

Chapter 8

The Civil War



In this chapter:

- ❖ *The common ground that had united Americans during Manifest Destiny was slowly being displaced by political and cultural disagreements. In 1861, the differences between the Northern and Southern states would break out into The Civil War.*
- ❖ *Indian Territory will be drawn into the conflict with devastating and long-lasting effects.*

Section 1: The Road to War

TO ARMS!
To Arms! To Arms!
Defend your Homes and Firesides.

THREE HUNDRED ABLE-BODIED YOUNG MEN are wanted to meet in **LEXINGTON**, on **SATURDAY, APRIL 20th, 1861**, to form three Companies of **VOLUNTEERS** for the defence of Virginia against the invasion threatened by her Northern foes. Your State is in danger. Rally to her Standard.

Lexington, April 17, 1861.

Conflict is often brought on by different beliefs, experiences, and values.

Conflicts between the North and South began to grow in the 1800s, and few people seemed to agree on solutions to the problems.

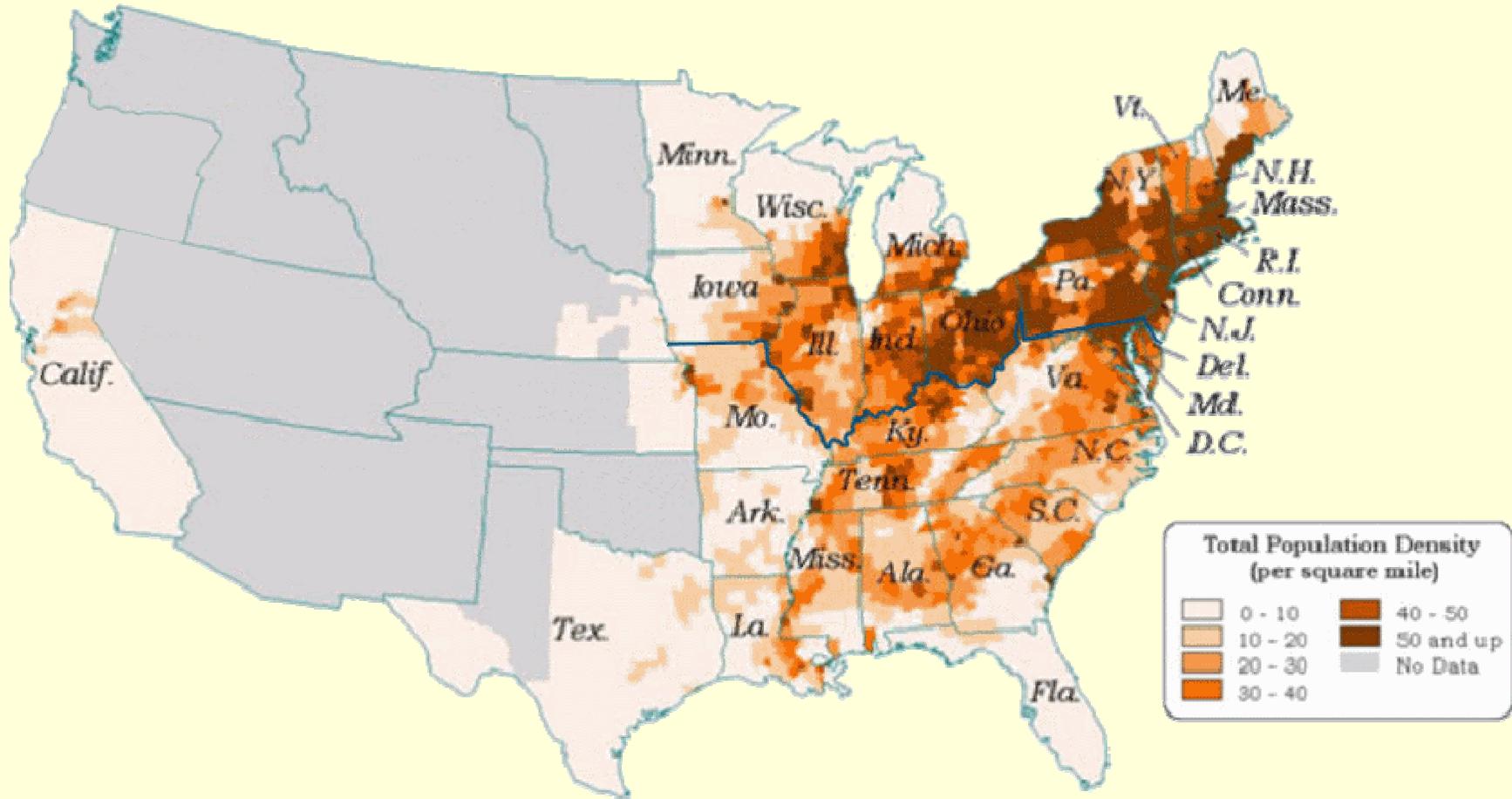
UncleTomsCabin
Industrialization ImmigrantLabor
PopularSovereignty Abolition
UndergroundRailroad
ElectionOf1860 FugitiveSlaveAct
KansasNebraskaAct Secession
Slavery DredScottDecision
StatesRights FreeCalifornia
PlantationLifeTariffs

The wealthy cotton plantation owners believed that slavery was essential to the South's economy.



[In reality, most people in the South lived on small farms and didn't own slaves.]

Wealthy Southerners also felt that the movement to end slavery was threatening their way of life.



[Although the House of Representatives was dominated by the North, the Senate was evenly divided – meaning abolition was unlikely to pass.]

By the 1850s, Northern economies added industry alongside agriculture, and thousands of immigrants provided cheap labor in the new factories.

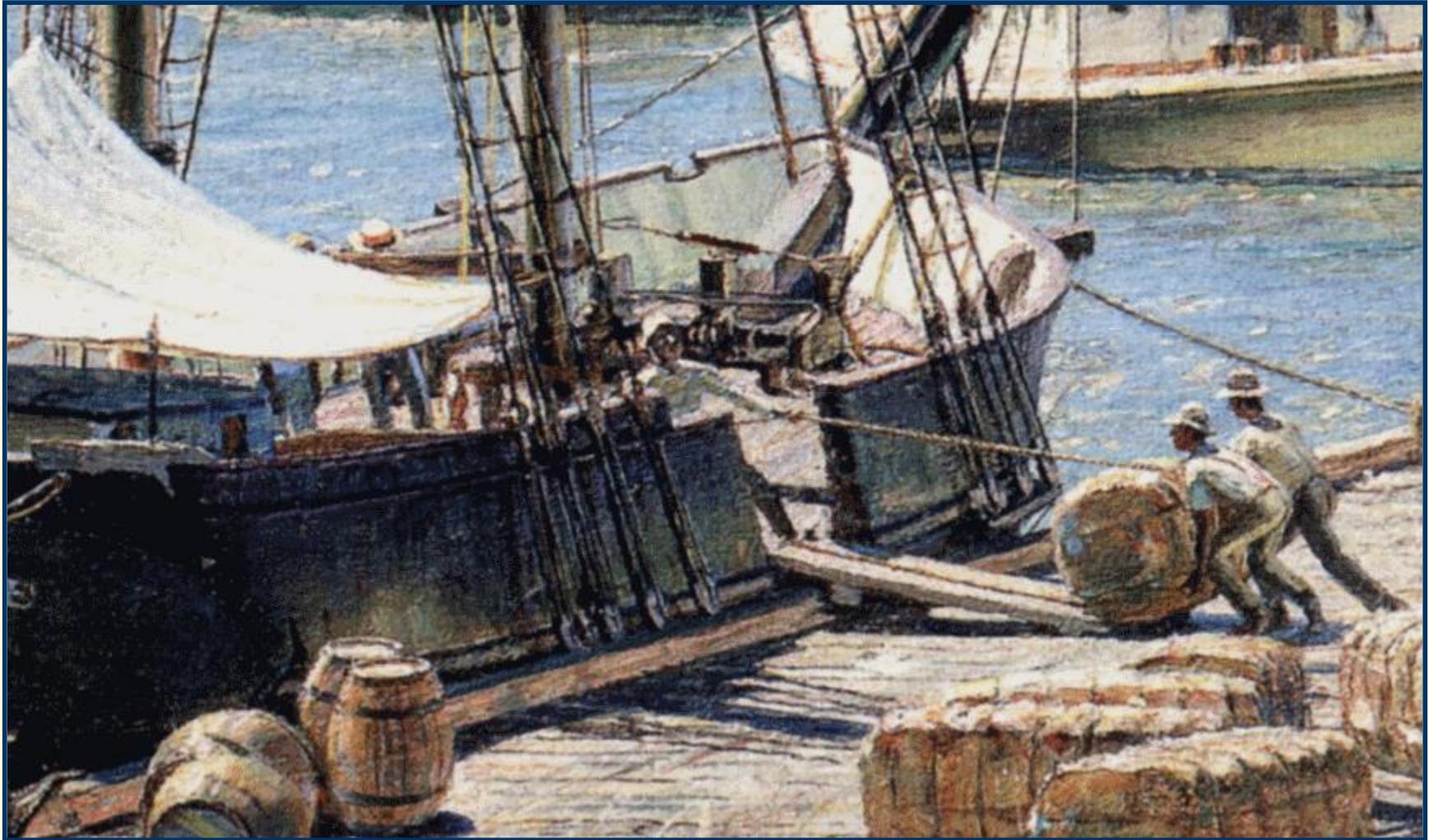
Immigration was the main reason that slavery died out in the North.



Tariffs were an issue in the early 1800s.

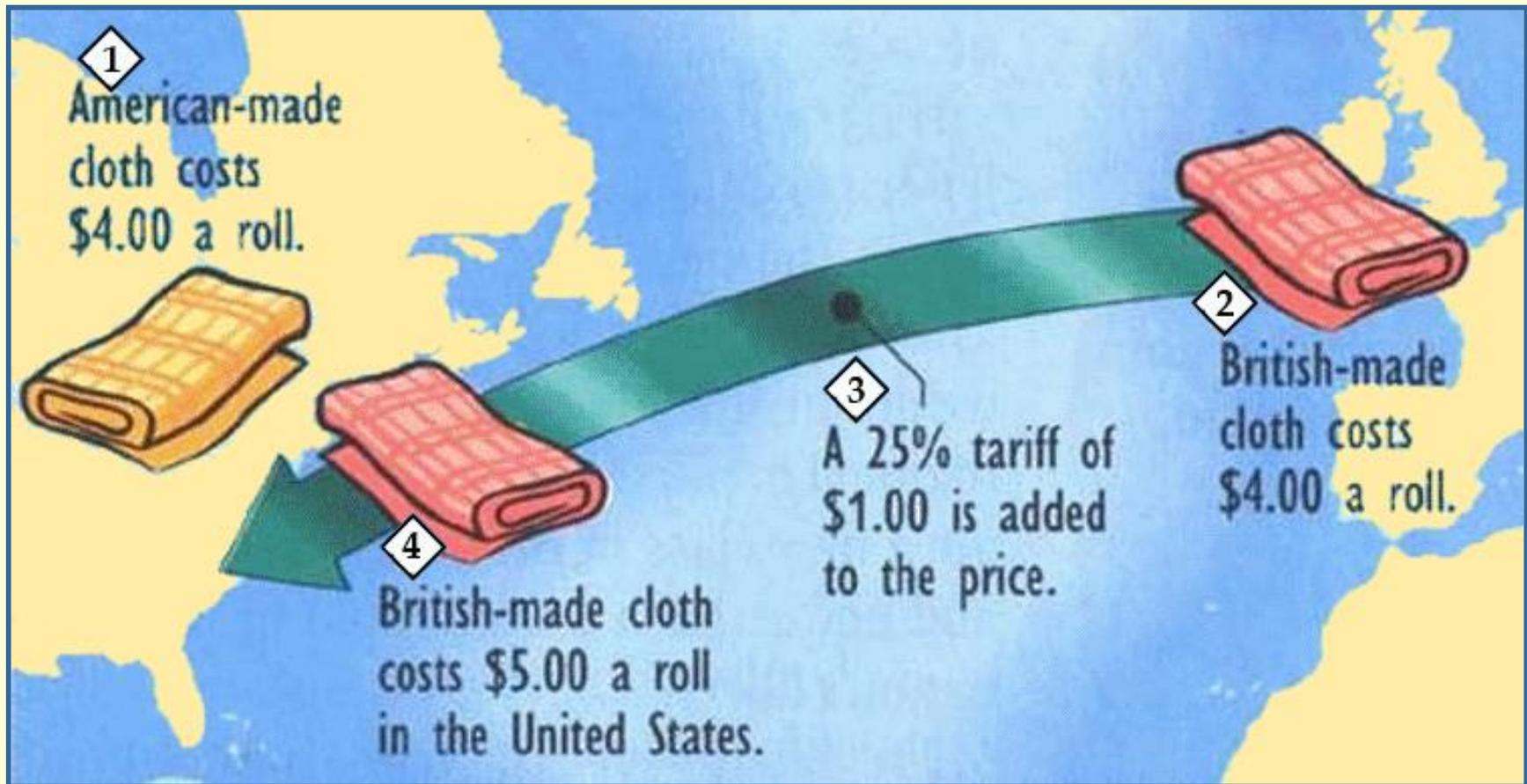
Tariffs are taxes on imported or exported products.

