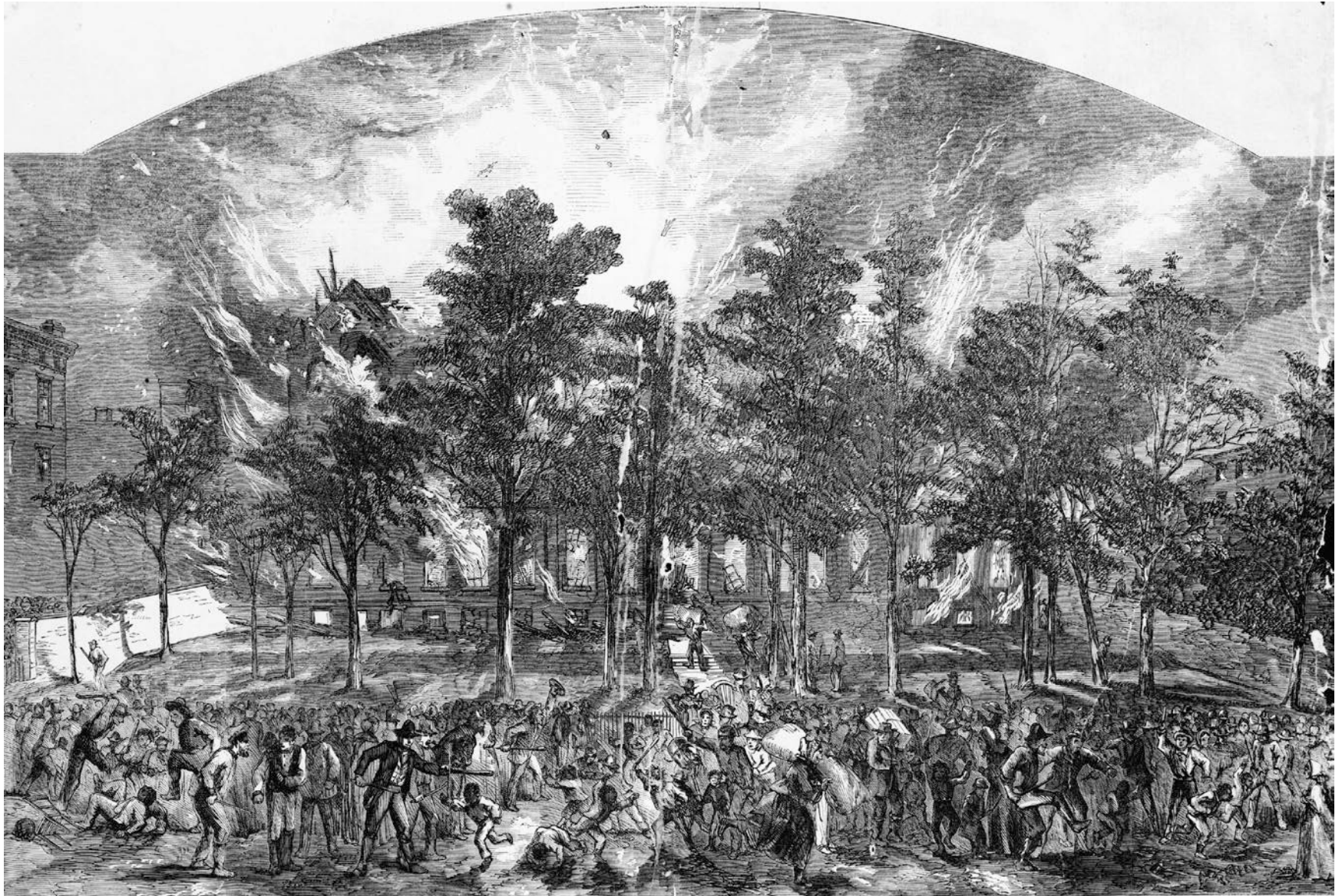
In the North opposition led to riots in several cities. This image is titled "The Riots at New York– The Rioters Burning and Sacking the Colored Orphan Asylum." This image was created for the August 1, 1863 edition of Harper's Weekly. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

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To encourage volunteers, many states in the North offered a bounty, or payments of money to a person for entering the armed services.

