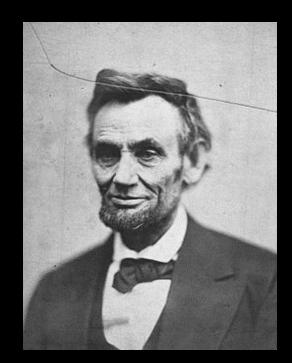




I. An Overview

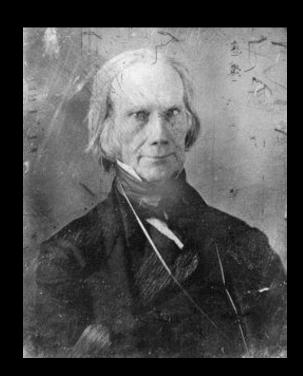
- 1. The Civil War (1861-65) was a social and military conflict between the United States of America in the North and the Confederate States of American in the South.
- 2. Two immediate triggers: the 1860 election of Abraham Lincoln, and the resulting secession of 7 Southern states by February 1861.
- 3. Combat began on 12 April 1861 at Fort Sumter in Charleston, South Carolina, and intensified as 4 more states joined the South.
- 4. Although many Confederate and Unionist leaders believed the war would be short, it dragged on until 26 May 1865, when the last major Confederate army surrendered.
- 5. More than 620,000 people died as a result of the conflict, and property damage was estimated at \$5 billion. In the end, the victory of the United States meant the preservation of the Union and the abolition of slavery with the 13th Amendment (1865).



Abraham Lincoln



- 1. The most obvious cause of the War was the dispute over slavery and its extension into the territories.
- 2. As American politicians struggled with these issues during the first seventy-five years of the Republic, most pursued a pragmatic course of compromise, which resulted in three great settlements.
 - a. Compromise at the Constitutional Convention (1787): three-fifths and fugitive-slave clauses.
 - b. Missouri Compromise (1820): Congress granted Missouri admission to the Union as a slave state, but forbid the further extension of slavery north of the 36° 30' line in LA Territory.
 - c. Compromise of 1850: California free state; Utah & New Mexico pop. sovereignty; fugitive slave law



Henry Clay, The Great Compromiser



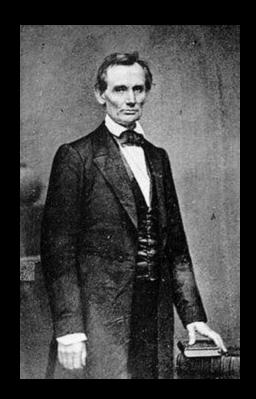
- 3. Although politicians had compromised on slavery during the first years of the Republic, the ten year period between 1851 and 1861 witnessed the end of sectional settlement.
 - a. Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin* (1851-2)
 - b. George Fitzhugh, Sociology for the South (1854)
 - c. Kansas-Nebraska Act (1854): Bleeding Kansas
 - d. Creation of the Republican Party in the North.
 - e. Dred Scott (1857)
 - f. John Brown's Raid on Harper's Ferry 1859