Governments use tariffs to help products made in their own countries.



The industrial Northern states wanted high tariffs; the agricultural Southern states wanted low tariffs.

High tariffs helped Northern factories but hurt Southern cotton plantations.



[But tariffs were lowered in 1846 and there were few complaints in 1860.]

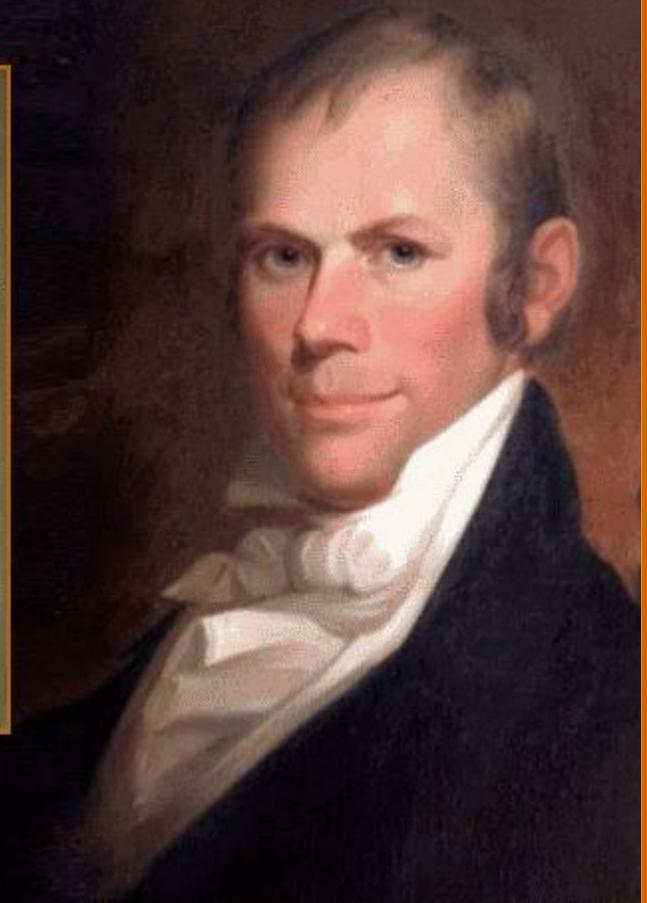
**Another issue was known as states' rights.
These were differences on how power should
be divided between federal and state authorities.**

*The Northern states thought there should be a uniformity of laws.
Southern states thought they should be able to pass any law
as long as it wasn't unconstitutional.*



*[In the early 1850s, the South argued against states' rights when
Northern states used it as a justification for the end of slavery.]*

In 1820, House Speaker Henry Clay had proposed The Missouri Compromise to balance the spread of slavery in the west.

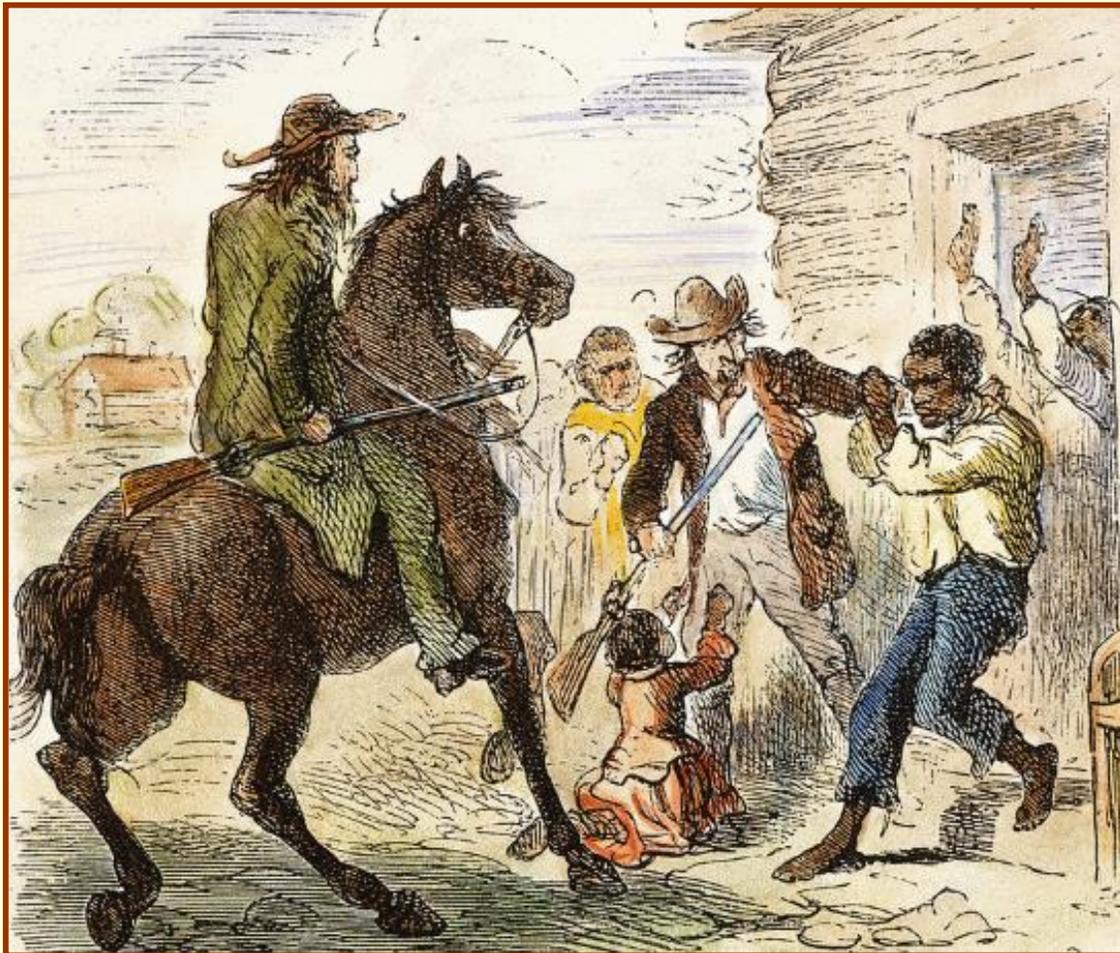


California's application for statehood in 1849 upset the balance of 15 free states and 15 slave states.

The southern states threatened to secede, or break away from, the Union.



The Fugitive Slave Act was passed in 1850 to gain the support of the southern states for the admission of a “free” California.



It required the citizens of all states to help recover runaways.

ANTI-SLAVERY MEETINGS

A Quarterly Meeting of the Worcester County South Division
Anti-Slavery Society, to be addressed by

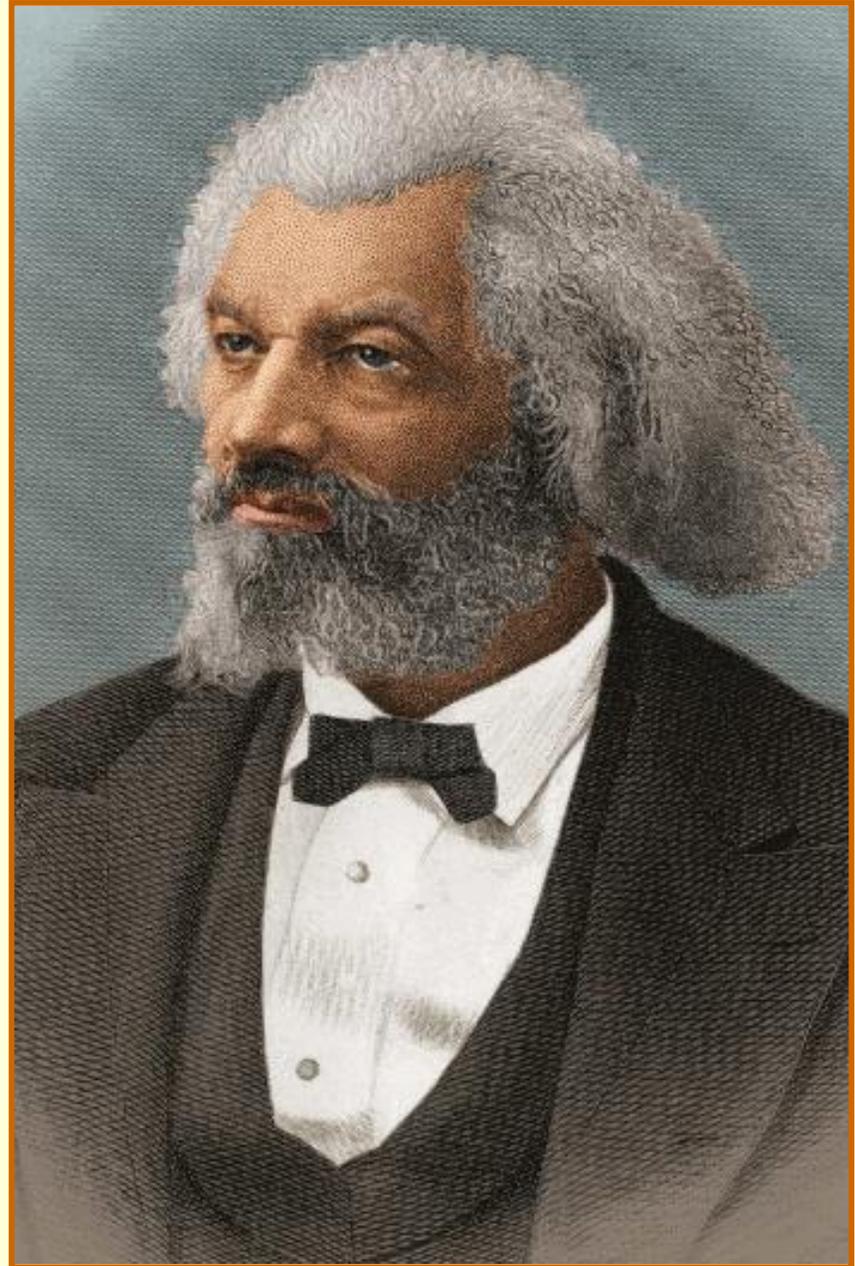
**STEPHEN S. & A.K. FOSTER,
CHARLES LENOX REDMOND,
AND SAMUEL MAY, JUNIOR.**

Will Be Held at The Methodist Church at Millville
Saturday Evening, July 1st at 7 o'clock
and the Blackstone Town Hall,
Sunday, July 2nd at 10 o'clock.

THE PUBLIC ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

Abolitionists
believed
slavery was
wrong and
worked to
bring it
to an end.
They refused
to obey the Act.

**Following leaders like
Frederick Douglass,
the abolitionists
began to help slaves
escape from the South.**

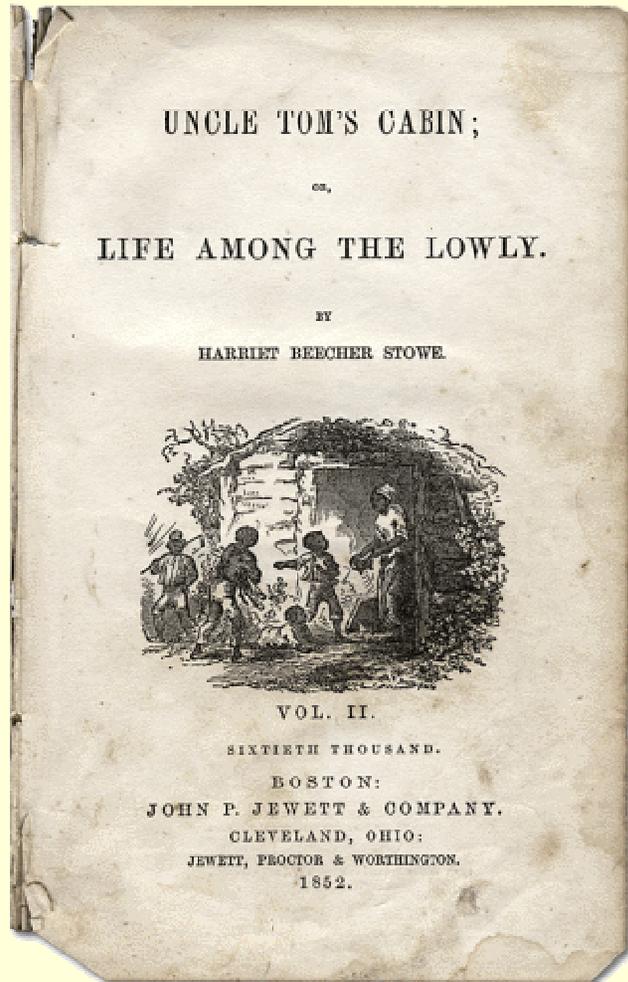


The Underground Railroad was a secret network of safe houses to help slaves escape to Canada, where slavery was illegal.



