

Chapter 7

The American Civil War

Chapter Preview

TERMS

sectionalism, urban, rural, secede, inaugurate, procession, unionist, surrender, blockade, skirmish, fleet, cadet

Above: The Alabama Confederate Monument is on the north side of the Alabama State Capitol. The 88-foot-tall monument was dedicated in 1898. It includes statues that represent the four branches of the military.



As the years of early statehood passed, the young Alabama made a lot of progress. To help trade, more roads were built between towns. Railroad tracks were laid, and some large industries were begun.

There were cotton mills and furnaces for making iron.

Daniel Pratt's cotton gin factory was north of Montgomery. His "company town" was called Prattville. It had a variety of industries that employed many people.

This growth of industry was important, but it was not all over the state. There were few railroads and roads in Alabama and nearby states.

The lower part of the United States, called the South, was mainly agricultural. The upper part of the country, called the North, was mainly industrial. In the years before 1860, the North and the South had very different cultures and very different ideas. There were ways of life on which the North and the South could not agree. These were called sectional differences, or **sectionalism**.

Abraham Lincoln, a Republican, was elected president of the United States in 1860. The South believed that all future government decisions would favor the North. Leaders from Alabama gathered in Montgomery in January 1861. They met to decide if Alabama would remain a part of the United States.

Focus on Reading Skills

Two Points of View

Learning

When studying conflicts in history, there are at least two points of view. A *point of view* is the way a person thinks or feels about something. It is a certain way of looking at life.

When you make a decision, it is important to look at all ideas. People have reasons for thinking or feeling the way they do. Race, gender (male or female), age, home country, and wealth are some things that may determine a person's point of view. People's experiences (things that have happened to them) also play a part in the way they see things.

It takes special skill to look at something from another person's point of view. When you know a person's point of view, you understand things better.

Practicing

People do not always view things the same way. If your family had to make a choice on where to go on vacation, would they choose the mountains or the seashore? How could your family decide? Will everyone be happy if his or her choice is not the winner? The skill is in seeing both sides.

On a sheet of paper, make two columns. Label one column "Seashore" and label the other "Mountains." In each column, make a list of reasons for choosing that vacation site. Remember, look from another point of view. One example is given on the pictures below.

Add the plants, animals, sports, food, and any other thing you can think of for *both sides*.

SEASHORE

The sunshine at the beach is warm.



MOUNTAINS

Mountain air is fresh and cool.



Section 1

The North and the South Disagree

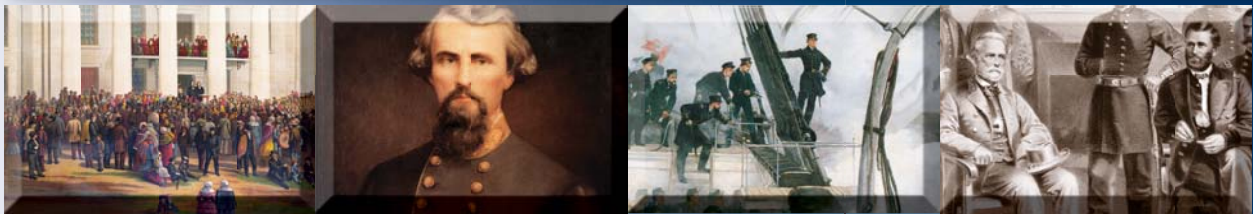
As you read, look for

- how the North and the South were different;
- why Alabama seceded from the Union;
- terms: **urban**, **rural**, **secede**.

The two sections of the country disagreed on many things.

Slavery was a topic that caused hot debates. The North and the South had other differences too. These included population, the economy, and opinions about states' rights.

Figure 15
Timeline:
1860 to 1865



1861
January—Alabama seceded
February—Confederate States of America formed
April—Civil War began

1863
Streight's Raid

1864
Rousseau's Raid
Battle of Mobile Bay
Wilson's Raid

1865
Civil War ended

1860

1861

1862

1863

1864

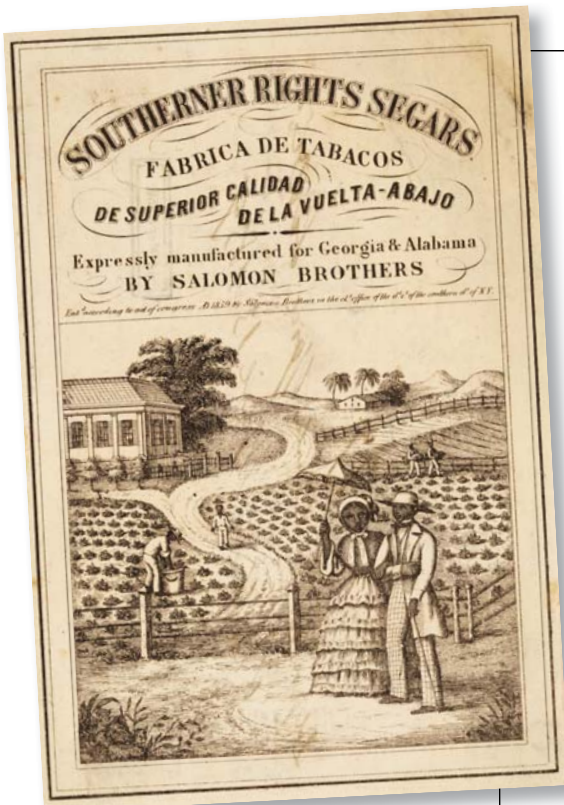
1865

1861
Abraham Lincoln became president

1862
First federal income tax

1863
Thanksgiving became a national holiday

1865
President Lincoln assassinated



Above: Notice that these Southerner Rights “segars” (cigars), which were made in New York, were for sale only in Georgia and Alabama. Why do you think the picture of slaves is so far from the truth?

States’ Rights

The North and the South had very different ideas on the rights of states. Do you remember the Articles of Confederation from Chapter 3? It gave the states the power to make most decisions. Later, the U.S. Constitution was adopted. It gave the federal government more power than the states.

Most leaders in the North thought everyone had to obey all laws made by Congress. In the South, however, most people had a different view. They believed in limiting the rule of the federal government. They thought Congress had *only* the powers given to it by the U.S. Constitution. They believed the states should pass their own laws on any other subject.

The North and South disagreed on many issues. The South thought that each state should make its own laws concerning these things. One important issue of the time was slavery. The South wanted slavery because its plantations needed the laborers. The North did not want or need slavery. The South did not want the federal government to make a law against slavery. They wanted to make their own laws.

This disagreement over states’ rights continues today. States still disagree with each other and with the federal government. At the time of the Civil War, the conflicts concerned slavery and tariffs (taxes). Today, conflicts may concern pollution controls or the age required to drive a car.

Population

In 1860, about 19 million people lived in the North. Most of the population was **urban**; that is, most people lived in cities and towns. Some cities were large, and towns were fairly close together.