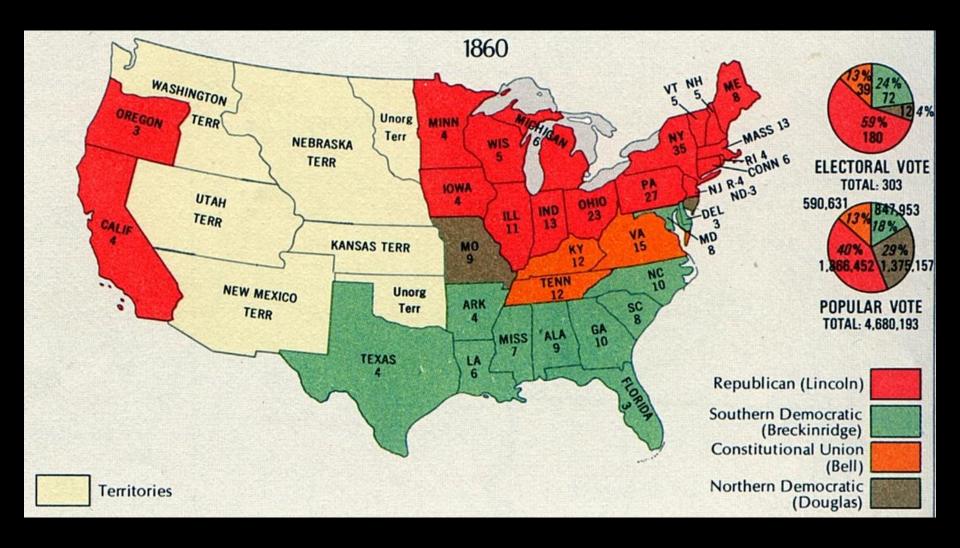
John Brown Mural



- 4. Presidential election of 1860: slavery issue most divisive.
 - a. Republicans nominated Abraham Lincoln
 - b. Democrats split: Northern Stephen Douglas; Southern - John C. Breckinridge.
 - c. Constitutional Union Party: John Bell

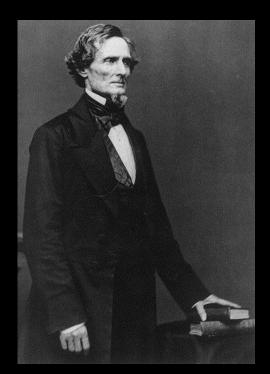


Abraham Lincoln





- 5. Throughout the campaign, Southern leaders threatened to secede if Lincoln was elected.
- 6. When election result was clear, the South Carolina legislature called a special convention to consider secession.
- 7. In December 1860, the convention unanimously passed an ordinance dissolving "the union now subsisting between South Carolina and other States."
- 8. Other Southern states held similar conventions, and seceded.
- 9. MS, FL, AL, GA, LA, & TX seceded by 1 February 1861.
- 10. Delegates from six states met in Montgomery, Alabama on 4 February 1861 to set up government for Confederacy.
- 11. February 8-9: adopted constitution, Confederate Congress elected Jefferson Davis as President and Alexander Stephens as Vice President.



Jefferson Davis

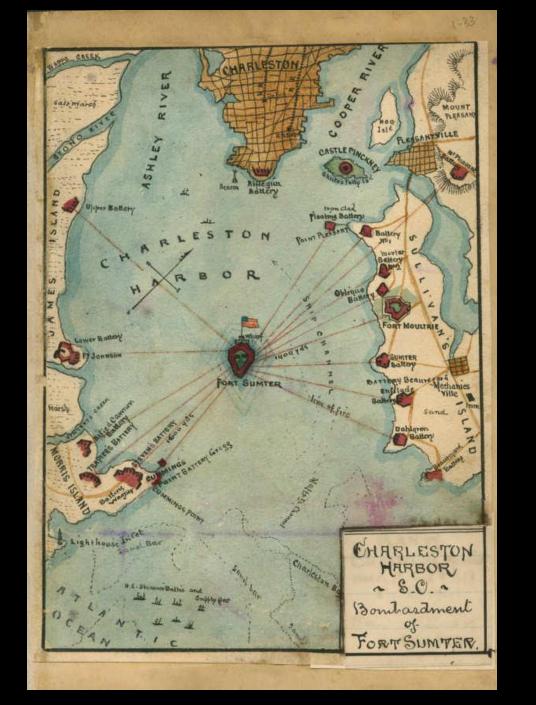


III. Early War: April 1861 - Sept 1862

- 1. When Abraham Lincoln entered the Presidency on 4 March 1861, he said the federal government would not "assail" the states of the South, but that he meant to "hold, occupy, and possess the property and places belonging to the government."
- 2. Within a month, however, Confederates had pushed yielding Union military forces out of the South, with one exception: those soldiers at Fort Sumter, in Charleston Harbor, South Carolina.
- 3. It was there that the war began when Confederate General Pierre Beauregard, ordered his troops to flush the Union forces out on 12 April 1861.
- 4. The next day, Sumter fell to the Confederates.

