

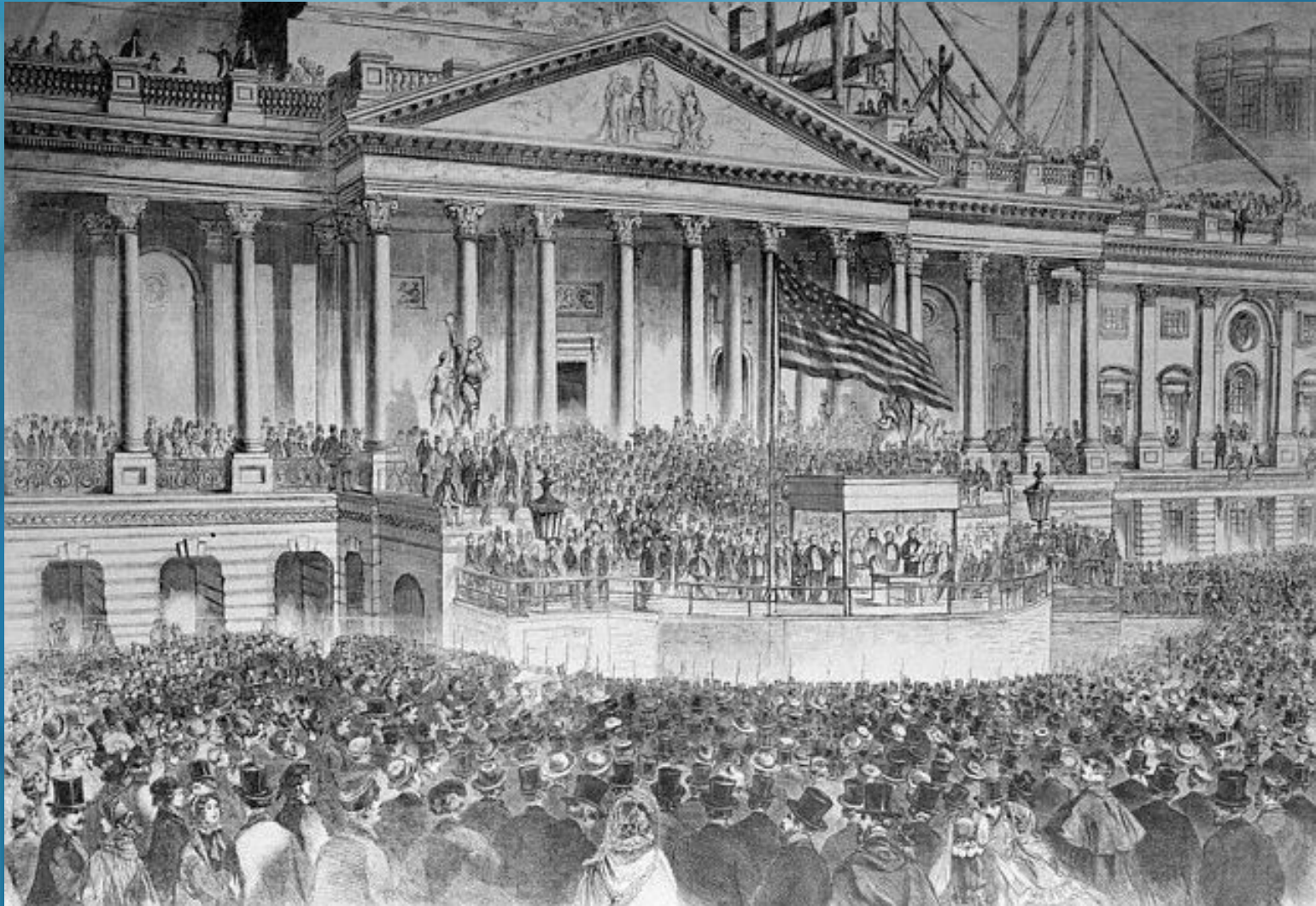
# **Girding for War: The North and the South**

***1861 - 1865***

# President Lincoln

- Lincoln takes office on March 4, 1861
  - President of dis-United States of America
  - Next 4 years would test Lincoln and US

# Lincoln's Inauguration, 1861



# The Menace of Secession

- Lincoln argued against secession in his inaugural address
  - No conflict unless South provoked it
  - Secession would not work
    - No way to split North and South physically

# The Menace of Secession

- Problems with secession
  - No natural boundary to divide North and South
  - How to divide up debt, federal territories?
  - How to resolve problems with fugitive slaves and Underground Railroad?

# The Menace of Secession

- Europe would love to have US split
  - Could divide and conquer in Americas
  - US would be too weak to stop European colonization or enforce Monroe Doctrine

# **South Carolina Assails Fort Sumter**

- Fighting began over federal forts in the South
  - By the time Lincoln became president, only 2 forts were still under Union control
  - Most important was Fort Sumter at Charleston harbor, South Carolina

# **South Carolina Assails Fort Sumter**

- Lincoln's options for Fort Sumter
  - Provisions would run out in mid-April, 1861
  - If fort ran out of supplies, it would have to surrender without defending itself
  - If Lincoln tried to reinforce the fort, South would attack