Around 12 million people lived in the South, with about 4 million of them being slaves. Most of the population was rural. (**Rural** means most people live on farms, not in towns.) There were small communities with one or two stores and a post office. But there were not as many cities and towns as in the North.

Economy

In 1860, the North and the South had very different economies. Because of its cooler climate, the growing season is short in the North. This meant that fewer people farmed for a living in the

Figure 16
Population of the United States 1860



North than in the South. In 1860, many Northerners worked in factories. The factory owners sometimes paid very low wages. But they did not use slaves in the factories. In fact, many Northern states had laws against slavery.

Southerners called the people working in Northern factories “wage slaves.” Most Southerners made their living on farms and plantations. Planters thought they had to have slaves to work their crops. Over one-third of the people in the South were slaves.

European goods were imported into this country. Northern factory owners wanted a tariff on these goods. A tariff would make European goods cost more than American-made goods. The Northern factory owners thought that Southerners would then buy their goods.

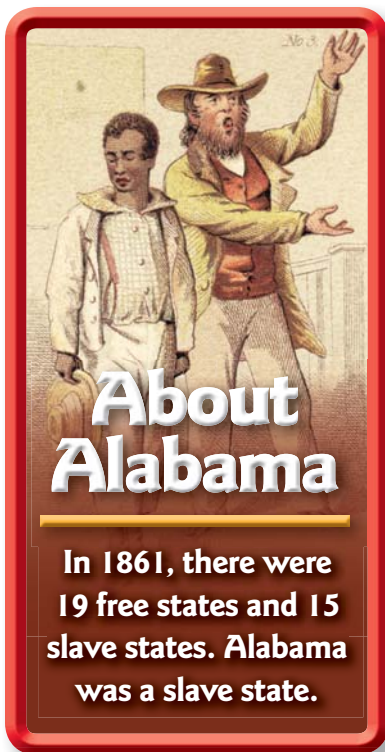
Southerners did not want a tariff. They bought most of their goods from Europe. They did not want to pay more for those goods because of the tariff.

The South had another reason for not wanting a tariff. They believed that European countries would

Above: *This boot and shoe factory in Poughkeepsie, New York, is an example of the industrial strength of the North.*

Below: *There were only a small number of factories in the South. The region’s economy depended almost entirely on agriculture, mainly cotton.*





Above: Andrew B. Moore was serving his second term as Alabama's governor when the state voted to secede from the Union in January 1861. Moore supported secession.

then put a tariff on incoming American goods. For the South, that meant its cotton would be more costly in Europe. The textile mills in Europe would then buy cheaper cotton from other countries. This would cripple the economy of the Southern cotton-growing states.

Free States or Slave States

As each new state came into the Union (the United States of America), both the North and South wanted to have the vote of the new state. The South wanted new western states to be able to allow slavery. The North did not want slavery in the new states. Each side was angry with the other. The stage was set for a split.

Alabama Leaves the Union

Because of the differences between the North and the South, many Southerners wanted to **secede** (withdraw) from the United States. They wanted to form a separate nation. In December 1860, South Carolina seceded from the Union. That same month, Alabama elected delegates to a secession convention. This convention was to decide whether Alabama should also secede from the United States.

Not all Alabamians wanted to secede immediately. Most of those who wanted to leave the Union were from southern Alabama. This group was led by William Lowndes Yancey from Montgomery. Governor A. B. Moore also favored secession.

Robert Jemison, who lived in Tuscaloosa, led the group that wished to move more slowly. This group wanted to wait before making a decision on secession. They wanted to give President Lincoln a chance to work out the nation's differences. Some Alabamians did not want to secede at all.

The Secession Convention's Decision

On January 11, 1861, a vote was taken. There were 61 delegates who voted to secede while 39 voted to stay in the Union. This vote made Alabama the fourth state to leave the Union. Alabamians hoped that they could secede and there would be no war.

Matthew Blue wrote about what happened in Montgomery when the vote was announced.

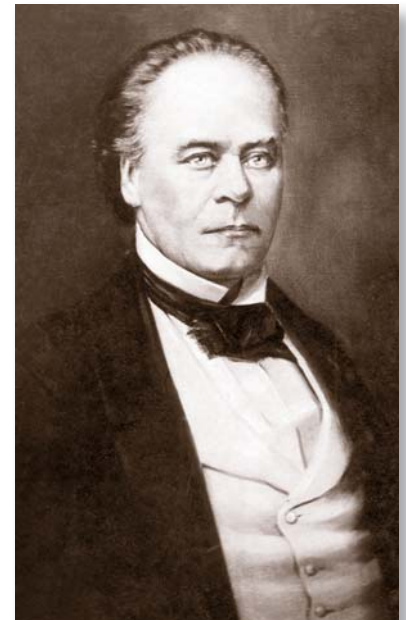
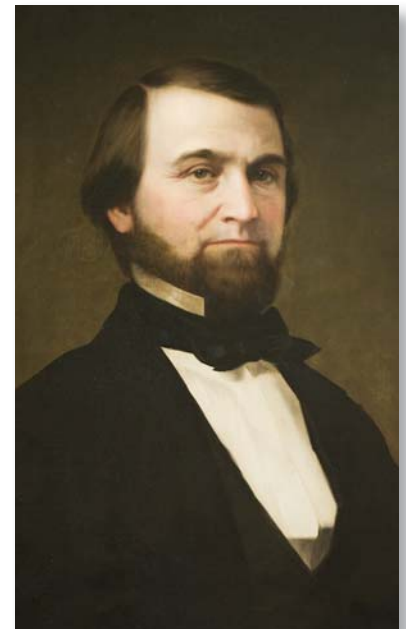
On Friday, January 11th, the Ordinance of Secession was adopted.... Business was suspended, the bells of the city rang for hours, cannon fired...



The convention then drafted a new state constitution. This is known as the Constitution of 1861. This constitution put the words “Confederate States of America” in the place of “United States of America” as Alabama’s country.

Think It Through!

1. What advantages would the North have in a war?
2. What does it mean to secede?
3. Which part of Alabama greatly favored secession? Why? How did people disagree about secession?



Top: William Lowndes Yancy was the leader of the “fire-eaters,” those who were in favor of immediate secession.

Above: Robert Jemison was more of a moderate on the issue of secession. **Above left:** The secession convention was held in the house chamber of the Alabama State Capitol.

Section 2

The Confederate States of America and the War

Map 23 Union, Confederate, and Border States

Map Skill: Border states were slave states that stayed in the Union. Name the border states.