**Uncle Tom's Cabin, a novel by Harriet Beecher Stowe,
added to Northern efforts to end slavery.**

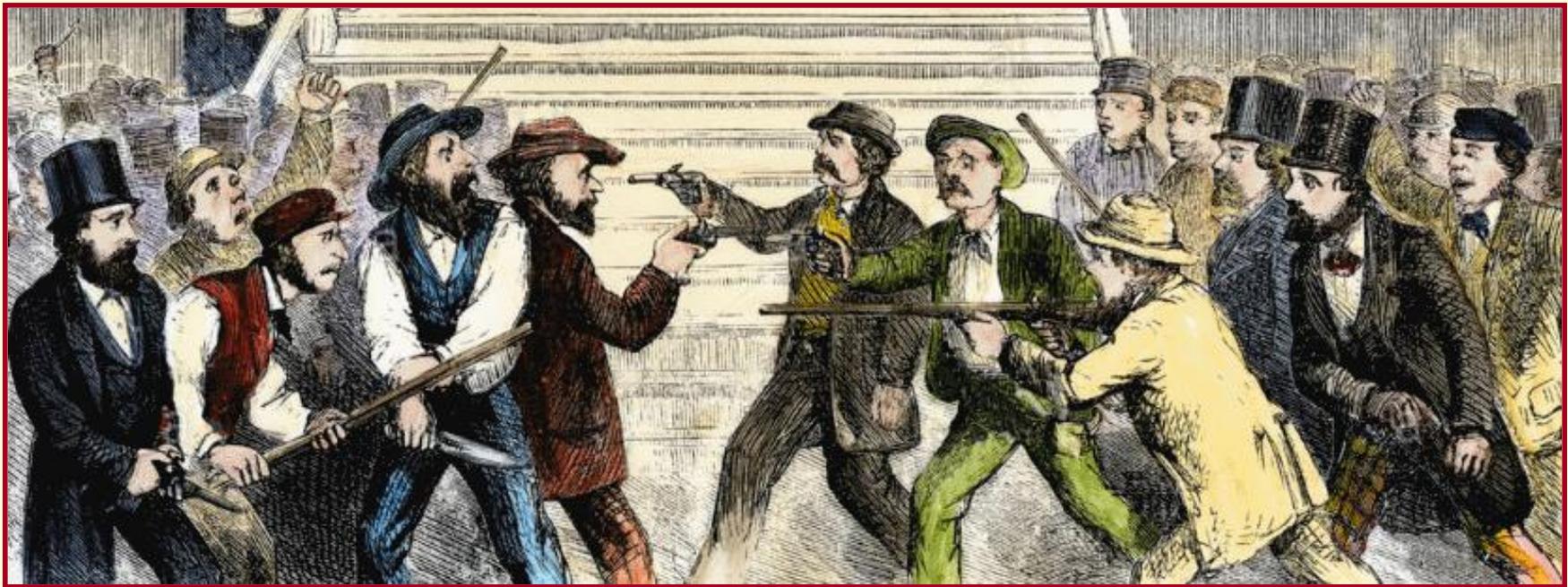
Although it was a work of fiction, it dramatized the harsh reality of slavery.



Popular sovereignty, or the right of territories to decide the slavery issue for themselves, was the core of the Kansas-Nebraska Act in 1854.

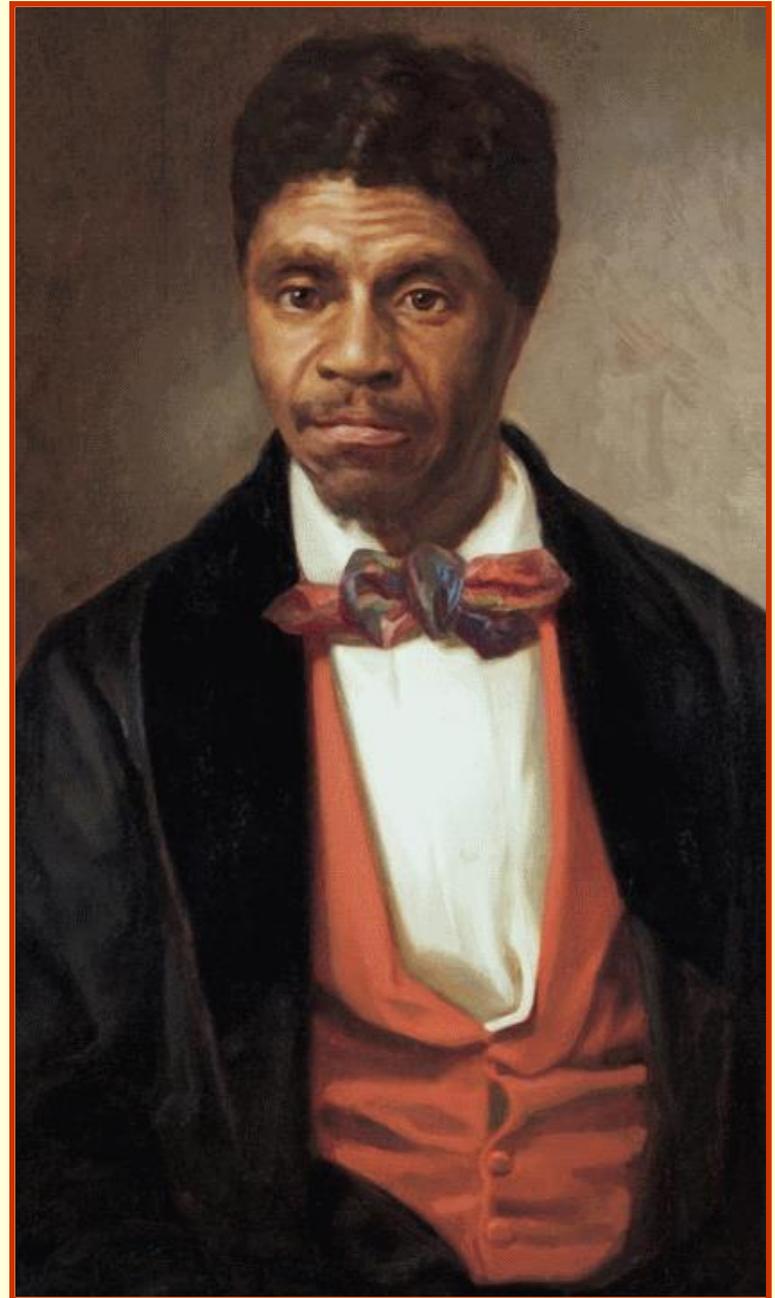
Violence broke out between abolitionists and pro-slavery groups.

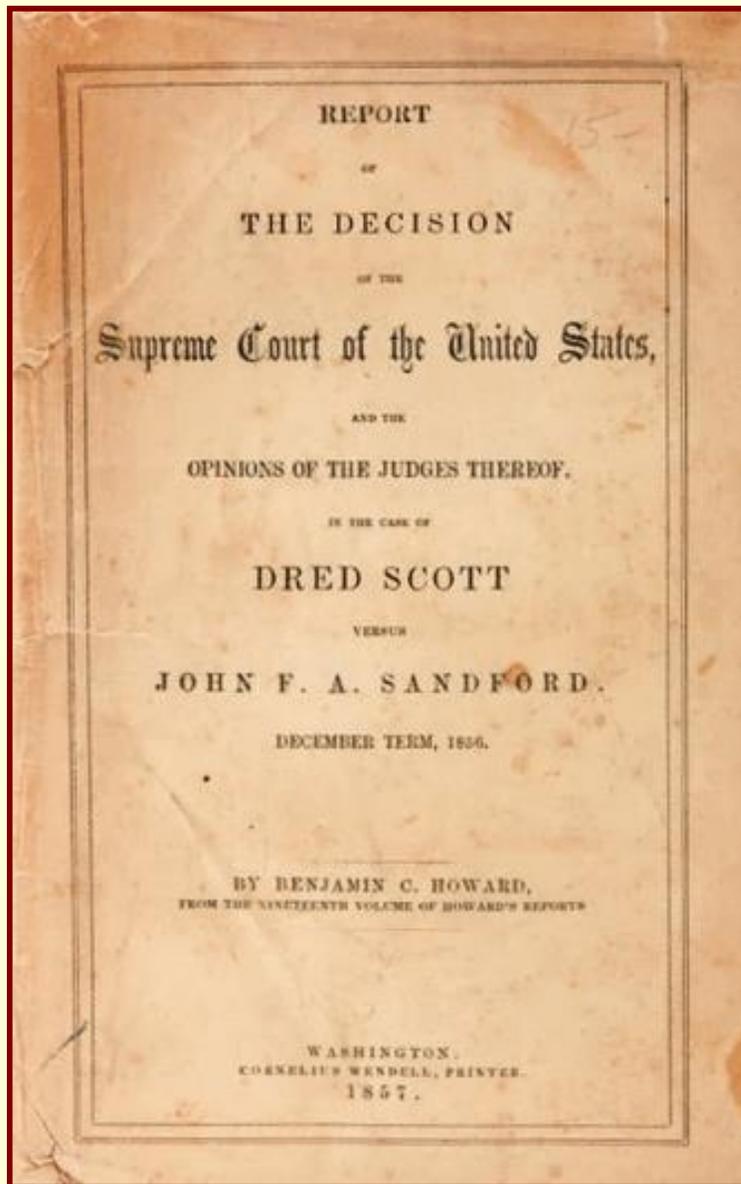
Hundreds of people were killed, and Kansas voted to become a free state.



**In 1857,
a Missouri slave named
Dred Scott had sued
his former owner,
John Sandford,
for his freedom.**

*They had lived briefly
in a northern state
while on business.*





In the *Dred Scott Decision*, the Supreme Court ruled that slavery was protected in the Constitution, and neither Congress nor the states could ban it anywhere in the Union.

The Court also ruled Scott did not have the right to sue, since slaves were "beings of an inferior order (with) no rights which white men were bound to respect."

**Finally, at the 1860 Democratic national convention,
the party split over the issue of slavery,
nominating a Northern and a Southern candidate.**

A third group, the Constitutional Union Party, further fractured the vote.



