

Reconstruction

(1865-1876)

Key Questions

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graph TD; Title[Key Questions] --> Q1[1. How do we bring the South back into the Union?]; Title --> Q2[2. How do we rebuild the South after its destruction during the war?]; Title --> Q3[3. How do we integrate and protect newly-emancipated black freedmen?]; Title --> Q4[4. What branch of government should control the process of Reconstruction?]; Q1 --> Q2; Q1 --> Q3; Q4 --> Q2; Q4 --> Q3;
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1. How do we bring the South back into the Union?

2. How do we rebuild the South after its destruction during the war?

3. How do we integrate and protect newly-emancipated black freedmen?

4. What branch of government should control the process of Reconstruction?

Wartime

Reconstruction

President Lincoln's Plan



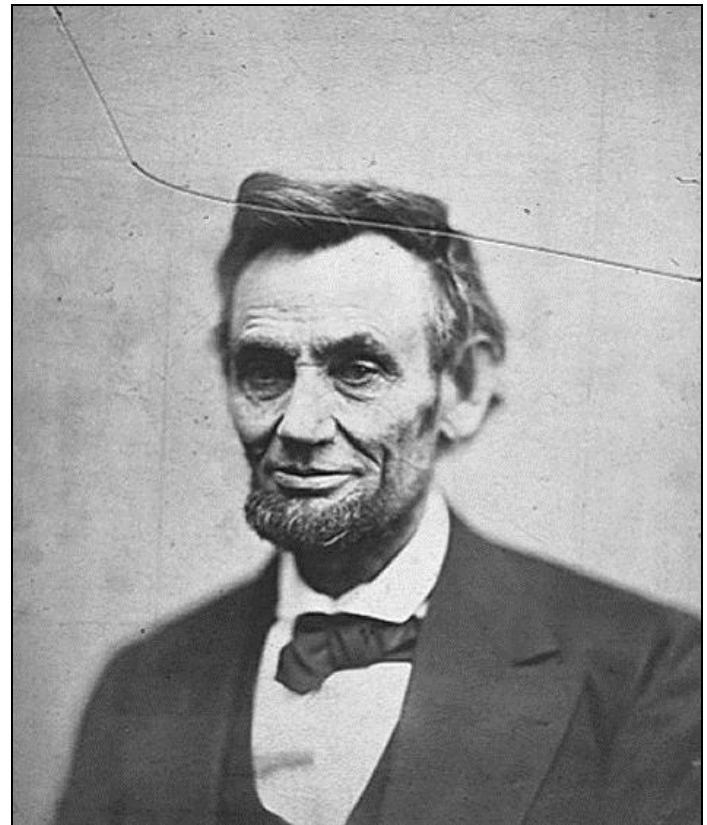
★ *10% Plan*

- * Proclamation of Amnesty and Reconstruction (December 8, 1863)
- * Replace majority rule with "loyal rule" in the South.
- * He didn't consult Congress regarding Reconstruction.
- * Pardon to all but the highest ranking military and civilian Confederate officers.
- * When 10% of the voting population in the 1860 election had taken an oath of loyalty and established a government, it would be recognized.

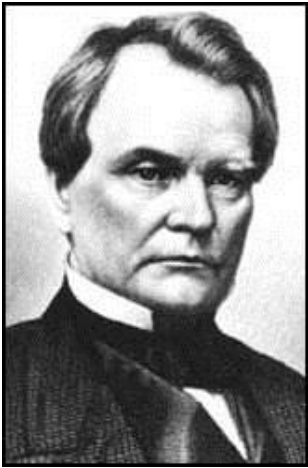
President Lincoln's Plan

★ 1864 → "Lincoln Governments"
formed in LA, TN, AR

- * "loyal assemblies"
- * They were weak and dependent on the Northern army for their survival.



Wade-Davis Bill (1864)



Senator
Benjamin
Wade
(R-OH)

- ★ Required 50% of the number of 1860 voters to take an "iron clad" oath of allegiance (swearing they had never voluntarily aided the rebellion).
- ★ Required a state constitutional convention before the election of state officials.
- ★ Enacted specific safeguards of freedmen's liberties.



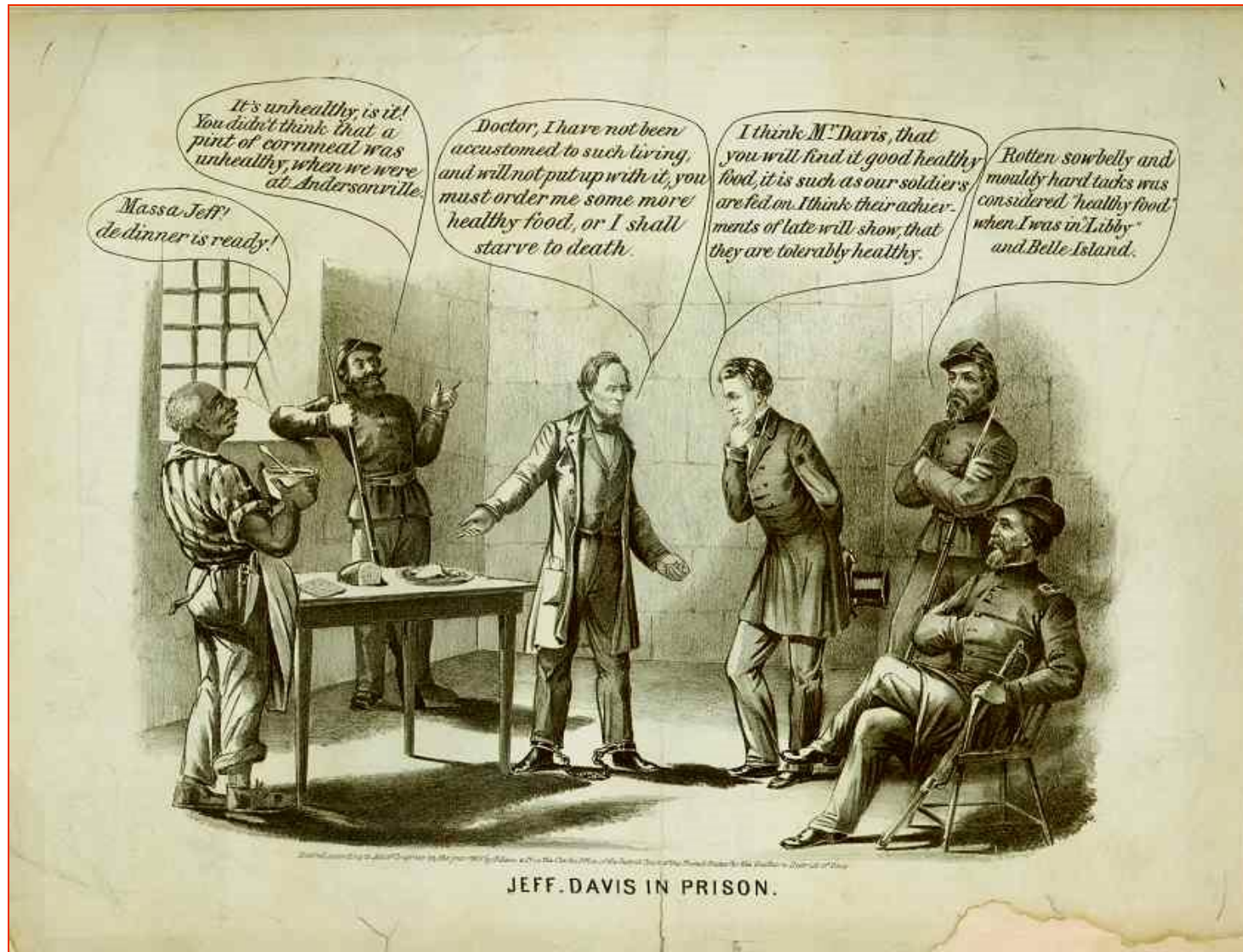
Congressman
Henry
W. Davis
(R-MD)