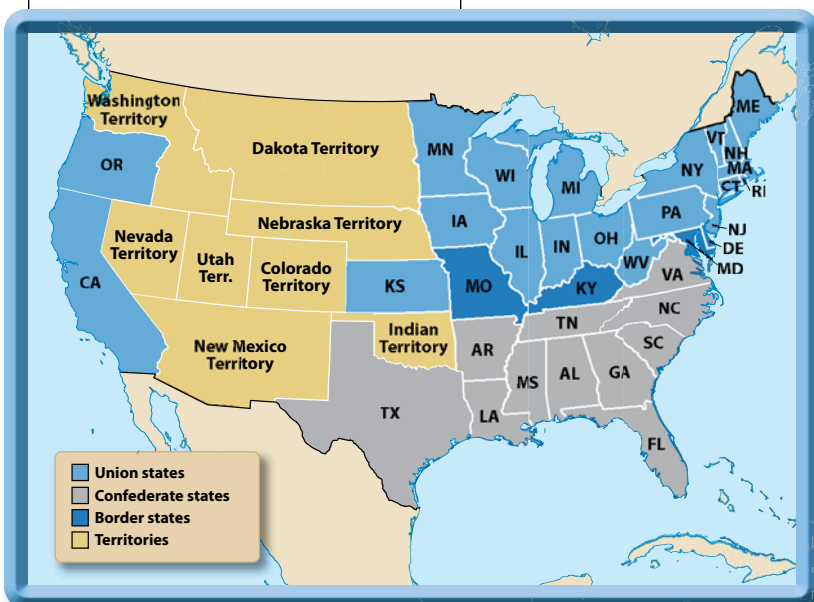
As you read, look for

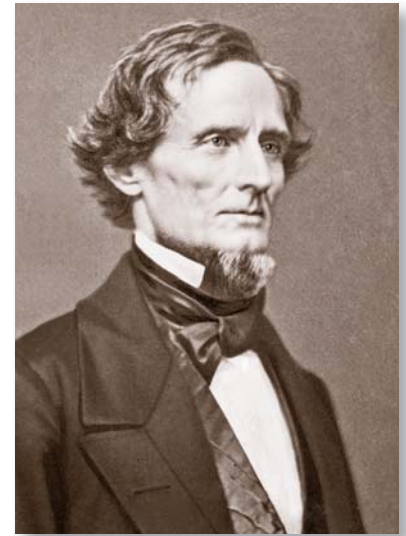
- the government formed by the Southern states;
- the leaders of the Confederate government;
- the early days of the Civil War;
- terms: **inaugurate**, **procession**, **unionist**, **surrender**.

On February 4, 1861, representatives from seven Southern states met at the Capitol in Montgomery. Texas, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, and South Carolina sent delegates. Their goal was to set up a government for the Southern states. The new nation was called the Confederate States

of America (the Confederacy). Montgomery was chosen as its capital. Because the meeting to set up the Confederacy was held in Montgomery, the city is called the “Cradle of the Confederacy.”

Delegates wrote a constitution for the Confederacy that was much like the U.S. Constitution. Then they chose Jefferson Davis to be their president. He was a cotton planter and former U.S. senator from Mississippi. Alexander Stephens of Georgia became vice president.





Jefferson Davis (above) was inaugurated in front of the Alabama State Capitol (left).

In the spring of 1861, Virginia, Arkansas, North Carolina, and Tennessee left the Union and joined the new nation. The Confederate Congress then voted to move the capital to Richmond, Virginia.

Jefferson Davis Inaugurated in Montgomery

Hundreds of people waited for Jefferson Davis at the train station on February 16, 1861. Davis then went to Montgomery's Exchange Hotel. The new president of the Confederacy stepped out on a balcony that overlooked the street. William Lowndes Yancey introduced Davis to the crowd below. Yancey said, "The man and the hour have met."

Davis was **inaugurated** (sworn in) as president of the Confederate States of America on February 18, 1861. On that morning, people lined Market Street (Dexter Avenue) between the Exchange Hotel and the Capitol.

The **procession** (parade) began at the hotel. Davis and Alexander Stephens rode in a carriage pulled by six gray horses. Military

About Alabama

President Davis and his family lived in a house near the Capitol. Today, the house is a museum called the "First White House of the Confederacy." Many of the Davis family's belongings are there.

groups in dress uniforms and government leaders marched up the wide avenue to the Capitol.

When they reached the Capitol, Davis stood on its front porch. With his hand resting on a Bible, he took the oath of office as president of the Confederate States of America. A brass star now marks the spot where he stood. The Bible he used is kept in the Alabama Department of Archives and History in Montgomery. It has been used in the inauguration of every Alabama governor since 1861.



Above: Many county courthouses in Alabama have a Civil War memorial with a statue of a Confederate soldier. The statue in Double Springs, the county seat of Winston County, is special. The statue of the soldier is half-Union and half-Confederate.

The Free State of Winston

Earlier you read that some Alabamians did not want to secede. People who wanted to stay in the United States were known as **unionists**. In the spring of 1862, a group of unionists met in Winston County. This group decided that if a state could secede from the United States, then a county could secede from Alabama. They wrote a paper telling how they felt.

We...do not desire to see our neighbors in the South suffer wrong, and therefore, we are not going to take up arms against them; but on the other hand, we are not going to shoot at the flag of our fathers.... Therefore, we ask the Confederacy on the one hand and the Union on the other, to leave us alone...that we may work out our own political and financial destiny in these hills and mountains....

A man in the group, known as Uncle Dick Payne, said, “Oh, oh, Winston secedes. The Free State of Winston.” The county is still called the Free State of Winston.

The Civil War Begins: Blue versus Gray

The War between the States, or the Civil War, began on April 12, 1861. The Union still controlled Fort Sumter, which guarded the harbor of Charleston, South Carolina. Confederate General Pierre G. T. Beauregard asked Fort Sumter to **surrender** (give



up). When the fort's commander refused, Beauregard began shelling the fort. The Union commander surrendered on April 13.

News of the fall of Fort Sumter spread throughout the South. Many men wanted to join the Confederate army. Soon, there were not enough guns or uniforms. The South began training its soldiers and collecting the supplies needed for war. Throughout the Civil War, the South had problems getting enough supplies. But the Confederate troops did have one important thing on their side: most of the war was fought in the South. That meant supplies were close to the action, and the land was familiar to troops. But it also meant that many Southern towns and cities were destroyed. Families in the South suffered many hardships because they were in the middle of a war.

Alabama Servicemen

Between 90,000 and 100,000 Alabama men fought for the Confederacy in the Civil War. Historians believe that between 25,000 and 70,000 of these men died. Exact numbers are unknown because many records were lost. Provisional Governor Lewis Parsons claimed that 34,000 men were killed or died of wounds. Governor Robert Patton claimed the casualties were 40,000. About 80,000 Alabama widows applied for state assistance. Perhaps many men died that were not in the army.

Sometimes a slave went to battle with his master. A soldier from Tuscaloosa told about Jim Bobbett, the slave who went with him. He said, "Jim was faithful to me and to the Confed-

Above: *The Civil War began at Fort Sumter, a federal fort in the harbor at Charleston, South Carolina. Confederate forces fired on the fort, forcing its commander to surrender.*

About Alabama

Early in the Civil War, some states let soldiers choose the color of their uniforms. Some soldiers even wore their own clothes into battle. The result was a mix of styles and colors on both sides. Over time, blue became the official color for the North and gray for the South.



