



A Promise of Freedom and Hardships of War

Section 17.3 and 17.4

Emancipation Proclamation

What:

- the Emancipation Proclamation, **the formal declaration that freed slaves in the Confederacy**, but not in slave states that remained with the Union or in Confederate lands that had been captured by the Union.

Why Issued:

- Emancipation would **weaken the Confederacy's ability to carry on the war**.
- He hoped to **introduce the idea of emancipation slowly**, by limiting it to territory controlled by the Confederacy. He expected to introduce the idea of emancipation in other areas later.

Emancipation Proclamation

Impact:

- The declaration **changed the purpose of the war**. Now, Union troops were fighting to **end slavery** as well as to **save the Union**.
- **Southerners were angered**. They saw the declaration as a “fiend’s act” to destroy their property.
- **Europeans** were sympathetic to the proclamation. Now they were **less likely to side with the South**.

African Americans in the War

- Enlisted in the Union army.
- At first black troops served only as laborers, building roads and guarding supplies.
- Fought in major battles.
 - 54th Massachusetts Regiment: led an attack on Fort Wagner
- Many enslaved African Americans slowed down work or refused to work at all.
- Wherever a Union army appeared, slaves from all over the area would cross the Union lines to freedom.

Hard Life of Soldiers

- Most soldiers were under the age of 21. As the death toll rose, the South drafted boys as young as 17 and men as old as 50.
- New technology added to the horror of war. In most battles, one fourth or more of the soldiers were killed or wounded.
- Medical care on the battlefield was crude. Surgeons routinely amputated injured arms and legs. Sanitary conditions were poor, and nothing was known about germs or how wounds became infected.
- Diseases like pneumonia and malaria killed more men than guns or cannons.

Women in the War

- With so many men gone to war, women took jobs in industry and on farms.
- Women's aid societies helped supply the troops with food, bedding, clothing, and medicine. Women held fundraisers to pay for war supplies.
- Women worked as nurses. Dorothea Dix and Clara Barton became nurses for the Union army. Sojourner Truth worked in Union hospitals. Sally Tompkins set up a Confederate hospital.

Problems in the North

- Some northerners opposed using force to keep the South in the Union. Supporters of the war called these people Copperheads, after the poisonous snake.
- There was a shortage of volunteers to serve in the army. Some men took money to enlist in the army, then deserted.
- In 1863, Congress passed a draft law, a law requiring all able-bodied males between ages 20 and 45 to serve in the military if they were called. Opposition to the draft law led to riots.
- President Lincoln moved to stop the riots and other “disloyal practices.” Several times, he suspended habeas corpus, the right to be charged or have a hearing before being jailed. The President also said that those arrested could be tried under the stricter rules of a military court.

Problems in the South

- Many southerners firmly believed in states' rights. They resisted paying taxes to a central government, so the government could not collect enough money to pay for the war.
- Like the North, the South was forced to pass a draft law to fill its army.
- Near the end of the war, the South no longer had enough white men to fill the ranks.
- The Confederate congress reluctantly agrees to let enslaved African Americans serve. The war ends before this can take place.

Economic Impact on the North

- **Income tax**—To pay for the war, Congress established the nation's first income tax, or **tax on people's earnings**, in 1861. A new agency, the Internal Revenue Bureau, oversaw the collection of taxes.
- **Inflation**—The Union issued millions of dollars worth of bonds. When taxes and bonds did not raise enough money, the North printed more than \$400 million in paper money. **As the money supply increased, each dollar became worth less.** In response, **businesses raised their prices.** The North experienced **inflation, a rise in prices and a decrease in the value of money.**
- **Increased farm production**—With so many farmers going off to war, the demand rose for farm machines to plant and harvest crops. Farm production actually went up.
- **Increased industrial profits**—Wartime **demand** for clothing, shoes, guns, and other goods **helped many northern industries.** *Some manufacturers made fortunes by profiteering. **Profiteers** charged excessive prices for desperately needed war goods.*

Economic Impact on the South

- **Income tax**—To raise money, the Confederacy imposed an income tax and a tax-in-kind. The **tax-in-kind** required farmers to turn over one tenth of their crops to the government.
- **Inflation**—The South printed so much paper money that wild inflation set in.
- **Loss of the cotton trade**—The war damaged the cotton trade. **President Davis stopped the South's cotton trade with Britain.** He was hoping to force Britain to side with the South in return for cotton. Britain, however, just bought its cotton from Egypt and India instead.
- **Severe shortages**—The **Union blockade created severe shortages of goods from overseas.** The South began to build and run its own factories. The blockade also brought **food shortages.** Many plantations switched from growing cotton to raising grain and livestock.