Married Men, $366 Bounty!
SINGLE MEN, $222!!

RALLY, BOYS!
FOR THE OLD FLAG!
JERSEY BLUES TO THE RESCUE!!

NOW IS THE TIME!
TO RALLY ROUND THE
FLAG OF THE COUNTRY!
NEW JERSEY PAYS TO EVERY MARRIED MAN,
Enlisting for Three Years.
$266 BOUNTY!
To every Single Man One Hundred and Twenty-two Dolls.
United States pays, in addition to the above, $100 Bounty!

The TWELFTH NEW JERSEY,
Now Encamped at WOODBURY,

EVERY MAN TO HIS POST,
AND VICTORY IS OURS!
RECRUITING STATION:
FOURTH AND MARKET STS, CAMDEN, N. J.
CAPTAIN THOS. H. DAVIS,
Co. A, 12th Reg't, N. J. Vols.

This image shows a bounty poster for the 12th New Jersey Infantry Regiment. This regiment fought on Gettysburg's Cemetery Ridge on July 2nd and 3rd, 1863 and helped to repulse Pickett's Charge. This image is courtesy of civilwar-pictures.com.

# Under the Bounty system, a volunteer could collect $1000 or more by enlisting for three years.

This image shows a New York State Bounty Bond. This payment was issued on January 11, 1865. This image is courtesy of aglimpse.com.

This led to the practice of "bounty jumping," whereby a man would enlist, collect his bounty, and then desert, only to reenlist somewhere else.

Some bounty jumpers were hanged for their offenses. However, one man bounty jumped 32 times, but when he was caught, he was sentenced to four years in prison. This image is titled "Bounty Brokers Look Out For Substitutes." This image was published by E. & H.T. Anthony & Co., circa 1865. The men are standing in front of a recruitment office for the United States Navy. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