Above: *Private Parris P. Casey was a soldier in Company I, 19th Alabama Infantry Regiment, known as the “Cherokee Rangers.” Below:* *Alabama troops played an important role in the Battle of Gettysburg, a defeat for the Confederacy.*

eracy.... It is very probable that I would not have passed through it all had it not been for his services in several critical sicknesses.”

Rich young men took servants, uniforms, and horses into war. Those who were poor brought nothing but themselves. The Confederate army had few supplies and rarely had much to give the soldiers. Many suffered from the cold and died of pneumonia and other illnesses.

William W. Spears was an Alabama yeoman farmer-soldier who wrote home during the war. In June 1862, he wrote of his hopes that France would enter the war: “It is in the papers that France is going to recognize the independence of the confederacy in July they declared this to England.” He also wrote about the problems they faced: “Pa'rlee we don't git half a nuf to eat we fast one third of our time.” Spears wrote of his worries about his future: “So I want us to live for God and if we never meet a gin on earth I want us to meet in heaven when warring is nomore.”

Soldiers from Alabama fought in most major battles of the war. These included the battles of Bull Run, Gettysburg, Chickamauga, and Nashville. A Confederate soldier at Gettysburg wrote, “We will have to fight here, and when it comes it will be the biggest on record.”



The Gettysburg Address

“Four score and seven years ago our fathers...”

Gettysburg is a town in southern Pennsylvania. It is also the site of one of the most famous battles in the history of our country. In July 1863, General Robert E. Lee led his Confederate troops against General George Meade with the Union army. The Battle of Gettysburg was fierce with about 6,000 men killed. After fighting for 3 days, the Confederate army retreated.

On November 19, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln came to Gettysburg. He dedicated part of the battlefield as a national cemetery. He gave a speech that was only ten sentences long, but it was very powerful. It is still remembered today. Lincoln said that the Union soldiers fought to keep the democracy together. His words were “... these dead shall not have died in vain, that this nation under God shall have a new birth of freedom...” The Gettysburg Address is engraved on the wall of the Lincoln Memorial building in Washington, D.C. The battlefield is a national park and cemetery.

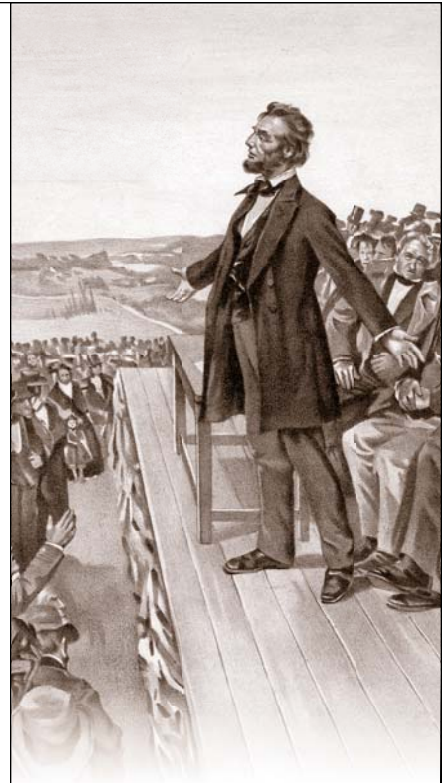
The War Divides Families

This war is said to have put “brother against brother.” Members of a family might disagree about which side, North or South, was right. Sometimes fathers and sons or brothers and sisters had different points of view. These problems were especially common in the border states. J. J. Crittenden, a U.S. senator from Kentucky, had a split family. He had one son who was a Union general and another who was a Confederate general.

About 3,000 white Alabamians and 10,000 black Alabamians fought in the Union army. Many Alabamians did not think the state should secede. Some of these unionists joined the Union army. Many slaves, as soon as they could, joined the Union army too. Slaves traveled with the Confederate army and were used to build bridges and barricades (walls or fences).

Think It Through!

1. Who were the unionists?
2. Name the battle that started the Civil War.
3. What is the Gettysburg Address?



Above: *President Lincoln came to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, in 1863 to dedicate a military cemetery. At the service, he gave a short speech that became very famous. Called the Gettysburg Address, the speech is very important in American history.*

Section 3

Alabama at Home during the War

Below: This huge textile mill in Tallassee was an important supplier of cloth to the Confederacy. At the time it was built in 1853, it was the largest building in Alabama under one roof. Now it is an empty shell.

As you read, look for

- the hardships suffered by Alabamians during the war;
- how Alabama got needed goods in wartime;
- term: **blockade**.



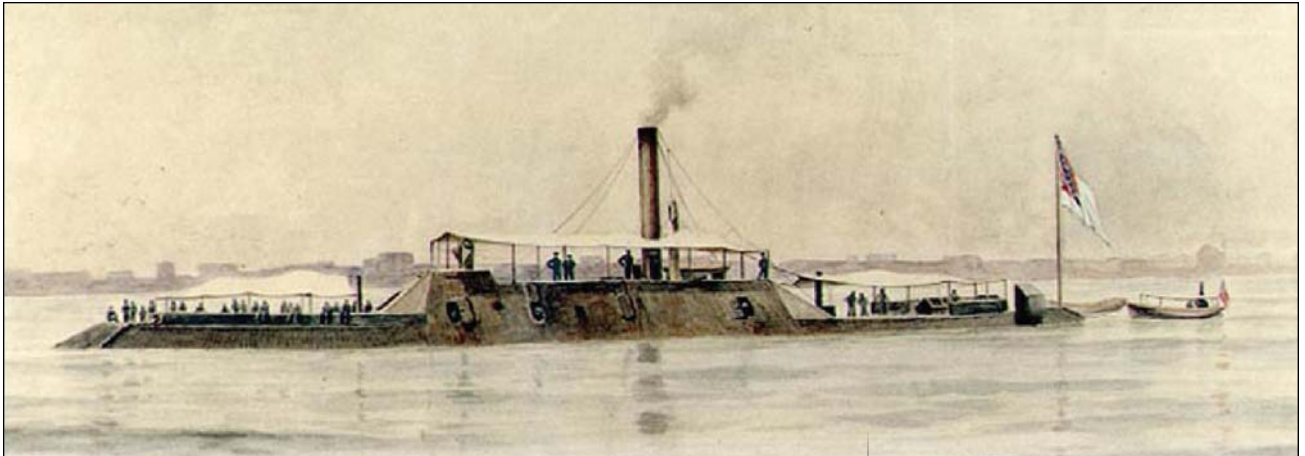
Women were left behind when the

men marched off to war. The women had to tend the farms and make uniforms for the soldiers. They worked in the textile mills and the ammunition factories. To raise money for the war, women had auctions, parties, and plays. They also nursed the sick and wounded.

Slaves and free blacks served in military and nonmilitary ways. They built forts, railroads, and roads. They worked in iron foundries and ammunition factories. Some slave owners left their families and their land in the care of trusted slaves. Slaves and free blacks also served as carpenters and blacksmiths.