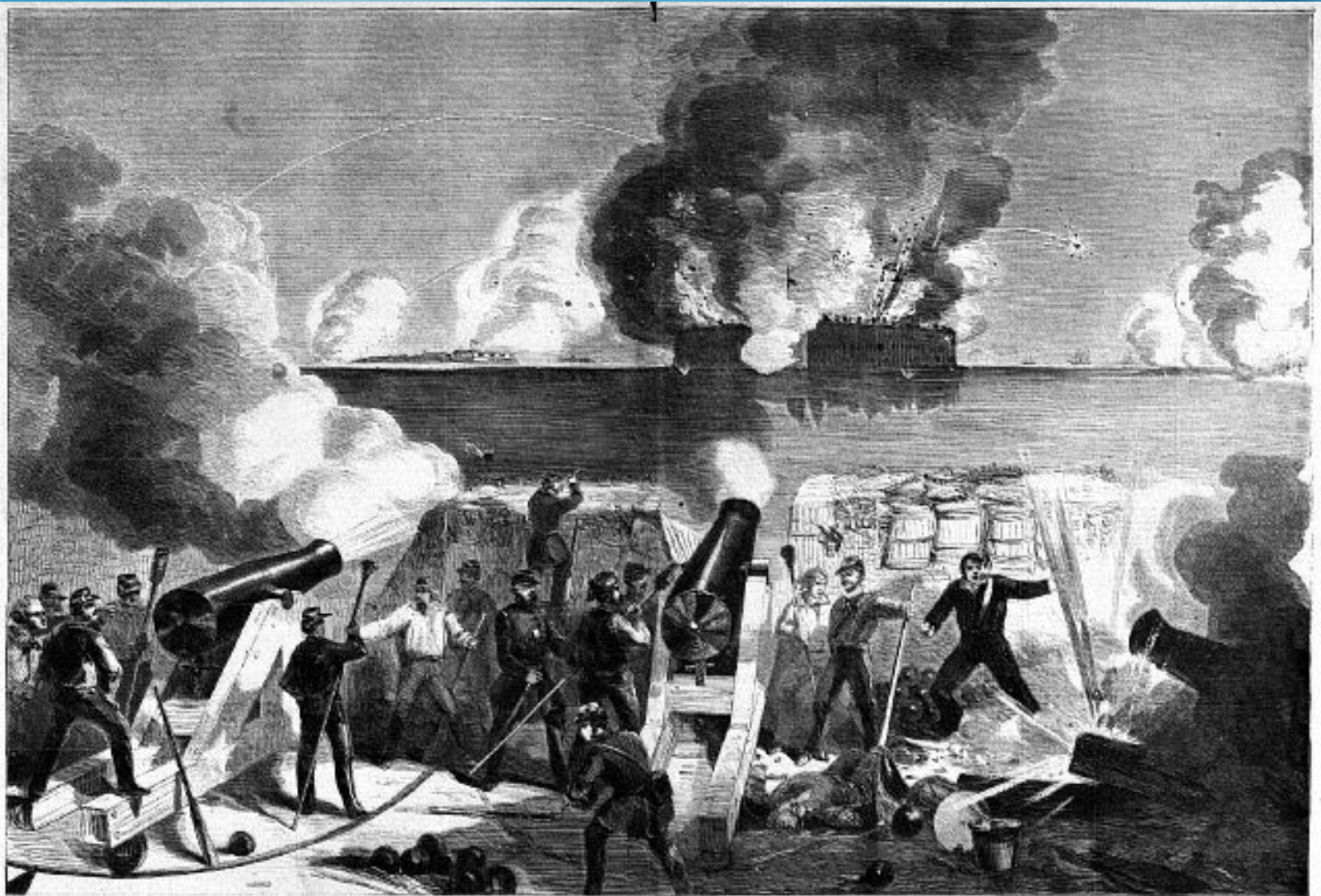
# **South Carolina Assails Fort Sumter**

- Lincoln decided to send provisions (food, etc.) but not reinforce it (with guns, ammunition, or men)
  - Union navy ships moved to Fort Sumter; seen by South as hostile

# **South Carolina Assails Fort Sumter**

- South's response was to attack
  - April 12, 1861 – cannon bombarded fort for 1 1/2 days
  - Fort surrendered with no men killed

# Bombardment of Fort Sumter



BOMBARDMENT OF FORT SUMTER BY THE REBELS OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES APRIL 4, 1861.—(200 PAGES)

