

Chapter 6

Civil War and Reconstruction, 1861-1876

Chapter Preview

PEOPLE

Ulysses S. Grant, Richard Taylor, Edward R. S. Canby, Albert Sidney Johnston, P. G. T. Beauregard, David Farragut, John C. Pemberton, William T. Sherman, David Dixon Porter, Joseph E. Johnston, Wilson Brown, Andrew Johnson, James L. Alcorn, Adelbert Ames, John Roy Lynch, Hiram R. Revels, Blanche K. Bruce, Ambrose Henderson, John M. Stone

PLACES

Vicksburg; Holly Springs; Corinth; Shiloh, Tennessee; Yazoo Pass; Moon Lake; Bruinsburg; Port Gibson; Champion Hill; Appomattox Court House, Virginia

TERMS

blockade, bivouac, casualties, battery, forage, Grierson's Raid, siege, Emancipation Proclamation, Reconstruction, disfranchise, amnesty, freedmen, Black Codes, impeachment, scalawag, carpetbagger, Constitution of 1868, Ku Klux Klan, Mississippi Plan, Shoestring District, Redeemers





On February 4, 1861, South Carolina, Mississippi, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, and Texas established the Confederate States of America. Jefferson Davis of Mississippi was named president of the Confederacy. On April 12, 1861, Confederates fired on the Union military base at Fort Sumter in the harbor of Charleston, South Carolina. Within weeks after Fort Sumter, Virginia, Arkansas, Tennessee, and North Carolina seceded. The other four slave states—Missouri, Kentucky, Maryland, and Delaware—did not secede.

After the firing on Fort Sumter, the Union navy blockaded the southern coastline. This **blockade** (use of naval forces to isolate a seaport and prevent ships from entering or leaving) prevented foreign ships from bringing supplies into southern ports. The Union military strategy was to divide and isolate large areas of the South by destroying the southern railroad system and controlling southern rivers. Mississippi was primarily involved in this phase of the Union military strategy, which culminated in the surrender of Vicksburg on July 4, 1863.

General Robert E. Lee finally surrendered his army to General Ulysses S. Grant on April 9, 1865. General Richard Taylor surrendered the Confederate armies in Mississippi and Louisiana to Union General Edward R. S. Canby on May 4, 1865.

After peace was restored, the nation spent ten long difficult years reconstructing the Union. There were two phases of Reconstruction in Mississippi. The first phase was Presidential Reconstruction, 1865-1867. The final phase was Congressional Reconstruction, 1867-1876.

The Civil War and Reconstruction were tumultuous times, and the study of those years is complicated. But to understand Mississippi we must study those years and learn how the world was turned upside down. After their emancipation, former slaves often used the phrase, “The bottom rail is now on top.”

Left: After losing the critical railroad junction at Corinth following the Battle of Shiloh, Confederate forces under General Earl Van Dorn attempted to retake the town. They were defeated at the Battle of Corinth on October 3–4, 1862.

Signs of the Times

EXPANSION

Kansas, West Virginia, and Nevada were added to the Union during the Civil War, becoming the 34th-36th states. Nebraska became the 37th state in 1867.

MUSIC

Songs of the period included "John Brown's Body," "Beautiful Dreamer," "Dixieland (Dixie)," "Battle Hymn of the Republic," and "When Johnny Comes Marching Home."

FASHIONS

In the 1860s, tailor Ebenezer Butterick invented the first paper dress patterns sold in the United States. With Butterick patterns, dressmakers could copy styles from Paris and other fashion centers.

SPORTS

In 1869, the Cincinnati Red Stockings became baseball's first fully professional team, with ten salaried players. In the same year, Rutgers University beat its New Jersey neighbor Princeton in the first intercollegiate football game.

ART

Famous American artist Winslow Homer made drawings of Civil War scenes for *Harper's Weekly*, dealing more with views of everyday camp life than scenes of battle. Photographer Mathew Brady invested his savings to make a photographic record of the Civil War. He and a crew of twenty photographers produced a lasting record of Civil War battlefields.

LITERATURE

Louisa May Alcott published *Little Women* in two volumes in 1868 and 1869. The story of the four March sisters—Jo, Meg, Beth, and Amy—set in the Civil War is still read by young people today. Mark Twain published *Tom Sawyer* in 1876.

INVENTIONS

Civil War period inventions included the ironclad ship and the Gatling gun. This gun, which had a rotating barrel with a dozen cylinders, was first used by the Union army. American inventor Thomas Edison received his first patent in 1869—for an electric vote recorder. Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone in 1876.

Figure 10 Timeline: 1861–1876



<p>1864 Sherman's march through Mississippi</p> <p>1863 Grierson's Raid Battle of Champion Hill Siege of Vicksburg; Confederates surrendered</p> <p>1862 Battle of Shiloh David Farragut captured Natchez Confederate General Pemberton placed in command of Vicksburg Grant camped at Oxford; Mrs. Grant almost captured at Holly Springs</p>	<p>1870 Mississippi readmitted to the Union</p> <p>1869 James L. Alcorn elected governor</p> <p>1868 3rd state constitution</p> <p>1865 Mississippi and Louisiana Confederate armies surrendered William L. Sharkey appointed provisional governor</p>	<p>1876 Adelbert Ames resigned</p> <p>1875 "Revolution of 1875"</p> <p>1874 Vicksburg Riot</p> <p>1873 Adelbert Ames elected governor</p>
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<p>1861 Confederate States of America formed Jefferson Davis elected president of the Confederacy Civil War began with Confederate capture of Fort Sumter</p>	<p>1862 David Farragut captured New Orleans</p>	<p>1864 Abraham Lincoln reelected president</p>	<p>1866 Ku Klux Klan established</p>	<p>1865 Andrew Johnson became president after Lincoln's assassination; Lee surrendered to Grant at Appomattox; President Johnson issued proclamation of amnesty</p>	<p>1868 Fourteenth Amendment passed; Andrew Johnson impeached Ulysses S. Grant elected president</p>	<p>1870 Fifteenth Amendment passed</p>	<p>1872 Ulysses S. Grant reelected president</p>
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Section 1

General Grant at Oxford



Above: Major General Ulysses S. Grant was in command of the Union army that defeated Confederate forces at the Battle of Shiloh (opposite page). He and his army spent the next fourteen months in Mississippi, eventually capturing the Confederate citadel of Vicksburg, and taking control of the Mississippi River, which split the Confederacy in half. This crucial victory persuaded President Abraham Lincoln to promote Grant to Commanding General of the U.S. Army.

As you read, look for

- the bloody outcome of the Battle of Shiloh;
- the importance of Vicksburg to the Union strategy and the failed efforts to secure it;
- General Grant's activities at Oxford and what he learned there;
- terms: **bivouac**, **casualties**, **battery**, **forage**.

In a complex military campaign designed to capture Vicksburg and to control the Mississippi River, Union naval forces launched a coordinated attack against the ports of New Orleans and Memphis. While these naval battles were taking place, Union soldiers under General Ulysses S. Grant were marching through Tennessee and Mississippi on their way to Vicksburg.

General Grant's army assembled a supply depot at Holly Springs and **bivouacked** (camped with little shelter) at Oxford in the fall of 1862. After a Confederate raid destroyed his supplies at Holly Springs, General Grant was stranded between the Tallahatchie and Yocona Rivers and could not move against Vicksburg. Grant decided to take his army back up to Memphis, then move down the river and try to take Vicksburg by a naval assault. As he was leaving Oxford, General Grant learned an important lesson that would eventually determine the outcome of the Vicksburg campaign.

Battle of Shiloh, April 6-7, 1862

As the Union forces under General Grant approached northeast Mississippi, Confederate commanders were ordered to defend the railroad junction at Corinth against Union attack. Corinth was known as the "Crossroads of the South" because two of the Confederacy's most important railroads, the Memphis and Charleston Railroad and the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, intersected at that small railroad town.

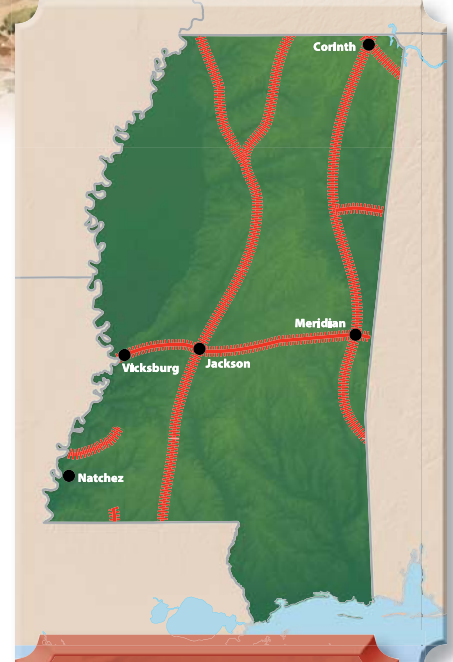
In early April 1862, Confederate troops intercepted General Grant's army northeast of Corinth at Shiloh, Tennessee. Early on Sunday morning, April 6, General Albert Sidney Johnston and General P. G. T. Beauregard led 40,000 Confederate troops into battle against General Grant, who had 45,000 men. The fighting lasted into the late afternoon, and Shiloh became one of the



Something Extra!

The Battle of Shiloh is usually ranked as the 6th, 7th, or 8th bloodiest battle of the Civil War. The Battle of Gettysburg is universally ranked #1.

bloodiest battles of the Civil War. On April 7, General Grant's army, which had been reinforced during the night, turned the tide of battle against the Confederates, who were forced to retreat to Corinth. During the Battle of Shiloh, General Johnston, the highest-ranking general in the Confederate army, was killed. The Confederates had 11,000 **casualties** (persons killed, wounded, or missing in battle) and the Union had 13,000.

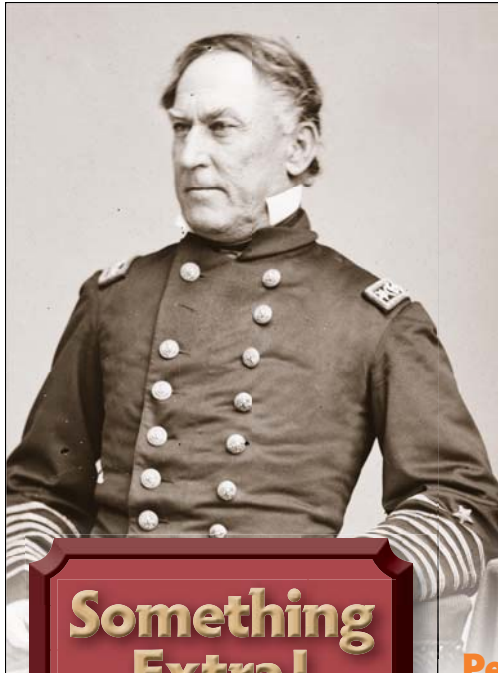


Map 32 Early Railroads

Map Skill: Which Mississippi cities would be considered railroad junctions?