Factories for War

Textile mills in Prattville, Autaugaville, and Tallassee made cloth for uniforms, tents, and clothing. During the war, Daniel Pratt used his cotton gin factory to make parts for textile mills.



There were major ironworks in Bibb, Calhoun, Jefferson, Shelby, and Talladega Counties. More than half of the iron used by the Confederacy was made in those factories. Many Southern soldiers used the Enfield rifle. These guns were made by the Alabama Arms Manufacturing Company in Montgomery. Many of the weapons and ammunition used by the South were made in Selma. About 10,000 workers made cannons, rifles, pistols, muskets, and bullets. Mobile, Montgomery, and Tuscaloosa were centers for making cloth, leather goods, and railroad cars and tracks.

The ship *CSS Tennessee* was built at the Selma Navy Yard. It was covered in iron to help protect it from cannon fire. Because of this armor, it was called an *ironclad* ship. The frames of several other ships were also built at the yard.

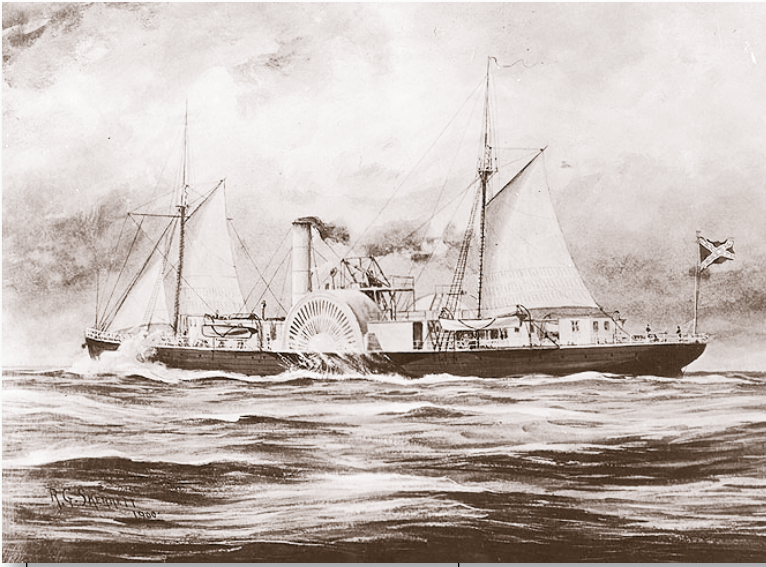
The Naval Blockade

Before the war, the South bought many important items from the North and from other countries. These were things not made or grown in the South. Clothing not made at home usually came from New York. Plows were shipped in from the John Deere factory in Pennsylvania. Salt came from the West Indies. Many of these items came by ship and entered Alabama through Mobile Bay. After the war began, Union ships formed a blockade. (A **blockade** is the use of naval forces to stop shipping.) This meant that ships carrying supplies could not get to the Port of Mobile.

Because of the blockade, people ran out of many things that they needed. Farm tools and even food items were in short supply. Sometimes people could repair manufactured things that they could no longer buy. But people really needed salt. Salt was used for cooking. It was also used to cure meat so it would not spoil. People living near the Gulf of Mexico had a source for salt.

About Alabama

**The *CSS Tennessee*
(above) was
the largest ironclad
ship built by the
Confederacy.**



Above: Blockade runners like the *Ella* and *Annie* relied on speed and daring to slip past the federal naval blockade.

They set up metal kettles to boil salt-water. As the water boiled away, salt was left in the bottom of the kettles.

The towns of St. Stephens and Salt-marsh, near Selma, mined some of the salt needed by the state. Toward the end of the war, there was very little salt available. If a store had any, it sold for as much as \$150 a sack!

Sugar and coffee were also hard to find. Southerners had to use molasses and honey instead of sugar. When people had no coffee, they roasted

and ground up many things to make drinks. They used acorns, peanuts, okra seeds, and chicory roots as coffee substitutes.

Breaking the Blockade

The South needed to get supply ships into Mobile. No matter how closely the Northerners watched Mobile Bay, some ships sneaked through with supplies. These ships, called *blockade runners*, were small and built for speed.

Some sailors ran the blockade because they loved the Confederacy. Others did it for the good pay. No matter what their reasons were, they brought needed supplies to the Confederate states.

The sailors on the blockade runners faced a lot of danger, and few things made it through the blockade. Because supplies were so limited, prices went way up. After the blockade began, the cost of flour rose from \$40 to \$300 a barrel. The price of a pair of boots jumped from \$25 to \$150.

Think It Through!

1. Which three Alabama communities made cloth for uniforms and tents?
2. Just five Alabama counties made half of an important material needed in the war. What was this vital material used for making weapons?
3. Why did the North blockade Southern ports?
4. What were some of the jobs done by slaves and free blacks during the war?

Spotlight

The CSS Hunley

The blockade of Southern ports by the Union navy caused the Confederacy many problems. Some people thought a submarine would help the South break the blockade. The *CSS Hunley* was built in Mobile. It was named for one of its builders, Horace L. Hunley, who also paid for the submarine.

William Alexander of Mobile helped Lieutenant George Dixon design the *Hunley*. Dixon was a member of the 21st Alabama Infantry Regiment. (Infantry soldiers fight on foot, not on horses or vehicles.) Once completed, the *Hunley* went by rail to the harbor at Charleston, South Carolina, for testing. More than 30 men lost their lives during that testing. After the *Hunley* sank a second time, Horace Hunley came to Charleston to train a third crew himself. In October 1863, he went down with that crew. Despite the training disasters, volunteers from the *CSS Indian Chief* formed a new crew. Lieutenant Dixon and 7 men

took the *Hunley* into battle. The mission was to attack the *USS Housatonic*. The *Housatonic* was anchored in a shallow part of the harbor. The *Hunley* was armed with explosives. These were fastened to the end of a long pole attached to the submarine.

On February 17, 1864, Lieutenant Dixon and his men rammed the *Housatonic* near its ammunition storage area. There was a loud explosion. The *Housatonic* sank, but so did the *Hunley*! The *Hunley* was the first submarine in history to sink an enemy vessel. Because the *Housatonic* went down in shallow water, all but five men survived. All of the *Hunley*'s crew died.

In 2000, the wreck of the *Hunley* was raised from the bottom of Charleston harbor. Archaeologists, scientists, historians, and anthropologists have worked to identify artifacts and the eight skeletons. In 2004, the crewmen of the *Hunley* were buried with full military honors.



Right: A full-size replica of the *CSS Hunley* is on display at the Charleston Museum.

Section 4

Fighting and Freedom Come to Alabama

As you read, look for

- the battles fought on land and sea in Alabama;
- the promise of freedom for slaves;
- terms: **skirmish**, **fleet**, **cadet**.



Above: This picture shows the feelings of a group of slaves when they first learn of the Emancipation Proclamation.