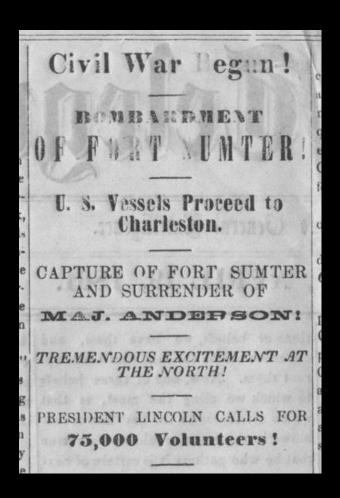


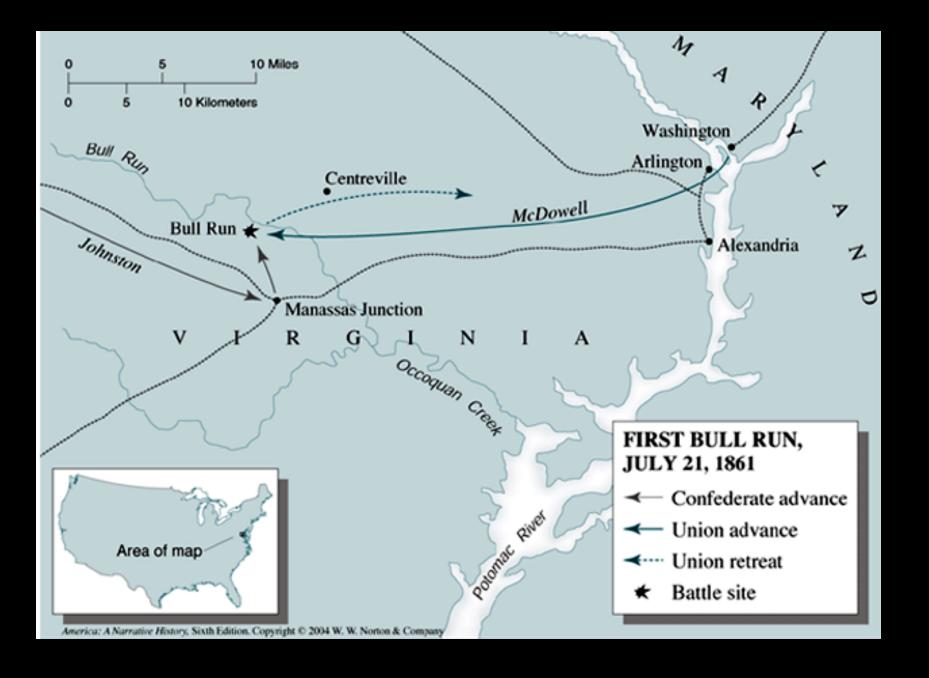
Pierre Beauregard

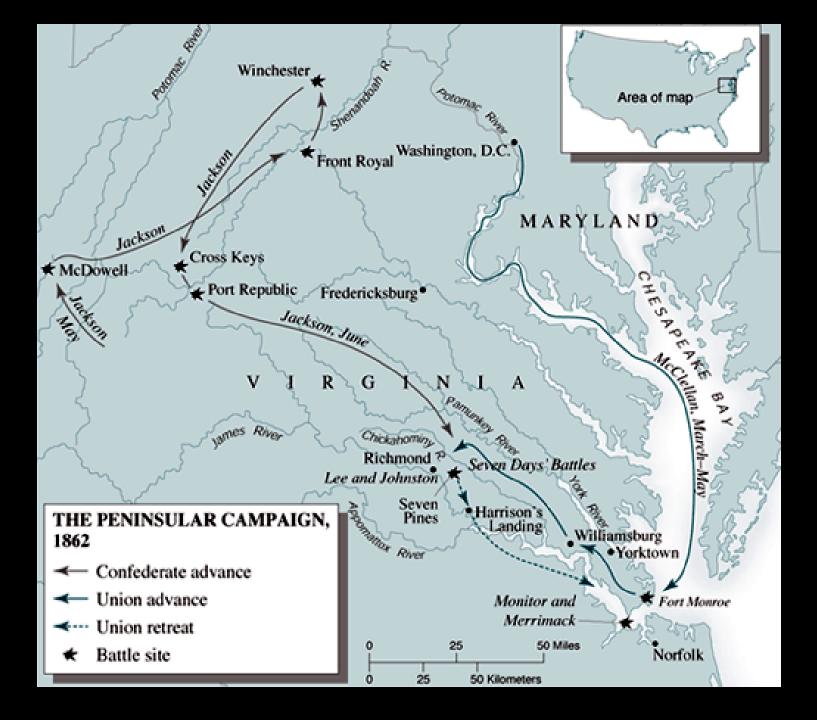


III. Early War: April 1861 - Sept 1862

- 5. Following the Battle at Fort Sumter, Lincoln called up 75,000 troops from the states on 15 April 1861.
- 6. Facing this show of federal force, VA, AR, TN, & NC seceded, doubling the population of the Confederacy and adding significant power and wealth to Southern nation.
- 7. Following these developments, a full-scale war began.
- 8. Battles: Confederates named battles for the nearest town or city; the Union named battles for the nearest natural feature.
- 9. Union forces in 1861 and 1862 did not fare well in the most important theater of the war -- the East.
- 10. Losses in Virginia at First Bull Run (July 1861), in the Peninsular Campaign (Fall-Summer 1862), and at Second Bull Run (August 1862).

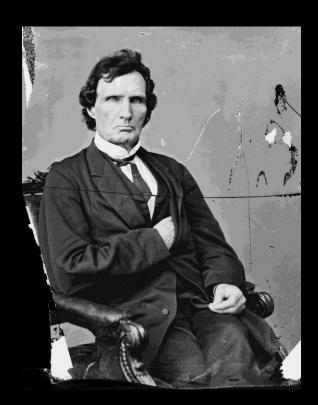




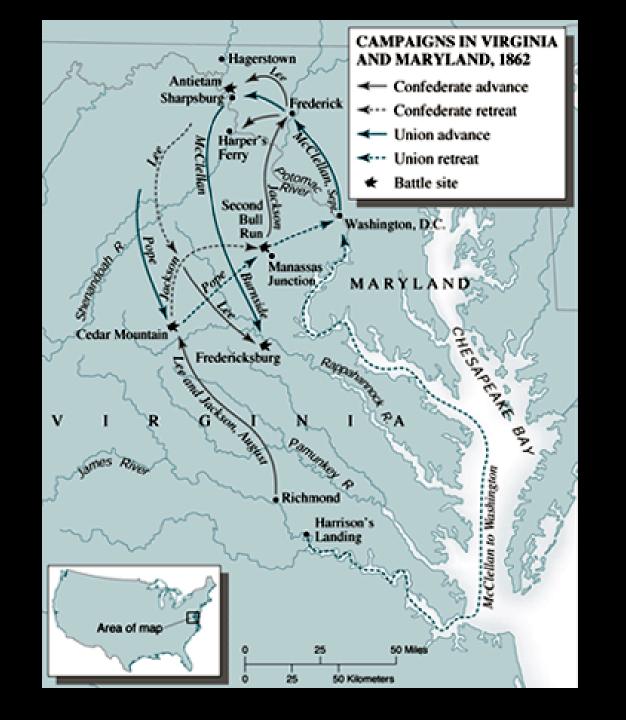


III. Early War: April 1861 - Sept 1862

- 11. Republicans in Congress demanded a more forceful prosecution of the war, abolition of slavery, and the introduction of black troops into Federal ranks.
- 12. Although Lincoln opposed these measures, he was in a weak position because he felt that with public support Congress might force these actions upon him.