The North's economy grew stronger during the war.
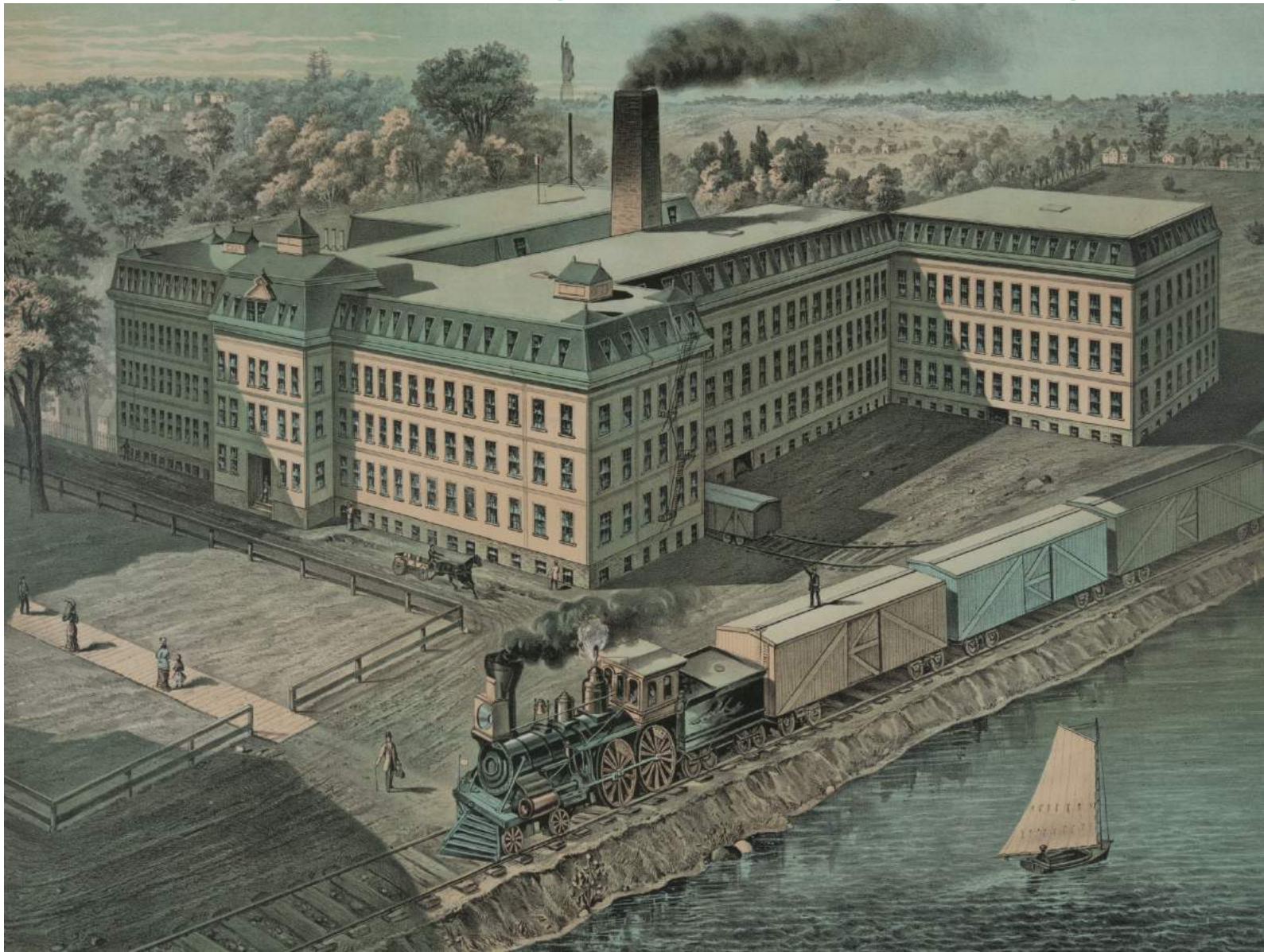
This image shows the Frederick Jones and Company's Shoe Factory in Plymouth, Massachusetts. For some reason, the Statue of Liberty, which is in New York Harbor, is in the background. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