The Importance of Vicksburg

After the Battle of Shiloh, General Grant resumed his march toward Vicksburg. As he was moving through north Mississippi, a Union naval assault against Confederate forts on the Mississippi River was underway. Since the establishment of the Confederacy, commerce between the midwestern farm states and the port of New Orleans had been cut off. It was essential to the Union economy that the Mississippi River be reopened to midwestern trade. Vicksburg's strategic location on the high bluffs above a sharp bend in the river gave its shore **batteries** (sets of big guns used for attack or defense) control over the traffic up and down the great river. Consequently,



Something Extra!

When the U.S. Navy was established, Congress didn't allow the aristocratic-sounding rank of "admiral." The first full admiral in the U.S. Navy was David Farragut (above). The rank was created in 1866 to honor his achievements during the Civil War.

the capture of Vicksburg was a high priority for the Union military. President Lincoln said, "Vicksburg is the key. The war can never be brought to a close until the key is in our pocket."

Farragut Fails to Capture Vicksburg

David Farragut, a veteran flag officer, captured New Orleans on May 1, 1862, and then sailed his fleet up the Mississippi River. Natchez surrendered on May 12, and on May 18 Farragut began a bombardment of Vicksburg that lasted for almost two months. On June 28, Farragut fought his way up the river past Vicksburg, where he met the federal gunboats that had sailed downstream after Memphis surrendered on June 6, 1862. These combined forces attacked the city. When Farragut realized that he could not capture the city, he attempted to dig a canal across the bend to divert river traffic around Vicksburg. When this effort failed, Farragut began fighting his way back downstream past Vicksburg.

Pemberton Placed in Command of Vicksburg

On October 14, 1862, Confederate forces in Mississippi and Louisiana were placed under the command of General John C. Pemberton, whose duty was to hold Vicksburg at all costs. Pemberton faced an almost hopeless situation. Vicksburg was already cut off by naval forces north and south of the city, and soon he would be confronted by General Grant's army.

General Grant Occupies Oxford

On November 12, 1862, General Grant established a supply depot at Holly Springs to provide his army with the necessary equipment and supplies for



its long march through hostile territory to Vicksburg. In December, General Grant's army, which included troops under the command of General William T. Sherman, moved south and occupied Oxford. The main building on The University of Mississippi campus, the Lyceum, had previously served as a hospital for Confederates who were wounded at Shiloh. When Grant occupied Oxford, the Lyceum became a hospital for wounded Union soldiers.

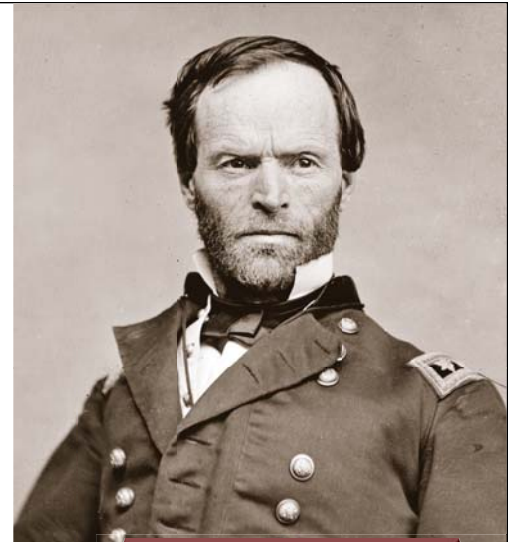
Mrs. Grant Almost Captured at Holly Springs

During the Christmas season of 1862, Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant and her young son Jesse came to Mississippi to spend Christmas with General Grant. While Mrs. Grant was in Holly Springs, a Confederate cavalry unit under the command of General Earl Van Dorn attacked and destroyed the Union supply depot at Holly Springs on the early morning of December 20. There was just enough warning of the raid to get Mrs. Grant and Jesse out of Holly Springs on the late afternoon of December 19. Confederate troops were sent to capture Mrs. Grant in the house where she was staying, but she had already left for Oxford. Years later, in his memoirs, Jesse Grant remembered the hasty evacuation and recalled the image of his mother sitting in a chair in an otherwise empty boxcar during their nighttime escape to Oxford.

What Grant Learned at Oxford

After the loss of his supply base at Holly Springs, General Grant was forced to change his plans for an overland assault of Vicksburg. Grant decided to march his army back to Memphis, and then move down the Mississippi River to Vicksburg.

As General Grant was leaving Oxford, he sent out troops and wagons fifteen miles in all directions to confiscate whatever food and supplies they could find. Grant later told Adam Badeau, the first writer to chronicle the general's Civil War campaigns, that he was astonished by how much food and supplies his soldiers found on those foraging expeditions. To **forage** is to secure food by stripping the countryside. Grant learned at Oxford that his army could live off the bountiful southern land. That discovery would eventually shape his Vicksburg strategy and influence future Union military campaigns.



Something Extra!

The "T." in the name of General William T. Sherman (above) stood for "Tecumseh." He was named after the great Shawnee Indian chief.

Opposite page, below: Union naval forces under the command of David Farragut sailed up the Mississippi from the Gulf of Mexico, and captured New Orleans in May 1862. He continued up the river to Vicksburg, but his initial attempts to take the city were repulsed.

Reviewing the Section

1. Define in sentence form: bivouac, casualties, forage.
2. Why were Confederate generals ordered to defend the railroad junction at Corinth?
3. What happened to Mrs. Grant when she visited Mississippi?

Section 2

The Vicksburg Campaign

Below: The heavily armed city of Vicksburg was located on bluffs high above a hairpin bend in the Mississippi River. As long as Vicksburg remained in Confederate hands, the river was impassable to Union shipping. General Grant attempted to bypass the city by having a canal built across the neck of the hairpin, thereby opening the river, but the attempt failed.

As you read, look for

- General Grant's daring and successful campaign to capture Vicksburg;
- Sherman's march through Mississippi and, later, through Georgia;
- the ways slaves benefited from the Emancipation Proclamation and the chance to fight with Union troops;
- how Confederate defeats at Vicksburg and Gettysburg led to the South's surrender in 1865;
- terms: **Grierson's Raid, siege, Emancipation Proclamation.**



On January 29, 1863, General Grant arrived at Young's Point, a landing on the Mississippi River just north of Vicksburg, and established his headquarters there. Having learned from David Farragut that Vicksburg could not be taken from the river, General Grant ordered General Sherman to dig a canal to connect the two main channels of the river where it made a *hairpin* (sharp) bend at Vicksburg. A canal would have allowed Union ships to bypass the batteries of Vicksburg and would have reopened the great river to midwestern trade. However, Sherman's attempt to dig a canal was no more successful than Farragut's had been, and Grant was eventually forced to abandon the scheme.

Yazoo Pass Expedition

After the attempt to dig a canal failed, General Grant set in motion another movement to get part of his army in a position northeast of Vicksburg. Grant ordered his men to dynamite the levee at a place called Yazoo Pass. A break in the levee at Yazoo Pass would divert enough water from the Mississippi River to flood an old channel connecting the Mississippi River with Moon Lake. Grant's troops could be transported from the Mississippi River by way of this old channel into Moon Lake, then down the Coldwater River into the Tallahatchie, and eventually into the Yazoo River. This water route would allow Grant to get his men to the high ground northeast of Vicksburg. On February 3, 1863, the levee was broken. By March 10, Union forces reached the Tallahatchie River about thirty-two miles north of Greenwood. However, General Pemberton deployed his troops in a manner that blocked Grant's advance toward Vicksburg from the northeast.

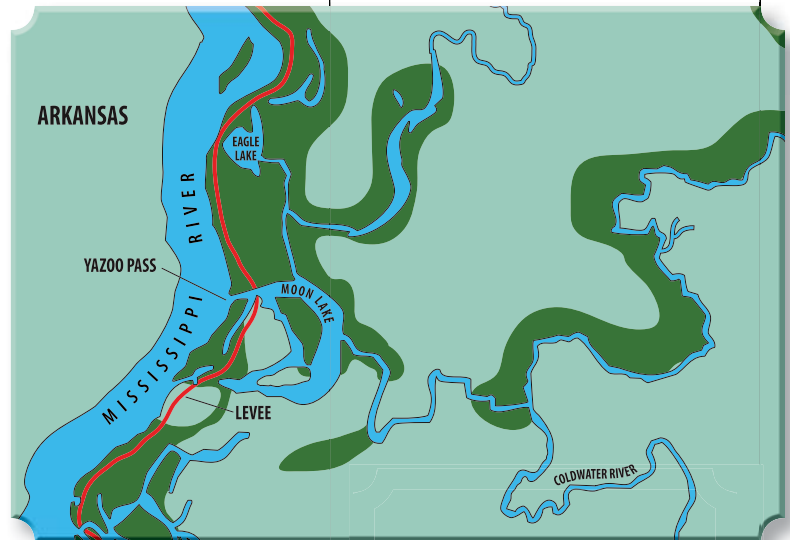
Grant's Bold and Daring Maneuver

After the Yazoo Pass expedition failed, General Grant designed a bold, daring, and dangerous maneuver to capture Vicksburg. The thirty-nine-year-old Union general, without consulting his corps commanders, decided to march his men down the Louisiana side of the Mississippi River and cross over into Mississippi south of Vicksburg. Unlike the low, swampy flatlands of the Delta north of Vicksburg, the terrain south of the city was much higher and dryer. On this high ground, Grant could better use his superior manpower in an overland assault against Vicksburg. It would be extremely difficult, however, for Grant to get his huge army from the Louisiana side back across the river into Mississippi. The only way Grant could accomplish that would be for Rear Admiral David Dixon Porter to run his ships past the Vicksburg batteries and meet Grant south of the city.

General Grant's plan was so dangerous that General Pemberton did not anticipate it, and General Sherman opposed it. He even complained about it

Something Extra!

Yazoo Pass
is now known as
Grant's Pass.



Map 33 Yazoo Pass Expedition

Map Skill: How do you think
Moon Lake got its name?



Above: General John Pemberton took command of the Confederate forces at Vicksburg in 1862. **Below:** Colonel Benjamin Grierson led a series of raids through eastern Mississippi in 1863 to divert Pemberton's attention from Grant's maneuvers.



to higher authorities in Washington. In his memoirs, General Grant recalled his reaction: "When General Sherman first learned of the move I proposed to make [he] expressed his alarm. . . . He said it was an axiom of war that when any great body of troops moved against an enemy they should do so from a base of supplies, which they would guard as the apple of their eye."