There were 78 skirmishes (brief fights) in Alabama during the Civil War. The first fighting in the state was in the Tennessee Valley in 1862. The towns of Florence, Huntsville, and Athens had all been fired on by June of that year. The beginning of the next year brought an official granting of freedom to slaves.

Emancipation Proclamation

On January 1, 1863, U.S. President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation. This act freed the slaves in the Confederacy. The slaves that were in the border states were still held in slavery. As president, Lincoln had the right to free the slaves in Confederate states. He could do this because those states were at war with the Union. By law, he could not free slaves in the slave-holding border states. This was because those states did not secede. Lincoln also asked slaves willing to fight to do so for the Union army. The slaves in the Confederacy were legally free, but they were still held as slaves.

Colonel Streight's Raid

The South did not have many railroads. Union soldiers knew that each railroad destroyed would hurt the South. In April 1863, Colonel A. D. Streight made a daring Union raid in north Alabama.

Colonel Streight planned to cut the railroad at Rome, Georgia. On his way, he planned to destroy any ironworks and military supplies he found. There were Alabama soldiers in the Union army who knew their way around the state. This made Streight's plan easier.

The Union colonel also had 1,500 soldiers and all the supplies he needed. Because of the rough mountain trails, Streight chose mules rather than horses for his men to ride. It was not a wise choice. The mules were slower than horses and harder to handle.

The Confederates Fight Back

Colonel Streight soon learned that General Nathan Bedford Forrest was following him. Forrest was a leader of the Confederate cavalry (soldiers mounted on horses). His soldiers, called the "Crittter Company," were fast riders. Forrest was called the "Wizard of the Saddle" because he rode so well.

General Forrest liked to say he could win if he got there first with the most men. Forrest had only 600 men when chasing Streight, but the general was clever. He tracked the Union soldiers across north Alabama. At several points in the chase, he caught up with them and they had quick skirmishes.

Streight kept pushing his tired men toward Rome. With Forrest only 16 miles behind him, Streight entered the Coosa River Valley. Streight ordered his Union troops to burn the bridge over Black Creek, west of Gadsden. The plan was to keep Forrest's men from following the Union soldiers.

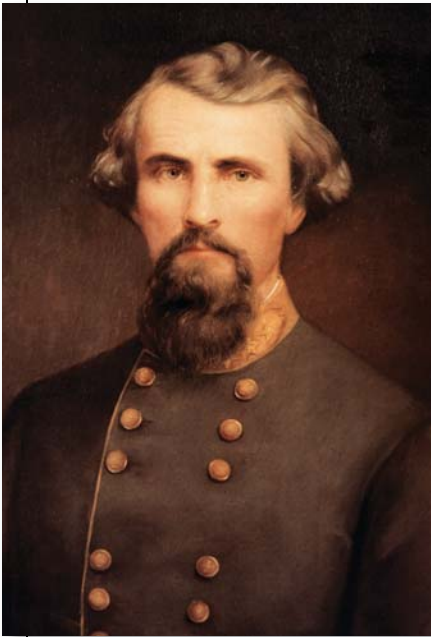
Emma Sansom—Young Heroine

When Forrest and his troops galloped up to the creek, the bridge was already in flames. The general whirled his horse around and rode to a nearby house. He asked if anyone knew a way to get across the creek. Fifteen-year-old Emma Sansom offered to show Forrest a place where the creek was not deep.

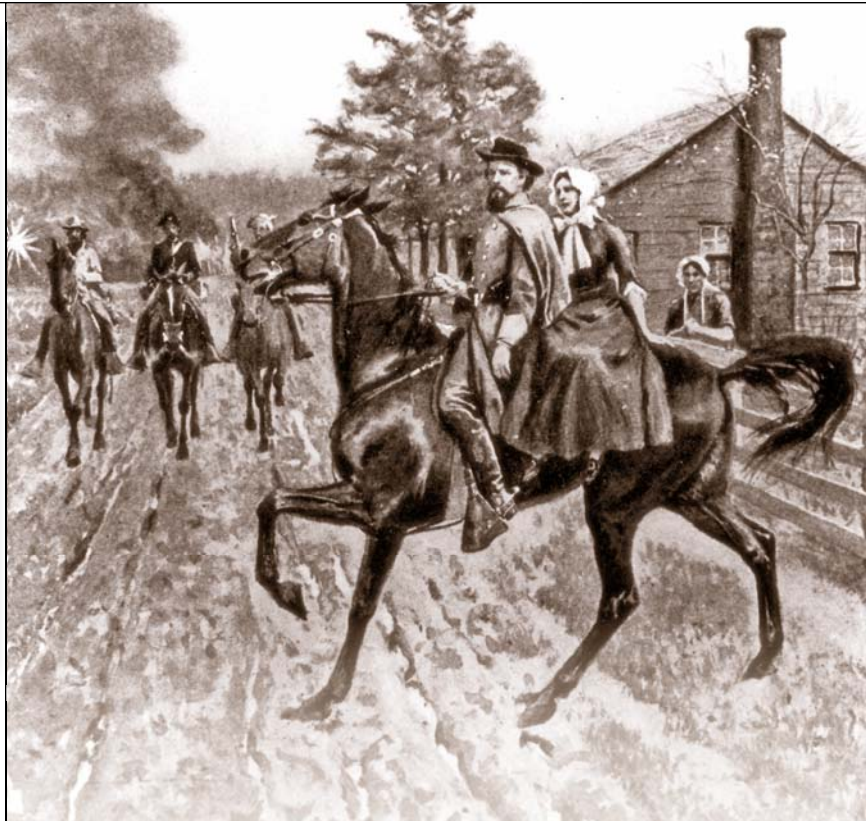


Map 24 Civil War Raids in Alabama

Map Skill: Which Union raid burned the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa?



Top: General Nathan Bedford Forrest's "Crittter Company" pursued Streight and his men across Alabama. **Above and above right:** Emma Sansom helped General Forrest cross the Coosa River after Streight's men had burned the bridge.



General Forrest reached down and pulled Emma up behind him. She guided him to a place where his troops could cross. As Forrest and Emma got off the horse, Union soldiers on the other side of the creek began firing. One bullet went through Emma's long skirt. She waved her bonnet at the Union soldiers, and they stopped shooting.

Forrest led his men across the creek. Soon they were close behind Streight and his soldiers.

The Civil War's Paul Revere

Once again, Colonel Streight put his hopes for escape on burning a bridge. Streight planned for his troops to cross the river just outside Rome, Georgia. He would then set fire to the bridge. He thought that would give him time to attack Rome and destroy the town's railroad and supplies.

A man named John H. Wisdom spoiled that plan. Wisdom was a postman who lived in Gadsden, 67 miles from Rome. He had seen the Union soldiers and guessed Streight's plan. He hurried to warn the people in Rome that troops were on the way.