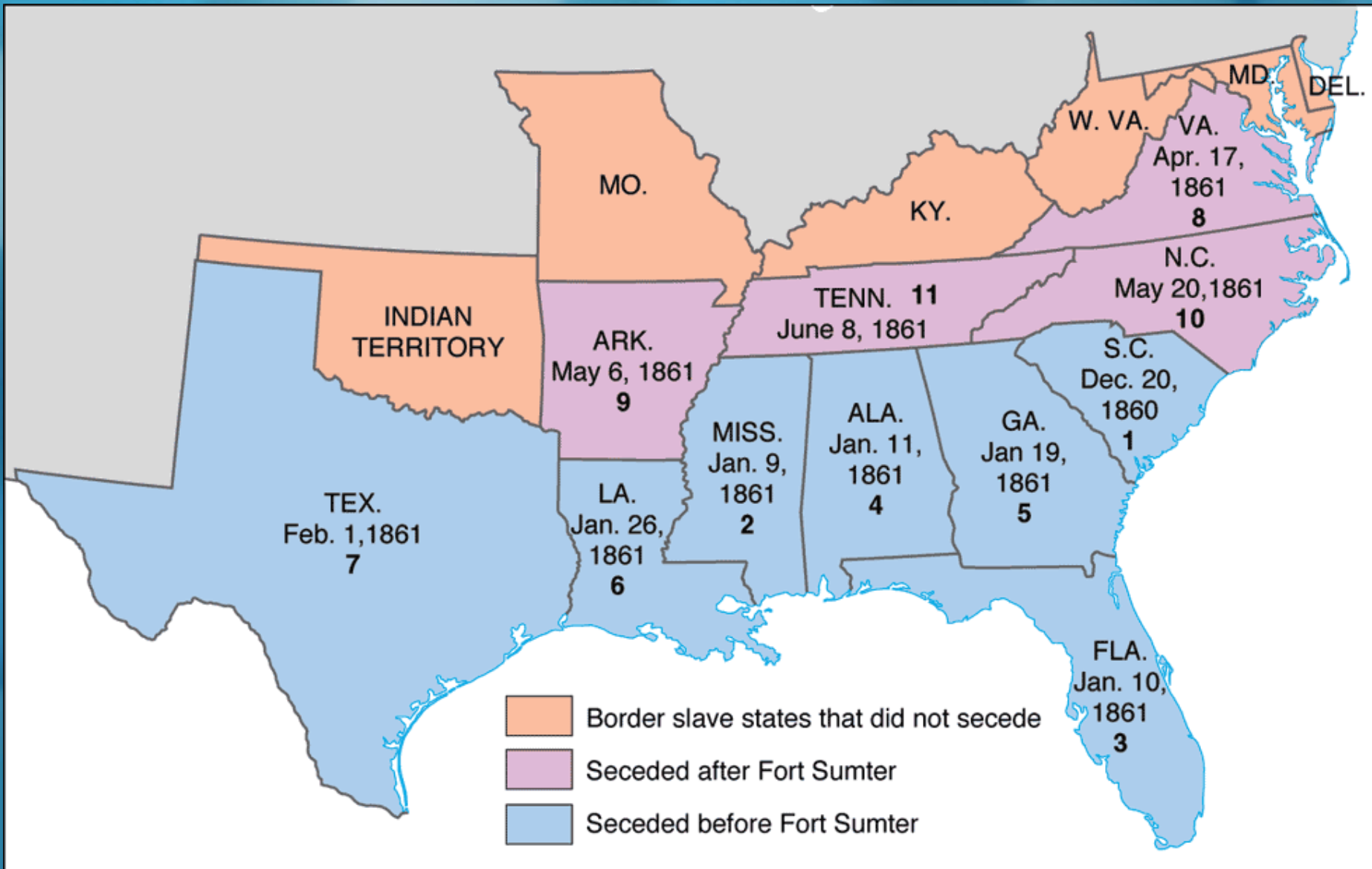
# South Carolina Assails Fort Sumter

- The North's reaction to the fall of Fort Sumter
  - Some northerners had been willing to let the South go if they wanted to go
  - Attack on Sumter rallied Northerners against the South
  - Lincoln called for 75,000 troops; so many volunteers came that some were turned away
  - Lincoln also ordered blockade of Southern ports

# South Carolina Assails Fort Sumter

- The South responds to the call for troops
  - Southerners saw this as an aggressive attack on South
  - 4 more states (Virginia, Arkansas, Tennessee, North Carolina) join original 7 in Confederacy
    - Richmond, Virginia became capital

# Seceding States



# **Brothers' Blood and Border Blood**

- Crucial Border States stayed in Union
  - Missouri, Kentucky, Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia (broke from Virginia in mid-1861)

# Brothers' Blood and Border Blood

- If North had attacked first, South would probably have gotten the Border States and won the war
  - Border States had white population over 1/2 of entire Confederacy
  - Border States had large manufacturing capacity, horses and mules
  - Important Ohio River was Kentucky's northern boundary
    - 2 of its tributaries, Cumberland and Tennessee, flowed deep into Confederacy, where many other supplies (grain, gunpowder, iron) produced



# Brothers' Blood and Border Blood

- Dealing with the Border States
  - Lincoln declared martial law in Maryland and sent in federal troops
    - Could have cut off Washington, DC from North
  - Federal troops also sent into Missouri and West Virginia
  - Lincoln declared North was fighting to keep Union together, not against slavery
    - Border States and southern Ohio, Indiana, Illinois would not fight to end slavery
    - US fought with slave owners and proslavery sympathizers in North

# Brothers' Blood and Border Blood

- Slavery and the war in the West
  - Most of the Five Civilized Tribes (Cherokees, Creeks, Choctaws, Chickasaws, Seminoles) in Indian Territory (Oklahoma) sided with Confederacy
    - Some Indians owned slaves
    - Indians provided slaves to Confederacy; Confederacy took over government payments to Indians
  - Splinter group of Cherokees and Plains Indians sided with Union
    - After Civil War, Union hunted them down and forced them onto reservations

# Brothers' Blood and Border Blood

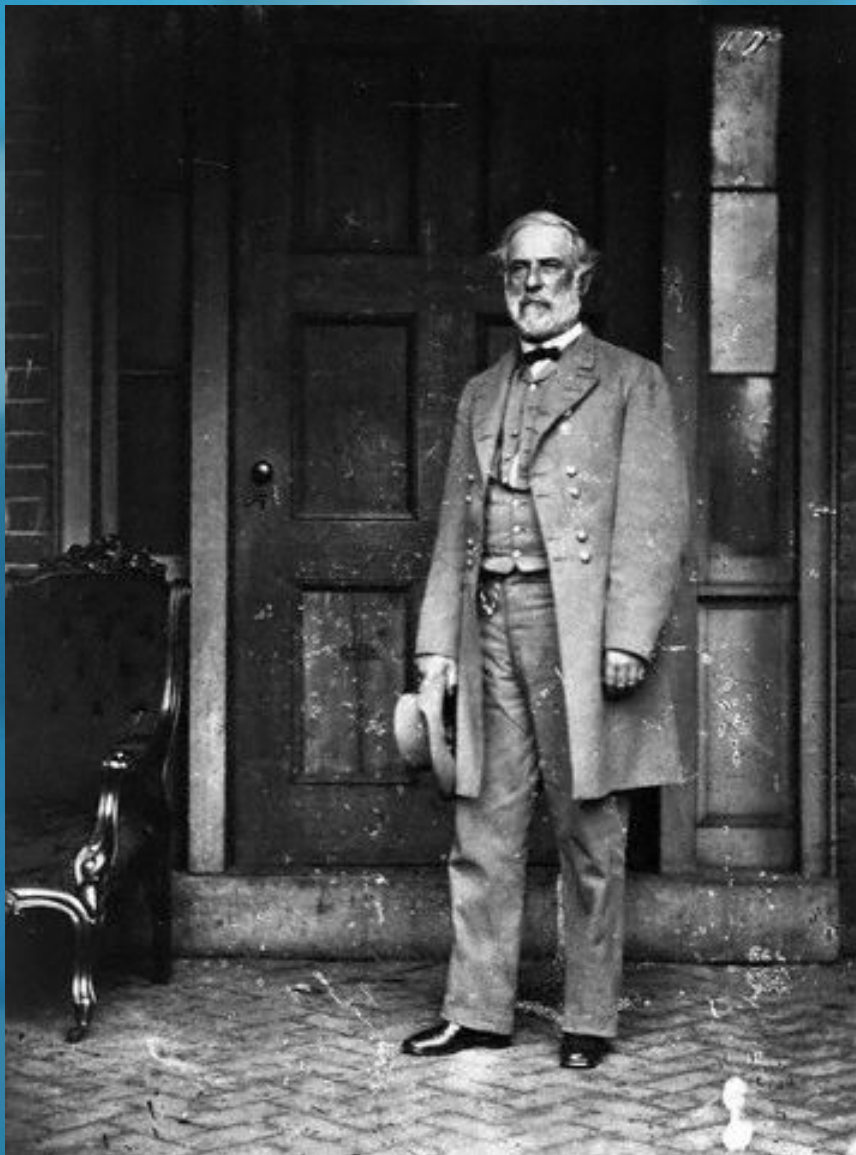
- Families split up over Civil War, especially in Border States
  - Brothers, fathers and sons, would split
  - Senator James Crittenden's 2 sons both became generals – one in Union, the other in Confederacy
  - Lincoln had 4 brothers-in-law who fought for Confederacy