The plan was dangerous because, by marching through Louisiana and crossing over into Mississippi, Grant would completely cut off his army from its supply lines. It was also dangerous because Rear Admiral Porter could possibly lose his entire fleet while trying to pass the big guns of Vicksburg. As great

as the risk was, the prize was even greater. If the Union army could take Vicksburg, the Confederacy would be cut in half. The flow of supplies into the Confederacy from the west would be

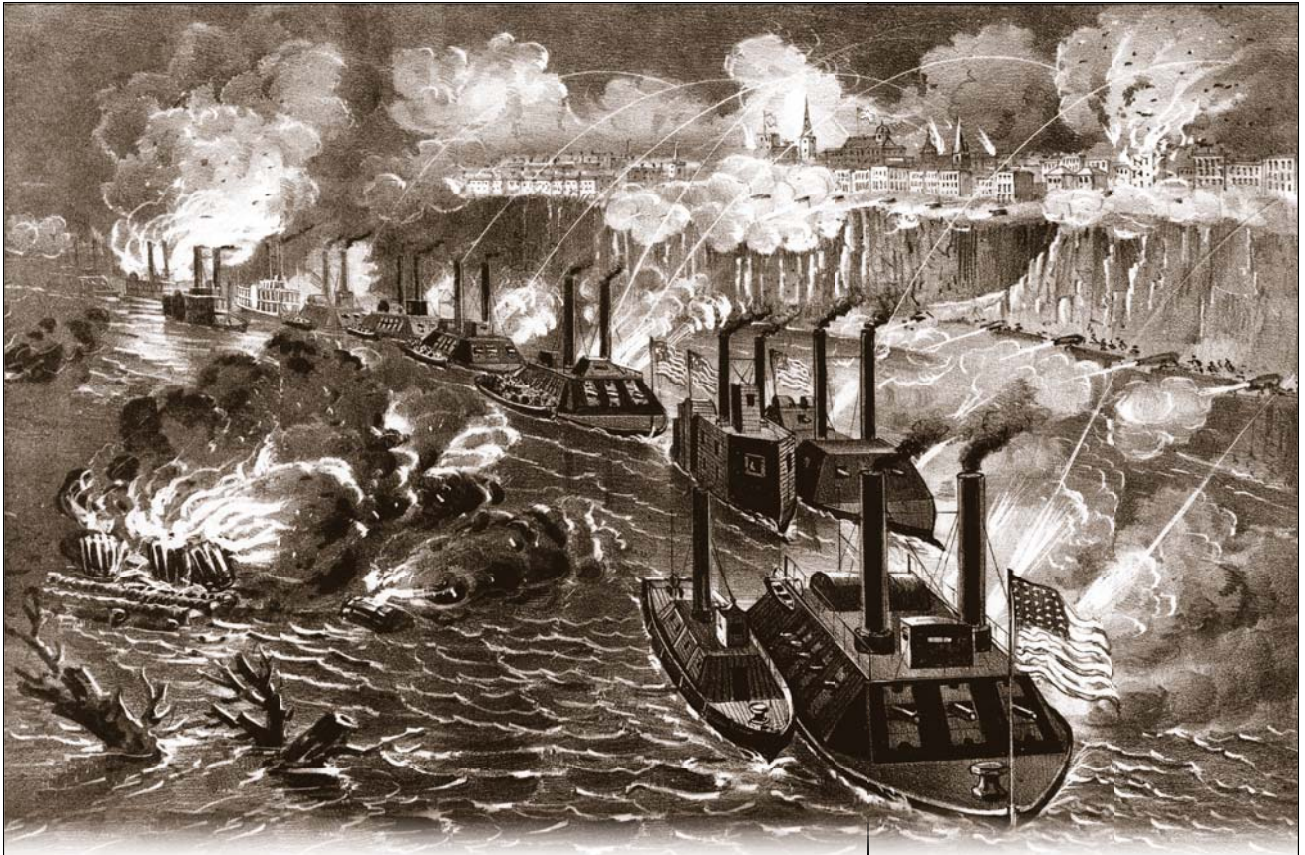
halted. Equally as important, river commerce would be reopened to the Union. Perhaps only so great an incentive as the capture of Vicksburg would have caused General Grant to take such a chance.

Grierson's Raid, April 17-May 2, 1863

Grant's grand maneuver was inaugurated on March 29, 1863, as he began marching his troops down the Louisiana side of the river. To cover himself as well as possible, and to disguise his strategy, Grant devised several diversionary attacks. The most important diversion was a cavalry raid that Colonel Benjamin Grierson conducted from La Grange, Tennessee, down through Mississippi, to Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The purpose of **Grierson's Raid** was to cause General Pemberton to divert part of his army in pursuit of Colonel Grierson, and to destroy the railroad lines that connected Vicksburg with the eastern part of the Confederacy.

Something Extra!

Over the years, five U.S. Navy ships have been named *USS Porter* in honor of David Dixon Porter and his father, Commodore David Porter. The most recent one, the guided missile destroyer *USS Porter*, was commissioned in 1999 at Ingalls Shipbuilding in Pascagoula.



Porter Runs the Guns of Vicksburg

In the dark of night on April 16, 1863, Rear Admiral Porter's fleet of eight gunboats and two transports sailed past the big guns at Vicksburg and *rendezvoused* (came together at an appointed place) with Grant's troops south of the city. On April 22, six more Union transports ran the guns of Vicksburg. By April 30, 1863, General Grant had moved his army of twenty-four thousand men and sixty cannons from Louisiana across the Mississippi River at Bruinsburg. On May 2, Grant captured Port Gibson, a small town twelve miles to the east. On May 8, Sherman's army joined Grant, and the push toward Vicksburg began.

Grant Closes in on Vicksburg

In anticipation of a Union assault against Vicksburg, President Jefferson Davis ordered ten thousand Confederate troops under General Joseph E. Johnston to reinforce General Pemberton. When Grant learned that the Confederate reinforcements were on their way to Jackson, he captured the city to prevent General Johnston from linking his troops with Pemberton's forces. After burning several buildings and destroying the railroads around Jackson, Grant and Sherman began marching toward Vicksburg, their major objective.

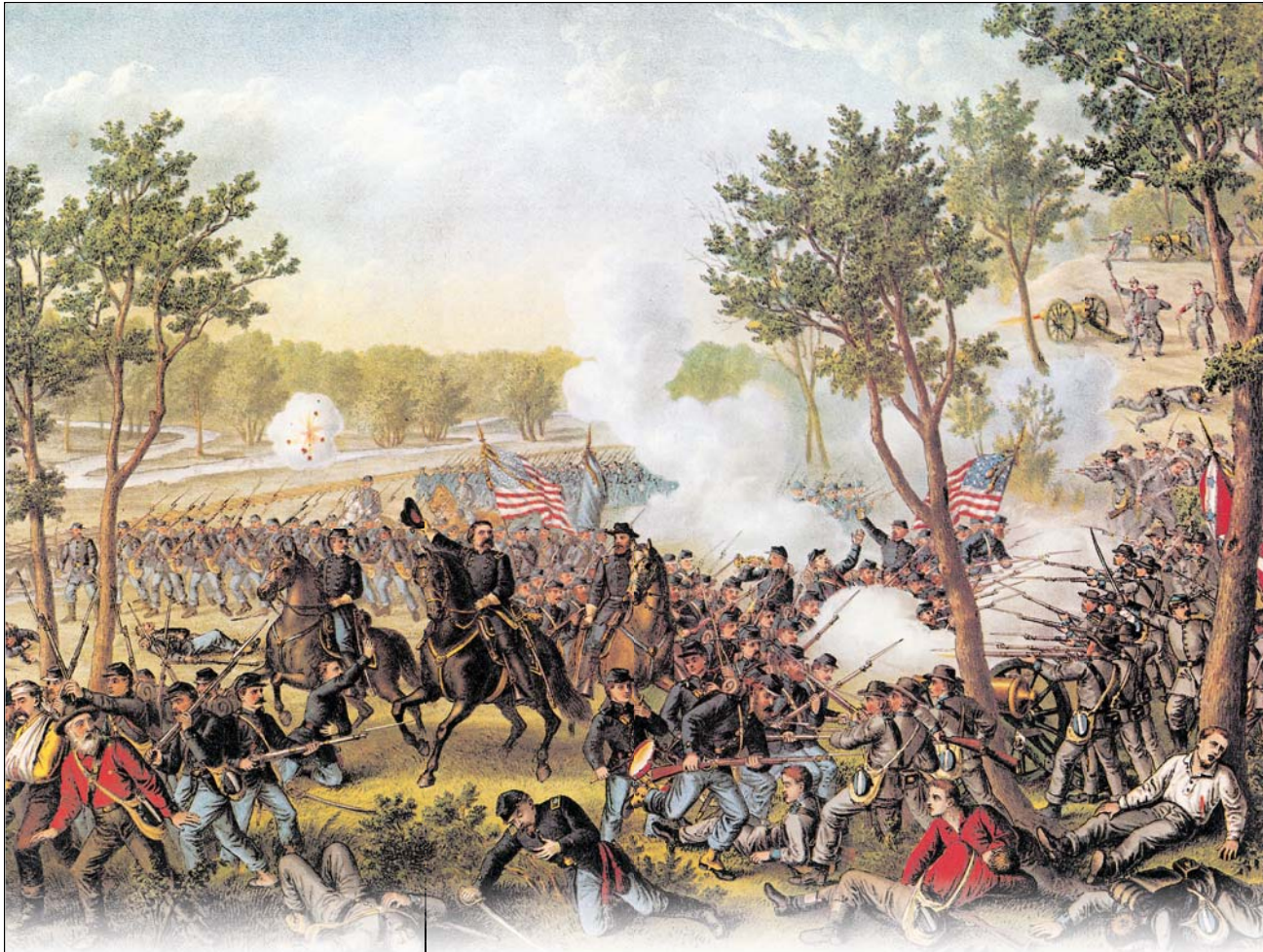
Battle of Champion Hill, May 16, 1863

General Pemberton was ordered to concentrate his troops between Vicksburg and Jackson to prevent Grant from moving into Vicksburg. As the Confederate troops were moving into this position, they encountered

Above: On the night of April 16, 1863, Rear Admiral David Dixon Porter led a flotilla of Union ironclads through a withering artillery bombardment from the guns of Vicksburg, joining Grant's forces south of the city.

Something Extra!

The Bruinsburg landing was the largest *amphibious* (land and water) operation in American military history until the Allied D-Day invasion of Normandy in World War II.