Stephen Douglas

Northern Democrat (*center*)

**30% of the popular vote*

**Popular sovereignty*

John Breckinridge

Southern Democrat (*left*)

**20% of the popular vote*

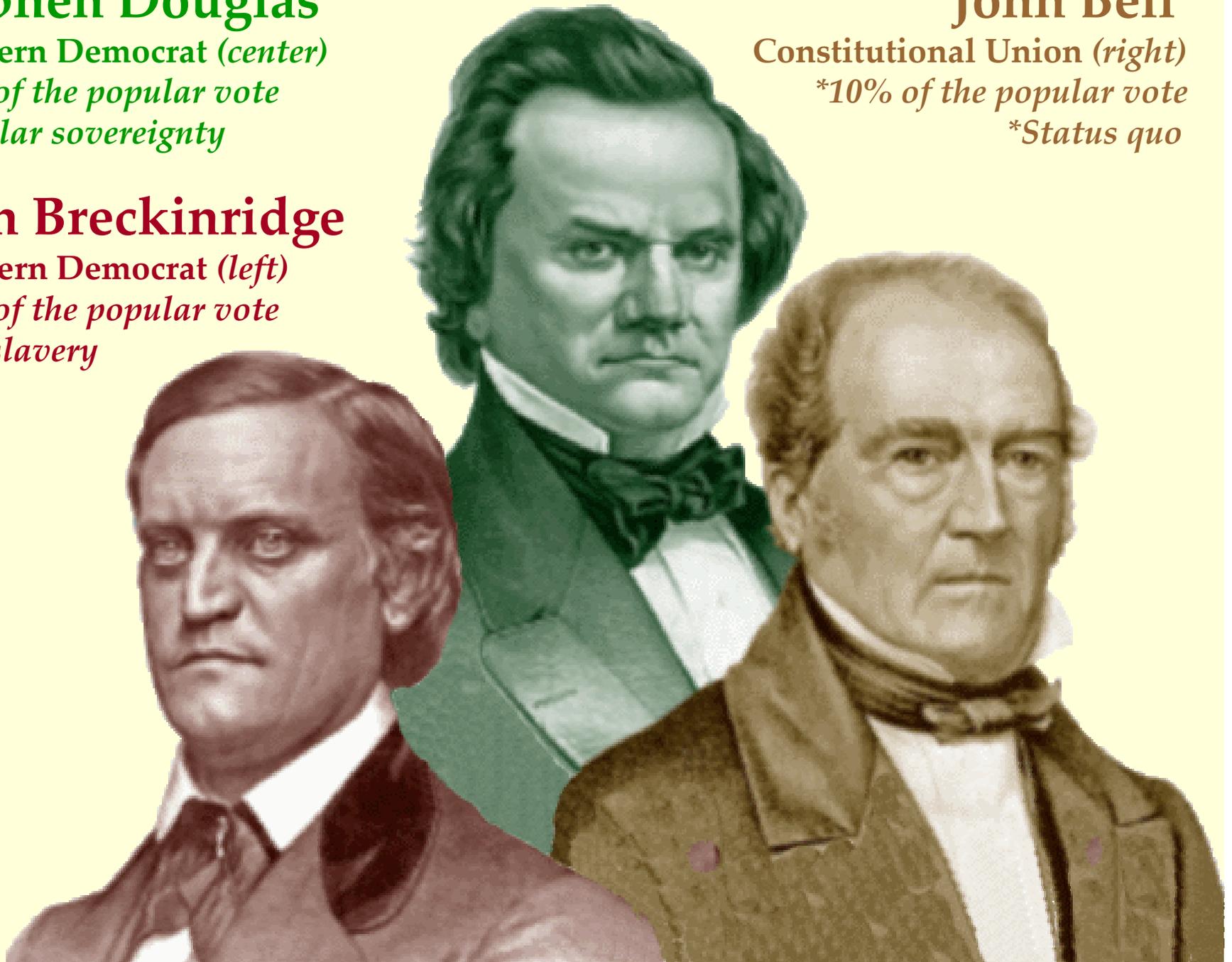
**Pro-slavery*

John Bell

Constitutional Union (*right*)

**10% of the popular vote*

**Status quo*





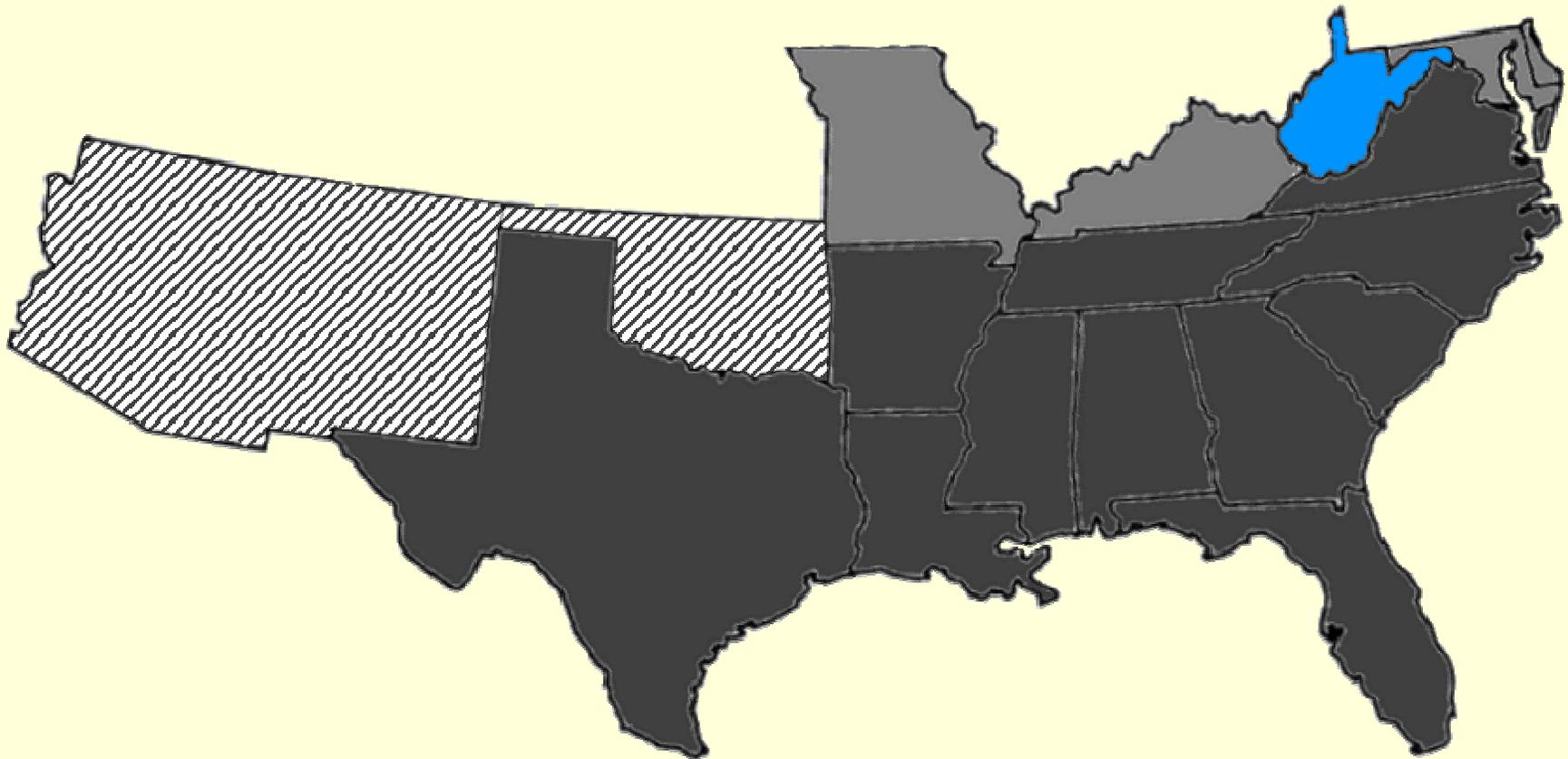
**The election of
the Republican
candidate
Abraham Lincoln,
a northerner
who was rumored to
favor abolition,
caused several
slave states
to secede.**

Before Lincoln's inauguration, seven southern states had withdrawn from the Union.

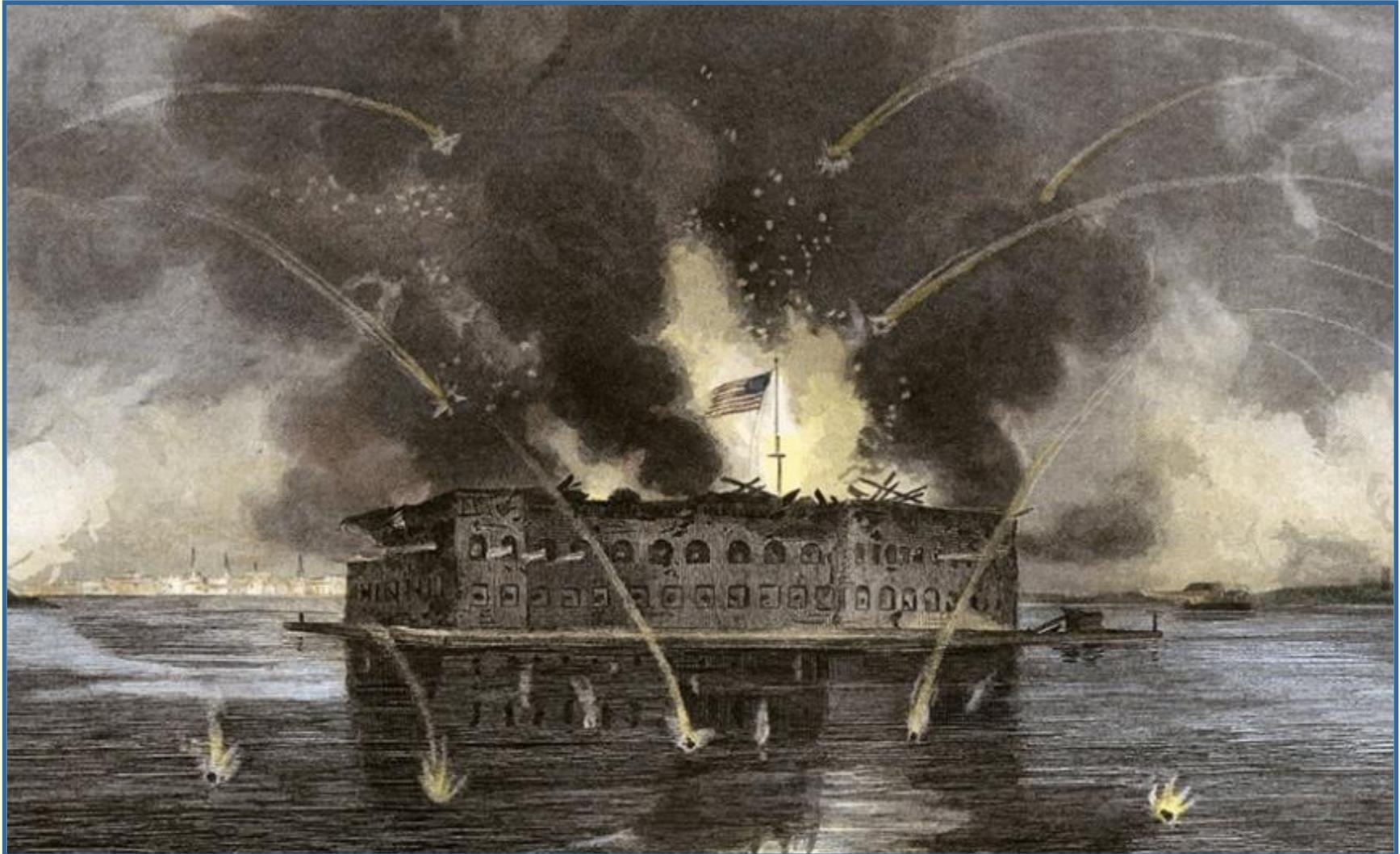
**In all, 11 states would form a new country called
The Confederate States of America.**

Four slave states - Missouri, Kentucky, Maryland, and Delaware - did not secede.

In 1863, West Virginia broke away and became a free state.



In April 1861, the Civil War began at Fort Sumter, in Charleston, South Carolina.



