

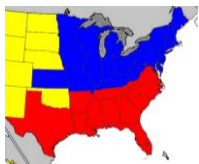


THE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES - APRIL 12, 1861 – APRIL 9, 1865



Confederate	POWER RATIOS	Union
8.7-million (with 4-m slaves)	Population	31.4-million
1.1-million	Army Potential	4-million
253,000	Army Size at Peak	698,000
9,000 miles	Mobility (railroads)	22,000
395,000	Casualties	625,000

- Slavery was the issue that triggered the Civil War. Northern abolitionists saw slavery as a moral evil; Southern plantation-owners felt it was necessary to preserve their new source of wealth: cotton plantations.
- In the election of 1860 the party that traditionally acted as the arbitrator between the demands of North and South -- the Democrats -- could no longer agree on a common platform. Southern secessionists split the party deliberately, so that the Republicans, unacceptable to the South, would win the election and America could be driven apart.
- As they had planned, the "black" Republican, Abraham Lincoln, was elected. South Carolina's withdrawal from the Union incited the other Southern states to withdraw.
- The new Confederacy wanted Northern troops removed from its territory...including an unfinished fort called Sumter.



Eleven states (red) seceded from the Union. The sympathies of the Territories (yellow) generally lay with the Union (blue).



The Federal plan to win the war called for the Confederacy to be squeezed from all sides, and be crushed as if by an Anaconda snake.



Sessionist Robert Toombs warned against attacking Fort Sumter: "You will wantonly strike a hornet's nest which extends from mountains to ocean, and legions now quiet will swarm out and sting us to death. It is unnecessary; it puts us in the wrong; it is fatal."

1861: First blood



The bombardment of Fort Sumter by Confederate batteries around Charleston harbour started the Civil War. Despite 4,000 shells, only one man was killed. Pvt. Daniel Hough was the first of 620,000 men to die during the civil war. He was killed by accident after Union Major Anderson surrendered the Fort.

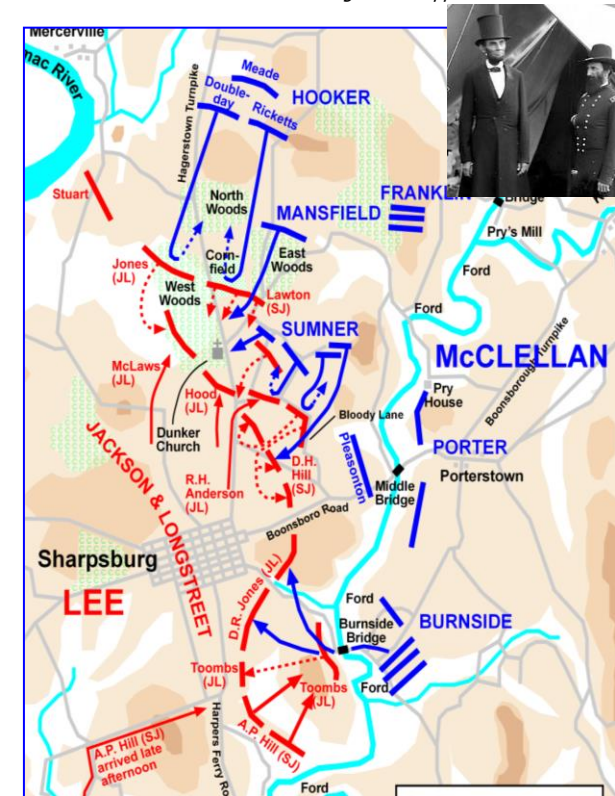
- After the fall of Fort Sumter, both sides raced to prepare for war.
- Lincoln hoped that a quick victory would end the rebellion, so he insisted on an attack on the Confederate capital of Richmond.
- On July 21st, Union General McDowell marched 20 miles from Washington to Manassas Junction, and crossed Bull Run* creek, where Confederate General Johnson's army was waiting.
- McDowell's army smashed the Confederate right flank, but ran into Jackson's men who held "like a stone wall" -- creating his legendary nickname: "Stonewall Jackson".
- Surprised and counter-attacked, the Union army began to retreat. A blocked bridge turned flight into panic among the untrained Union soldiers to panic.
- This Southern victory ensured that the war would go on, with accelerating violence and increasingly revolutionary measures.



*Highlights indicate availability of a separate Battlefield Bookmark

1862: Union Progress in the West; Stalemate in the East

- The Union forces attempted a more coordinated campaign in 1862, putting pressure on the west while attacking in the east.
- In the two-day battle of Shiloh, Union General Grant recovered from near-disaster when his army was almost driven into the Tennessee River, and stormed to a victory on the second day. Shiloh drove a wedge into the top of the Confederacy.
- The South was staggered by a second blow when New Orleans fell to Admiral Farragut. The loss of the South's biggest citadel strangled the flow of supplies from the South's western area.
- Attempting a Union initiative in the east, General McClellan landed an army on the peninsula near Richmond, and gradually fought his way to the city limits. In a running battle over seven days, General Lee crumpled the Union right flank and drove McClellan away.
- Moving the army to Washington, the Union attempted once again to drive down on Richmond. A catastrophic Union defeat at the Second Battle of Bull Run encouraged Lee to attack the North.
- At Antietam, his advance was stopped by General McClellan, whose fumbling attacks threw away a huge numerical advantage and allowed Lee to get away.
- Lincoln (shown on the battlefield) used the victory at Antietam as a platform to announce the end of slavery; henceforth, no outside nation would be able to recognize or support the South.