Above: Marching toward Vicksburg, Grant's army clashed at Champion Hill with a Confederate force sent to intercept them. The Union army was victorious, and the Confederates were forced to retreat to Vicksburg.

Opposite page, below: Unable to take Vicksburg by force, Grant's army laid siege to Vicksburg. The city held out for forty-seven days before surrendering on July 4, 1863. Because of the negative feelings associated with the date, Vicksburg citizens did not celebrate Independence Day until the mid-1940s.

Grant's army marching west toward Vicksburg. On May 16, the two armies met at Champion Hill, a small community southwest of Bolton. In what has been called the decisive engagement of the Vicksburg campaign, the crest of Champion Hill changed hands three times between 10:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Finally, the Confederates were forced to pull back west toward Vicksburg. On May 17, Grant pursued the weary Confederate army as they withdrew into the protective *redoubts* (defended positions) of Vicksburg.

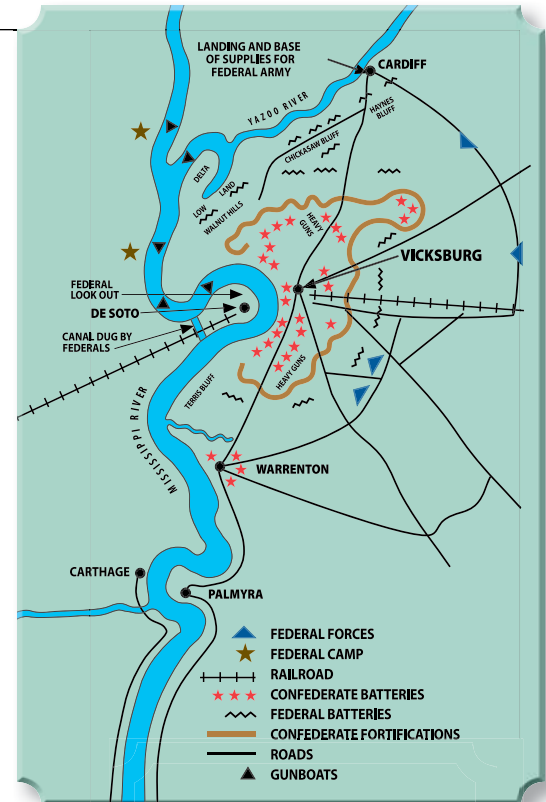
What Sherman Learned at Vicksburg

On the late afternoon of May 19, 1863, from the high dry ground of Haines Bluff, Grant and Sherman observed the Union army *investing* (surrounding with troops to prevent escape or entry) the city of Vicksburg. In his memoirs, Grant remembered that, as the two of them stood atop Haines Bluff, Sherman "turned to me saying, up to this minute he had no positive assurance of success. This, however, was the end of one of the greatest campaigns in history, and I ought to make a report of it at once." Sherman had learned during the nineteen-day march from Bruinsburg to Vicksburg what Grant had learned at Oxford. The Union army could live off the bountiful southern land. For the remainder of the war, Grant wrote, General Sherman lived off the land "while marching through four States of the Confederacy with an army more than twice as large as mine at this time."

The Siege of Vicksburg, May 23-July 4, 1863

When Pemberton withdrew his army into the city, he made a fatal mistake. General Grant concentrated his forces on the outskirts of the city and placed Vicksburg under siege. A **siege** is a tactic where armed forces try to capture a fort or fortified town by surrounding it and preventing supplies from reaching it. Grant simply waited for the soldiers and the citizens of Vicksburg to exhaust their resources and their will to resist. The siege of Vicksburg lasted forty-three days.

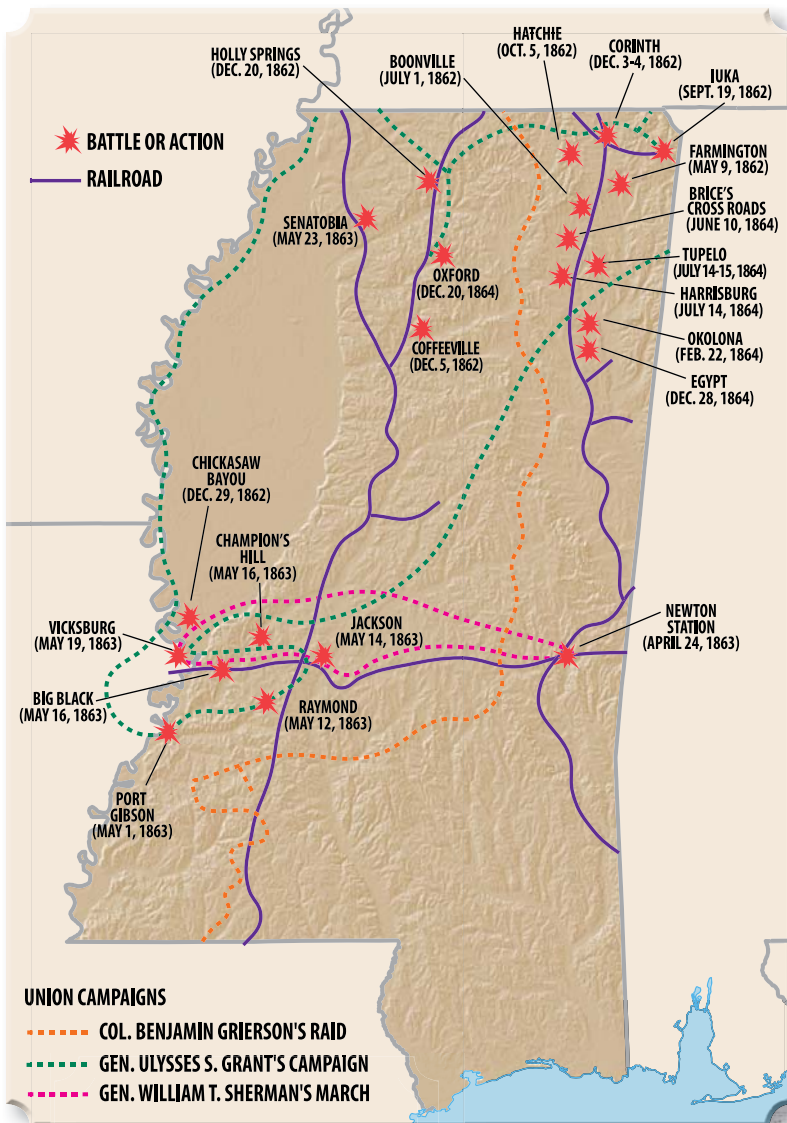
Finally, on July 3, 1863, General Pemberton met with General Grant, who demanded unconditional surrender. After General Pemberton refused the terms of unconditional surrender, Grant assembled his corps commanders and other subordinates. After discussing the situation, Grant advised Pemberton that his commanders had recommended more favorable surrender terms. It was agreed that all the Confederate troops would be *paroled* (set free with conditions) upon signing an oath that they would not fight against the Union until they were formally exchanged for Union prisoners. Officers were allowed to keep their sidearms, a horse, and their personal property. All other military weapons, stores, and supplies were to be surrendered. General Pemberton accepted these terms; on July 4, 1863, Vicksburg was formally surrendered to General Grant. After the fall of Vicksburg, Grant and Sherman's troops marched up through north-east Mississippi, through northern Alabama, to Chattanooga, Tennessee.



Map 34 The Siege of Vicksburg

Map Skill: What town
besides Vicksburg had
Confederate batteries?





Sherman's March through Mississippi, February 3-March 4, 1864

Federal military leaders realized that Confederate forces in Mississippi were still a threat to Union control of the southeastern United States. Therefore, General Sherman was ordered back to Mississippi and instructed to destroy the railroad from Vicksburg to Meridian and to disrupt other Confederate supply lines. On February 3, 1864, with twenty thousand troops, Sherman began his march across Mississippi. By February 14, Sherman had cut his way from Vicksburg to Meridian, destroying railroads and confiscating food and supplies all along the way. By March 4, his army, part of which had returned by way of Philadelphia, Louisville, Kosciusko, and Canton, was back in Vicksburg. The purpose of this raid was to destroy the resources that enabled the Confederacy to maintain and supply its army. When Sherman had completed this task, he returned to Chattanooga and afterwards made his famous march through Georgia.

Map 35 The Civil War in Mississippi

Map Skill: In which part of the state did the 1864 battles take place?



The Day of Jubilee

On January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the **Emancipation Proclamation**, which freed all the slaves in those states in rebellion against the United States of America. Although many slaves in remote parts of Mississippi did not learn of their emancipation until the war was over, those who heard of the proclamation greeted the news of their freedom with jubilation and excitement. It was a Day of Jubilee, a celebration of freedom.