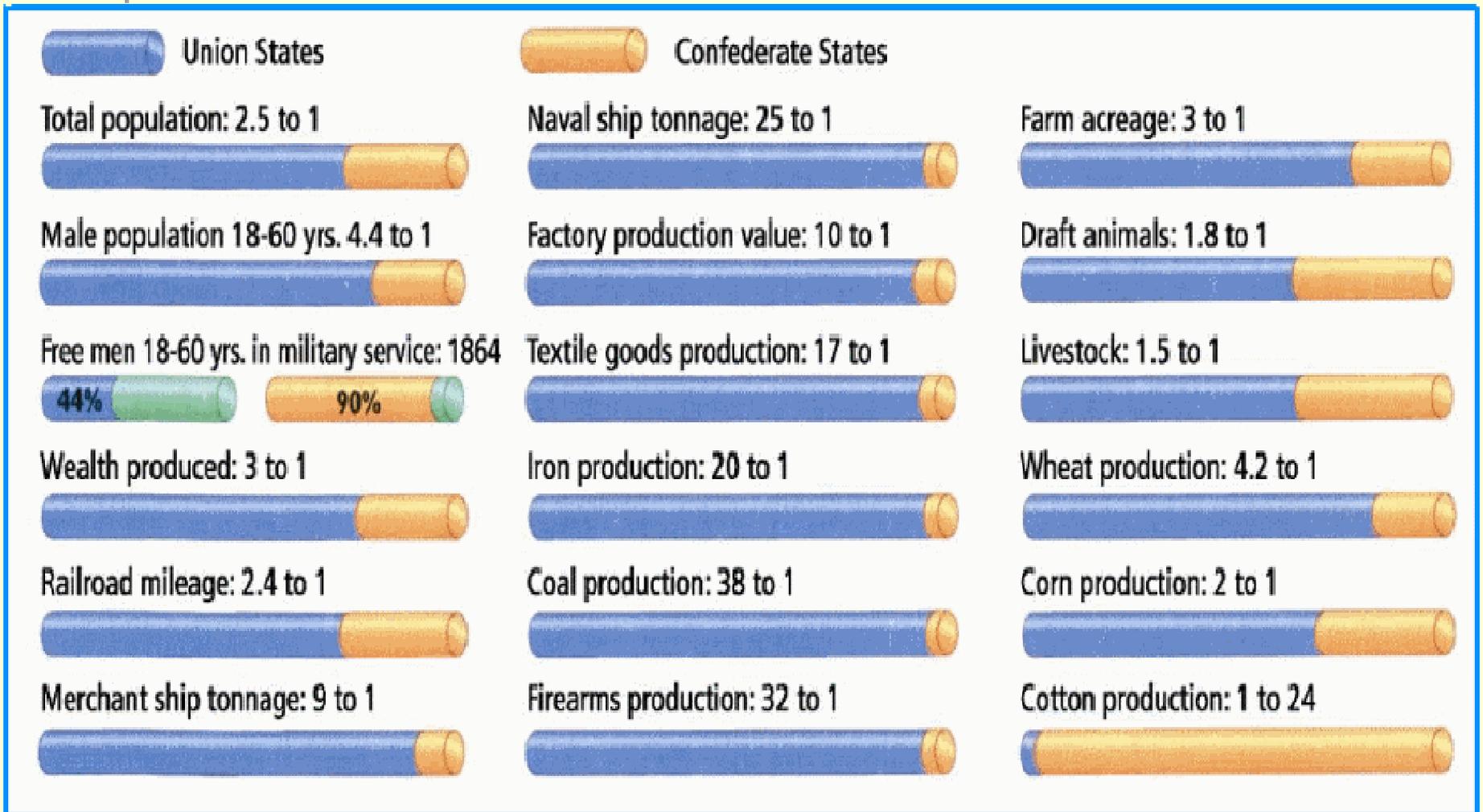


**After Fort Sumter,
the last four states
seceded from
the Union.**

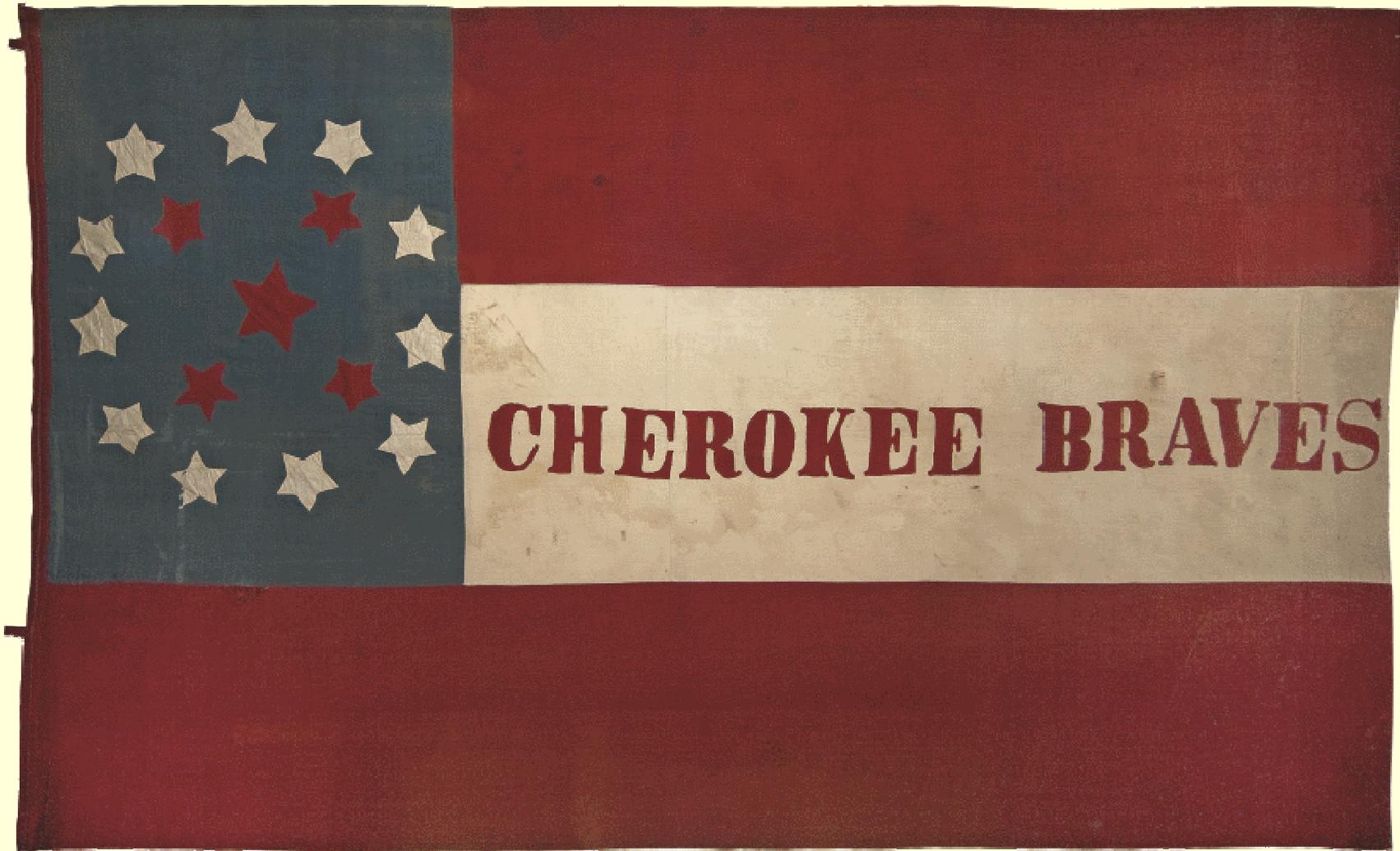
**As the war began,
both sides
were confident
of a quick
victory.**

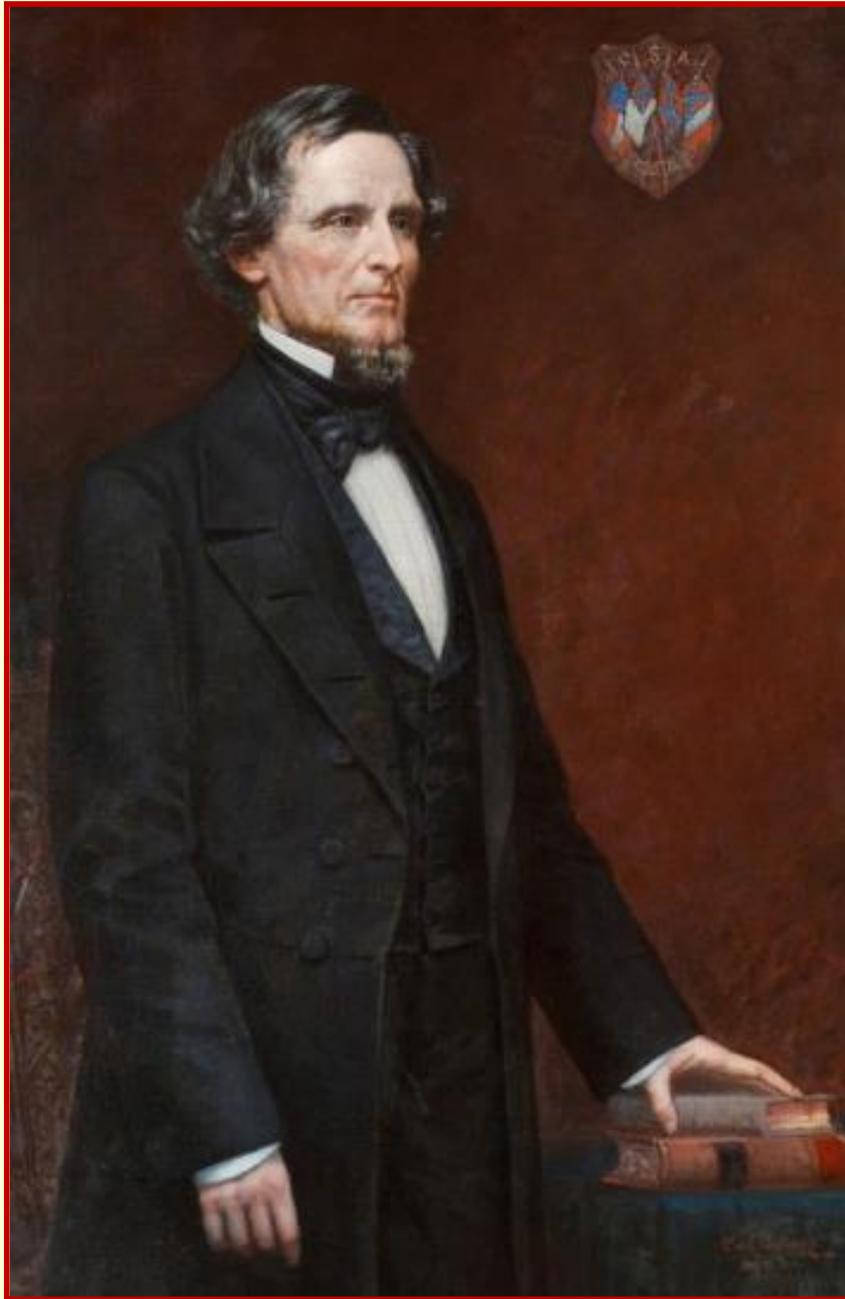
They were wrong.

Comparative resources: The Union vs. The Confederacy



*Section 2:
Indian Territory Joins the Confederacy*





**Jefferson Davis,
president of the
Confederacy,
wanted Indian Territory
to join the rebels.**

*He knew the region was rich
in resources because he had been
part of the Leavenworth Expedition
in 1834.*

There were cattle herds for food, lead deposits for ammunition, supplies of salt and corn, and men for the Confederate Army.

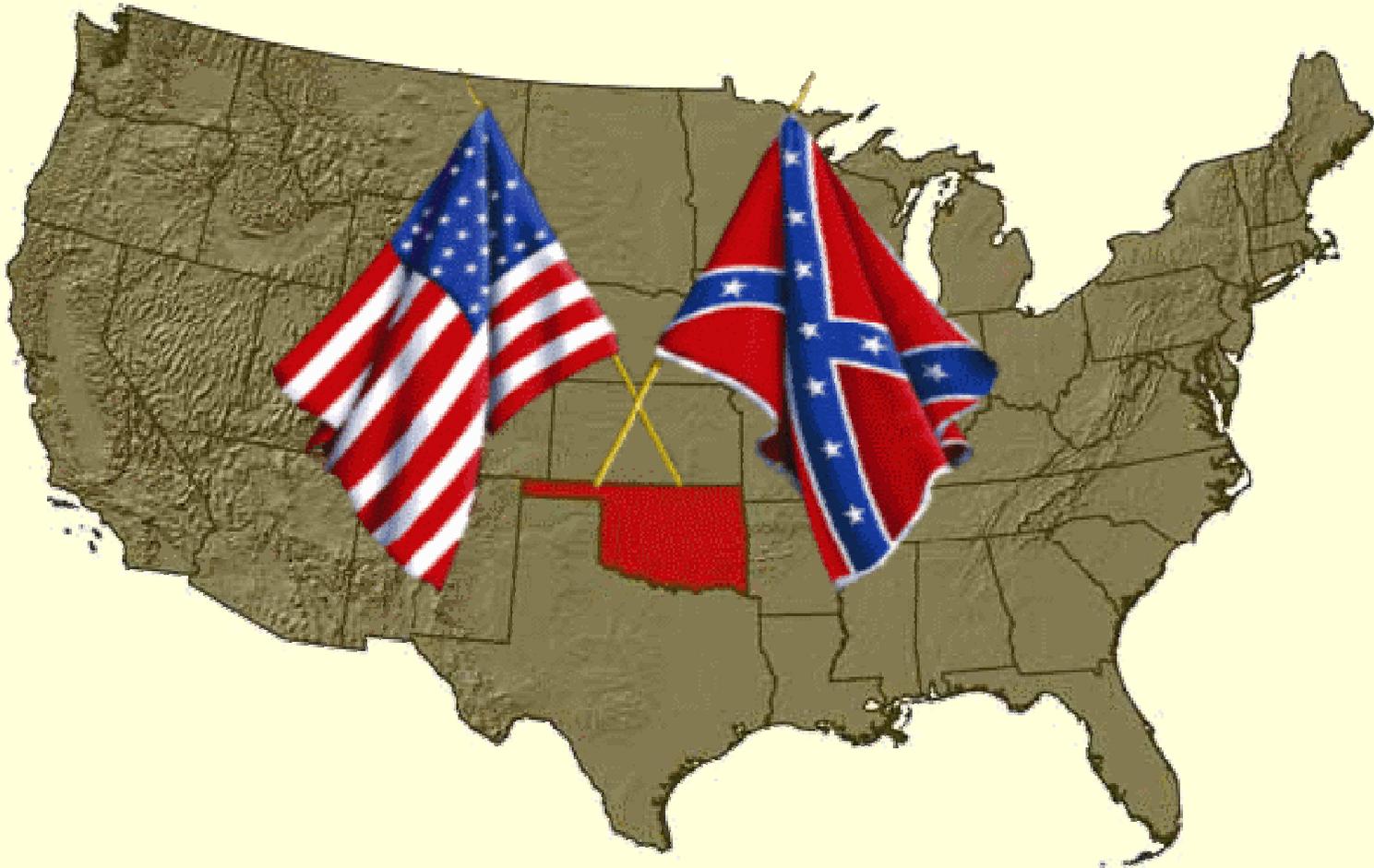


When rebel troops in Arkansas took over Ft. Smith and cut off supplies to the Oklahoma forts, the Union troops abandoned Indian Territory and marched northward into Kansas.