Northern farmers began to use new industrial machines to harvest crops.
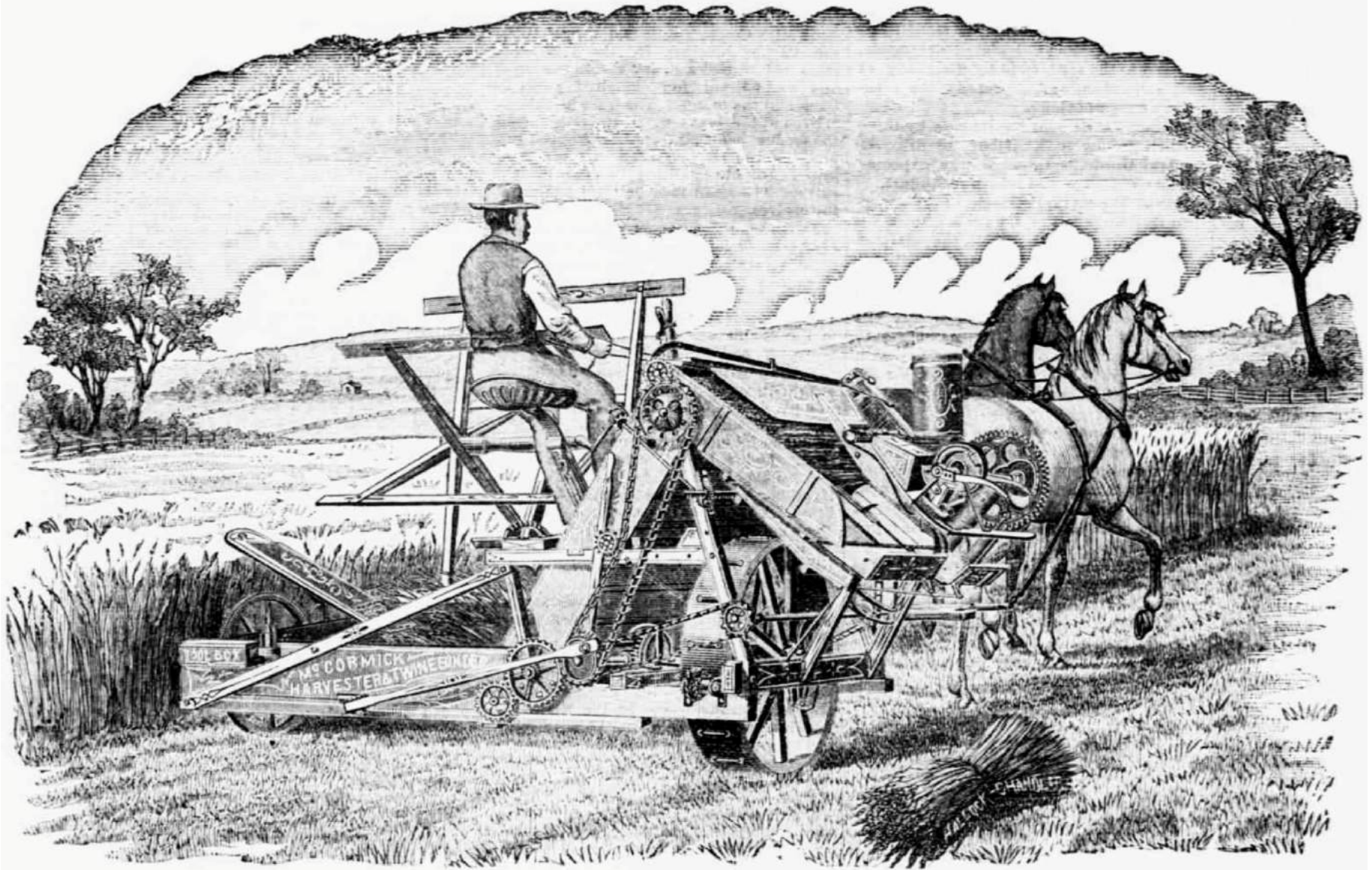
Farm production increased. This image shows the "McCormick Reaper and Twine Binder" in 1884. This image came from the front page of the *Abilene Reflector*. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons and the Library of Congress.

The war produced great demands for shoes, clothes and other Northern products.

Manufacturing increased. This is the Boott Mill Complex in Lowell Massachusetts. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

As the North's economy boomed, the South grew weaker from invasion and destruction.

Confederate President Jefferson Davis and his government faced severe economic challenges. This engraving is titled "Sherman's March to the Sea." It was created by Felix Octavius Carr Darley (1822-1888) circa 1883. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

The South, with less money and industry than the North, required the use of all available human and economic resources to defend it.

The Confederate government seized control of the economy and took rail lines from private owners. One of the railroads that the Confederate government took over was the Western and Atlantic Railroad which connected Chattanooga, Tennessee to Atlanta, Georgia. This image is titled "Buildings of the western & Atlantic (State) R.R. at Atlanta, Ga., Nov. 1864. These Were All Destroyed a Few Days Afterwards." This image was taken by George N. Barnard (1819-1902). This image is courtesy of The Library of Congress.

The Confederate government determined how much wool or cotton and how many boots factories would produce.

This image shows the Alamance Cotton Mill located in Burlington, North Carolina. It was built in 1837 and this photograph was taken shortly after the Mill's completion. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

The Union blockade soon strangled the South's economy.

This map shows the Union blockade of Southern ports, the naval squadrons that performed the blockade, and the areas from which blockade runners approached the coast of the Southern states. This image is courtesy of fofweb.com.

The North proved far more successful than the South in financing the war.