- 13. Therefore, the President decided, and secretly declared, that he would soon emancipate Rebel slaves.
- 14. Lincoln did just this after Confederate General Robert E. Lee's foray into the North was halted at the Battle of Antietam, near Sharpsburg, Maryland on 17 September 1862 the bloodiest day in American military history with 26,000 dead, missing, and wounded.
- 15. Five days later, with this "victory" behind him, Lincoln issued a preliminary Emancipation Proclamation, which was made final on 1 January 1863.



Thaddeus Stevens





IV. Emancipation Proclamation

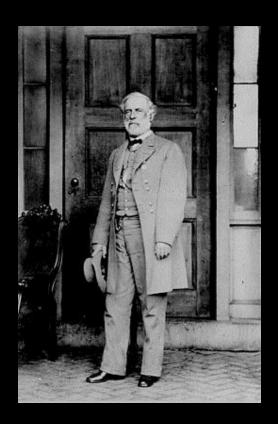
- 1. By freeing all the slaves in territories held by Confederates and emphasizing the enlisting of black soldiers in the Union army, Lincoln sought to rally support in the North, undermine the solidarity of the Southern states, and make it impossible for foreign powers to support the Southern cause.
- 2. In addition to making this a moral war in 1863, the United States Congress followed the Confederates lead by instituting a draft in July under the Enrollment Act.
- 3. In the course of the war, the North raised 1.5 million troops for the Union, while the South raised about 900,000 Confederate soldiers.