Mississippi Black Troops

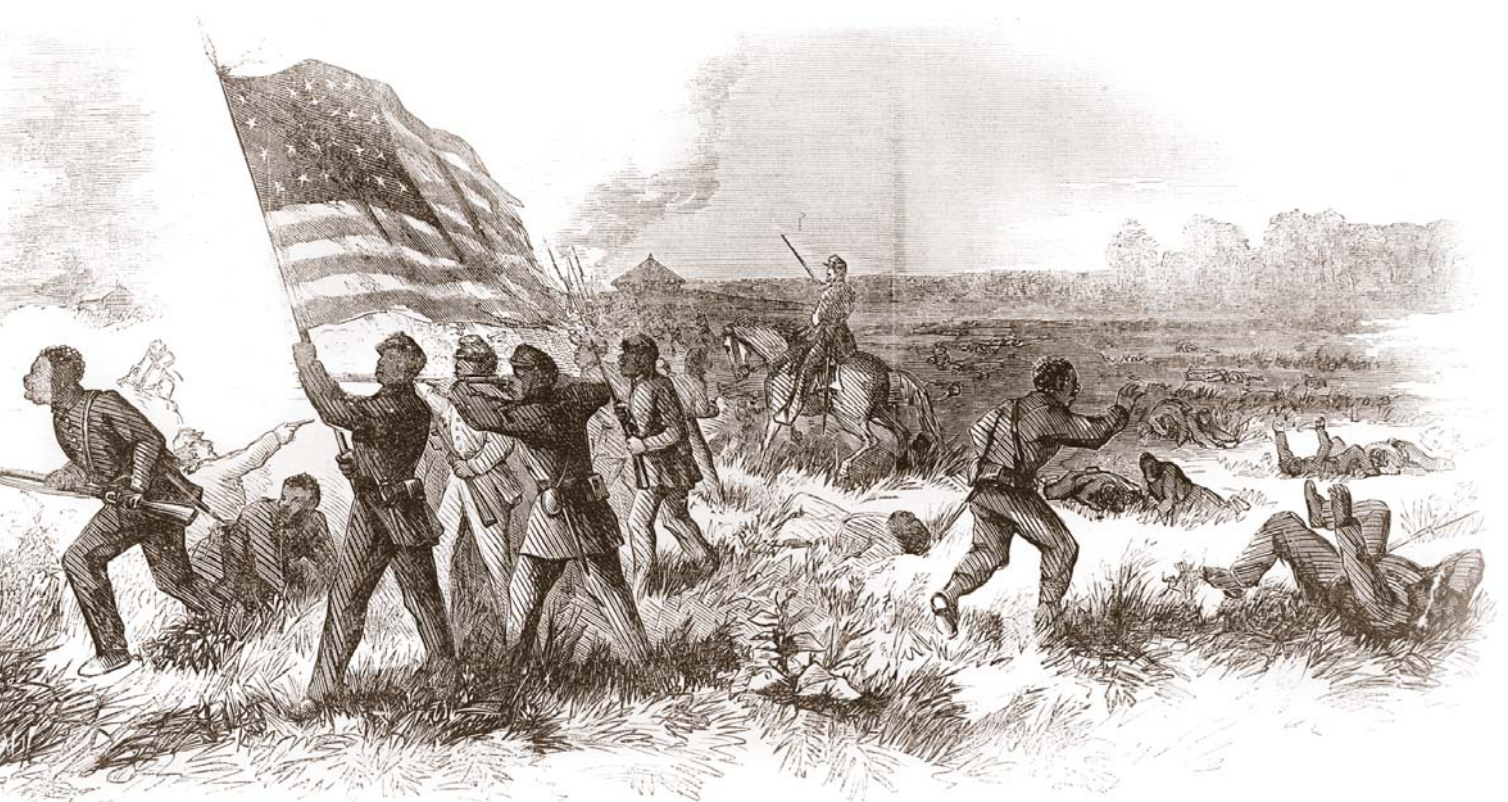
As Union forces penetrated into Mississippi in the fall of 1862, agricultural operations were almost totally disrupted, and thousands of slaves were out of work. They soon began following the federal troops who provided them with food and clothing. Over seventeen thousand former Mississippi slaves joined the Union army. Black troops distinguished themselves in the Battle of Milliken's Bend on June 7, 1863, and convinced Union military leaders that they were brave and capable soldiers.

The 3rd United States Colored Cavalry

Among the units formed by these black Mississippians who fought for their freedom was the 3rd United States Colored Cavalry. This unit fought several engagements against Confederate forces along the Mississippi Central Railroad between Canton and Vaughan in May 1864. Approximately 186,000 blacks served in the Union army and navy. Among them were approximately 136,000 former slaves.



Above: An elderly slave reads the news of the Emancipation Proclamation. **Below:** The Battle of Milliken's Bend was an attempt by Confederate forces led by General Richard Taylor to disrupt Union supply lines and lift the siege of Vicksburg. Black soldiers fought bravely on behalf of the Union.





Above: Wilson Brown earned his Medal of Honor during the Battle of Mobile Bay, while serving on Farragut's flagship, the USS Hartford. **Below:** The defeat at Gettysburg, the day before the surrender of Vicksburg, dealt the Confederacy a double blow.

Wilson Brown, Congressional Medal of Honor Winner

Two young former Natchez slaves, Wilson Brown and Thomas Gates, boarded David Farragut's flagship *Hartford* while it was anchored off Natchez in the spring of 1862 and joined the United States Navy. They were enlisted and sent to New Jersey for training. Brown was later assigned to the *Hartford*. For his acts of uncommon courage and by putting himself at great personal risk during the Battle of Mobile Bay on August 4, 1864, Wilson Brown won the praise of his skipper and the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Something Extra!

The Medal of Honor is the highest award for valor in action against an enemy force that can be given to an individual serving in the U.S. armed services. It is generally presented by the president of the United States in the name of Congress.

The War Ends

The surrender of Vicksburg was a great psychological loss to the Confederacy. Vicksburg had become the focal point of the war, and the Rebels considered it an "*impregnable* (unconquerable) fortress." They had come to believe that the survival of the Confederacy depended upon holding Vicksburg. When it fell to the Union, the South suffered a severe blow to its morale.





Making the shock of the fall of Vicksburg even more disheartening was the news of General Lee's defeat at Gettysburg on July 3, 1863. Long considered an "invincible general," Robert E. Lee had suffered a devastating defeat and had almost lost his entire army. The impregnable fortress and the invincible general had fallen within a day's time.

In the summer of 1863, after the fall of Vicksburg and the defeat of Lee at Gettysburg, many southern leaders called for an end to the war. But the war continued for two more years at a frightful cost to the South's manpower, industry, and agriculture. On April 9, 1865, General Lee surrendered his army to General Grant at Appomattox Court House, Virginia. General Richard Taylor surrendered the Confederate armies in Mississippi and Louisiana to General Edward R. S. Canby on May 4, 1865. After peace was restored, the long painful process known as Reconstruction began.

Above: Confederate General Robert E. Lee (seated on the left) surrendered to Union General Ulysses S. Grant (seated next to him) at Appomattox Court House, Virginia, on April 9, 1865, effectively ending the Civil War.

Something Extra!

General Richard Taylor's father was Zachary Taylor, the twelfth president of the United States.

Reviewing the Section

1. Define in sentence form: Grierson's Raid, siege, Emancipation Proclamation.
2. Why was it a dangerous move for General Grant to march his men down the Louisiana side of the Mississippi River?
3. What were the terms of Pemberton's surrender?

Section 3

Reconstruction and Reunion, 1865-1876



As you read, look for

- the different consequences for Mississippi of Presidential Reconstruction and the congressional Reconstruction Acts;
- the requirements Mississippi fulfilled to be readmitted to the Union;
- advances in education during Reconstruction;
- an increase in lawlessness in the form of riots and Ku Klux Klan violence;
- political effects of the "Revolution of 1875";
- terms: **Reconstruction, disfranchise, amnesty, freedmen, Black Codes, impeachment, scalawag, carpetbagger, Constitution of 1868, Ku Klux Klan, Mississippi Plan, Shoestring District, Redeemers.**



In Mississippi, there were two phases of Reconstruction (the time of rebuilding the South and restoring southern states to the Union after the Civil War). The first period is known as Presidential Reconstruction because the policies and procedures by which Mississippi would be reconstructed and restored to the Union were implemented by the president. After President Lincoln was assassinated, Vice President Andrew Johnson became president and continued those policies and procedures. However, Mississippi and other southern states did not cooperate with the president. Eventually, Congress took control of Reconstruction and passed the Reconstruction Acts that **disfranchised** (took away the vote from) most southern whites and conferred the rights of full citizenship on the former slaves. White Mississippians rejected the idea of citizenship for blacks. After regaining control of state government in 1876, they established a one-party system and racial segregation.

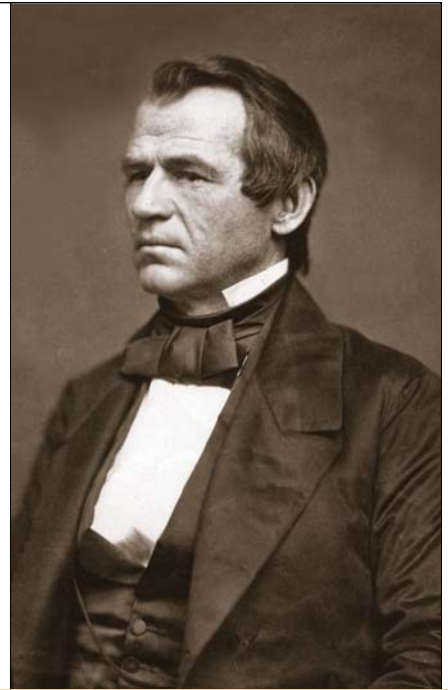
Presidential Reconstruction, 1865-1867

President Abraham Lincoln initiated Presidential Reconstruction in December 1863. At that time, he issued a proclamation of **amnesty** (pardon granted to a large group of individuals) to all Confederates who would swear an oath of allegiance to the United States. Under Lincoln's plan, a Confederate state would be readmitted to the Union if 10 percent of its eligible voters took the oath of allegiance and formed a state government that promised to be loyal to the Union.

President Lincoln was in the process of implementing his plan when he was assassinated on April 14, 1865. When Vice President Andrew Johnson became president, he made some minor changes in Lincoln's plan, but his policy also allowed the former Confederate states to reconstruct themselves. The first indication of how President Johnson planned to deal with the South came on May 29, 1865. On that day, he issued a proclamation of amnesty for ex-Confederates who would swear an oath of allegiance to the United States and would accept the terms of the Emancipation Proclamation.

Governor William L. Sharkey

President Johnson wanted to restore Mississippi and other southern states to the Union as quickly and as easily as possible. On June 16, 1865, President Johnson appointed William L. Sharkey provisional governor of Mississippi. Governor Sharkey was a former Whig who had opposed secession and had been arrested during the Civil War for flying an American flag in his yard. President Johnson directed Governor Sharkey to assemble a constitutional convention in Jackson to nullify the Ordinance of Secession and to extend the rights of full citizenship to former slaves, who were then identified as **freedmen**. The convention nullified secession but declared that it would leave the issue of citizenship for freedmen to the legislature that would convene on October 16, 1865.



Opposite page: President Lincoln (above) wanted to reconcile the North and South following the devastation of the Civil War (below). Top: Andrew Johnson became president following the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. Above: William L. Sharkey was appointed provisional governor of Mississippi at the close of the war.

The Black Codes

The problems facing the Mississippi legislators in 1865 were enormous. In addition to economic and physical recovery, they also had to deal with the fact that Mississippi's 436,631 slaves were now free. The status of freedmen

in American society, however, had not been determined. They were free, but were they citizens entitled to the same rights as white citizens? The Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments that gave freedmen those rights were not passed until 1868 and 1870. In some northern states, free blacks had not yet been granted the rights of full citizenship. If Mississippi's freedmen were not citizens, what was their status? These were questions the Mississippi lawmakers had to answer. As you can understand, there were no simple solutions to these complex questions.

After much discussion, debate, controversy, and compromise, the Mississippi legislature passed the **Black Codes**, a set of laws that governed and regulated the lives of freedmen in Mississippi. Slave marriages and children born of those unions were legalized, but freedmen were given few rights or privileges.

The reaction to the Mississippi Black Codes was swift and severe. The *Chicago Tribune* expressed the prevailing opinion in the North when it declared:

We tell the white men of Mississippi that the men of the North will convert the state of Mississippi into a frog pond before they will allow any such laws to disgrace one foot of soil in which the bones of our soldiers sleep and over which the flag of freedom waves.