# The Balance of Forces

- South's initial advantages
  - Confederacy only had to fight defensively and fight North to draw
    - North had to invade, conquer, and force South back into the Union
  - At first had higher morale, fighting on their own soil and for independence

# The Balance of Forces

- South had more talented officers and leaders in military
  - General Robert E. Lee was top commander in US
    - Had been offered command of Northern armies by Lincoln; felt it was his duty to go with his state (Virginia) when it seceded
  - Lee's chief lieutenant was Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson



**General  
Robert E.  
Lee**

# The Balance of Forces

- Southern boys born to fight
  - Had used horses and guns all their lives
  - “rebel yell” struck terror into hearts of advancing Union armies

# The Balance of Forces

- Southern compensated for scarcity of factories
  - Seized federal weapons
  - Ran Union blockades
  - Developed their own ironworks



# The Balance of Forces

- Problems in the South became clear as the war dragged on
- Supply problems, especially when North cut Southern railroad lines
  - Led to shortages of uniforms, shoes, blankets, even food

# The Balance of Forces

- South's biggest weakness was its economy
  - Primarily based on agriculture and export produce like cotton
- North's economy had lots of agriculture, but factories as well
  - North had 3/4 of US's wealth and 3/4 of US's railroad mileage

# The Balance of Forces

- North controlled the sea with much stronger navy
  - Blockade was weak at first, but soon cut off Southern supplies and destroyed Southern morale
  - Allowed North to trade grain for guns and ammunition with Europe

# The Balance of Forces

- North's population was much greater than South's
  - North had 22 million people, with more immigrants from Europe pouring in
  - South had 9 million people (3.5 million of these were slaves)
  - Northern soldiers less prepared than Southern soldiers, but they were trained well and learned

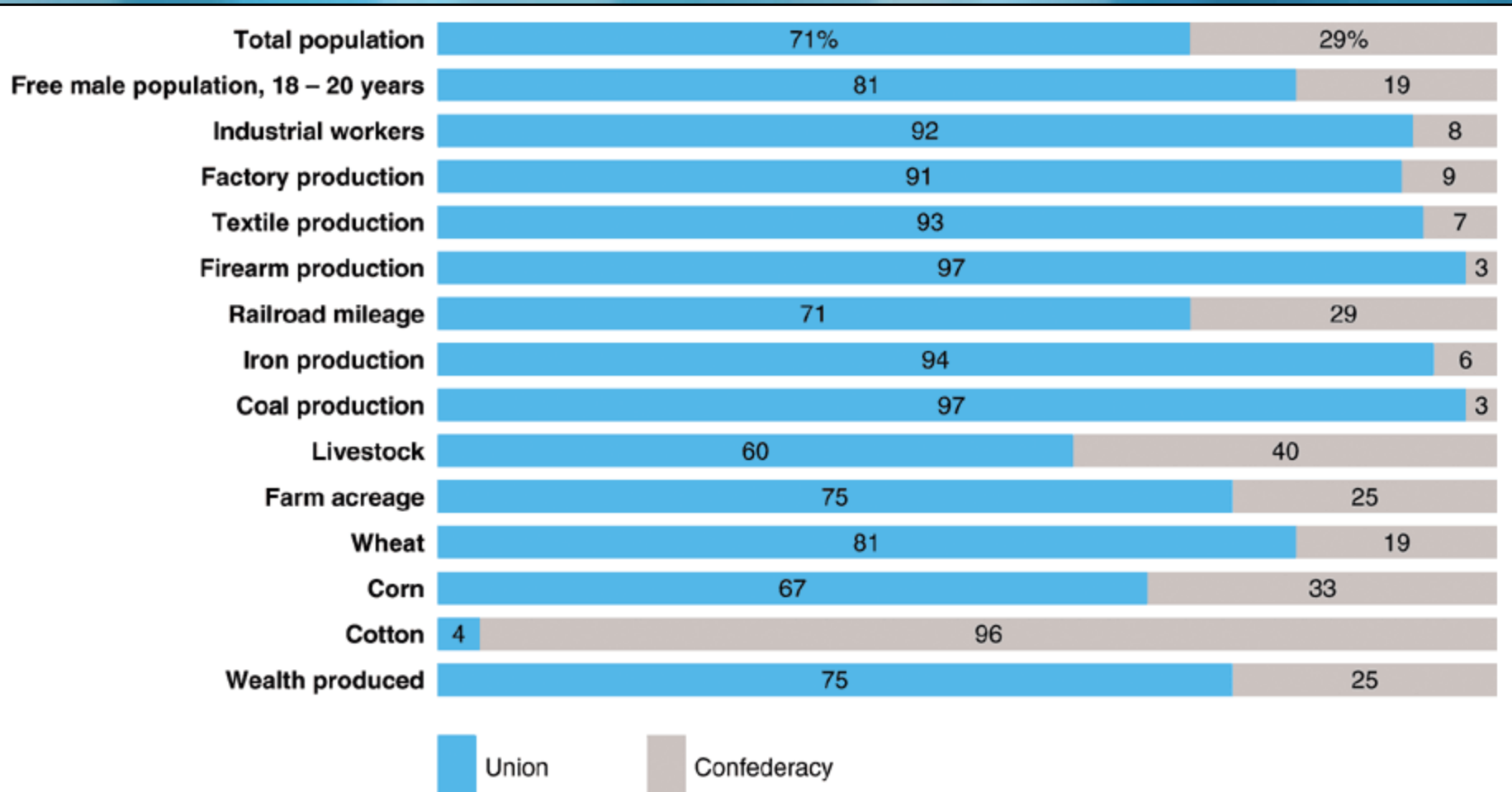
# The Balance of Forces

- Northern leaders were not nearly as good as South's
  - Lincoln had to use trial-and-error to find good leaders
  - Ulysses S. Grant, willing to win no matter the cost, finally led Union to victory