The elders of the Five Tribes wanted to remain neutral, or not take either side, in the Civil War.

*But the withdrawal of federal troops left the Natives a choice:
join the Confederates or fight them on their own.*



**The Confederates chose Albert Pike as their
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.**



*He was an Arkansas lawyer
who was well-liked by the Five Tribes.*

**Pike was sent to
persuade the Natives
to join them in their
fight against the North.**

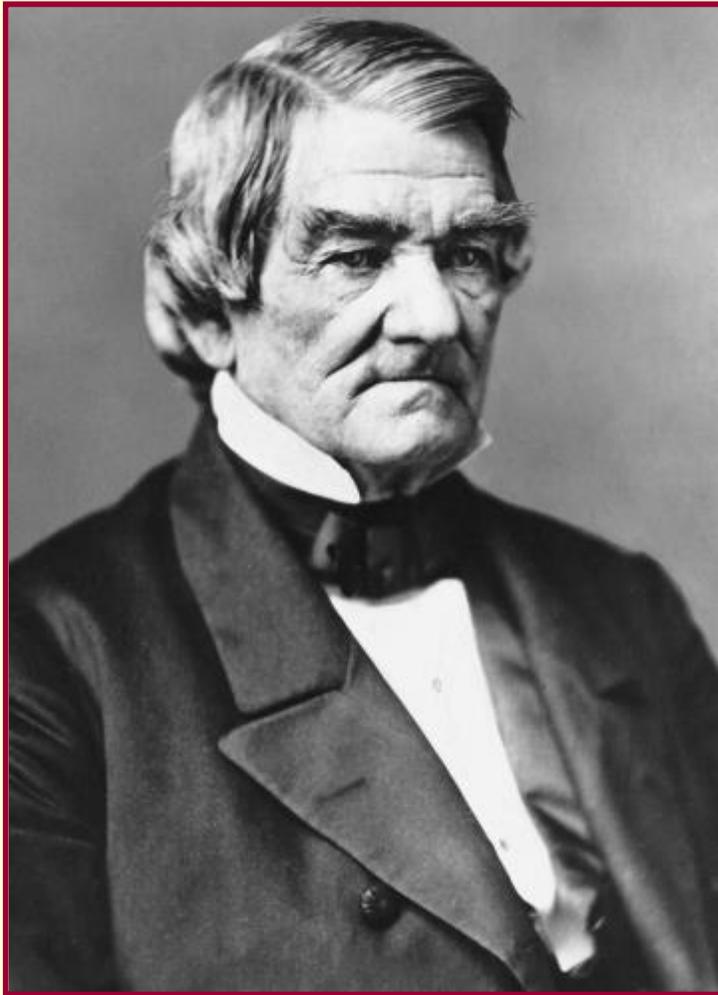
*Pike was accompanied
by the new
military commander
of Indian Territory,
Brigadier General
Ben McCulloch.*

*Their first stop
was Tahlequah.*



The aging John Ross refused to allow the Cherokees to join the Confederates.

He thought there was no reason to engage the Cherokees in the "white man's quarrel."



**By August 1861,
Pike and McCulloch
had signed treaties
with all the other tribes.
Realizing the Cherokee
were standing alone,
Ross reluctantly signed too.**

The first Native American Confederate fighting regiment was the Cherokee Mounted Rifles.



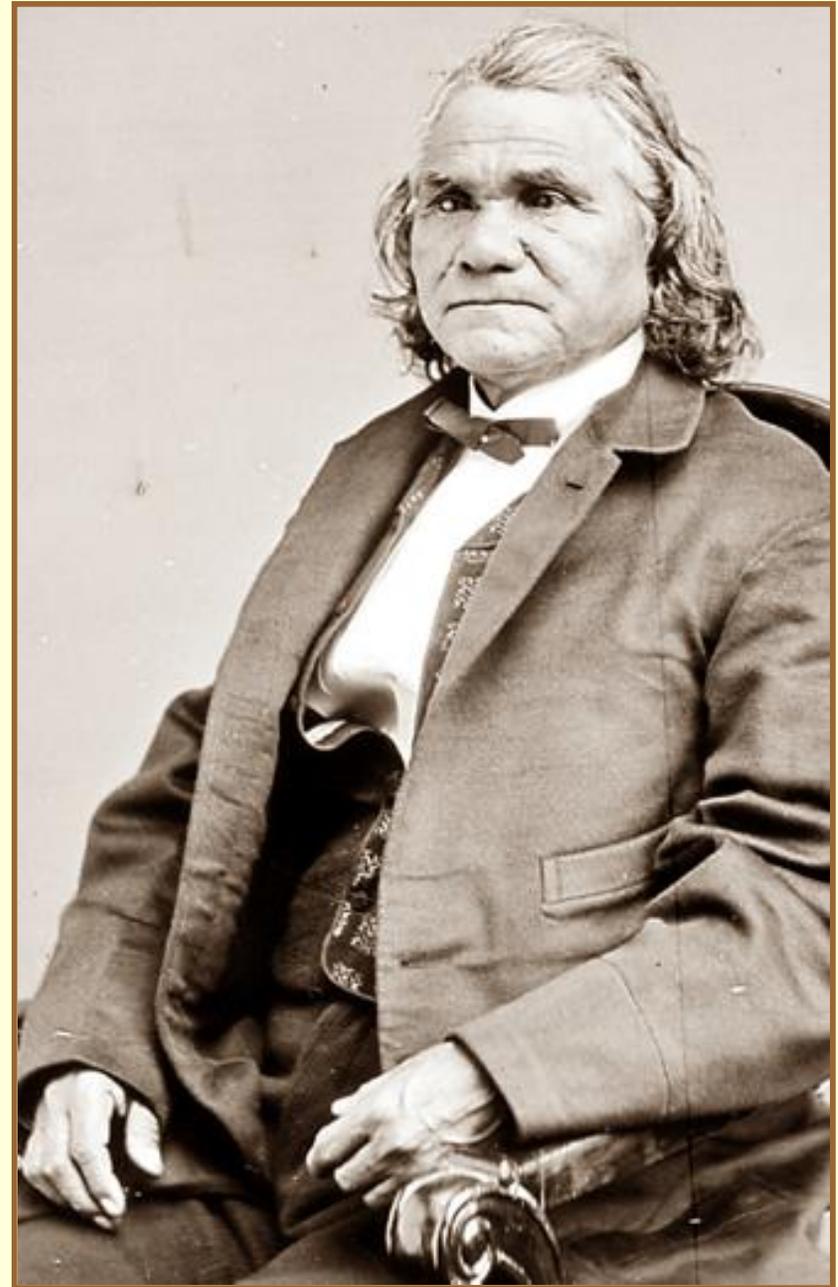
**Stand Watie was chosen
as the Cherokee's
military leader.**

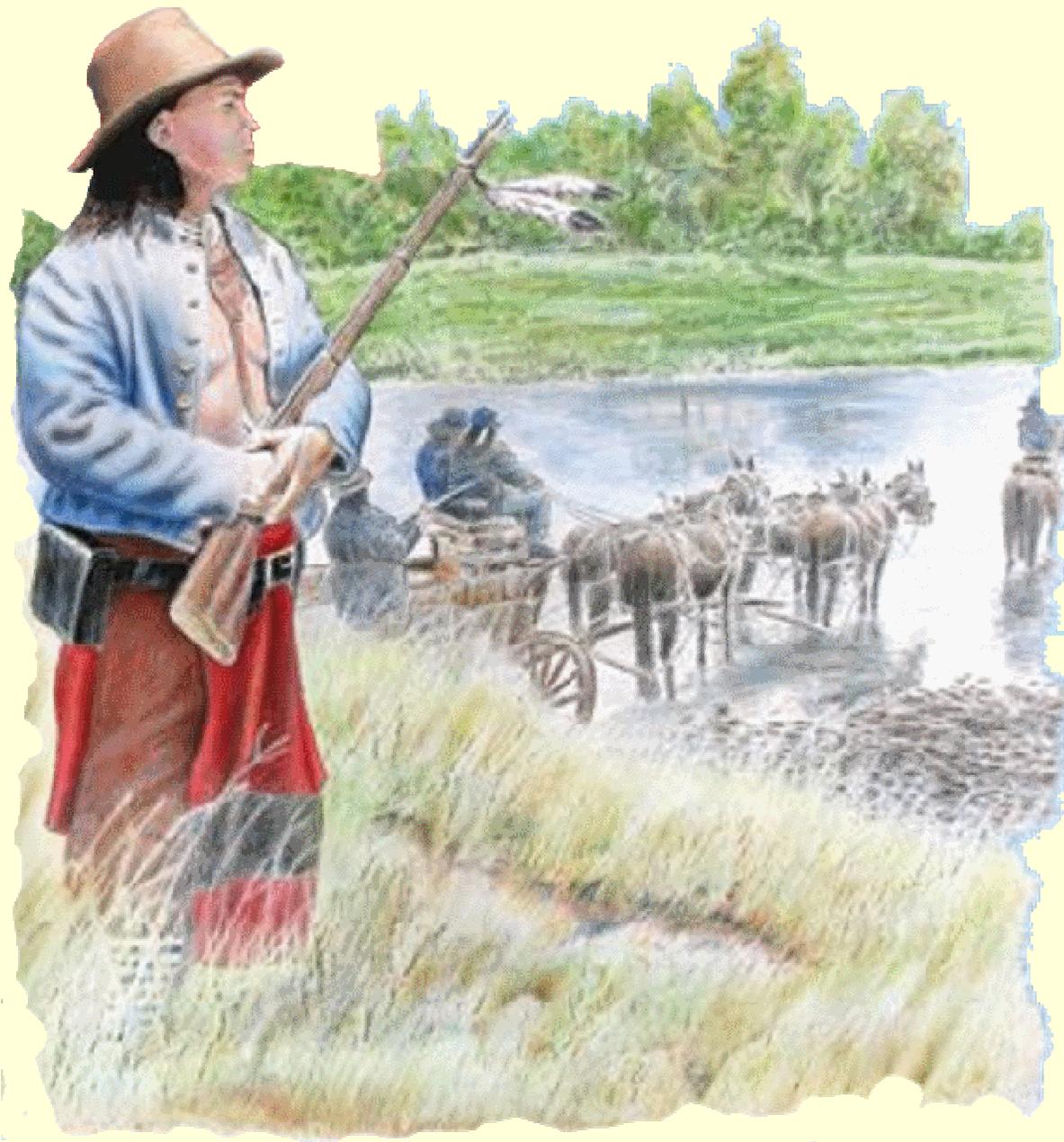
**He was the last survivor
of the Ridge faction.**

*They had signed away the
Cherokee lands in Georgia.*

*Other Native regiments
quickly organized.*

*Col. Douglas Cooper of Texas
formed the Choctaw and
Chickasaw Mounted Rifles.*





*Pike's mission
had caused
other problems.*

*Natives who
supported
the North felt
overwhelmed
by those
who favored
the Confederacy.*

THE MUSCOGEE NATION



*The Upper Creek
and Lower Creek
were divided
before removal,
and the War
would drive them
even further apart.*

**The Upper Creek,
who were
loyal to the Union,
were led by an
elderly chief named
Opothleyahola.**

*He did not want a confrontation with
Douglas Cooper's Confederate troops.*

**The chief led his tribe
and more than 6,500 others
north toward Kansas.**



*Pictured here as a young man,
Opothleyahola was more than 60 years old
when he led the exodus to Kansas.*

Confederate forces attacked the Loyal Creek at the Battle of Round Mountain in November 1861.