About 25% of the $4 billion the North needed came from taxation, and the rest came from borrowing and issuing paper money. This image shows the first "standard" paper currency that was issued in the United States in 1862. Salmon P. Chase, the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States is shown on the left of the bill. This image is courtesy of mikeonmoney.wordpress.com.

The United States Congress established the first income tax in 1861.

37TH CONGRESS,
1ST SESSION.

H. R. 54.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

JULY 19, 1861.

Read twice, and referred to the Committee on Finance.

JULY 25, 1861.

Reported by Mr. SIMMONS with an amendment, viz : Strike out all after the
enacting clause and insert what follows printed in *italics*.

AN ACT

To provide increased revenue from imports, to pay interest on the
public debt, and for other purposes.

1   *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2   *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3   [That, from and after the date of the passage of this act,
4   in lieu of the duties heretofore imposed by law on the
5   articles hereinafter mentioned, and on such as may now
6   be exempt from duty, there shall be levied, collected,
7   and paid, on the goods, wares, and merchandise herein
8   enumerated and provided for, imported from foreign coun-
9   tries, the following duties and rates of duty, that is to say:
10   First. On raw sugar, commonly called Muscovada or brown
11   sugar, and on sugars not advanced above number twelve,
12   Dutch standard, by claying, boiling, clarifying, or other pro

The first income tax in the United States was established by the Revenue Act of 1861. It imposed a 3% tax on the income of an United States citizen who made over $800 in a year. This image is courtesy of senate.gov.

The United States government also asked people to loan it money by buying government bonds.

The government promised to pay the money back with interest after the war. This image of a $100 bond was created by the Bureau of Printing and Engraving. This image is courtesy of The Museum of American Finance.

The federal government also printed $400 million worth of greenbacks, or paper money that was not backed by gold or silver.

Issuing more money caused the prices of goods to go up because each dollar became worth less. Most wages stayed the same, so people could not buy as much. This image shows the front of the $1 bill and its "green back." This image is courtesy of The Smithsonian Museum of American History and of Wikimedia Commons.

Like the North, the South also tried to raise money with taxes and bonds, but its already strained economy could not meet wartime needs.


People in the South became less willing to cooperate with their government. This image shows a Confederate States of America $1000 bond. President Jefferson Davis has his image on the front of the bond. This image is courtesy of prweb.com.

When the South tried printing more paper money, it drastically increased the price of everyday goods.

Near the end of the war, flour cost up to $300 a barrel and shoes cost $200 a pair. This image shows the front of the Confederate States of America $5 bill and the $100 bill. The backs did not have any printing or images. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