Wade-Davis Bill (1864)

- ★ "Iron-Clad" Oath.
- ★ "State Suicide" Theory [MA Senator Charles Sumner]
- ★ "Conquered Provinces" Position [PA Congressman Thaddeus Stevens]



Jeff Davis Under Arrest



13th Amendment

- ★ Ratified in December, 1865.
- ★ *Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States or any place subject to their jurisdiction.*
- ★ *Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.*

Freedmen's Bureau (1865)



- ★ Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands.
- ★ Many former northern abolitionists risked their lives to help southern freedmen.
- ★ Called "**carpetbaggers**" by white southern Democrats.

Freedmen's Bureau Seen Through Southern Eyes

*Plenty to
eat and
nothing to
do.*



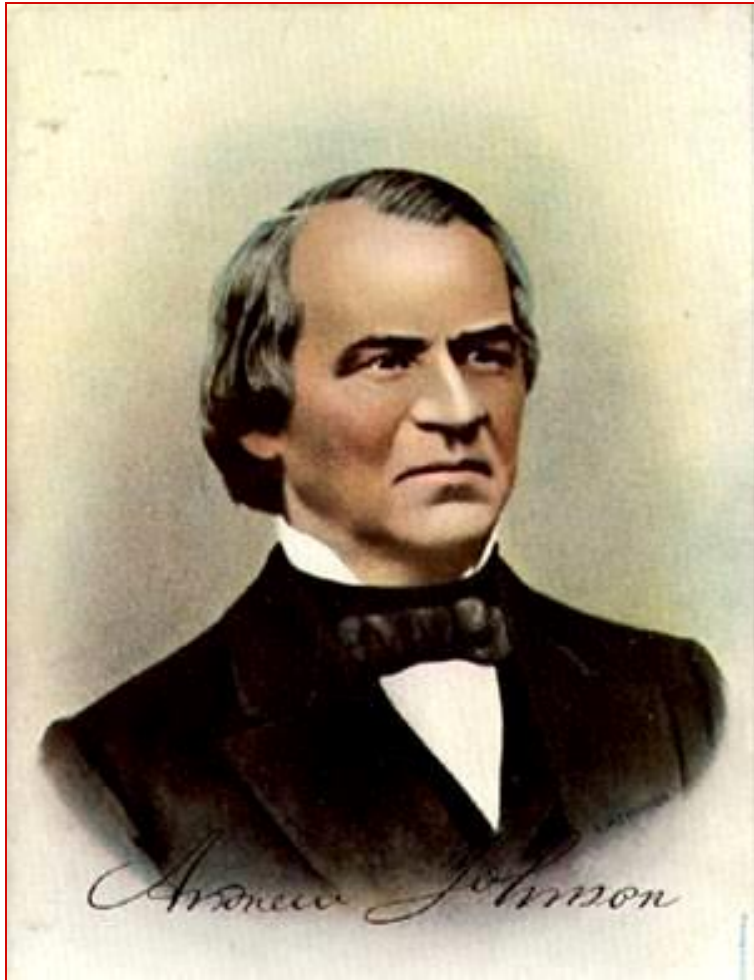
Freedmen's Bureau School



Presidential

Reconstruction

President Andrew Johnson



- ★ Jacksonian Democrat.
- ★ Anti-Aristocrat.
- ★ White Supremacist.
- ★ Agreed with Lincoln that states had never legally left the Union.

Damn the negroes! I am fighting these traitorous aristocrats, their masters!

President Johnson's Plan (10%+)

- ★ Offered amnesty upon simple oath to all except Confederate civil and military officers and those with property over \$20,000 (they could apply directly to Johnson)
- ★ In new constitutions, they must accept minimum conditions repudiating slavery, secession and state debts.
- ★ Named provisional governors in Confederate states and called them to oversee elections for constitutional conventions.

EFFECTS?

1. Disenfranchised certain leading Confederates.
2. Pardoned planter aristocrats brought them back to political power to control state organizations.
3. Republicans were outraged that planter elite were back in power in the South!

Growing Northern Alarm!

- ★ Many Southern state constitutions fell short of minimum requirements.
- ★ Johnson granted 13,500 special pardons.
- ★ Revival of southern defiance.



BLACK CODES

Slavery is Dead?



Black Codes

★ Purpose:

- * Guarantee stable labor supply now that blacks were emancipated.
- * Restore pre-emancipation system of race relations.

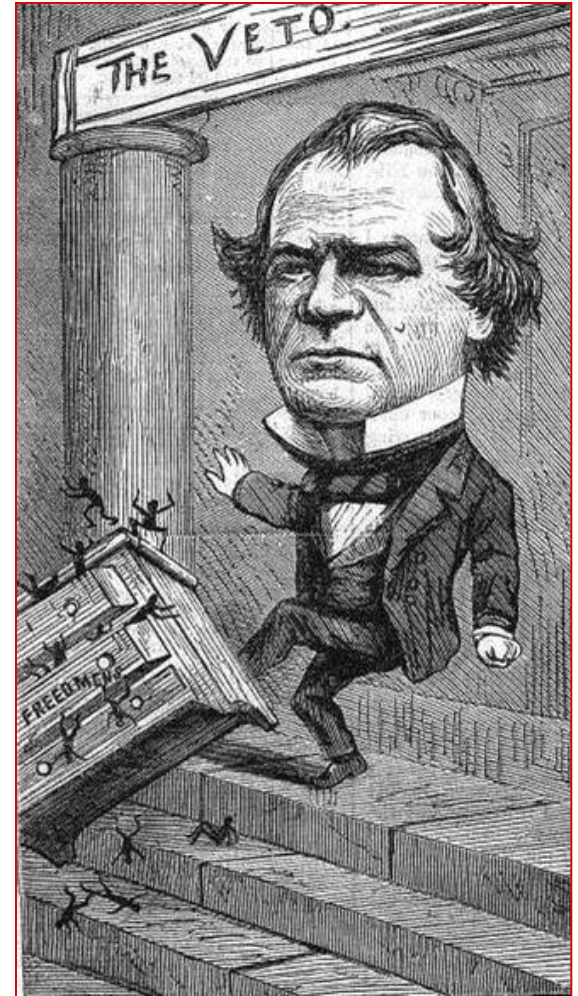


- ★ Forced many blacks to become **sharecroppers** [tenant farmers].