*The two sides battled to a draw, and the Natives escaped.
But the weather turned bitterly cold, and their supplies dwindled.*

Three weeks later, Southern troops attacked again at Chusto Talasah, just north of present-day Tulsa.

Once again, the skirmish ended in a stalemate.



A final attack at Chustenahlah scattered the natives.

The dead were left behind and the wounded now faced a blizzard. The refugees, many hungry and barefoot, continued north toward Kansas. Opothleyahola survived, but never recovered. He died two years later.





The Confederates won most of the battles in the War's first year. One of the Union's biggest wins would affect Indian Territory.



**In March 1862,
Union troops under
General Samuel Curtis
approached Pea Ridge
in northwest Arkansas.**

*After the first day of battle,
the Union troops took the high ground.*



The Rebels suffered devastating casualties.

*Although they greatly outnumbered the Union soldiers, they had to fight uphill.
The Confederates lost 4,600 men, including General McCulloch.*



*In the summer of 2014, I visited Elkhorn Tavern,
the site of The Battle of Pea Ridge.*



The loss at Pea Ridge weakened the Confederacy by keeping Missouri from seceding and allowing the Union to re-enter Indian Territory.





**Union General James Blunt
formed The Indian Expedition
in the summer of 1862
to retake the Territory.**

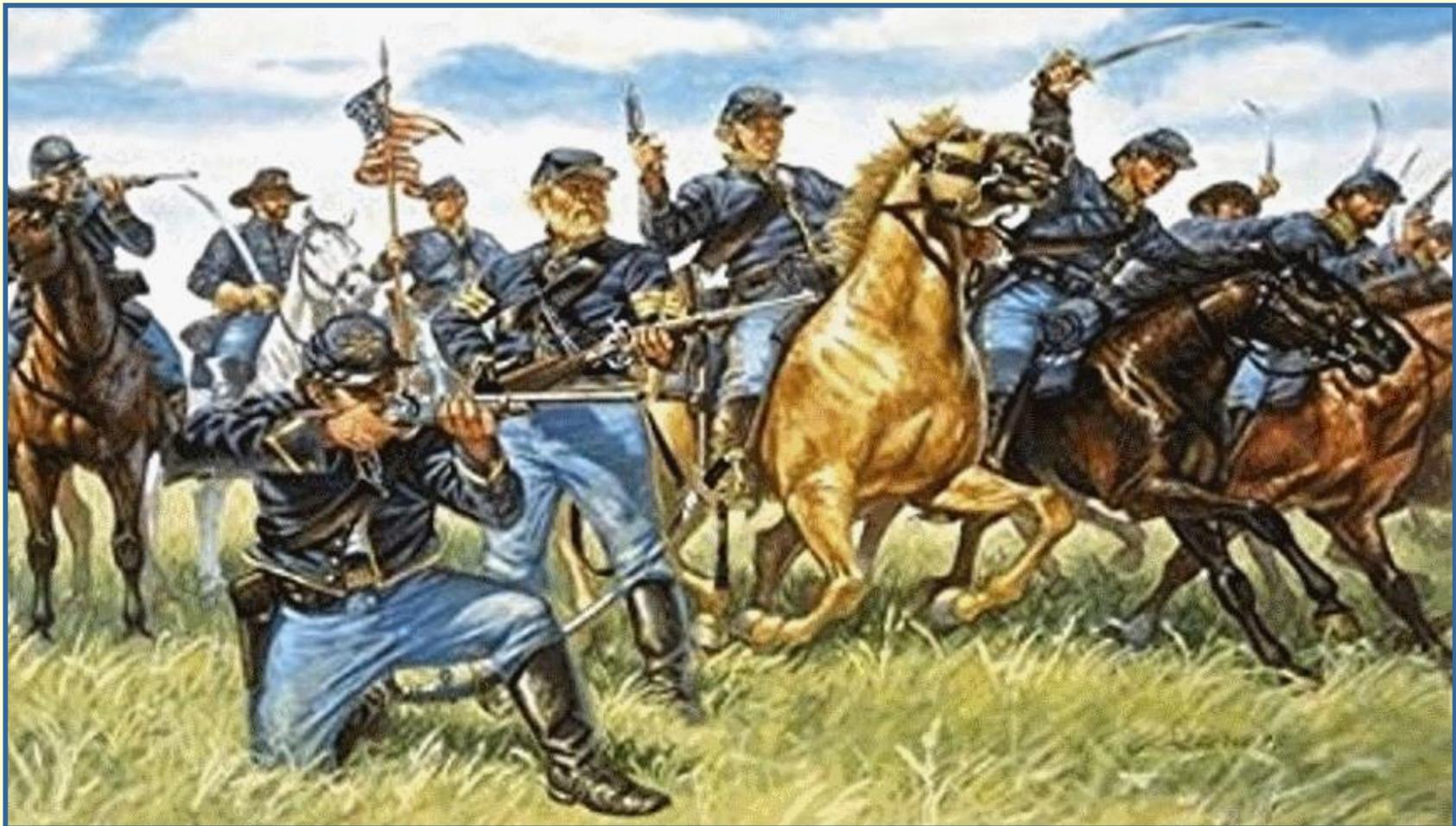
**Col. William Weer
led his troops south
toward Fort Gibson.**

*They were confronted by
Stand Watie's Cherokees
at Locust Grove.*

Union soldiers won the Battle of Locust Grove and took control of Fort Gibson and Tahlequah.

They were welcomed by Chief John Ross, who was taken into protective custody.

The Union troops, fearing a counter-attack, then withdrew to Kansas.

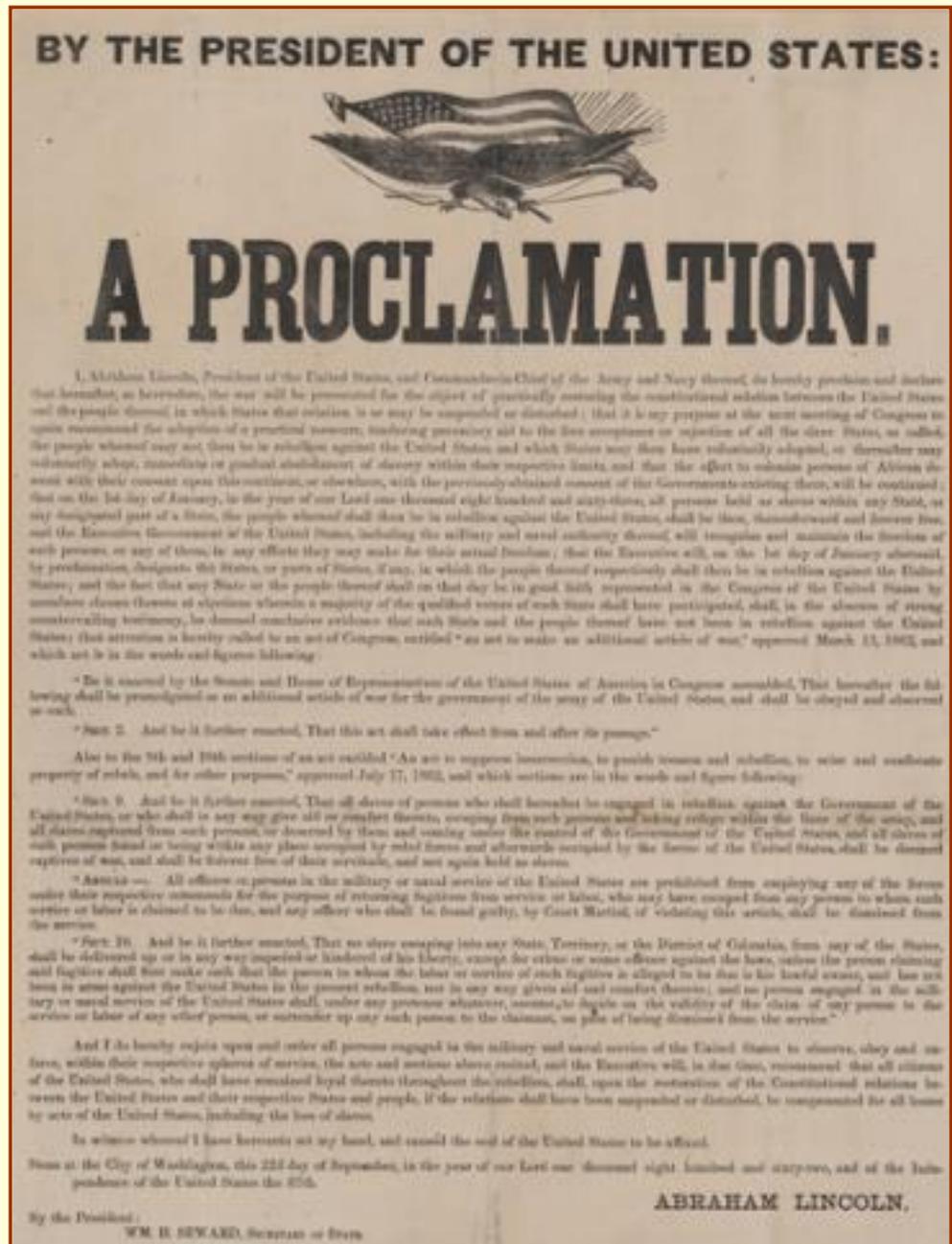


In October 1862, General Blunt's brigade surprised the Confederates and drove them out of the Cherokee Nation at the Battle of Old Fort Wayne.



*President Lincoln
issued the
Emancipation
Proclamation
on Jan. 1, 1863,
which freed
the slaves in the
Confederate states.*

*Thousands of African Americans
joined the fight against the South.*





**The
First Kansas
Colored Infantry
was organized
specifically
to fight against
the Confederates
in Indian
Territory.**

**At the Cowskin Prairie Council in July of 1863,
the Cherokee withdrew from the Confederacy.**

They declared Stand Watie an outlaw, abolished slavery, and re-elected John Ross.

*An Act Emancipating the Slaves
in the Cherokee Nation*

BE IT ENACTED BY THE NATIONAL COUNCIL:

That all Negro and other slaves within the lands of the Cherokee Nation are hereby emancipated from slavery, and any person or persons who may have been held in slavery are hereby declared to be forever free.

Be it further enacted: that this act shall go into effect on the Twenty-Fifth (25th) day of June, 1863. And any person who, after the aforesaid day, shall offend against the provisions of this act by enslaving or holding in slavery any person within the limits of the Cherokee Nation, he or she shall, upon conviction, pay a sum of not less than one-thousand dollars (\$1,000).

**The Union created a
new regiment of
Native soldiers called
The Indian Home Guards.**

*On July 2, 1863,
the First Kansas
Colored Infantry,
two Union units,
and the Home Guards
were escorting a
supply caravan
to Fort Gibson.*



*As they approached Cabin Creek (in Mayes County),
Stand Watie's soldiers were set to ambush them.*

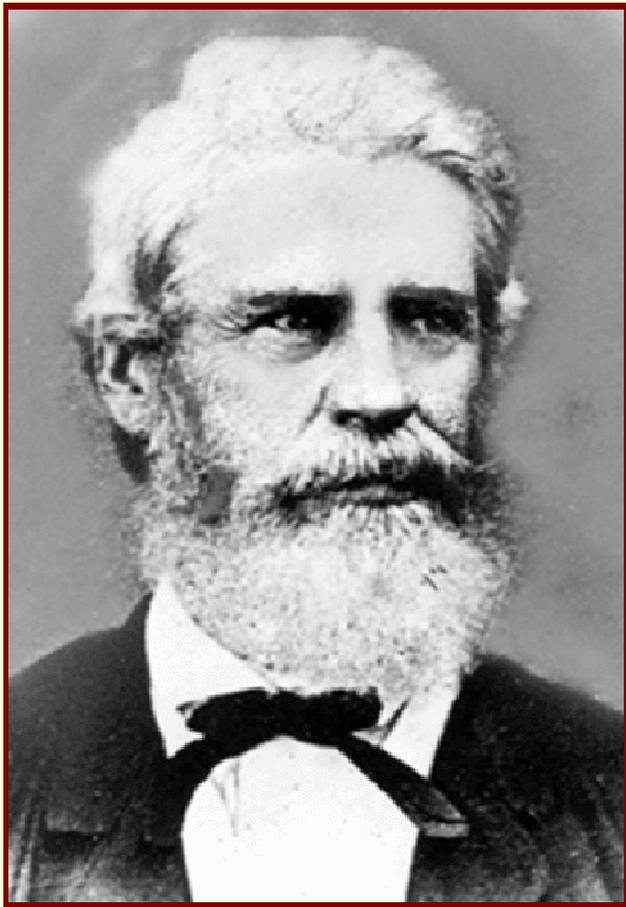


The Battle of Cabin Creek was the first time that black, white, and Native troops fought as equals.