Antietam was the bloodiest day of the civil war. McClellan did not take control of the battle despite his almost 2:1 superiority. He attacked in a sequence from north to south, allowing Lee to shift his troops to meet the different threats. Nevertheless, Lee had to retreat.

1863: Jaws close in the West; See-saw in the East



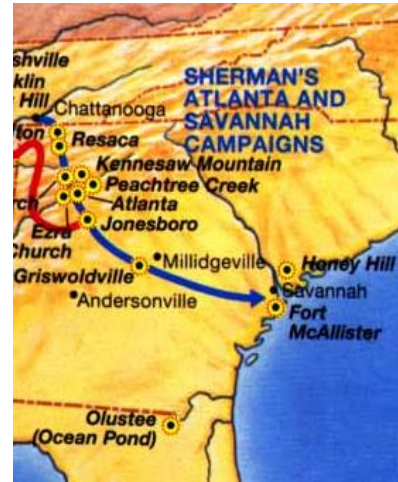
- Attempting yet another direct push to Richmond, Union General Hooker slipped around Lee's right flank to Chancellorsville, where he waited for Lee to attack him.
- Lee obliged, but attacked the exposed right flank of the Union army, driving it back to the river. Though it would be Lee's greatest triumph, he lost his "right arm", General Stonewall Jackson, who died from wounds.
- On the Mississippi, Union General Grant ran a fleet past Confederate batteries in **Vicksburg** and transported his army inland behind the city. After quickly destroying Confederate relief armies, he turned and besieged Vicksburg, which surrendered after a six-week siege.
- Just as Vicksburg was surrendering, the South got news that Lee had been beaten at **Gettysburg**. Lee had driven north after Chancellorsville, and engaged in a three-day fight against General Meade. The climax, on the third day, was a ruinous charge led by General Pickett. Lee never had the manpower to take the initiative again.
- Another Southern "rebound" turned sour in the mid-west when Confederate General Bragg chased the Union army into **Chattanooga**. General Grant took over, and a spontaneous Union charge uphill tore open the center of the Confederate line. The middle door to the South was open.



Confederate General Pickett attacked the Union center at Gettysburg, and lost 7,500 men in 50 minutes. It was the last Confederate offensive of the war.

1864: Atlanta falls; Sherman Marches Across the South

- When Grant was promoted to take command of all Union armies, Sherman took over in the West. He drove south to Atlanta, repeatedly out-flanking the Confederate army.
- As he closed in on Atlanta, Confederate General Hood lashed out but lacked the manpower to damage Sherman. Hood finally abandoned Atlanta, heading off to invade the Union in the vain hope that Sherman would follow.
- The capture of Atlanta assured the election victory of President Lincoln in the 1864 election, as the Northern voters could see that the war was being won.
- Sherman then cut himself loose from his supply lines, and set off across the South. He disappeared from Union sight as he entered the Confederate heartland.
- His troops cut a swath 60 miles wide as they **marched to the sea**, covering the 300 miles. The Confederate army opposing his 60,000 men numbered only 20,000.
- Sherman's army reached the sea at Savannah, and set siege to the city, which fell on December 22nd.
- A few weeks into the new year, Sherman headed north to close up with Grant, and end the civil war.



Sherman took the west wing of the Union attack on the South, marching from Chattanooga through Atlanta and on to the Atlantic ocean at Savannah.



"I propose to demonstrate the vulnerability of the South," wrote Sherman, "fear is the beginning of wisdom."

1865: End of the Line

- While Sherman was destroying the heartland of the South, Grant was holding Lee's army by the collar.
- For six weeks, the 110,000 men of the North tried to slip around Lee's 60,000 men and take Richmond. The battles were so bloody that Grant lost more men in one month than had fallen in the previous three years.
- Grant surprised Lee by bridging a river overnight and moving against **Petersburg**, to the south of Richmond. If this valuable rail junction fell, Lee would have to abandon Richmond.
- Lee's men dug trenches around Petersburg, but Grant kept sliding to the west, forcing Lee to extend the trenches.
- By February 1865 there were more than 30 miles of trenches, and Lee's men were stretched so thin that each man was 20 feet apart from his neighbour.
- On April 2nd, Grant ordered an all-out assault on the Confederate lines, which finally forced Lee to abandon Petersburg.
- Fleeing to the west, Lee hoped to hook up with the Confederate forces opposing Sherman, and then turn on Grant.
- Lee was finally forced to stop at Appomattox Court House, where he surrendered his army to Grant on April 12th. By June 23rd, all of the remaining Confederate armies had surrendered.



Grant studies maps (insert) as his armies move south of Richmond, cutting off Lee's supplies and forcing him to over-extend his army. The end of Lee's retreat came at Appomattox Court House.

Grand review of the Union army in Washington after Lee surrendered.



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