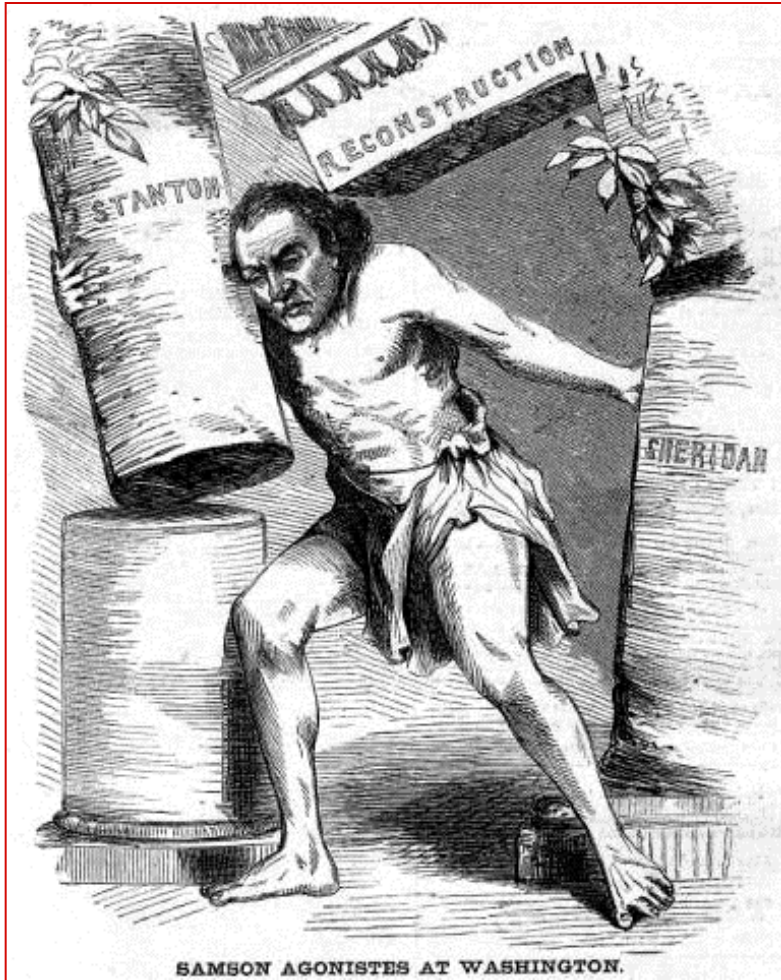


Congress Breaks with the President

- ★ Congress bars Southern Congressional delegates.
- ★ Joint Committee on Reconstruction created.
- ★ February, 1866 → President vetoed the Freedmen's Bureau bill.
- ★ March, 1866 → Johnson vetoed the 1866 Civil Rights Act.
- ★ Congress passed both bills over Johnson's vetoes → 1st in U. S. history!!



Johnson the Martyr / Samson



If my blood is to be shed because I vindicate the Union and the preservation of this government in its original purity and character, let it be shed; let an altar to the Union be erected, and then, if it is necessary, take me and lay me upon it, and the blood that now warms and animates my existence shall be poured out as a fit libation to the Union.

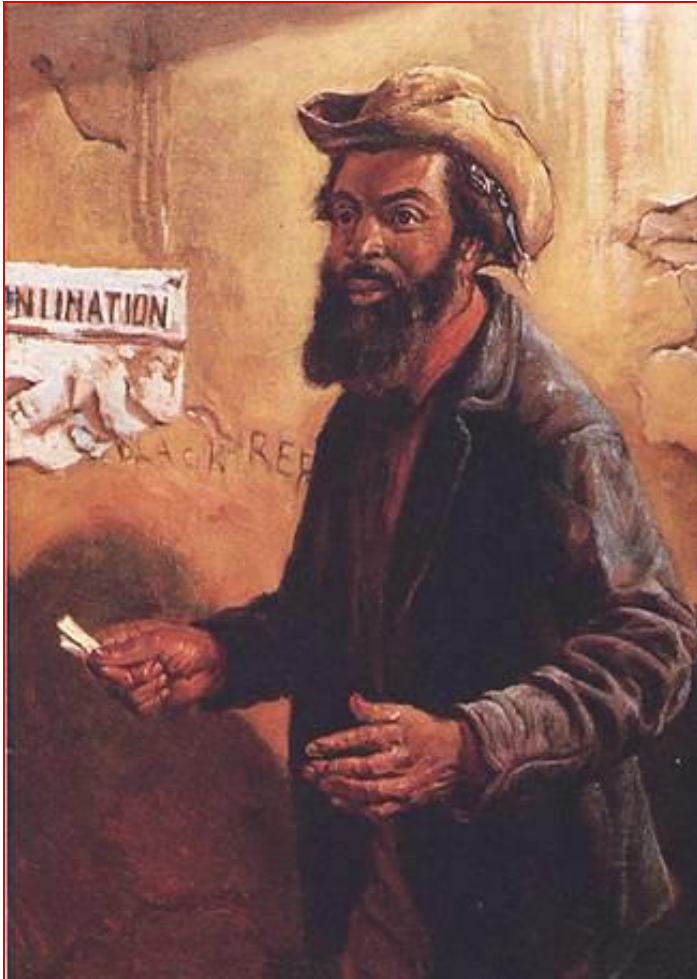
(February 1866)

Radical (Congressional) Reconstruction

14th Amendment

- ★ Ratified in July, 1868.
 - * Provide a constitutional guarantee of the rights and security of freed people.
 - * Insure against neo-Confederate political power.
 - * Enshrine the national debt while repudiating that of the Confederacy.
- ★ Southern states would be punished for denying the right to vote to black citizens!

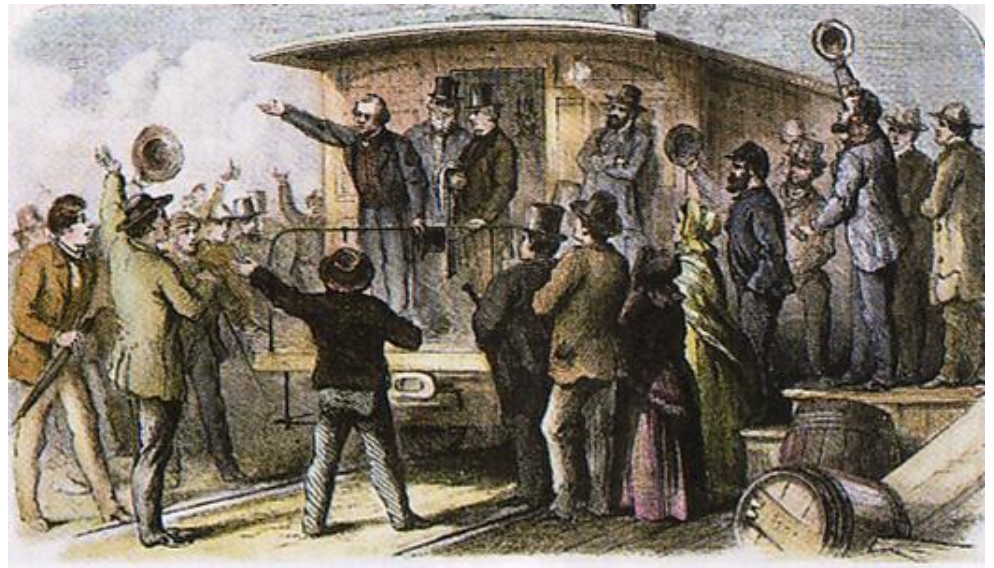
The Balance of Power in Congress



State	White Citizens	Freedmen
SC	291,000	411,000
MS	353,000	436,000
LA	357,000	350,000
GA	591,000	465,000
AL	596,000	437,000
VA	719,000	533,000
NC	631,000	331,000