In addition to passing the Black Codes, the Mississippi legislature also refused to ratify the Thirteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which abolished slavery. These actions convinced the United States Congress that Mississippi did not intend to accept the sweeping changes in race relations caused by the Civil War.

Impeachment of President Andrew Johnson

When other former Confederate states also rejected the Thirteenth Amendment and refused to give freedmen the rights of citizenship, the United States Congress passed the Reconstruction Acts. These laws invalidated the

Figure 11 Major Provisions of the Black Codes

Under the Black Codes, freedmen

- were not allowed to vote or hold public office;
- could own property only within towns and cities and could carry firearms only with special permission of local authorities;
- were not allowed to gamble or consume alcoholic beverages; if found guilty of such activities, were subject to arrest, fine, and imprisonment;
- who were adult males and not employed by January 1, 1866, would be charged with vagrancy and fined or imprisoned; if convicted under the vagrancy law, would be hired or leased to any white man who paid their fine;
- who were under eighteen and not living with their parents, were apprenticed to white men.



Presidential Plan and transferred the authority for reconstructing the former Confederate states to Congress. After President Andrew Johnson tried to block the implementation of the Reconstruction Acts, Congress impeached the president in 1868. **Impeachment** is a formal charge brought against an elected official. By a margin of one vote, he was not removed from office.

Above: This *Harper's Weekly* illustration shows the U.S. Senate during the impeachment trial of Andrew Johnson.

Congressional Reconstruction, 1867-1875

The Reconstruction Acts divided the South into five military districts, each of which was placed under a military governor. Mississippi and Arkansas comprised the Fourth Military District, with headquarters in Jackson. The military governor had the authority to remove from public office any official he believed was not loyal to the United States. There were three categories of loyal men in Mississippi during Reconstruction.

Scalawags

White Mississippians who joined the Republican Party and supported the rights of citizenship for blacks were called **scalawags** by Mississippians who opposed racial equality. Coined under the emotional stress of military defeat and during a great social revolution, the word *scalawag* was a term full of hate and bitterness that was used in anger and frustration. Among Mississippi's most prominent scalawags were James L. Alcorn, one of the wealthiest planters in the state and a former Confederate general; Reuben W. Millsaps, a banker and philanthropist who endowed Millsaps College;

Something Extra!

The U.S. House of Representatives is the only body that can bring an impeachment charge for a federal official. The accused (impeached) person is tried in the U.S. Senate. It takes a two-thirds Senate vote to convict and remove a person from office.



1820



1825



1830

Map 36
County Formation in Mississippi, 1820-1876

Map Skill: What appears to be the largest county in 1820? 1825? 1830? 1840? 1876?



1840



1876

Something Extra!

It was said that carpet-baggers had so few possessions that they could put everything they owned in a carpet-bag (a suitcase made of carpet material).

Jehu Amaziah Orr, a delegate to the Secession Convention of 1861 and later a Confederate congressman; and Robert W. Flornoy, a planter and former slave owner. During Reconstruction, Flornoy edited a newspaper called *Equal Rights*.

Carpetbaggers

Another group of loyal men were **carpetbaggers** (northerners who remained in the South or moved to the South after the war). Mississippians who opposed granting civil rights to blacks accused carpetbaggers of being “outside agitators” who came to the state to plunder and steal and to stir up hatred among the blacks. Some carpetbaggers were corrupt politicians, but most of them were conscientious public officials. Among the most influential carpetbaggers in Mississippi were Ridgely C. Powers, G. Wiley Wells, Henry R. Pease, and Adelbert Ames.



Above: Hiram R. Revels was the first African American to serve in the U.S. Senate. **Left:** Blanche K. Bruce was the first African American to complete a full term as a U.S. senator. Elected in 1875, he served until 1881. In 1879, he became the first African American to preside over the U.S. Senate.

Blacks

The third category of loyal men were black Mississippians. Some black officials who had been prevented from learning to read and write as slaves were illiterate and not capable of performing their official duties. Mississippi was fortunate in having only a few black officials of this kind. Most black officials were honest and diligent in the performance of their duties, but their jobs were made even more difficult by whites who often refused to cooperate with black politicians. Some of the most prominent black officials included John Roy Lynch, Hiram R. Revels, Blanche K. Bruce, and Ambrose Henderson.

Readmission of Mississippi, February 23, 1870

The Reconstruction Acts required Mississippi to adopt a new state constitution, the Mississippi **Constitution of 1868**, that gave blacks civil rights and equal protection under the law. The state was also required to conduct an election of federal and state officials. In the 1869 election, James L. Alcorn was elected governor and thirty-six black men were elected to the state legislature. The Mississippi legislature quickly ratified the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution. After Mississippi fulfilled the requirements for readmission established by the Reconstruction Acts,

Something Extra!

Ulysses S. Grant was elected the eighteenth president of the United States in 1868. He served two terms.

Figure 12

The Reconstruction Amendments

Thirteenth Amendment

Ratified December 6, 1865

Section 1: Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

Fourteenth Amendment

Ratified July 9, 1868

Section 1: 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.

Fifteenth Amendment

Ratified February 3, 1870

Section 1: 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 U.S. Congress, after extended debate, passed a joint resolution readmitting Mississippi and seating its congressional delegation. President Ulysses S. Grant signed the resolution on February 23, 1870, thereby restoring Mississippi to its proper relations within the Union.

Ambrose Henderson Letter

White Mississippians were bewildered by the sweeping changes brought about by military defeat and emancipation, and many of them could not accept those changes. Few historical documents reveal the complexity of slavery in antebellum Mississippi or portray the magnitude of change in post-Civil War Mississippi as does this letter from a former slave to the governor of the state.

*House of Representatives
Jackson, Mississippi
March 26, 1870*

To His Excellency Governor James L. Alcorn:

Governor, I was a slave of Col. W. G. Henderson. Boys together as we were, he is the center of the tenderest associations of my life. Arrived at manhood's estate, I was

still intimately connected with him. . . . When he was wounded at Upperville, . . . he languished in the valley of Virginia . . . until it was my privilege to take him away, secretly, through the lines to his own people.

My friend and loving master is a candidate for . . . Circuit Judge . . . and a good Republican.

Now, Governor, I by the mysterious providence of God, am a member of the Legislature . . . and I now place . . . my earnest prayer that you appoint to the Judgeship of the First District the playmate of my boyhood, the companion of my manhood, the generous friend of my whole life—my former master, Col. Henderson.

Ambrose Henderson

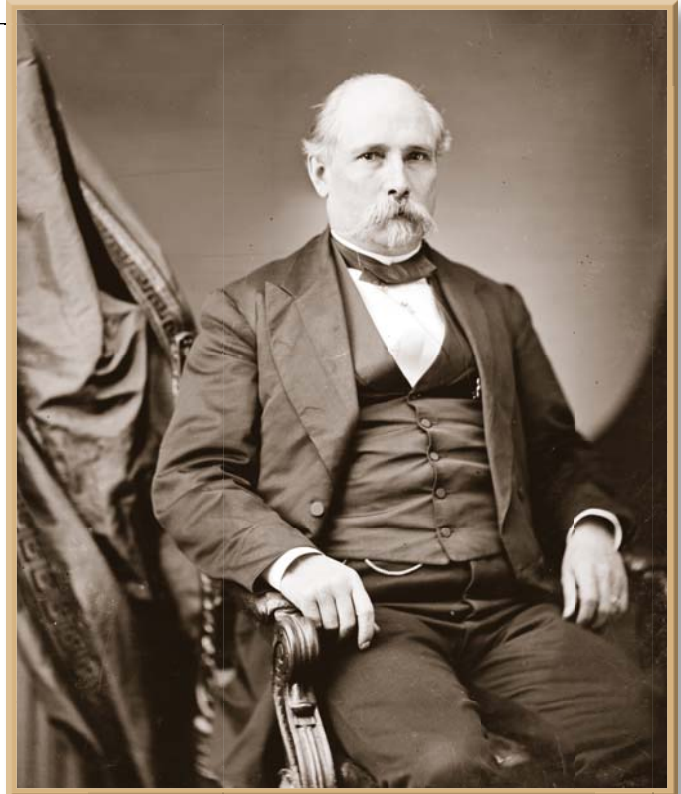
Mississippi Public School System

The most important achievement of Reconstruction was the establishment of a statewide system of public schools. Every county was authorized to build schools in towns and in rural neighborhoods where the demand was sufficient to justify a school. The response to the school system among blacks was immediate and enthusiastic; almost overnight schoolhouses appeared throughout the state. In addition to the cost of the new system, some whites objected to the teachers who were employed in the black schools. Only a few local whites were willing to teach in black schools, and even fewer blacks were qualified to teach. Most teachers in the black schools were white northerners. This fact led to the criticism that public schools were being used to indoctrinate blacks in Republican politics rather than to educate them in reading, writing, and arithmetic. We will study the expansion of higher education in Mississippi in the next chapter.

Ku Klux Klan

As the opposition to black schools intensified, several organizations were formed among white Mississippians to discourage blacks from attending school and to intimidate northern teachers. The most prominent of these groups was the **Ku Klux Klan**, a secret organization with special handshakes, passwords, and disguises to hide their identity. At first, hooded Klansmen rode through the countryside at night shouting and hollering, telling blacks not to send their children to schools, and warning northern teachers to leave town. When these scare tactics did not prove effective, a criminal element took over the Klan and resorted to violence. Black schools and churches were often burned; teachers and blacks who sent their children to school were beaten and sometimes even killed by Klansmen.

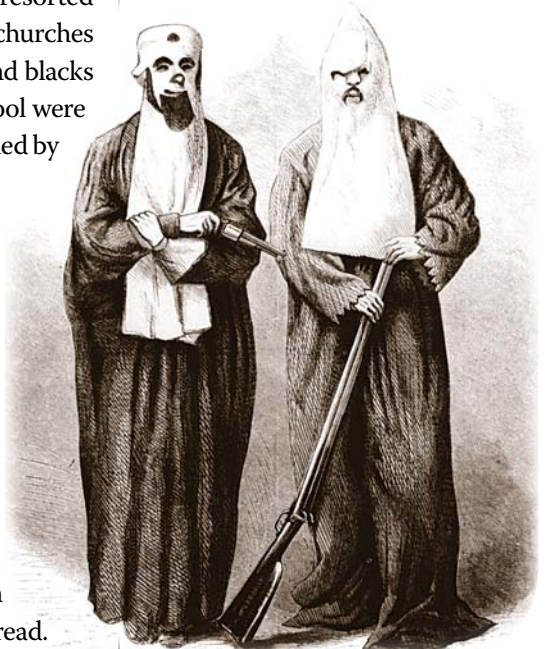
To stop the spread of Klan violence, both the state and federal governments passed laws making it illegal for night riders to wear disguises and to deprive citizens of their civil rights. In 1872, several Klan leaders were prosecuted and imprisoned. After these trials, Klan activity subsided until the election of 1875, when violence again became widespread.