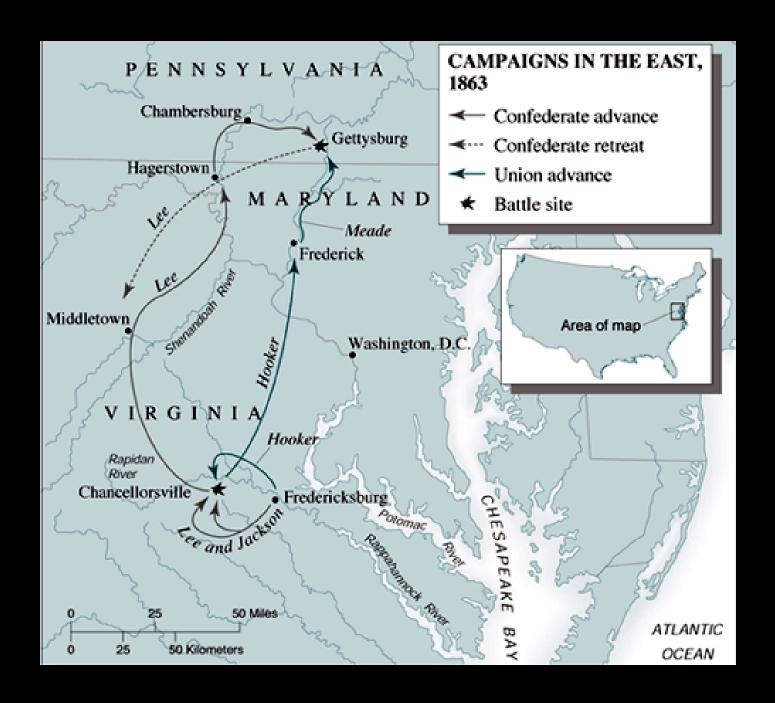
V. War Accelerates: Dec 1862 - July 1863

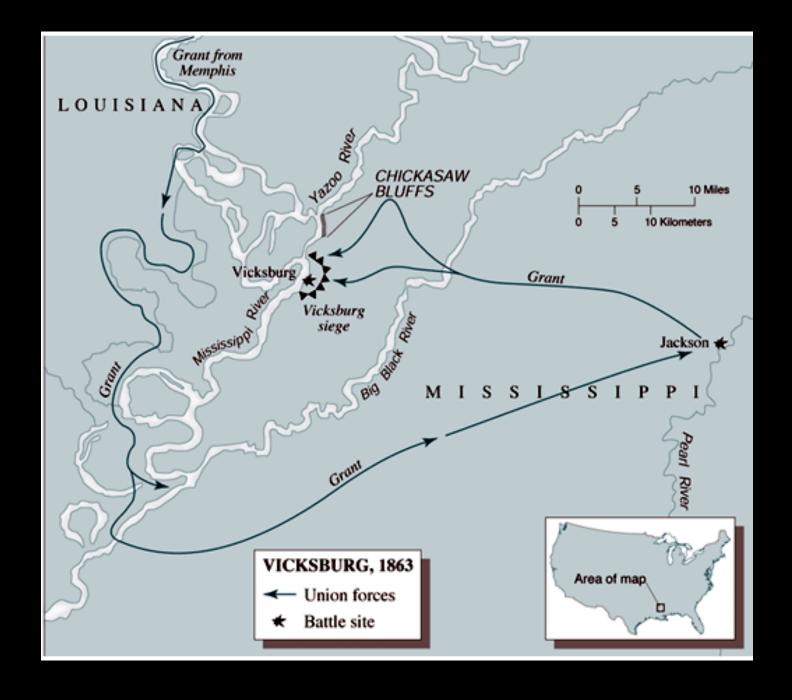
- 1. After Antietam, Robert E. Lee and his Confederate soldiers won two great victories in Virginia at Fredericksburg (December 1862) and Chancellorsville (May 1863),
- 2. However, by the summer of 1863 the Union was turning the tide of the war.
- 3. In turn, Lee took battle North to Pennsylvania.
- 4. However, at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania (1-3 July 1863), Lee was pushed from the North again by a superior Union force.
- 5. On the same day that Lee retreated from Gettysburg, Union General Ulysses S. Grant captured the last Confederate stronghold on the Mississippi River, at Vicksburg, Mississippi (4 July 1863), with 27,000 Confederates.