The 1866 Bi-Election

- ★ A referendum on Radical Reconstruction.
- ★ Johnson made an ill-conceived propaganda tour around the country to push his plan.
- ★ Republicans won a 3-1 majority in both houses and gained control of every northern state.



Johnson's "Swing around the Circle"

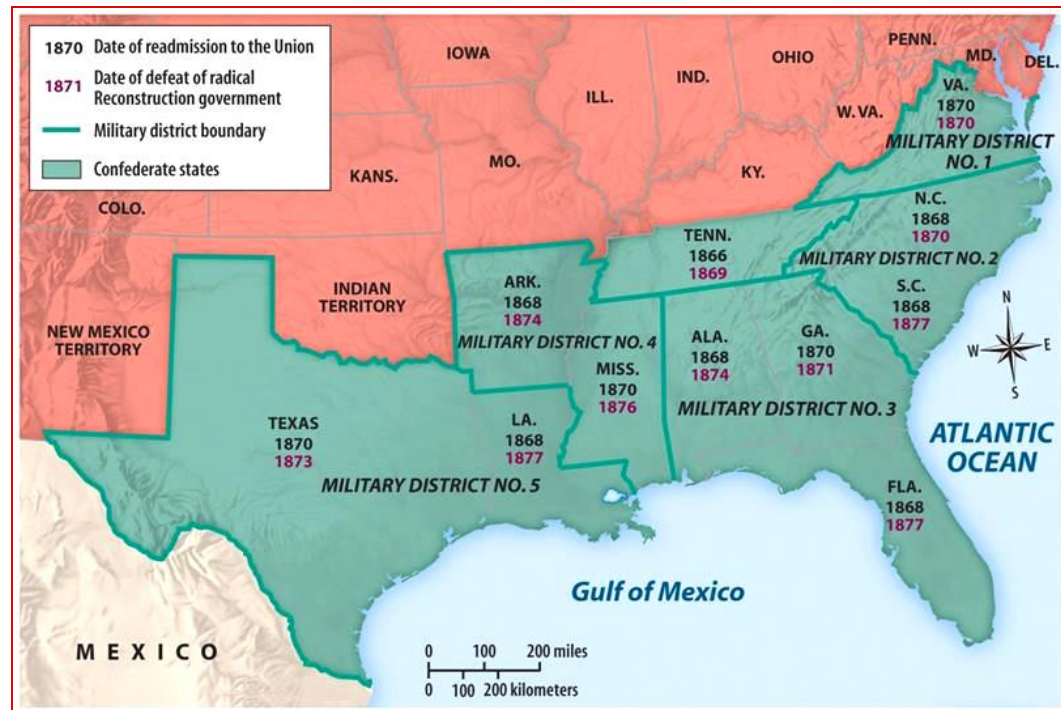
Radical Plan for Readmission

- ★ Civil authorities in the territories were subject to military supervision.
- ★ Required new state constitutions, including black suffrage and ratification of the 13th and 14th Amendments.
- ★ In March, 1867, Congress passed an act that authorized the military to enroll eligible black voters and begin the process of constitution making.

Reconstruction Acts of 1867

★ Military Reconstruction Act

- * Restart Reconstruction in the 10 Southern states that refused to ratify the 14th Amendment.
- * Divide the 10 “unreconstructed states” into 5 military districts.



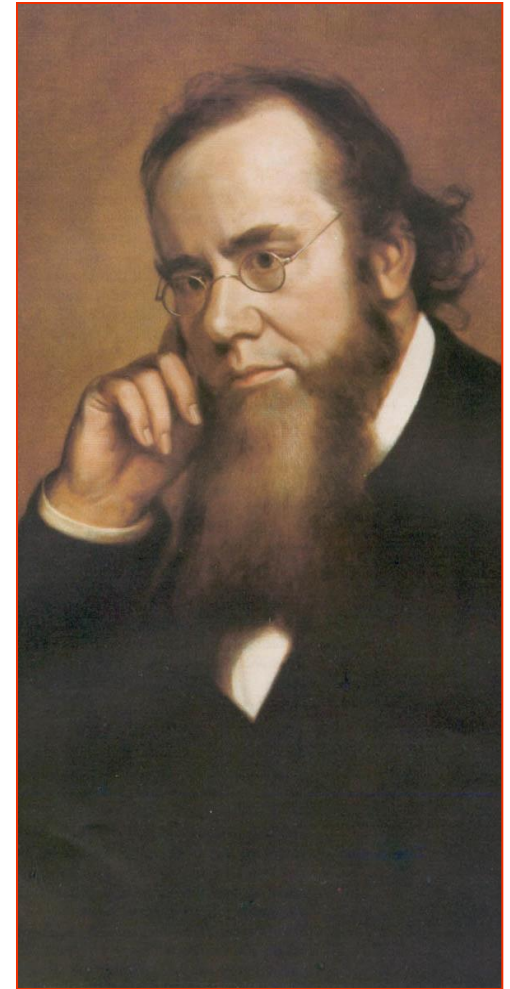
Reconstruction Acts of 1867

★ Command of the Army Act

- * The President must issue all Reconstruction orders through the commander of the military.

★ Tenure of Office Act

- * The President could not remove any officials [esp. Cabinet members] without the Senate's consent, if the position originally required Senate approval.
 - Designed to protect radical members of Lincoln's government.
 - A question of the constitutionality of this law.



Edwin Stanton

President Johnson's Impeachment

- ★ Johnson removed Stanton in February, 1868.
- ★ Johnson replaced generals in the field who were more sympathetic to Radical Reconstruction.
- ★ The House impeached him on February 24

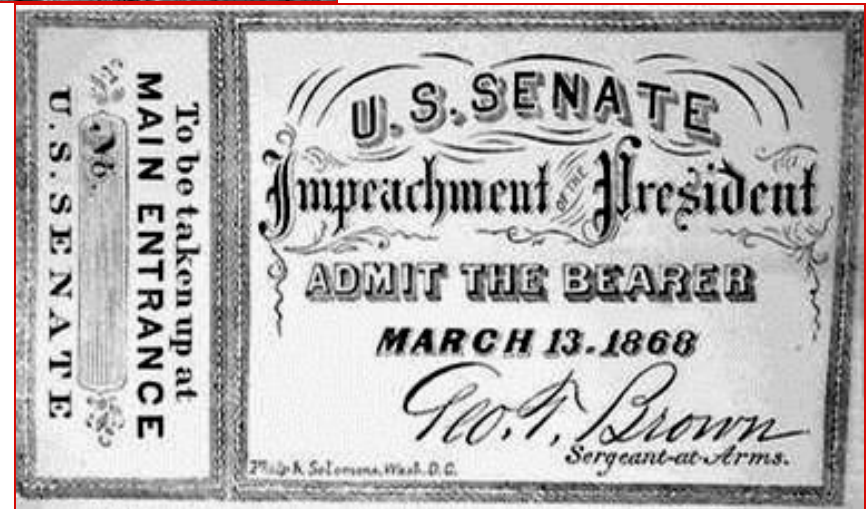
before even drawing up the charges by a vote of 126 - 47!