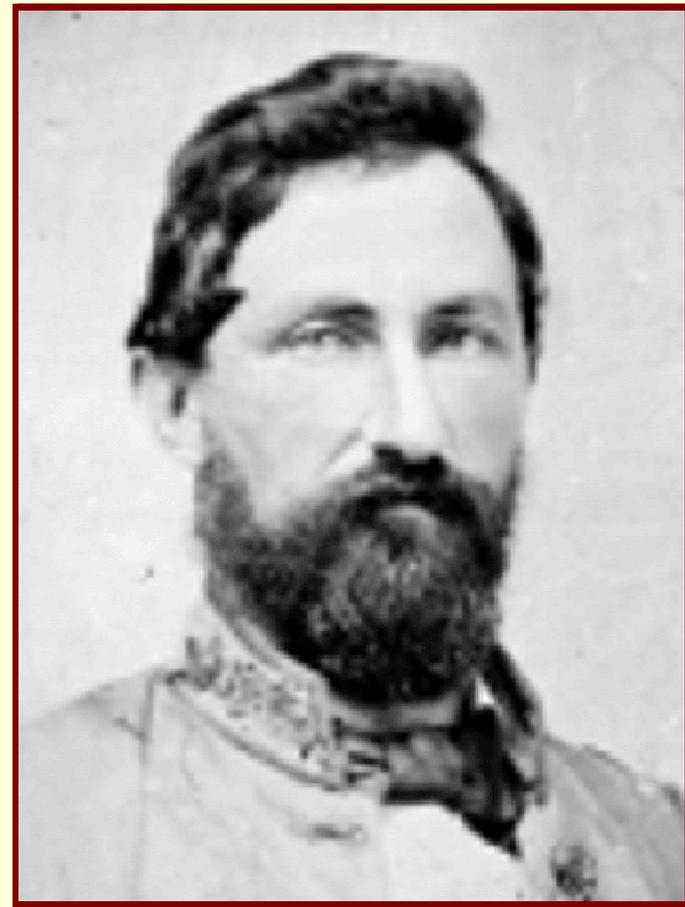
Watie's soldiers retreated and the supplies were delivered to Fort Gibson.



Texas forces under General Douglas Cooper and Ft. Smith troops under General William Cabell were then given orders to re-take Fort Gibson.

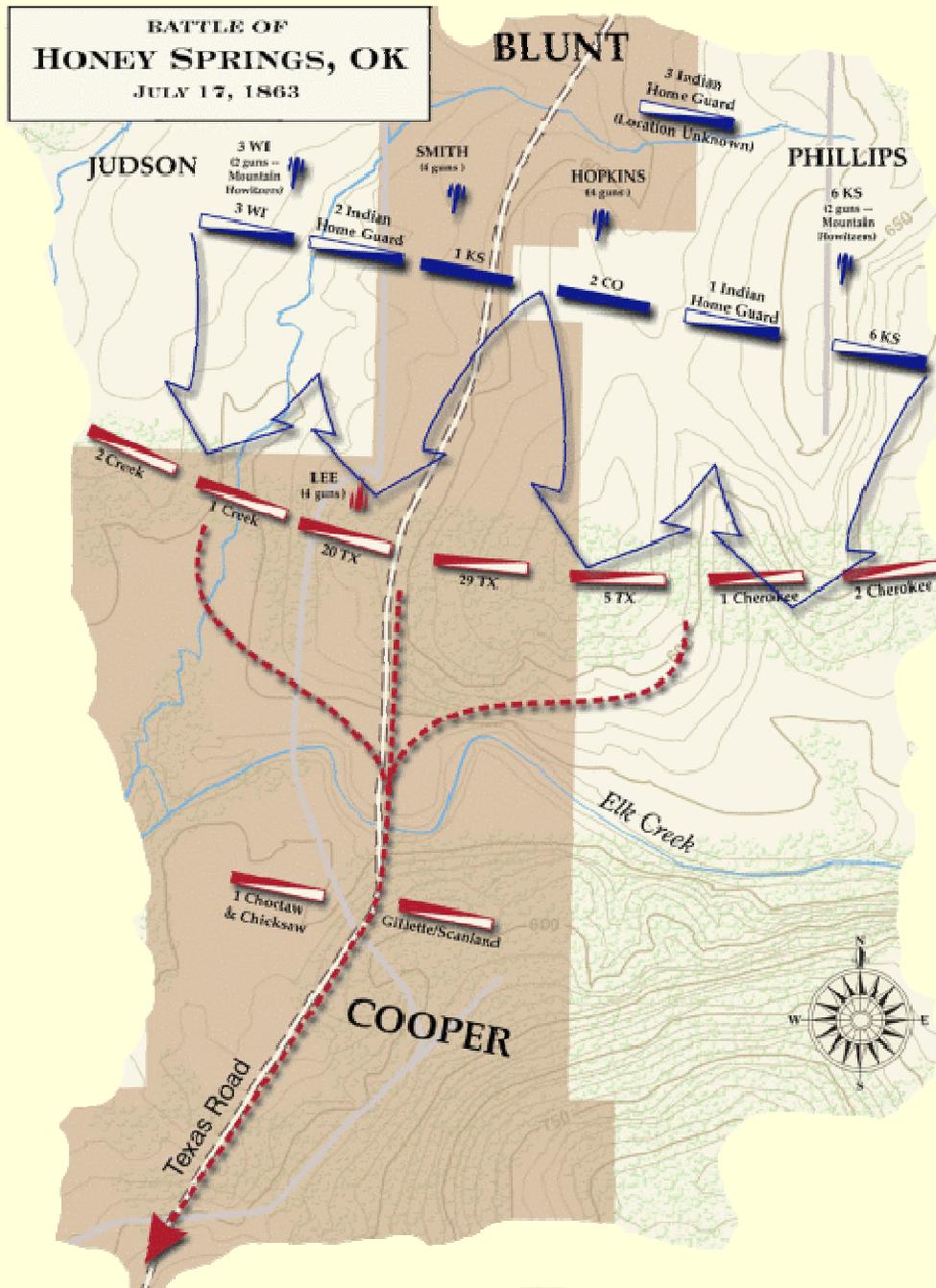


Gen. Douglas Cooper



Gen. William Cabell

**BATTLE OF
HONEY SPRINGS, OK
JULY 17, 1863**



**Blunt again surprised
the Confederates by
attacking before
Cooper and Cabell
could join up.**

*In the two-hour
engagement,
the Confederates
lost 200 men;
the Union
lost only 17.*

**The Texas cavalry charged directly at the 1st Kansas.
The troops never broke ranks and repelled the attack.**



The Battle of Honey Springs was the largest, bloodiest, and most decisive in Indian Territory.

The Confederates retreated and General Cabell was taken prisoner shortly after.



After the war, Gen. Cabell became a lawyer, and later was elected mayor of Dallas, Texas.

*In 1856,
Gen. Cabell had married Harriet Rector.*

*The Osage girls she grew up with
had nicknamed her "Shingo,"
which means "Singing Bird."*

*His son, John Cabell,
named his daughter
Shingo Marie Cabell
after his mother.*

Shingo Marie Cabell was my grandmother.



The Union decided to defeat the Confederates in Indian Territory once and for all.

**The rebels were routed at the Battle of Perryville.
General Blunt then burned the town to the ground.**



After Perryville, the only rebel military activity in Indian Territory were the “bushwhackers,” or small groups that attacked and annoyed the enemy.



Neither the North or the South could have anticipated the number of Native refugees.

*At the beginning of the War, the Union loyalists fled north into Kansas.
Towards the end of the War, Confederate supporters headed south into Texas.*



On April 9, 1865, the South surrendered at Appomattox Court House, a town in Virginia.

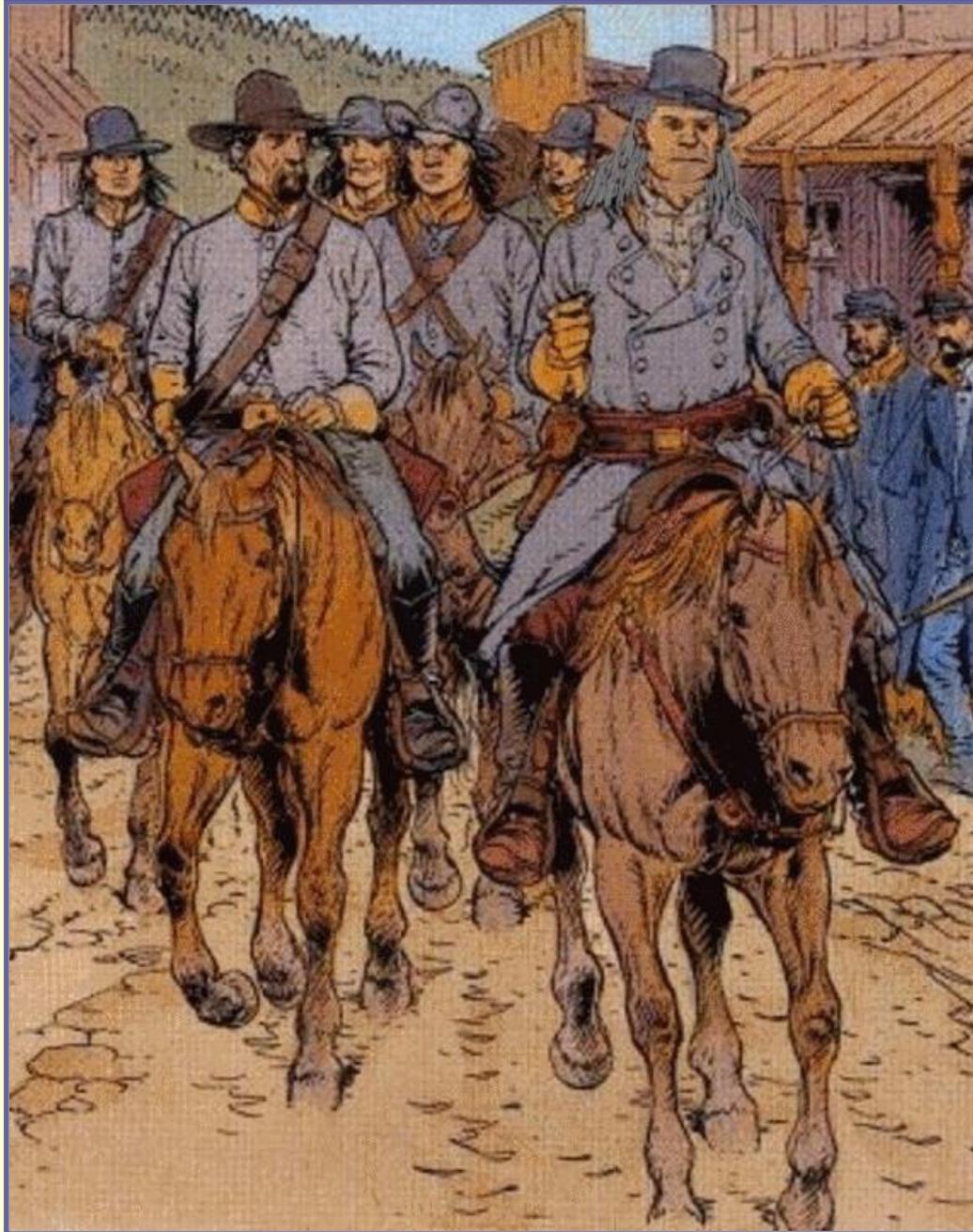


The McLean House, where the Civil War ended.



Tribal leaders met at Council Grove to offer a peace plan to the Union, but it was ignored.





**Stand Watie
was the last
Confederate
General
to surrender.**

*On June 23, 1865,
his troops
turned in
their weapons
at Doaksville.*

When the War ended, Indian Territory was devastated.

Thousands were dead. Livestock, fields, and homes had been destroyed.

Just 30 years after the Trail of Tears, the tribes had to rebuild their lives.