Above: James L. Alcorn, a leader of the scalawags, served as governor of Mississippi from 1870-1871. He supported public schools for blacks and signed the law establishing Alcorn State University. **Below:** The Ku Klux Klan used terror and violence to intimidate the newly freed blacks.

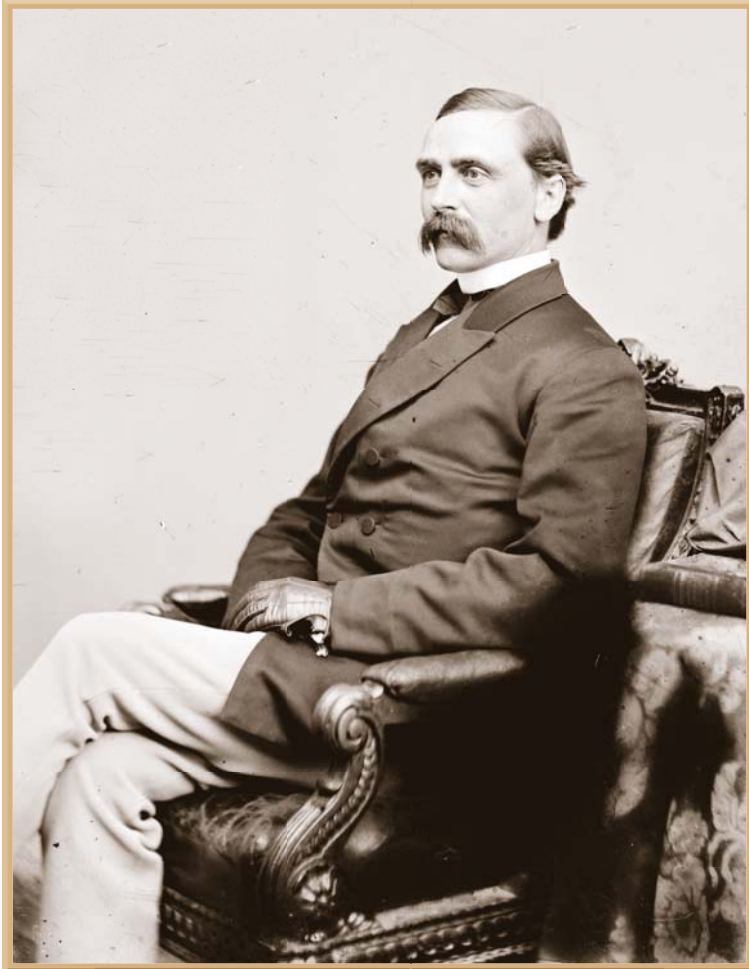
Something Extra!

The Ku Klux Klan was originally organized as a social club by Confederate veterans in Pulaski, Tennessee, in 1866. The "Ku Klux" in the name apparently comes from the Greek word *kyklos*, from which we get the English word *circle*.



Administration of Adelbert Ames, 1874-1876

The turning point of Reconstruction in Mississippi was the election of Governor Adelbert Ames in 1873. Governor Ames, a former Union general and winner of the Congressional Medal of Honor, campaigned on a moderate platform and pledged to reduce taxes and racial tension. There was also a substantial increase in the number of black public officials elected that year. Blacks presided over both the Mississippi Senate and House of Representatives. As more black Republicans were elected to office, white Mississippians increasingly considered the Republican Party the black man's party and the Democratic Party the white man's party. The state was almost to the point of drawing the "color line" in politics.



Above: Adelbert Ames was the last Republican to serve as governor of Mississippi until 1992. Following the "Revolution of 1875," he chose to resign from office, rather than face the politically motivated charges brought against him by the new Democratic-dominated state Senate.

The Vicksburg Riot

In the summer of 1874, during city elections in Vicksburg, racial disturbances were frequent and eventually culminated in a full-scale riot. The Vicksburg riot occurred after a predominantly black grand jury indicted the black sheriff, Peter Crosby, and several other county officials. Following Crosby's indictment, a group of whites, including Democrats and Republicans, took over the Warren County Courthouse to safeguard the county records that contained evidence necessary to convict Crosby and other

city officials. Governor Ames advised Crosby to regain possession of the courthouse even if he had to use force. When Crosby tried to occupy the courthouse on December 7, 1874, a riot broke out. Two whites and twenty-nine blacks were killed.

Reports of the riot, which were highly exaggerated, swept across the state. Perhaps the most important result of the riot was that white Democrats lost their confidence in Governor Ames. Even some conservative Republicans publicly criticized Governor Ames for his handling of the Vicksburg riot. Mississippi Democrats exploited this dissension in the Republican Party. For the first time since 1868, Democrats conducted a statewide political campaign in 1875.

The "Revolution of 1875"

Because of the extensive violence during the campaign, the election of 1875 is known as the "Revolution of 1875." When riots broke out in Clin-

ton, Yazoo City, and other parts of the state, Governor Ames activated several companies of the state militia to maintain law and order. However, because most of the militia companies were composed of blacks, this action intensified racial discord. The state was on the brink of massive violence. To avoid further bloodshed, Governor Ames agreed to disband the militia, and Democratic leaders promised to restrain party members from further violence. But the violence and intimidation of black voters did not subside.

The Mississippi Plan

After Governor Ames disbanded the militia, Democratic officials drew the “color line” and devised a plan that would guarantee victory in the fall elections. The Democratic strategy was known as the **Mississippi Plan**.

The plan was an overwhelming success. The Democratic Party swept the 1875 election in all but about a dozen counties and gained over a two-thirds majority in the state Senate and a majority in the state House of Representatives.

Impeachment of Republican Officials

The two-thirds majority in the Senate was especially significant. The Democrats had the votes necessary to impeach and convict Republican officials they considered to be corrupt or incompetent. After successfully impeaching Lieutenant Governor Alexander K. Davis and Superintendent of Education Thomas Cardozo, both of whom were black, the legislature filed charges against Governor Adelbert Ames.

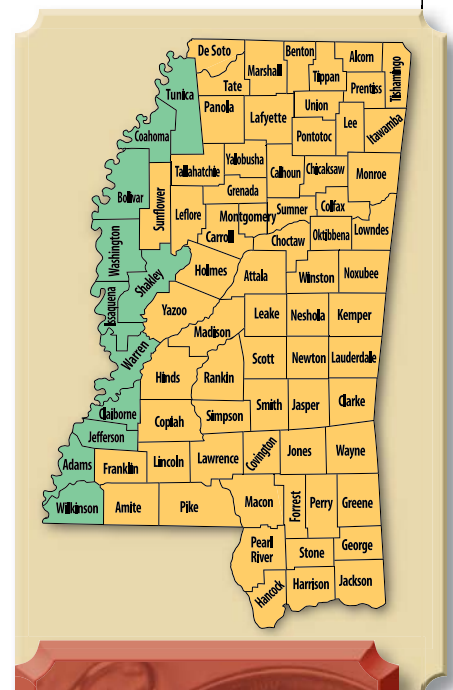
There were no charges of fraud or corruption against Governor Ames. The charges were largely political in nature. When it became certain that the state Senate would convict him, Governor Ames resigned on March 28, 1876. The Senate dropped the charges and Governor Ames left Mississippi. Because the lieutenant governor had been removed from office, John M. Stone of Tishomingo County, the president pro tempore of the Mississippi Senate, became governor of the state.

The Shoestring District

After the Revolution of 1875, the Democratic Party controlled all state-wide offices and most county and municipal governments. To minimize the impact of blacks in congressional elections, the Democratic legislature placed all the black majority counties along the Mississippi River in the Sixth Congressional District, which became known as the **Shoestring District** because it was strung out over a long but narrow area. John Roy Lynch, one of Mississippi’s most distinguished statesmen, served in the U.S. Congress from

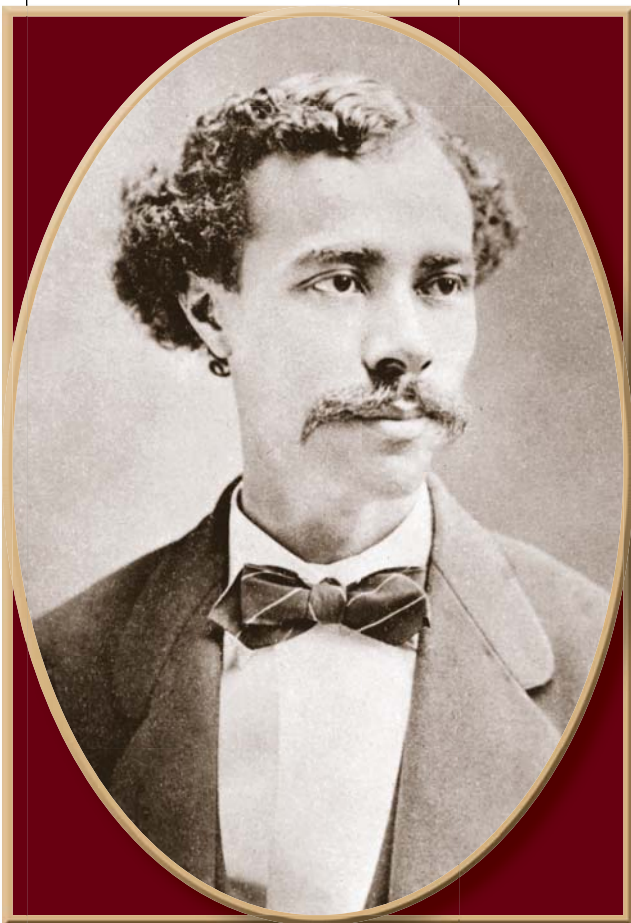
Figure 13 Tactics of the Mississippi Plan

- Organize a solidly Democratic front.
- Intimidate Negroes if persuasion fails.
- Stuff the ballot box with Democratic ballots.
- Destroy Republican ballots.
- Substitute Democratic ballots for Republican ballots for illiterate blacks.
- If those plans do not work, then count out the Republicans and count in the Democrats.



Map 37 The Shoestring District

Map Skill: Which counties were included in the Shoestring District?



Above: John Roy Lynch was the first African American to serve as speaker of the Mississippi House of Representatives. In 1872, at the age of 25, he was elected to his first term in the U.S. House of Representatives, serving two terms. He served again from 1882-1883, following a contested election.

the Shoestring District after a contested 1880 election. The other five congressional districts had white majorities.