# The Balance of Forces

- North eventually used its strengths to win the war, but war could have gone the other way
  - If Border States had seceded
  - If upper Mississippi Valley states (in North), like Illinois had turned against Union
  - If Northern defeatism had led to them asking for armistice (truce)
  - If Britain or France had broken Union naval blockade of South

# Comparative Population and Economic Resources of the Union and the Confederacy, 1861



# Dethroning King Cotton

- Most successful revolutions have been helped by foreign intervention
- South did not get help from Britain or France
  - Elites in Britain and France were openly supportive of South
    - Opposed example of revolution and democracy in US and favored feudal, aristocratic society of South
    - Even if troops did not fight, their ships could have broken the Union blockade
  - Working classes in Britain and France strongly favored North
    - Wanted abolition; believed that if North won, slavery would be abolished
    - Prevented elites from supporting South



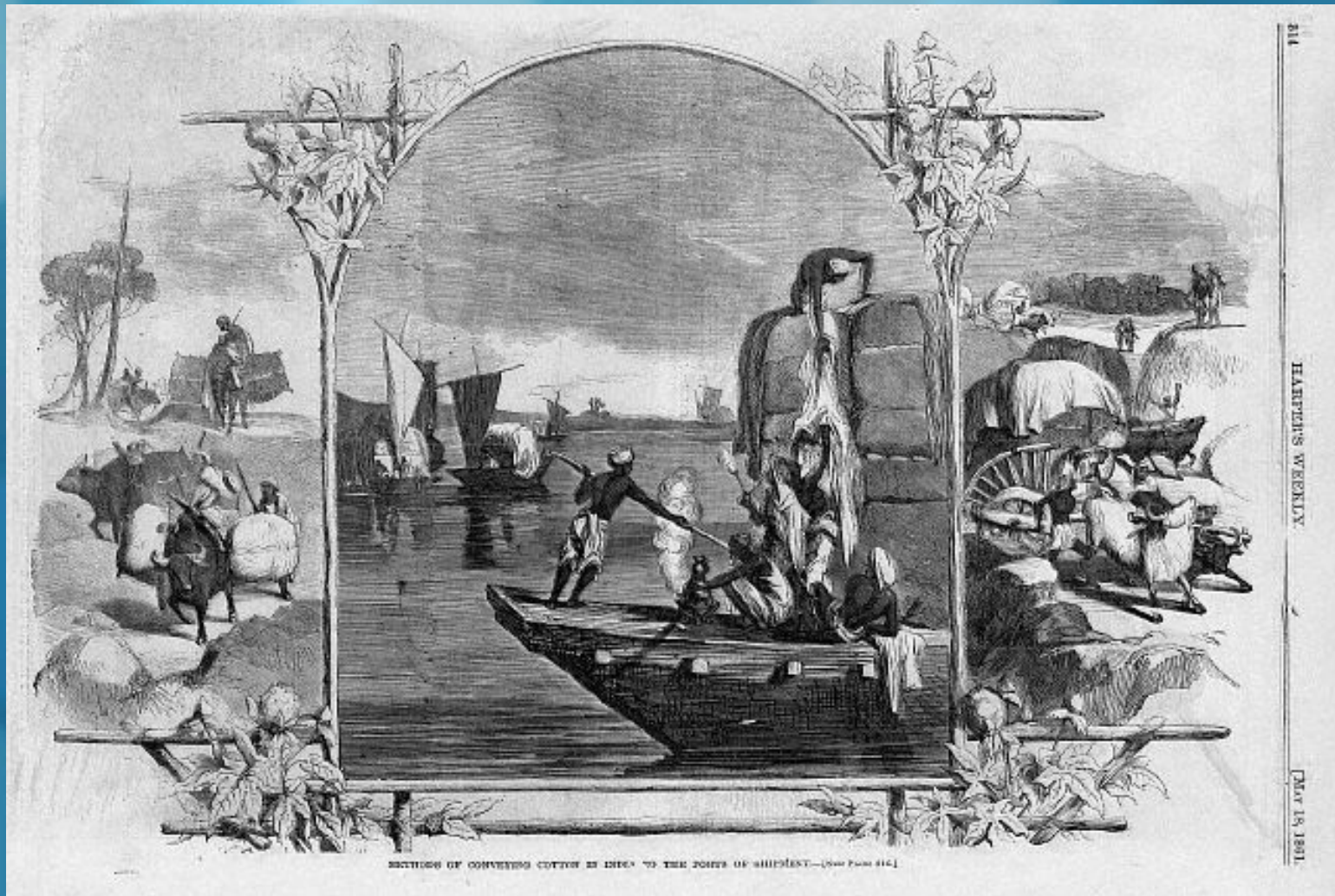
# Dethroning King Cotton

- Britain depended on South for 75% of their cotton; why didn't South's cotton force Britain to enter war?
  - Large shipments in 1857 – 1860 gave Britain surpluses that lasted first 1 1/2 years of war
  - By the time cotton surpluses ran out, Lincoln had announced emancipation, putting English working class firmly behind North

# Dethroning King Cotton

- How effects of “cotton famine” in Britain were relieved
  - US sent food to England to help working classes who lost jobs
  - As Union penetrated South, they gained cotton-producing land and sent cotton to Britain
  - Confederates were able to sometimes run blockade to ship cotton to Britain
  - Egypt and India increased output of cotton
  - Workers in England worked in industries supplying both North and South, relieving unemployment