The Confederacy faced an uphill struggle in carrying out its war effort.
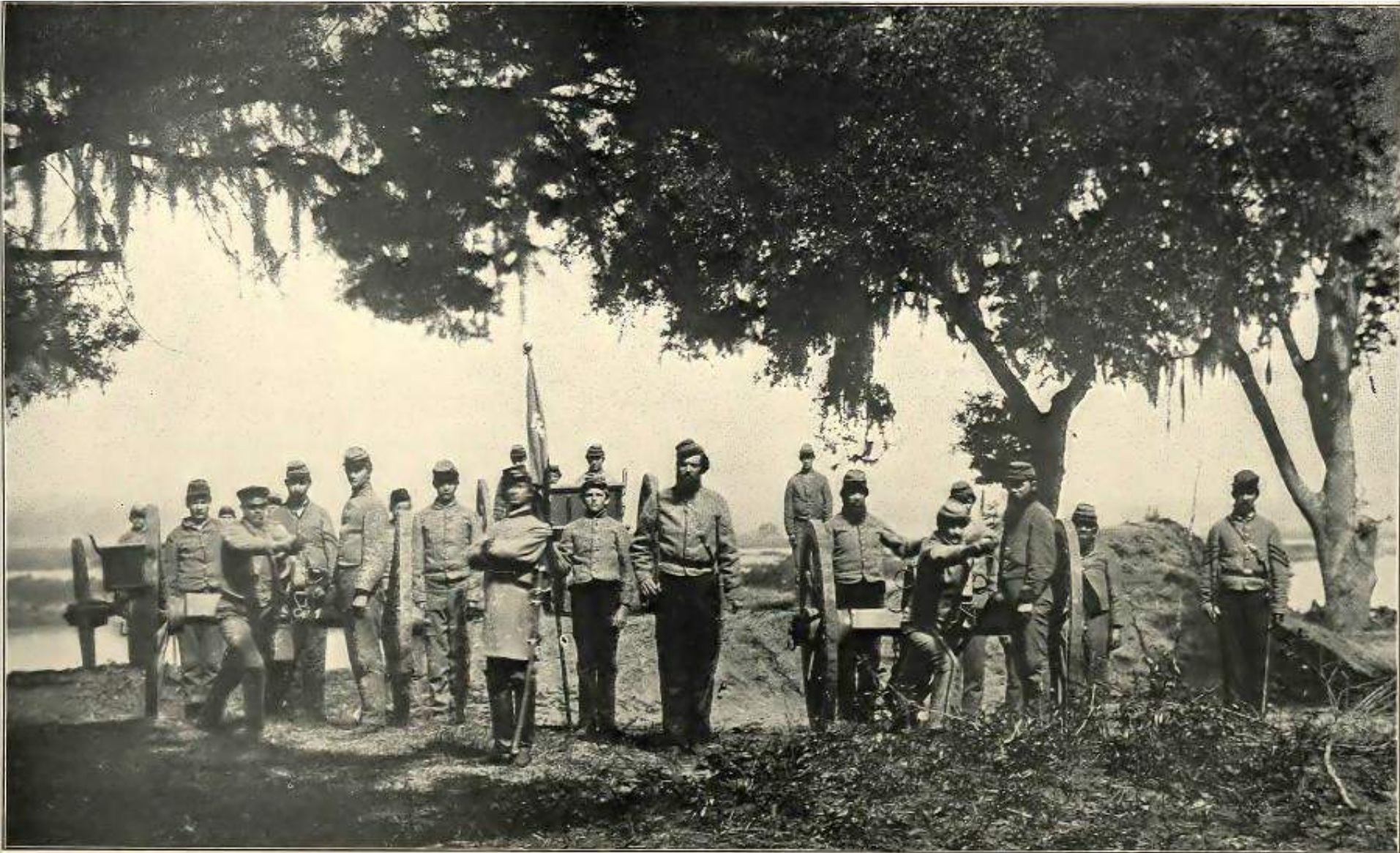
This image shows the Charleston (South Carolina) Artillery in 1863. This image is courtesy of The Library of Congress.

The Confederate government encouraged factories to supply troops with arms and ammunition.

However, the South lacked the industrial capacity to provide other necessities to its population. This image shows the Tredegar Iron Works in Richmond, Virginia. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

The North, on the other hand, had a strong industrial base, but overcharging and corruption plagued the efforts of the Union government to supply its troops.

Army contractors sometimes supplied shoddy clothing, rotten meat, and defective shoes. This image is courtesy of history.com.

In spite of this, Union armies proved better equipped than their enemy.

This image shows an infantry private with the equipment and uniform items issued by his government. This image is courtesy of howardlanham.com.

Wounded soldiers faced the horrors of crude medical care.

Few doctors of the time knew that germs spread infection, and Army surgeons never boiled their instruments between operations. This field surgeon at Gettysburg has finished amputating his patient's arm at the shoulder. Notice the blood dripping into the bucket. The surgeon's assistant is removing the ether mask from the patient. This image is courtesy of medicalantiques.com.

More than half of the people who died in the Civil War died from disease, not injuries from battle.

Malaria, typhoid, and dysentery spread quickly through the troops. This image is titled "The United States General Hospital, at Georgetown, D.C., Formerly the Union Hotel." This image was created for the July 6, 1861 edition of Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper. This image is courtesy of binghamton.edu.

In both the North and the South women played a vital role in the care of wounded and dying soldiers.