Wisdom began his ride at 3:30 in the afternoon. Near midnight, he dashed across the bridge outside Rome and rode through the streets shouting, "The Yankees are coming!"

Citizens Make a Stand

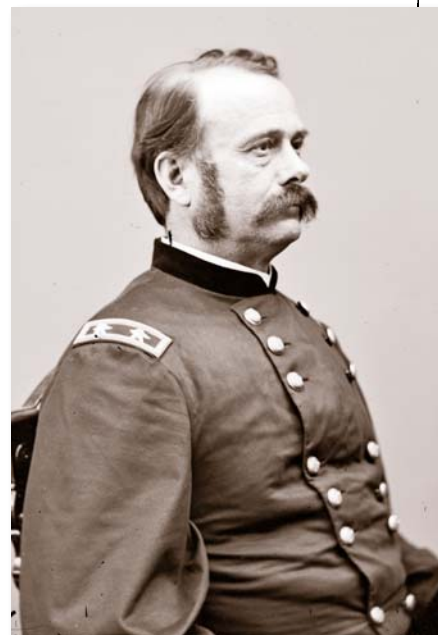
Wisdom's alarm cries woke the sleeping citizens. They moved quickly and blocked the bridge with bales of cotton. Two cannons were placed pointing over the cotton. The people gathered guns and other weapons.

On their way to Rome, Streight and his men went through Cherokee County. There they destroyed the Round Mountain smelting furnace. The first of the Union soldiers arrived in Rome long after midnight. They rode up to the bridge. The men found the bridge blocked and guns aimed at them. They heard the voices of many people moving about the town.

The soldiers did not even try to take the bridge. They hurried back to tell Colonel Streight that a large group of Confederate soldiers was in Rome.

About this time, Forrest caught up with Streight and a battle began. Forrest's men tricked the enemy by moving their 2 cannons from place to place. Colonel Streight thought the Confederates had at least 15 cannons. General Forrest also had his soldiers march around and around a small hill. Streight thought Forrest had a big army.

When Colonel Streight and his 1,466 men surrendered, he was surprised at what he found. General Forrest had fewer than 600 soldiers and only 2 cannons! As prisoners, Streight's men went to Richmond over the railroad they had hoped to destroy.



Rousseau's Raid

Union and Confederate soldiers fought back and forth over Decatur. All of this fighting caused a lot of damage to the town.

Union troops led by General Lovell H. Rousseau finally gained control of Decatur in the summer of 1864.

After the fall of Decatur, Rousseau led his 2,300 Union soldiers across the state. He destroyed ironworks in Calhoun and Talladega Counties and railroads near Auburn and Opelika. Rousseau's Raid made it harder for Confederates to supply their troops.

About Alabama

There were so many battles over Decatur that only three of the town's buildings remained after the fighting ended.

Top: Colonel Streight and his men were captured by Forrest after a battle at Rome. **Above:** General Lovell H. Rousseau captured Decatur in 1864 and then led a raid all the way across the state to Opelika.



Above: Admiral David Farragut commanded the Union fleet at the Battle of Mobile Bay (below). Opposite page, above: Admiral Farragut on board his ship, USS Hartford.

Battle for Mobile

Admiral David G. Farragut was in command of the Union navy. On August 5, 1864, he sailed into Mobile Bay with a **fleet** (group of ships) of 18 ships. He planned to capture Fort Morgan and Fort Gaines and take charge of Mobile and the bay. Farragut's ship, the USS *Hartford*, and 4 other Union ships were ironclads.

Admiral Franklin Buchanan, the Confederate commander, had only four ships. Three were built of wood; only the CSS *Tennessee* was covered with iron.

Farragut's ships started their run between Fort Morgan and Fort Gaines. The Confederates fired on them and sank the USS *Tecumseh* with a floating mine. But Farragut still had 17 ships in Mobile Bay to fight against Buchanan's 4 ships. It did not take long to put Buchanan's 3 small wooden ships out of action. Only the *Tennessee* was left to fight.

The *Tennessee* fought hard, but its smokestacks and steering gear were shot away. The ship had no guns left that would shoot. When the *Tennessee's* commander was badly wounded, the ship raised the white flag. That meant they wanted to surrender.

Fort Gaines also surrendered. Troops at Fort Morgan held out until supplies were gone and the fort was burned. On August 24, 1864, the Confederates put up the white flag.





The Union began its attack on the city of Mobile in August of 1864. The city was well defended and held out for eight months. In April 1865, the city surrendered to the Northern soldiers. While this was going on, fighting moved into central Alabama.

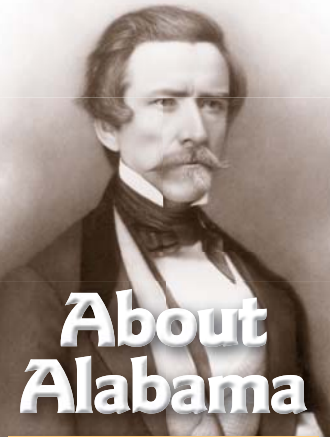
General Wilson's Raid

By 1865, the Union's plan was to destroy anything that could help the Confederacy's war effort. The city of Selma was a Union target because of the shipyard and weapons factories. In March 1865, Union General James Harrison Wilson left Lauderdale County with 13,500 cavalry. On the way to Selma, he planned to destroy all of the military supplies and factories he found.

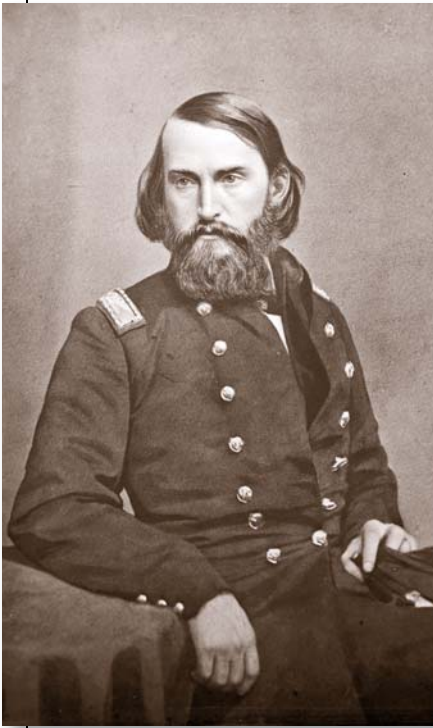
By March 30, Wilson's troops had reached the village of Elyton (today's Birmingham). They destroyed the ironworks there. Wilson then sent General John T. Croxton with about 4,000 men to Tuscaloosa. Their mission was to destroy its factories and ironworks. They were also to burn the University of Alabama. It was a training center for Confederate **cadets** (young military students).

The University of Alabama Is Burned

Croxton's men entered Tuscaloosa. They burned a hat factory and stopped a wedding to take the groom and male guests as prisoners. They also took the weapons of the university's cadets.