# Cotton Production in India



# Dethroning King Cotton

- North sent wheat and corn to England
  - North had plentiful harvests; Britain had series of bad harvests
  - If England broke Northern blockade, US would cut off shipments of corn and wheat
  - These products were more important than South's cotton

# **The Decisiveness of Diplomacy**

- Diplomacy was very important during war
  - South kept trying to get Europe to intervene
  - Europe kept trying to take advantage of US's problems

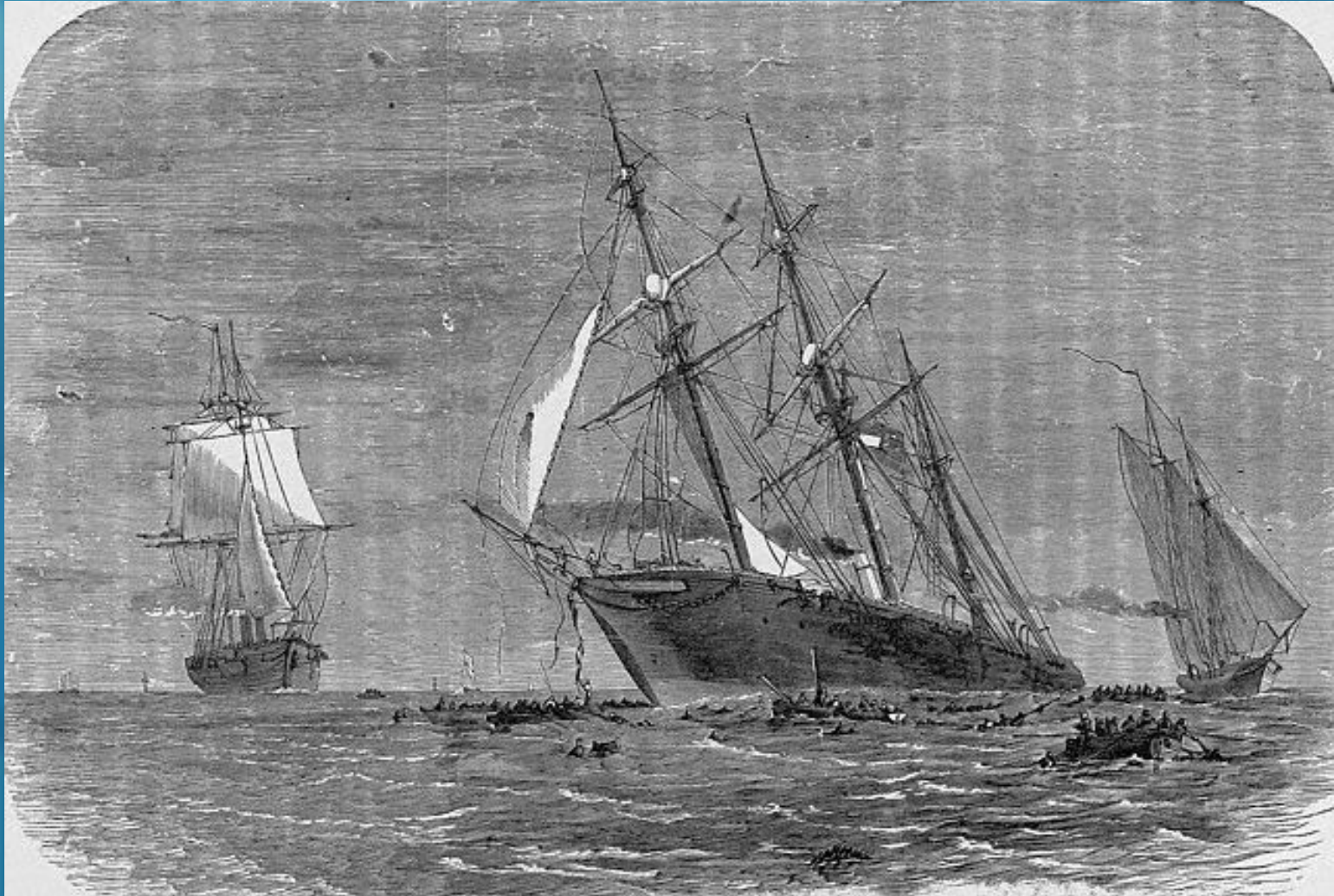
# The Decisiveness of Diplomacy

- Late 1861 – the Trent affair
  - Union ship near Cuba stopped a British mail ship and took 2 Confederate diplomats going to Europe
  - Angry British prepared for war
  - Slow communications allowed passions (on both sides) to cool down
  - Lincoln released the 2 prisoners (“One war at a time”)

# The Decisiveness of Diplomacy

- British-built Confederate commerce raiders
  - Loophole in British neutrality laws allowed the ships to be built in England, sail away unarmed, and then pick up guns later
  - Alabama was most famous; captured over 60 US merchant marine ships before being sunk in 1864
  - Over 250 US ships captured by these ships; US merchant marine never fully recovered
  - As a result, there was talk in North of taking Canada when war was over
  - 1871 – Britain paid US \$15 million as compensation for damages caused by war-time raiders

# The Sinking of the Alabama, 1864





# Foreign Flare-ups

- 1863 – Laird rams
  - 2 Confederate warships being built in England
    - Heavy iron ships with rams and large guns
    - Could sink the Union blockade ships and then fire on Northern coastal cities
  - If ships had been released, North would have declared war against Britain
  - At last minute, Britain agreed to buy the ships for the Royal Navy

# Foreign Flare-ups

- Canada
  - Confederates stationed in Canada threatened to attack and burn Northern cities
  - Irish Americans hated British and launched a few small invasions of Canada after the war (1866, 1870)
  - US government did little to stop these raids so as to not antagonize Irish voters
  - 1867 – unified Dominion of Canada created by British Parliament to strengthen nation in case of US attack

# Foreign Flare-ups

- Mexico
  - 1863 – Napoleon III (France) occupied Mexico and put Maximilian into power
    - Both were flagrant violations of Monroe Doctrine, but US could do nothing while war was being fought
  - Napoleon had hoped that US would lose war and be unable to stop France
  - 1865 – US threatened war against France if French did not withdraw
  - Napoleon withdrew French Army; Maximilian overthrown and killed