The Senate Trial

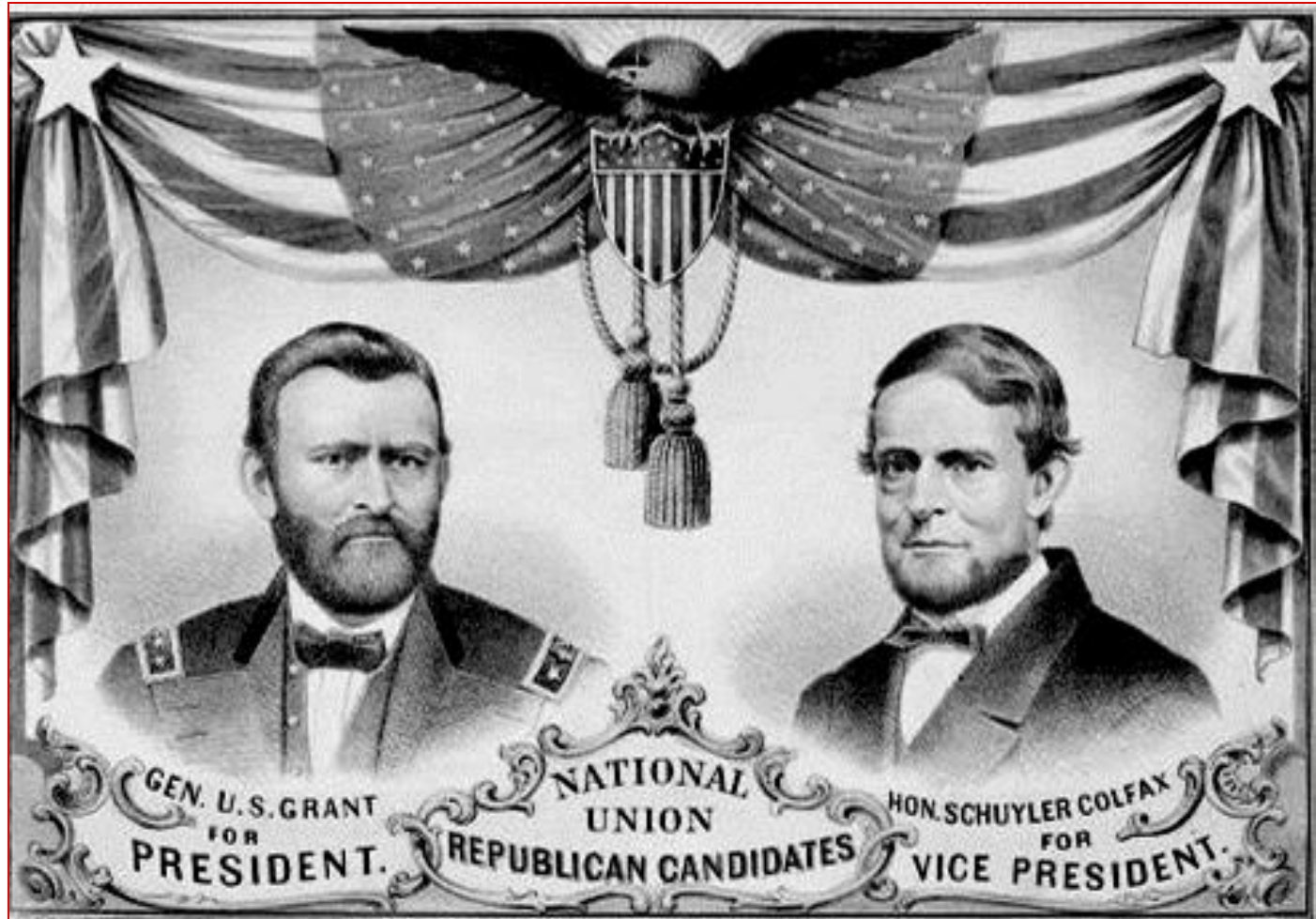


- ★ 11 week trial.
- ★ Johnson acquitted 35 to 19 (one short of required 2/3s vote).