This image shows nurse Annie Bell with patients at a United States hospital in Nashville, Tennessee circa 1864. This image is courtesy of carlisle.army.mil.

The most famous woman to emerge from the Civil War was Clara Barton who served in numerous Union field hospitals and later founded the American Red Cross.


This image of Clara Barton (1821-1912) was "From Portrait Taken in Civil War and Authorized by Her as the One She Wished to be Remembered by." This image is courtesy of The Library of Congress.

Although the South had fewer aid societies, many women volunteered as nurses.
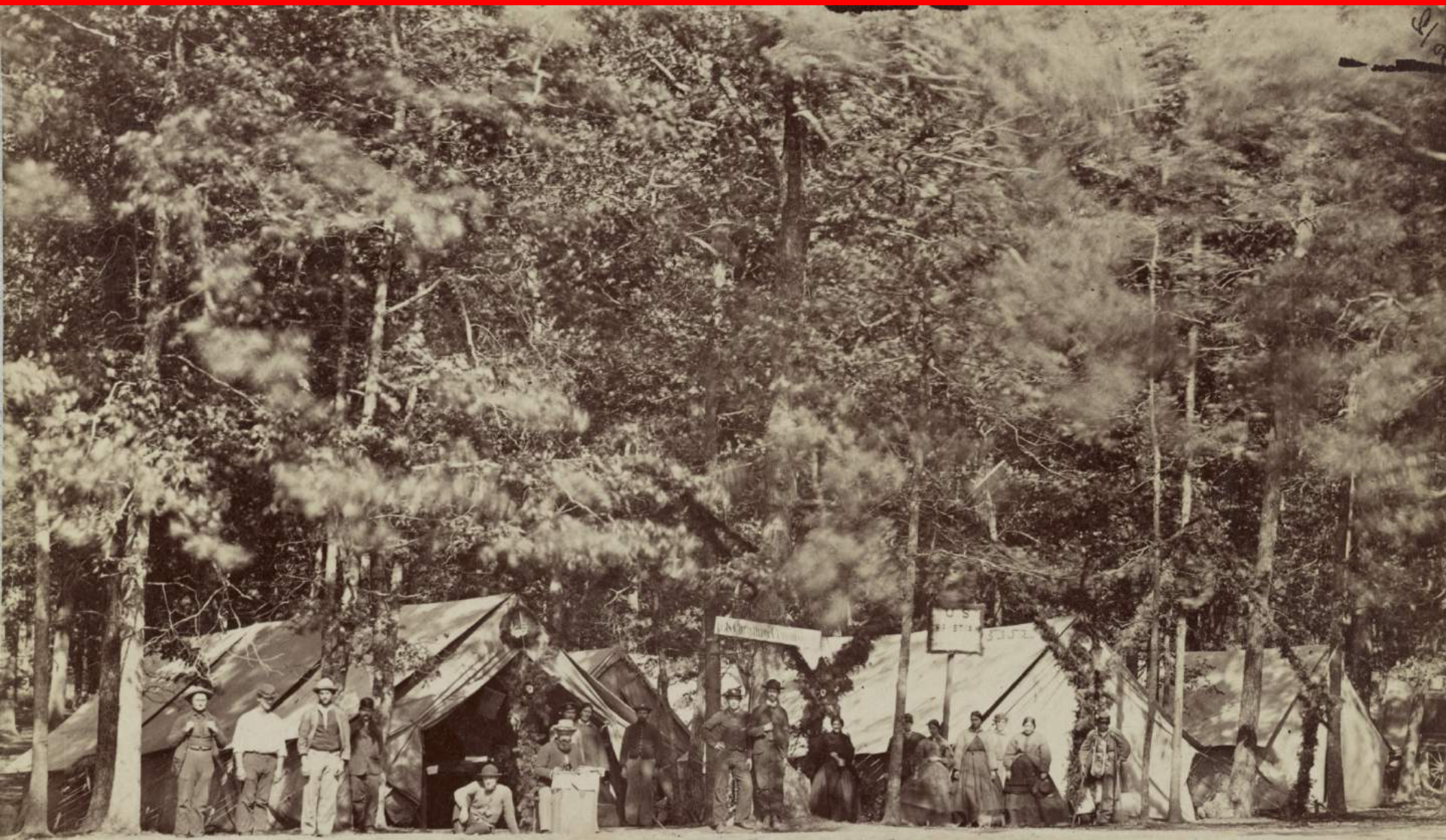
Aid societies were private, nonprofit charitable organizations. Those women who did not volunteer to be nurses gathered to knit socks, make clothing, and prepare food for the soldiers. This image is titled "U.S. Christian Commission at Gettysburg General Hospital, August, 1863. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