# The Execution of Emperor Maximilian



# **President Davis Versus President Lincoln**

- The Confederacy and states' rights
  - States in the Confederacy asserted states' rights against calls by the Confederate Government, causing problems for Jefferson Davis
  - Some state troops even refused to serve outside the borders of their own state

# **President Davis Versus President Lincoln**

- President Davis as a leader
  - Stubborn leader who sometimes defied (instead of led) public
  - Suffered nervous disorders
  - Worked himself into exhaustion by micromanaging every detail of both civil and military operations

# President Davis Versus President Lincoln

- President Lincoln as leader had problems, but much less serious than Davis
  - North had recognized and legitimate government
  - Lincoln was quiet and patient, yet firm
  - Talented at interpreting and leading public opinion
  - Demonstrated charity to South and forgiveness to attacks from opponents in the North (including his generals and cabinet)

# Limitations on Wartime Liberties

- Lincoln went around some provisions of Constitution to keep the United States united
  - Generally not sweeping; Congress generally confirmed Lincoln's actions
  - Lincoln's increases in authority were only to continue as long as war continued



# **Limitations on Wartime Liberties**

- Congress not in session when war started, so Lincoln acted without Congress
- Proclaimed a blockade of South (upheld by Supreme Court)
- Increased size of army; only Congress is allowed to do so under Constitution (Congress later approved)

# Limitations on Wartime Liberties

- Directed secretary of Treasury to transfer \$2 million to 3 private citizens for military purposes
- Suspended writ of habeas corpus, allowing anti-Unionists to be arrested without charges
  - Defied ruling by Supreme Court chief justice that only Congress could do this

**Justice at the  
Death of  
Habeas Corpus  
(Latin for “to  
Have the Body”)**



# **Limitations on Wartime Liberties**

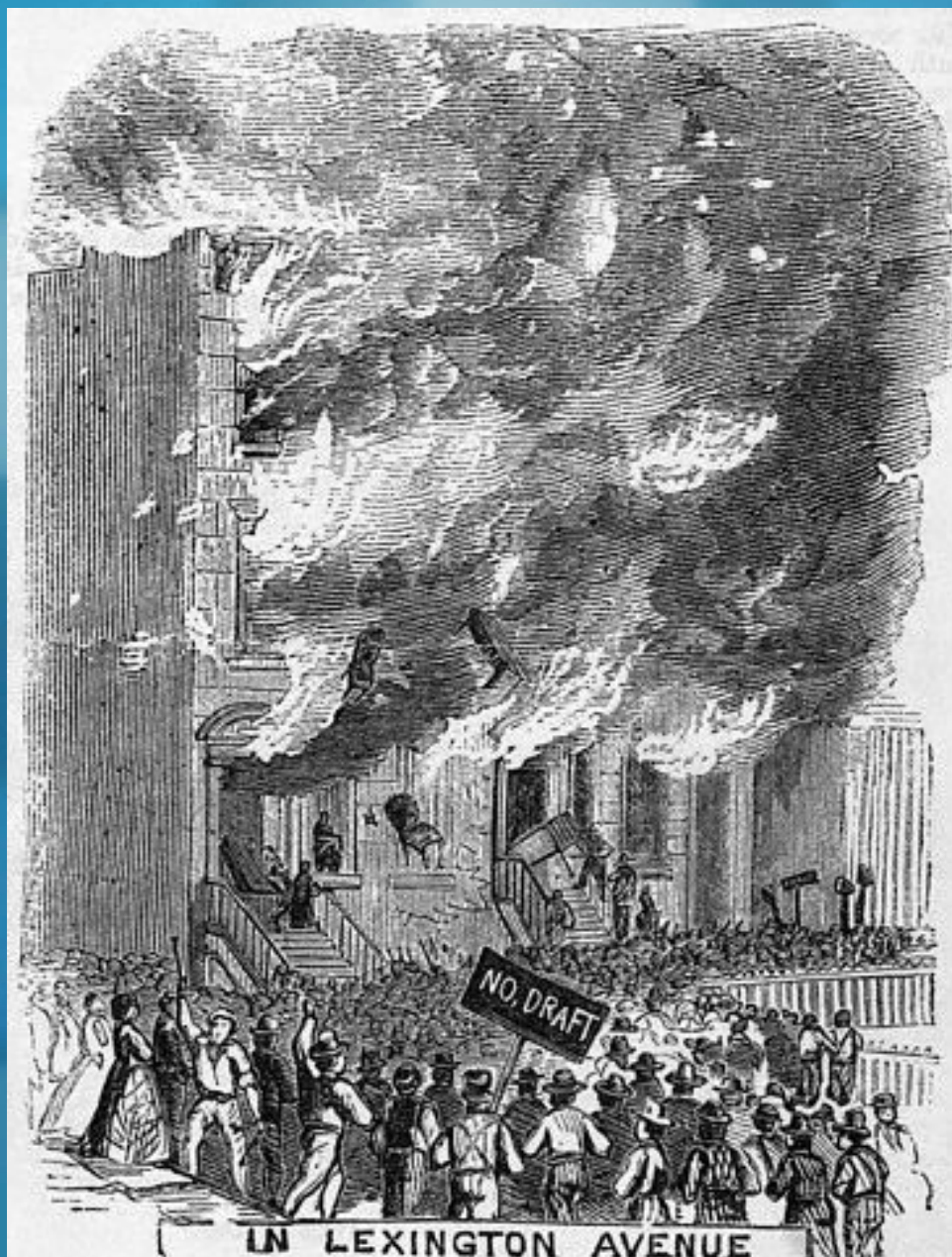
- “supervised” voting in Border States; voters had to go (with colored ballot, so that their choice was obvious) through line of troops to vote
- Suspension of some newspapers and arrest of editors because they obstructed the war effort

# **Limitations on Wartime Liberties**

- Jefferson Davis could not exercise the power that Lincoln did
  - States' righters refused to give more power to Confederate government
  - One of the reasons the South lost the war