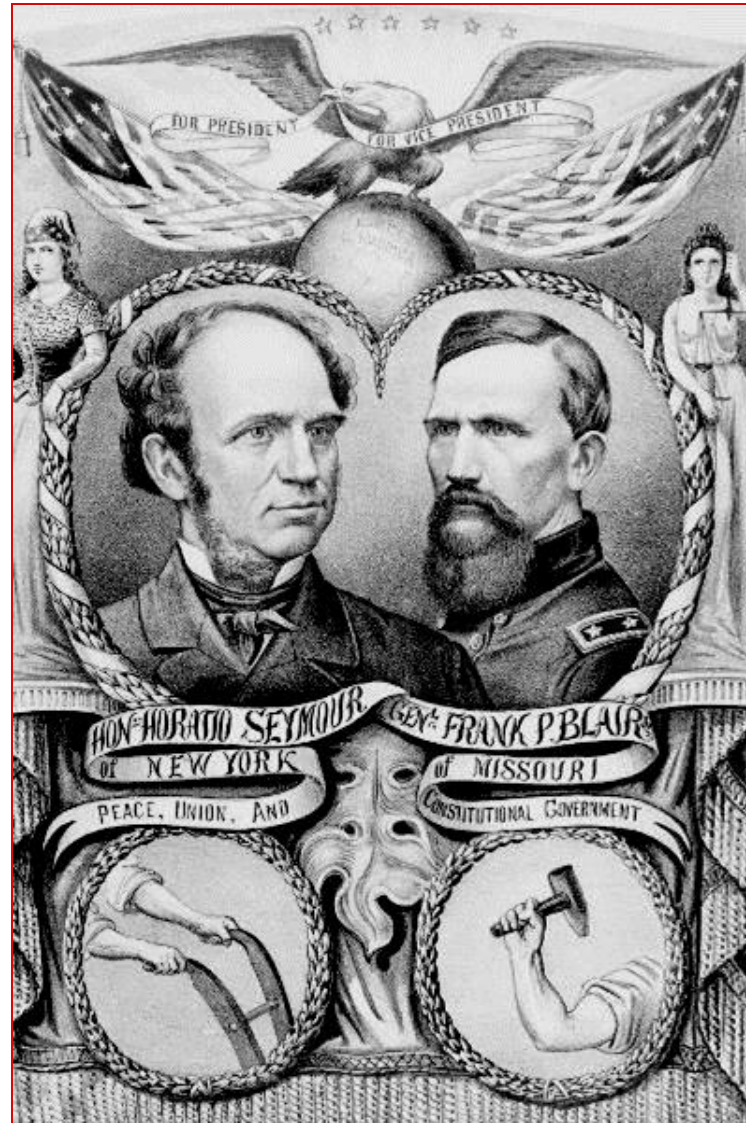


**The
Grant
Administration
(1868-1876)**

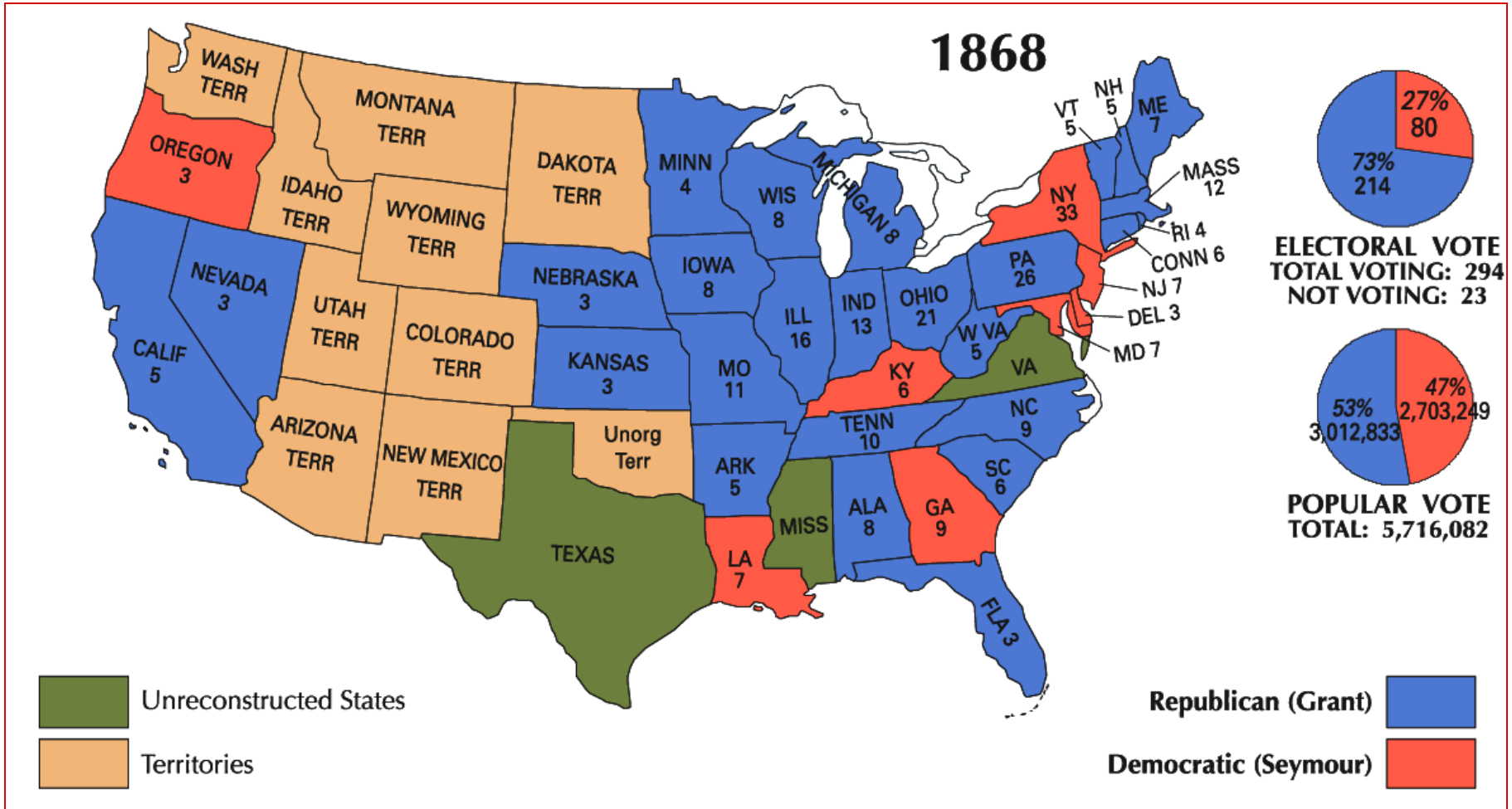
The 1868 Republican Ticket



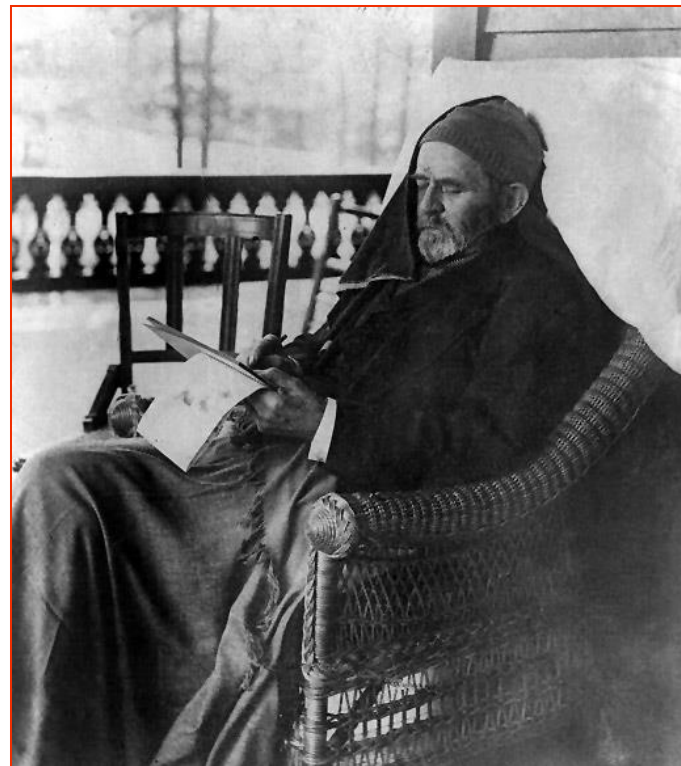
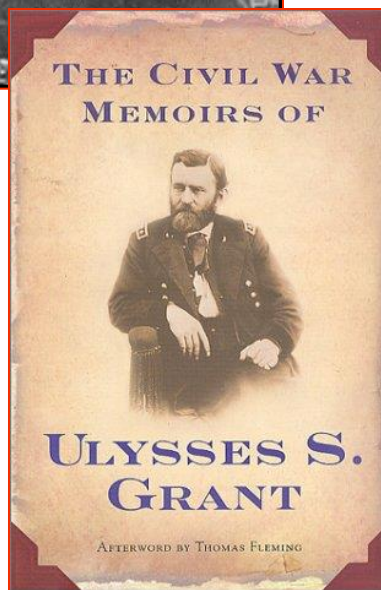
The 1868 Democratic Ticket