Redemption of Mississippi

The Democratic leaders who planned and directed the Revolution of 1875 were called **Redeemers** by Democratic newspapers. Those newspapers also exaggerated to a large extent the corruption and incompetence of Republican officials. Reconstruction was a period of the most bitter partisan politics. The Democratic press claimed that the “white liners” had saved the state from Republican corruption and black domination. Since the birth of our democracy, there have been corrupt and incompetent public officials, but most of the accusations that Democrats made against Republicans during Reconstruction in Mississippi are not supported by historical facts.

Neither blacks nor whites were emotionally prepared for the consequences of emancipation of four million slaves. In the confusion and chaos that followed the war, Mississippi blacks were caught up in a political struggle between white Republicans and white Democrats, between white southerners and white northerners. Nevertheless, they exercised as best they knew how the rights and responsibilities of citizenship with which they had no previous experience. Blacks did not try to dominate their former masters. In fact, black leaders tried to cooperate with white leaders on a basis of uneasy and awkward equality. It is a tribute to Mississippi blacks that they achieved as much as they did before they were deprived of the rights of citizenship almost as suddenly and as unexpectedly as they had attained them.

After its sweeping victory in 1875, the Democratic Party maintained the “color line” in Mississippi politics and established a one-party system, which dominated Mississippi for a hundred years. The first quarter of that Democratic century is called the Bourbon era, which was a very interesting and complicated period of Mississippi history that we will study in the next chapter.

Reviewing the Section

1. Define in sentence form: freedmen, scalawag, Shoestring District.
2. Why was Andrew Johnson impeached?
3. What did the Reconstruction Acts require of Mississippi so it could be readmitted to the Union?

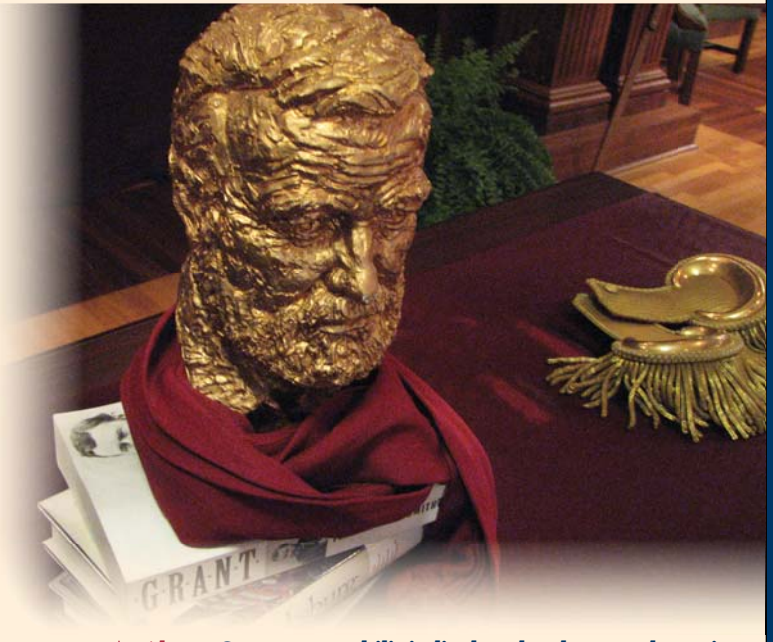
Of Special Interest

Ulysses S. Grant Papers at Mississippi State University

The Ulysses S. Grant Papers *reposited* (stored) in the Mitchell Memorial Library at Mississippi State University are a treasure trove of copies of primary sources on one of America's great generals and the eighteenth president of the United States. *Primary sources* are original documents created by Ulysses S. Grant and include letters, general orders, speeches, proclamations, interviews, and newspaper articles written during Grant's lifetime. Mitchell Memorial Library also houses memorabilia and thousands of secondary sources about the life and times of President Grant. *Secondary sources* are studies that are based on primary sources and include books, articles, theses, dissertations and, yes, term papers and class reports. Historians from across the country and around the world are coming to Mississippi State University to conduct research on the Civil War and Reconstruction, General Grant's military campaigns and tactics, and the presidential administration of U. S. Grant. Meanwhile, the publication and digitization of *The Papers of Ulysses S. Grant* continues.

In 1962, the Ulysses S. Grant Association assembled a large number of papers and documents relating to Grant's life and times. In 1964, it housed the collection at Southern Illinois University. The original Grant collection was under the direction of Professor John Y. Simon. Since then, the Grant Association has made an effort to collect copies of every available document about the life and career of President Grant.

After John Y. Simon died in 2008, the Ulysses S. Grant Association, under the presidency of Rhode



Above: Grant memorabilia is displayed at the annual meeting of the Ulysses S. Grant Association at Mississippi State.

Island Supreme Court Justice Frank J. Williams, relocated the Grant Papers to Mississippi State University under the direction of John Marszalek, a renowned Civil War historian. Another renowned Mississippi historian, Michael Ballard, is associate editor. In 2009, the Mississippi Historical Society conferred its Award of Merit to Mitchell Memorial Library. In presenting the award on behalf of the Historical Society, Secretary-Treasurer Elbert Hilliard said, "This is the largest collection of Ulysses S. Grant Papers in the world and their acquisition is truly remarkable." The Grant Papers are also now available online at the MSU Library website: <http://library.msstate.edu/USGrantAssociation>.

Chapter Review

Chapter Summary

Section 1 General Grant at Oxford

- In April 1862, Union General Ulysses S. Grant defeated Confederate forces at Shiloh, Tennessee.
- Vicksburg's location high above a bend in the Mississippi gave it control over the river.
- Union naval officer David Farragut captured New Orleans and Natchez, then bombarded Vicksburg but failed to capture it. He couldn't dig a canal around Vicksburg, so he fought his way downstream past Vicksburg.
- Confederate General John C. Pemberton needed to hold Vicksburg at all costs.
- In November 1862, Grant established a supply depot at Holly Springs and occupied Oxford; his wife and son, in Holly Springs, barely escaped capture by Confederates.
- Grant discovered that his soldiers could secure food by foraging.

Section 2 The Vicksburg Campaign

- General William T. Sherman failed to dig a canal at Young's Point. His Yazoo Pass Expedition also failed.
- Grant marched down the Louisiana side of the river and crossed over south of Vicksburg.
- Grierson's Raid diverted Pemberton's attention and destroyed railroad lines.
- David Dixon Porter's fleet sailed past Vicksburg at night and met Grant's troops.
- Grant captured Jackson and Champion Hill and marched toward Vicksburg.
- On July 4, 1863, after a forty-seven-day siege, Vicksburg was surrendered to Grant on fairly lenient terms.
- In February 1864, Sherman marched from Vicksburg to Meridian, destroying railroads and confiscating food and supplies; he then returned to Vicksburg.

- President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation of January 1, 1863, freed slaves in rebellious states.
- The fall of Vicksburg and Gettysburg disillusioned the South, but the war continued until April 9, 1865, when Robert E. Lee surrendered to Grant at Appomattox Court House, Virginia.

Section 3 Reconstruction and Reunion, 1865-1876

- Lincoln's Presidential Reconstruction plan included amnesty for all Confederates who would swear allegiance to the United States. When 10 percent took the oath, a state could rejoin the Union.
- After President Lincoln's assassination, President Andrew Johnson put forth a similar Reconstruction plan.
- President Johnson appointed William L. Sharkey provisional governor to assemble a Mississippi constitutional convention.
- The convention nullified secession but left citizenship for freedmen to the legislature.
- The legislature passed harsh Black Codes and didn't ratify the Thirteenth Amendment.
- Congress passed the Reconstruction Acts. President Johnson tried to block them and was impeached but not removed from office.
- Scalawags, carpetbaggers, and black Mississippians were loyal to the U.S. government.
- Mississippi was readmitted to the Union on February 23, 1870.
- Public schools improved during Reconstruction. Northern teachers taught in black schools. The Ku Klux Klan discouraged blacks from attending school through violence and intimidation.
- An 1874 Vicksburg riot made Democrats lose confidence in Governor Adelbert Ames.
- Democrats (Redeemers) swept the election in the "Revolution of 1875" and controlled all statewide and many local offices.

Activities for Learning

Understanding the Facts

1. List the seven southern states that established the Confederate States of America.
2. Who was the high-ranking Confederate general killed at the Battle of Shiloh?
3. Why was the city of Vicksburg an important military objective?
4. What tactic did General Grant use to force Vicksburg's surrender?
5. What was the purpose of Sherman's march through Mississippi?
6. Specifically, whom did the Emancipation Proclamation free?
7. Identify and describe the three categories of loyal men during Mississippi's Reconstruction.
8. What amendment to the U.S. Constitution formally abolished slavery?
9. What acts of violence were committed by the Ku Klux Klan in Mississippi?
10. What tactics were used to win the "Revolution of 1875"?

Developing Critical Thinking

1. How did the Confederate raid at Holly Springs change General Grant's plans?
2. What were the major accomplishments and failures of Reconstruction in Mississippi?

Writing across the Curriculum

Telegrams were an expensive means of communication during the late nineteenth century. (You paid by the length.) As a Vicksburg resident in the summer of 1874, write three telegrams (each one fifteen words or less) updating Governor Adelbert Ames about developments in the Vicksburg Riot.

Exploring Mississippi on the Internet

1. Go to <http://www.natchezdemocrat.com/2009/02/11/brown-awarded-medal-of-honor-nearly-100-years-after-civil-war/>. Read the article about Mississippi's sole Civil War Medal of Honor recipient. How was Wilson Brown a hero?
2. Go <http://www.nps.gov/hps/abpp/battles/bystate.htm>. Go to the battles fought in Mississippi. How many Civil War battles were fought in Mississippi? Which battle had the greatest number of casualties?

Building 21st-Century Skills: Finding the Main Idea

Identifying the main idea in a paragraph will help you both organize information and recall more of what you read. The main idea or topic is often stated in the first sentence of a paragraph. The other sentences in the paragraph provide supporting details. Read from the diary of Emma Balfour—a resident of Vicksburg during the Union siege:

(May 31, 1863) The shelling from the mortars was worse than usual last night...I could hear the pieces falling all around us as the shells would explode, and once I thought our time had come... The mortars [fired] all night. We soon perceived that we could not retire while they fired as they had changed the range, and every shell came either directly over us or just back or front of us, so we made up our minds to sit up and watch, hoping, however, that they would cease about midnight, as they sometimes do...but no, all night it continued to add to the horror.

What is the main idea of this entry? What are the supporting facts?