Many women moved to the cities from farms to make their lives easier and to find jobs.
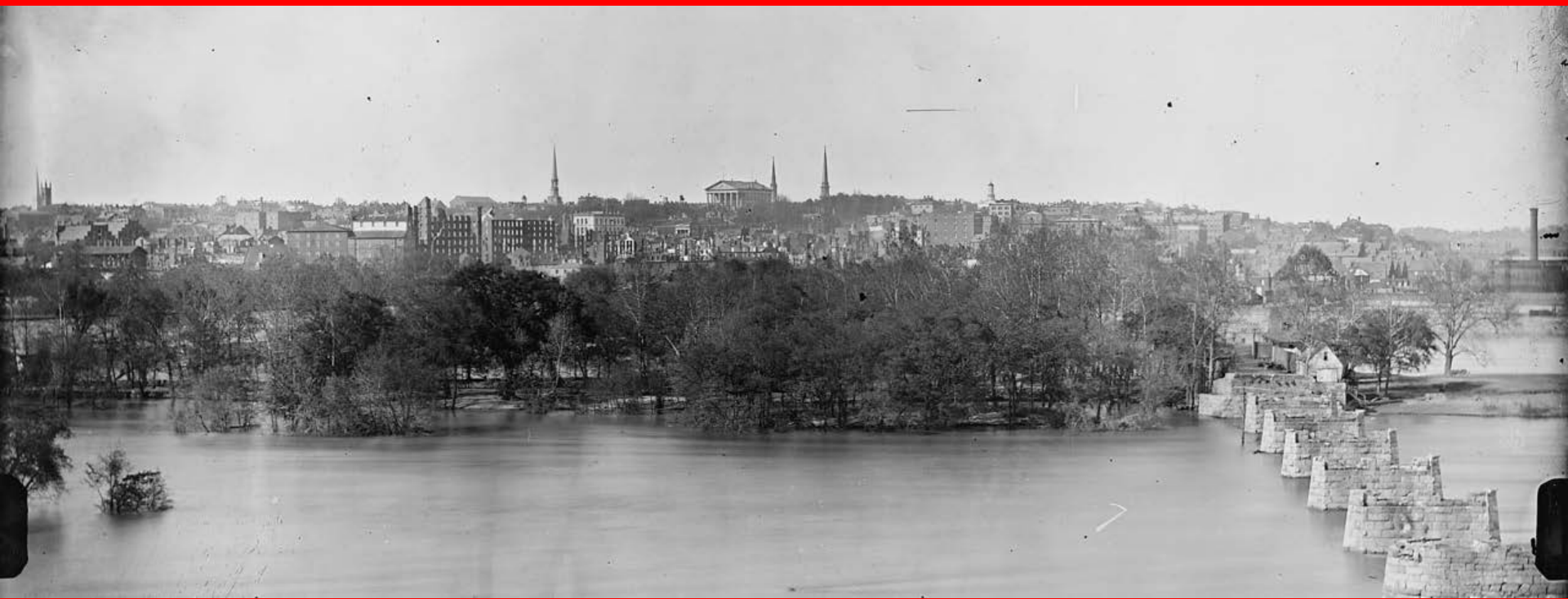
During the war the population of Richmond, Virginia, for example, tripled. This image shows Richmond, Virginia after it was evacuated by a fire in 1865. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

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