1868 Presidential Election



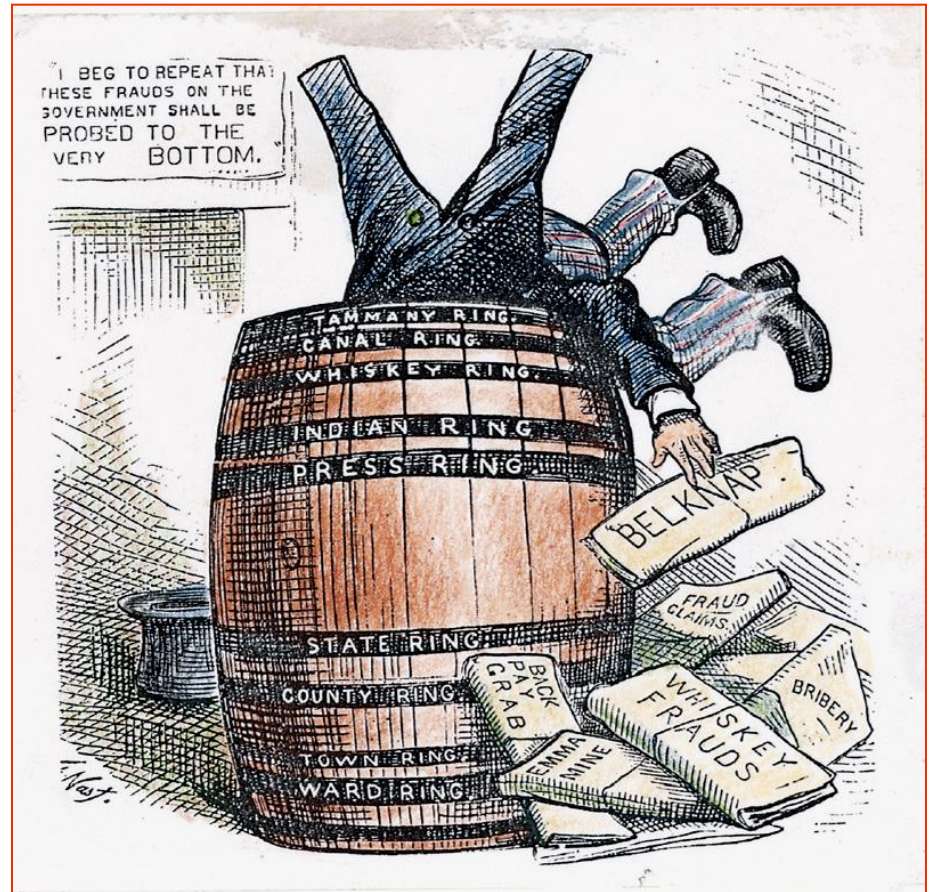
President Ulysses S. Grant



Grant Administration Scandals

★ Grant presided over an era of unprecedented growth and corruption.

- * Credit Mobilier Scandal.
- * Whiskey Ring.
- * The "Indian Ring."



The Tweed Ring in NYC



William Marcy Tweed

(notorious head of **Tammany Hall's** political machine)

[**Thomas Nast** → crusading cartoonist/reporter]

Who Stole the People's Money?



"WHO STOLE THE PEOPLES MONEY?" — DO TELL .NY.TIMES.

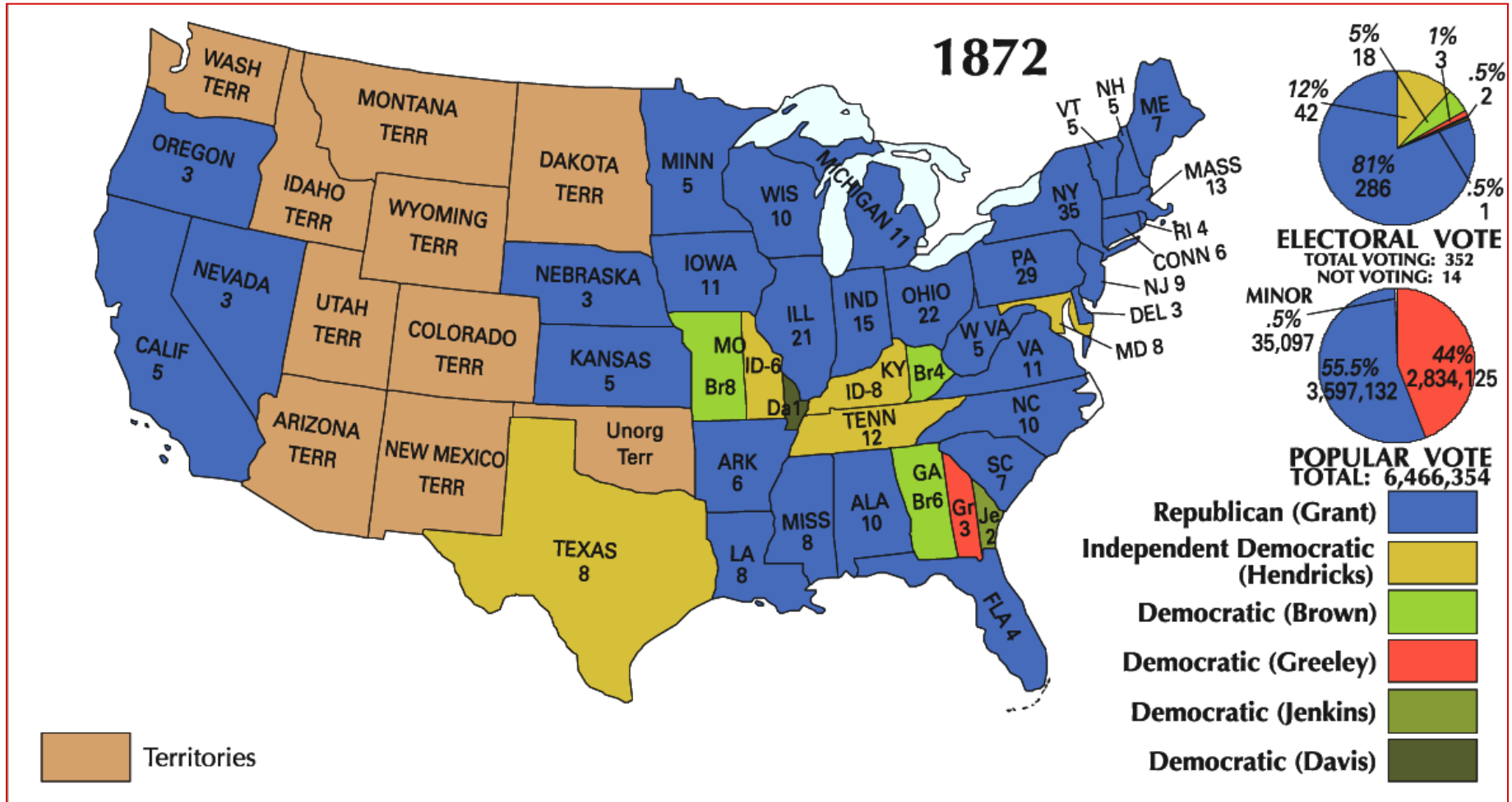
'T WAS HIM.