About Alabama
Admiral Raphael Semmes served on the *CSS Alabama* during the Civil War. His ship captured 69 U.S. ships and destroyed a U.S. warship. He is buried in the Old Catholic Cemetery in Mobile. The city of Semmes is named for the admiral.



Above: General John T. Croxton led the raid across Alabama that included the burning of the University of Alabama campus. Opposite page, above: Confederate commander Robert E. Lee (seated left) surrendered to Union commander Ulysses S. Grant (seated to the right of Lee) at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865, bringing the Civil War to an end.

On April 4, Croxton's troops burned all but three university buildings. After the war, the U.S. Congress gave the University of Alabama public lands to pay for the damages.

The Battle for Selma Is Lost

While Croxton raided Tuscaloosa, General Wilson's Union soldiers marched to Montevallo. There they destroyed mines and ironworks before going on to Selma.

Selma was one of the Confederacy's leading industrial centers. When General Wilson reached Selma on April 2, 1865, he had about 9,000 Union troops. General Forrest defended the city with about 3,000 men. Wilson's forces took over Selma. Forrest and a few of his men barely escaped.

Wilson destroyed Selma's weapons and factories. After Selma surrendered, the Union troops burned homes. They stole food and anything else they wanted. They insulted women and killed people they thought might be hiding items of value. Then, the soldiers set fire to three-fourths of the town's businesses. Wilson and his men left Selma badly damaged.

Montgomery Surrenders

Montgomery citizens heard what happened to Selma. The mayor surrendered his city on April 12, 1865, as soon as Wilson arrived. The general kept control over his troops, so there was not much looting.

The biggest danger to Montgomery came from Confederate soldiers. They burned almost 100,000 bales of cotton to keep it out of Union hands. The fire got out of control. But finally the wind blew the flames away from the city.

Wilson and his soldiers destroyed military supplies, factories, railroad cars, and steamboats. Montgomery, the "Cradle of the Confederacy," fell into Union hands exactly four years after the war began.

The End of the War

General Robert E. Lee was commander of all Confederate forces. General Ulysses S. Grant was commander of the Union army. Lee surrendered at Appomattox Court House in Virginia on April 9, 1865. Several battles were fought after the war ended because the news had not reached all soldiers. The last battle in Alabama took place on April 16, 1865.



Over 600,000 Americans lost their lives in the Civil War. This number included around 360,000 Union troops. The Confederacy lost about 260,000 soldiers. More soldiers died in this war than in any other war the United States has ever fought.

In June 1865, Alabama Bishop James O. Andrews of the Methodist Episcopal Church South wrote:

We have maintained a long and bloody struggle; our soldiers have fought bravely, although forced to submit to overwhelming numbers, yet we have lost no honor, our enemies being the judges. Now that our armies have been properly surrendered and our brave soldiers are returning to their much loved homes. . . let us deport ourselves as quiet, peace-loving, peace-seeking citizens. . . .

Think It Through!

1. What document announced freedom for slaves?
2. What did the Union soldiers try to destroy first? Why?
3. What did Streight's men ride?
4. Who was the heroine who helped General Forrest?



About Alabama

Juliet Opie Hopkins of Mobile traveled to Virginia to open a hospital for Alabama soldiers with her own money. Later, citizens sent donations and the state helped. To honor Hopkins, her picture was printed on two bills of Alabama Confederate money.

Chapter Review

Chapter Summary

The Blue (North) and the Gray (South) had many differences that caused them to go to war. The North (Union) had a much larger population. Many of those people worked in factories. Most of the South's (Confederacy's) people lived on farms. Slavery was another important difference. Over one-third of Southerners were slaves.

Alabama seceded from the Union and joined the Confederate States of America in 1861. Not all Alabamians wanted to leave the Union. Those who did not want to secede were called unionists. Jefferson Davis's inauguration as president of the Confederacy was in Montgomery. That city is called the "Cradle of the Confederacy."

The Civil War began on April 12, 1861. A large number of Alabamians fought and died in the war. Almost everyone worked in one way or another for the war effort.

There were 78 battles and skirmishes fought in Alabama. Union troops marched through the state destroying farms, homes, animals, and industries. The only naval battle in Alabama was in Mobile Bay. In that battle, Admiral Farragut was the Union commander, and Admiral Buchanan was the Confederate commander. After 17 Union ships put 4 Confederate ships out of action, they moved to attack Mobile. General Wilson's Union troops captured Montgomery.

On April 9, 1865, Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrendered to Union General Ulysses S. Grant in Virginia. The Civil War was finally over.



Remember

Look at the words below and find the word with the *opposite* meaning. On a separate sheet of paper, write the correct word to complete the statement below.

Rural	Surrender
Secede	Unionist

1. Urban is opposite to _____.
2. Fight is opposite to _____.
3. Join is opposite to _____.
4. Secessionist is opposite to _____.



Reviewing the Facts

1. What is sectionalism?
2. Where was the first capital of the Confederate States of America?
3. Who was president of the Confederacy? The Union?
4. Which city made much of the ammunition used by the South?
5. Who were the Confederate and Union admirals in the Battle of Mobile Bay?
6. Name the military leader of the Confederacy (South) and the military leader of the Union (North) who met on April 9, 1865.



Using Critical Thinking Skills

1. Why do you think flour cost \$300 a barrel during the war?
2. Why is Montgomery called the “Cradle of the Confederacy”?
3. Why did some Alabamians fight on the Union side?
4. Everyone left at home had to work during the war. If you were a fourth grader during the war, what jobs would you do?
5. How were John H. Wisdom’s actions similar to those of Paul Revere?
6. Why did some soldiers continue to fight after the war ended?



Making Decisions

1. If you had lived in Winston County, how would you have voted on the secession question? Why?
2. What decision did Emma Sansom make that helped the Confederacy? What chance did she take?



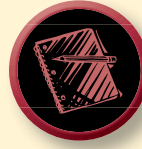
Project

Draw a sketch of three people of the Civil War. Tell why you chose them.



Writing

Imagine you are a military leader or a “common soldier” in the Civil War. Write a story about your feelings and experiences in a battle. Be sure to include sounds, sights, smells, sensations, and emotions in your story.



Preparing for Tests

Multiple Choice—These questions are like those you might see on tests. Write your answers on a separate sheet of paper.

1. The North wanted a tax on European-made goods. The South did not want this tax. Why did the South reject this tax?
 - A. The South made many factory goods.
 - B. The South feared that Europe would then tax Southern cotton.
 - C. The North bought many European goods.
 - D. Europe wanted this tax.
2. Why did the unionists in Winston County have a different point of view than most of the people in Alabama?
 - A. Winston County had many large slave owners.
 - B. Winston County wanted to grow tobacco.
 - C. Winston County did not want to fight their neighbors.
 - D. Winston County wanted the North to win.



Using Technology

You are going to take a closer look at some of the well-known names from the Civil War. On the Internet, go to americancivilwar.com. Scroll down to People and choose a man or woman on the list. Write three facts about this person and share with your class. Answer this question: How did this person make a difference?