Robert E. Lee





V. War Accelerates: Nov 1863 - Nov 1864

- 1. After Vicksburg, Grant was then given command of all Union military forces (November 1863).
- 2. By May 1864, Grant launched a coordinated campaign of invasion. Grant commanded the Army of the Potomac, and William T. Sherman commanded Union forces in the West.
- 3. In the fall of 1864, as Grant and Sherman led Union troops in the South, President Lincoln faced another election year.

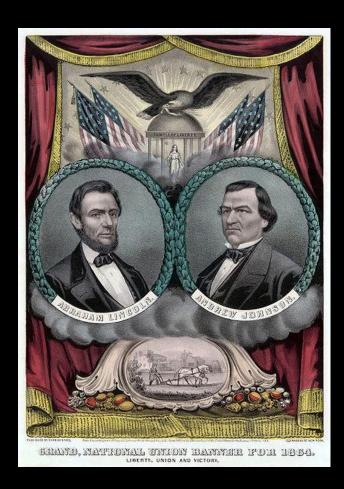


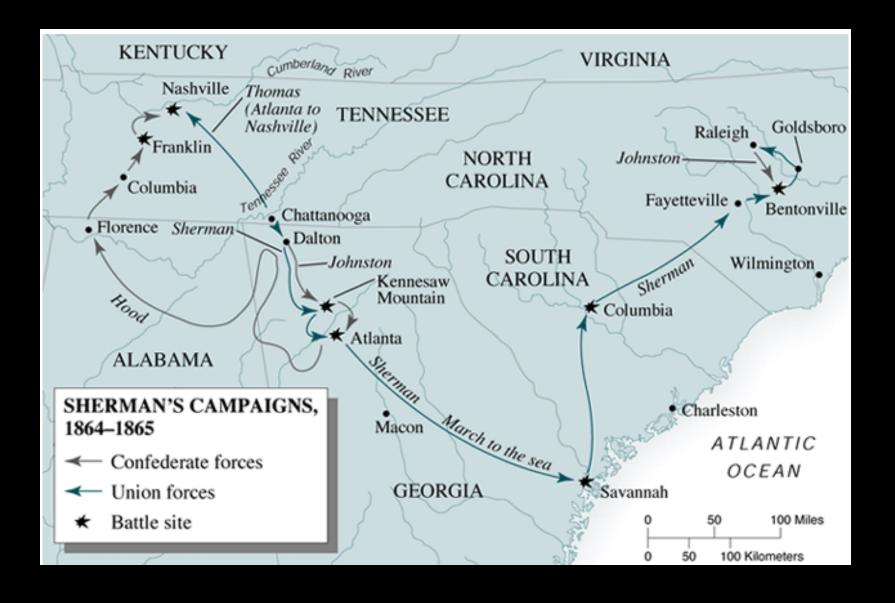
Ulysses S. Grant



VI. Election of 1864

- 1. The Democrats nominated General George McClellan to face Abraham Lincoln.
- 2. Very tough campaign season.
- 3. Gen. Sherman's capture of Atlanta, Georgia (September 1864) and Philip Sheridan's successful Shenandoah Valley Campaign (Fall 1864), meant that Union sentiment was behind Lincoln.
- 4. He won 212 of 233 electoral votes and 2.2 million of 4 million popular votes cast.
- 5. With Lincoln's reelection, the South's cause was lost.
- It was only a matter of time before Grant and Sherman's armies wore down Southern forces.







VII. Final Stages: Nov 1864 – April 1865

- 1. Gen. Sherman led his "March to the Sea" from Atlanta to Savannah, Georgia in late 1864, wreaking havoc on the South.
- 2. Then, in early 1865 Grant's long siege of Petersburg, Virginia paid off when Lee abandoned his position there to move to Lynchburg, Virginia.
- 3. Grant captured Petersburg and then the Confederate capital at Richmond.
- 4. By the spring of 1865, the Confederate losses had mounted to such an extent that Lee surrendered his army to Grant at Appomattox Court House on 9 April 1865.
- 5. The war ended shortly thereafter, when the last Confederate forces surrendered.