The Election of 1872

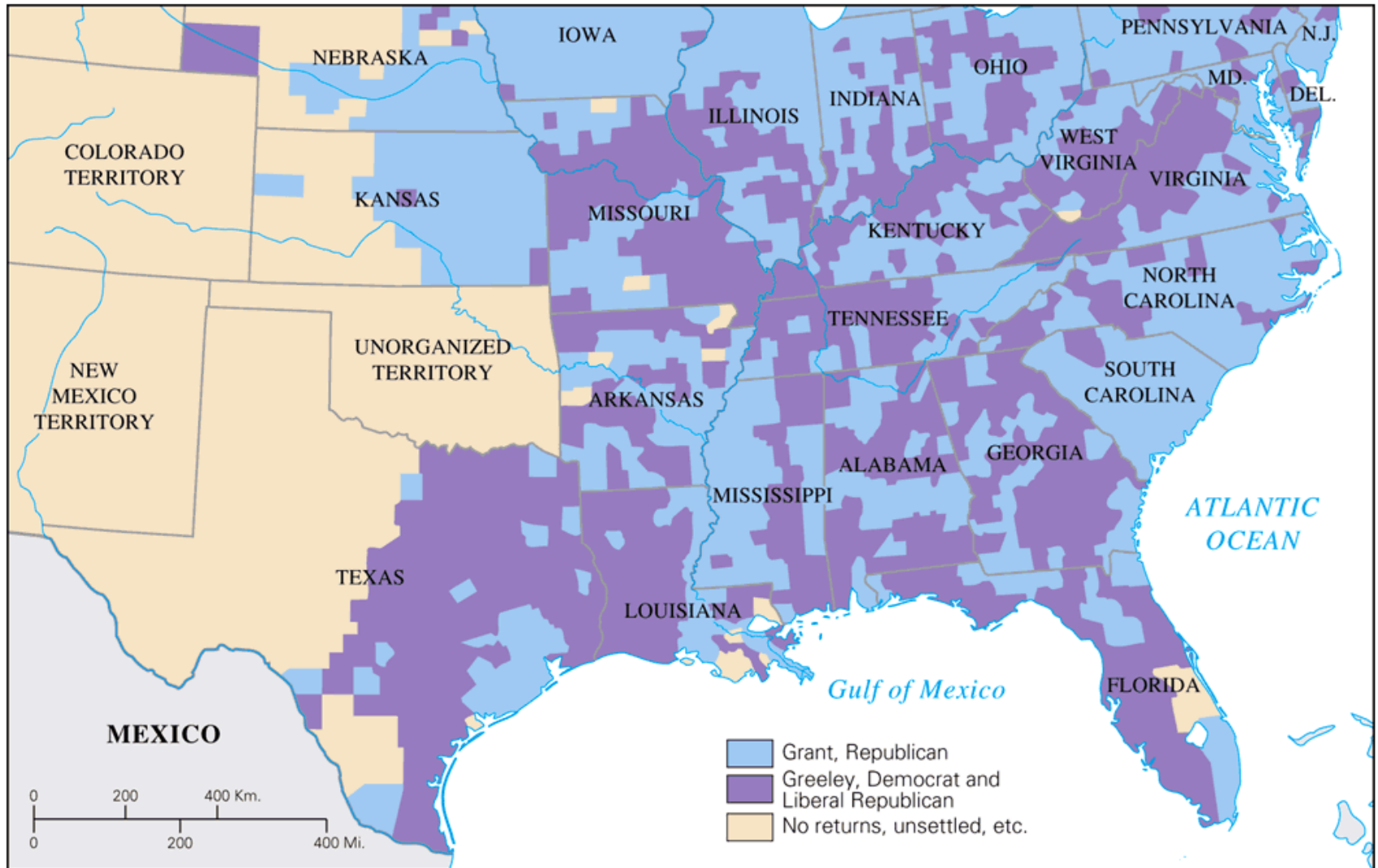


- ★ Rumors of corruption during Grant's first term discredit Republicans.
- ★ Horace Greeley runs as a Democrat/Liberal Republican candidate.
- ★ Greeley attacked as a fool and a crank.
- ★ Greeley died on November 29, 1872!

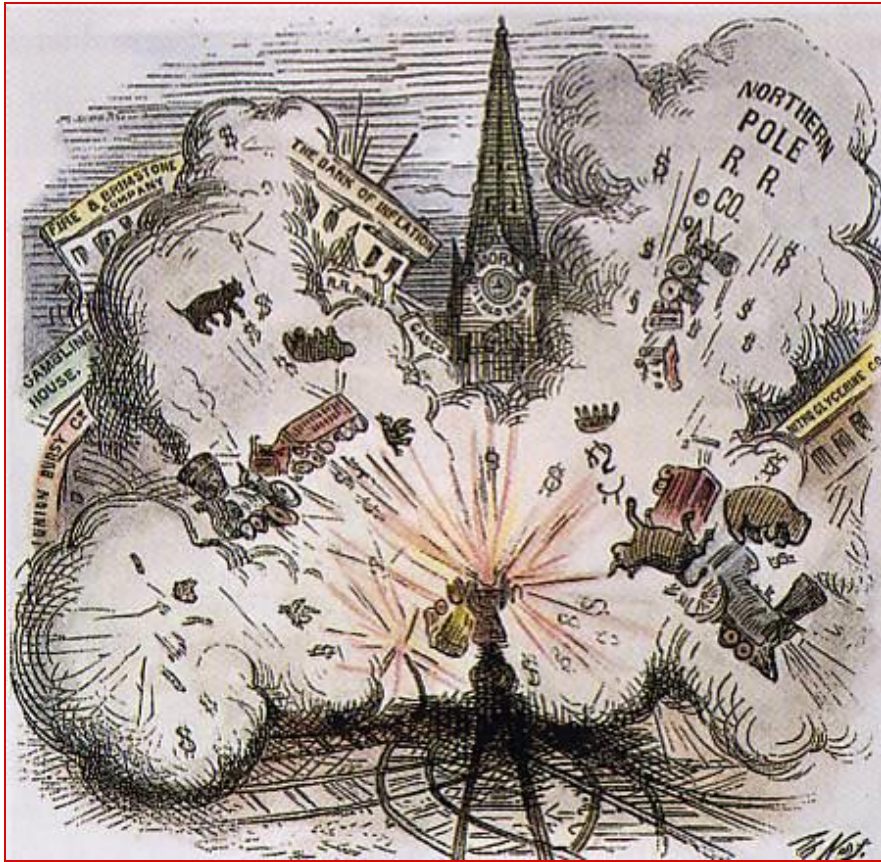
1872 Presidential Election



Popular Vote for President: 1872



The Panic of 1873



★ It raises "the money question."

- * debtors seek inflationary monetary policy by continuing circulation of greenbacks.
- * creditors, intellectuals support hard money.

★ 1875 → **Specie Redemption Act.**

★ 1876 → **Greenback Party** formed & makes gains in congressional races → *The "Crime of '73!"*