# **Volunteers and Draftees: North and South**

- Northern army staffed at first by volunteers
  - Each state had quota based on population
- 1863 – Congress passed first national conscription (draft) law
  - Unfair to poor; rich could pay \$300 for exemption
- 1863 – draft riot in New York City
  - Poor and antiblack (Irish) rioted because of draft and refusal to fight to end slavery



# 1863 New York Draft Riots

# Volunteers and Draftees: North and South

- Most (90%) of Union soldiers were volunteers
  - Patriotic pressure to enlist
  - Toward end of war, bounties (up to \$1,000) paid to volunteers
- “bounty brokers” would get foreigners poor (or drunk) foreigners to enlist
- “bounty jumpers” would enlist, get the bounty, desert, and reenlist for another bounty
- About 200,000 deserted from Union army (not only bounty jumpers)



# **Volunteers and Draftees: North and South**

- South at first also relied on volunteers
  - Had to resort to draft 1 year earlier than Union (April 1862)
  - Willing to take almost anyone, including young and old (17 – 50)

# Volunteers and Draftees: North and South

- Confederate draft very unjust
  - Rich could hire a substitute or purchase an exemption
  - Slave owners or slave overseers with 20 or more slaves could claim exemption
  - Many poor, non-slaveholding Southerners felt they were fighting so rich could keep slaves
    - “a rich man’s war but a poor man’s fight”
  - No draft riots occurred in South, but agents sometimes were attacked

# **The Economic Stresses of War**

- North's financial situation much stronger than South's during the war

# The Economic Stresses of War

- Taxation
  - Excise taxes on tobacco and alcohol
  - Income tax levied for first time by Congress (at rates low by today's standards)

# The Economic Stresses of War

- Tariffs
  - 1861 – Morrill Tariff Act passed
    - Raised tariffs 5% to 10%, to moderate levels before low Tariff of 1857
  - Tariffs continued to go up as war costs increased
  - Tariffs also provided protection to US manufacturers
    - Republicans became identified with protection and tariffs, gaining support of industrialists and manufacturers

# The Economic Stresses of War

- Paper money
  - Greenbacks printed (\$450 million)
  - Not backed by gold, value changed with success of Union army
  - Greenbacks also affected by inflation; worth less each year

# The Economic Stresses of War

- Borrowing
  - \$2.6 billion raised (net) through sale of bonds (paid with interest to holders at a later date)
  - Treasury sold bonds through private banking house of Jay Cooke and Company
    - Received  $\frac{3}{8}$  of 1% of all sales

# The Economic Stresses of War

- National Banking System
  - Passed in 1863
  - Purpose was to stimulate sale of government bonds and establish standard bank-note currency (to replace many different worthless notes issued by many different banks)
  - Banks would purchase government bonds and then issue money backed by the bonds
  - A 10% tax was placed on notes issued by state banks to tax them out of existence
  - First unified banking network since Jackson killed the Bank of the US in 1836
  - Lasted until 1913, when Federal Reserve was set up



# **The Economic Stresses of War**

- South's problems were different from North's, and much more serious and crippling

# The Economic Stresses of War

- \$400 million in Confederate bonds sold (in CSA and Europe)
- Taxes increased, including 10% on farm produce
- States' righters opposed direct taxation
  - Only 1% of CSA's revenue came from taxes

# The Economic Stresses of War

- Confederate paper dollar
  - Printed without backing by gold (or anything else) except stability of CSA
  - Runaway inflation (9,000%) over course of war; Confederate dollar worth only 1.6 cents when war ended
    - Union only experienced 80% inflation

# Confederate Money



# **The North's Economic Boom**

- North came out of war more prosperous than before the war

# The North's Economic Boom

- New factories opened
  - Helped by protective tariff and soaring prices (because of inflation)
- New millionaire class created, for first time in American history
  - Many lived loudly and extravagantly
  - Many became rich off graft and unethical deals
    - Selling old or blind horses, poorly made shoes or uniforms to government

# The North's Economic Boom

- Laborsaving technology
  - Allowed more goods to be produced while using more workers as fighters
  - Sewing machine made uniforms faster and better
    - Standardized measurements and sizes created
  - Mechanical reapers used to harvest food
    - Thousands of army men released from farms
    - Surpluses used to feed army and export to Europe (where arms were bought and brought to Union)

# The North's Economic Boom

- 1859 – oil discovered in Pennsylvania
  - Led to rush to pump the oil out
- 300,000 pioneers continued to move West
  - Free land under Homestead Act of 1862 and desire to avoid draft led many to go West
- Only major industry to be hurt during war was ocean trade
  - Because of Alabama and other Confederate raiders



# The North's Economic Boom

- Opportunities for women
  - Took men's jobs while men fought
  - Women moved into industrial jobs to make war supplies (especially sewing uniforms and shoes)
  - 400 women stayed with husbands on frontlines by posing as men
  - Some women performed dangerous spy missions
  - Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell (1<sup>st</sup> female doctor) organized US Sanitary Commission
    - Trained nurses, collected medical supplies for hospitals
  - Clara Barton and Dorothea Dix trained female nurses
  - Sally Tompkins (in South) ran infirmary for wounded Confederate soldiers
  - Organized sales of goods to sell for widows, orphans, disables soldiers

# A Crushed Cotton Kingdom

- War took terrible economic cost to South
  - Blockade and destruction of invaders destroyed South
  - 1860 – South had 30% of US wealth
    - 1870 – South only claimed 12%
  - War lowered per capita (person) income of Southerners from 2/3 of Northerners to 2/5 of Northerners
    - Remained low for rest of 1800s

# A Crushed Cotton Kingdom

- Transportation collapsed in South
  - Railroads destroyed by Union armies and by Southerners, who used less-used railroads to repair more important lines
- Women denied themselves in South to help the war effort
  - Lived without luxuries and sometimes necessities

# **A Crushed Cotton Kingdom**

- Industrial North beat aristocratic South
  - Northern industrials controlled economy and country during 2<sup>nd</sup> Industrial Revolution and through 1920s