

Civil War

Section 5 Surrender at Appomattox

1. How was the Southern Army doing after their defeats of 1863? Who was placed in Command of the entire Union Army in 1864?
2. What was Grant's plan to destroy the South? What type of war was that called? Describe his plan. What two generals were helping him? (Where were all 3 generals from?)
3. Which general was sent to Atlanta, Georgia? What happened to Atlanta?
4. Why did Southerners hate General Sherman for his famous "March to the Sea"? What happened on it?
5. How did slaves receive Sherman? What did southern newspapers say about him?
6. Who ran against President Lincoln in the 1864 election? Who was Lincoln's running mate and why did he choose him? What was the result of the 1864 election, and why did he win?
7. How did Grant defeat Lee at Petersburg, Virginia? What city was captured next? How was Lincoln received by African-Americans in Richmond?
8. Where did Lee surrender to Grant at? What were the terms of his surrender?
9. Why did Grant stop his troops from firing victory salutes?
10. What happened to Abraham Lincoln on April 14, 1865? Who did it?

SECTION 5

Surrender at Appomattox

SETTING THE SCENE

Read to Learn . . .

- ★ why Sherman's march to the sea caused so much destruction.
- ★ how the Civil War came to an end.

Terms to Know

- ★ total war

People to Meet

- ★ William Tecumseh Sherman
- ★ Philip Henry Sheridan
- ★ George McClellan

Places to Locate

- ★ Atlanta, Georgia
- ★ Columbia, South Carolina
- ★ Petersburg, Virginia
- ★ Appomattox Court House, Virginia



► GENERAL WILLIAM
TECUMSEH SHERMAN

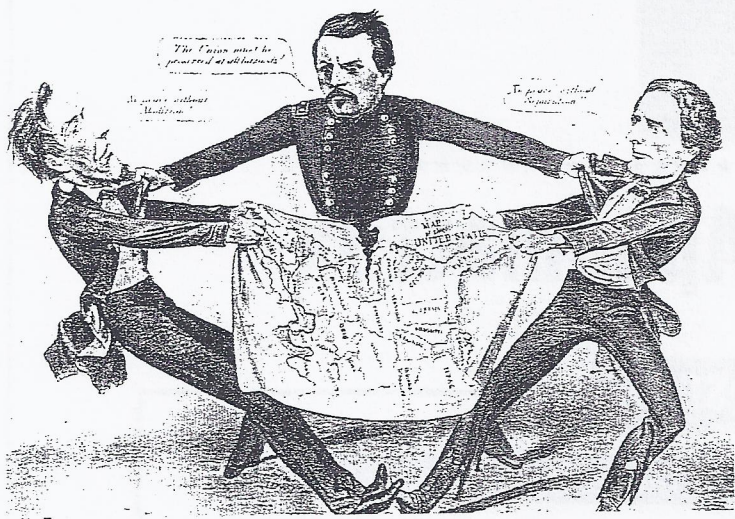
After the Southern defeats of 1863, Northern troops occupied large areas of the Confederacy and controlled the Mississippi River. The Southern railroad system lay in ruins and Southern armies suffered from lack of supplies. The Northern armies readied to deal the final blow. On March 9, 1864, Lincoln promoted Grant to lieutenant general and gave him command of all Northern armies. Grant declared to Lincoln, "Whatever happens, there will be no turning back."

★ Wearing Down the South

As commander in chief, Grant planned to wage total war against the Confeder-

ates, destroying their armies as well as their resources. The total war policy also meant that Southern citizens suffered as much as Confederate soldiers. Grant targeted Richmond and Atlanta, the last two major rail links between Southern troops and their food and supplies. Grant set out for Richmond and ordered General William Tecumseh Sherman to Atlanta.

Meanwhile Grant ordered Philip Henry Sheridan to destroy the rich farmlands that fed the Confederate army. He instructed Sheridan to devastate the area so completely that a crow flying over the area would need to carry its own rations. Sheridan did just that in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia.



Picturing History

▲ **ELECTION OF 1864** This political cartoon, drawn during the election of 1864, shows George McClellan trying to save the Union at any cost. What party nominated McClellan for President?

The March to the Sea

Sherman also set out to fulfill Grant's orders. He wanted to show Southerners that their government could not protect them. In May 1864, he set out for Atlanta from Chattanooga with 100,000 soldiers. Sherman captured Atlanta in September, defeating a Confederate army of about 62,000. After several battles, much of Atlanta burned to the ground and Sherman destroyed the main railroad line. One Indiana soldier wrote, "We have utterly destroyed Atlanta. I don't think any people will want to try and live there now."

In November Sherman began a campaign that would make him one of the generals directly responsible for Northern victory and the most hated man in the South. Sherman's troops began a march to the Georgia coast. Sherman planned to march his men across Georgia to Savannah and the sea. His troops would forage for food, or live off the land. Sherman's forces left a 60-mile-wide (96 km) strip of burned crops, barns, and warehouses in their path. They destroyed everything they could not use, aiming to destroy Southern morale and will to continue the fight.

Sherman's Reception

Slaves greeted Sherman's troops wherever they went. Sherman described them as "simply frantic with joy." One woman pointed at the general and cried, "There's the man that rules the world!"

White Southerners viewed Sherman differently. A Georgia newspaper called him "the Attila of the West" and his soldiers "hell-hounds." Some Georgians burned bridges and shot at soldiers to slow them down. Others fled their homes in fear.

Sherman reached the Atlantic coast at Savannah, Georgia, in December 1864 and sent Lincoln the following wire: "I beg to present you as a Christmas gift the city of Savannah. . . ." Next Sherman's army marched north. After the Union rampage through Columbia, the state capital, the city lay in ruins.

★ The Election of 1864

In the midst of war a presidential election took place. In the North the war divided both major parties—Republicans and Democrats—into peace and war factions. The Republican party temporarily changed its name to the Union party to attract Democrats who supported the war.

Now known as Unionists, the Republicans nominated Lincoln and chose a war Democrat for Vice President, Andrew Johnson of Tennessee. The largely antiwar Democrats nominated George McClellan, the popular general whom Lincoln had twice removed from command.

Lincoln did not expect to win reelection. A New York politician exclaimed, "The people are wild for peace. Lincoln's reelection is an impossibility." Sherman's capture of Atlanta, coupled with McClellan's refusal to support his party's peace platform, though, gave Lincoln a decisive victory. The Republican victory signaled a continuation of the war until the South surrendered and slavery ended.



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★ Ending the War

While Sherman marched to Atlanta, Grant's forces fought Lee's army at three sites in Virginia—the Wilderness, Spotsylvania Court House, and Cold Harbor. In all three battles, both sides suffered enormous losses. The battles, though, took the heaviest toll on Grant's soldiers. Lee expected Grant to retreat, as other Union generals had after being defeated. Grant, however, refused to admit defeat.

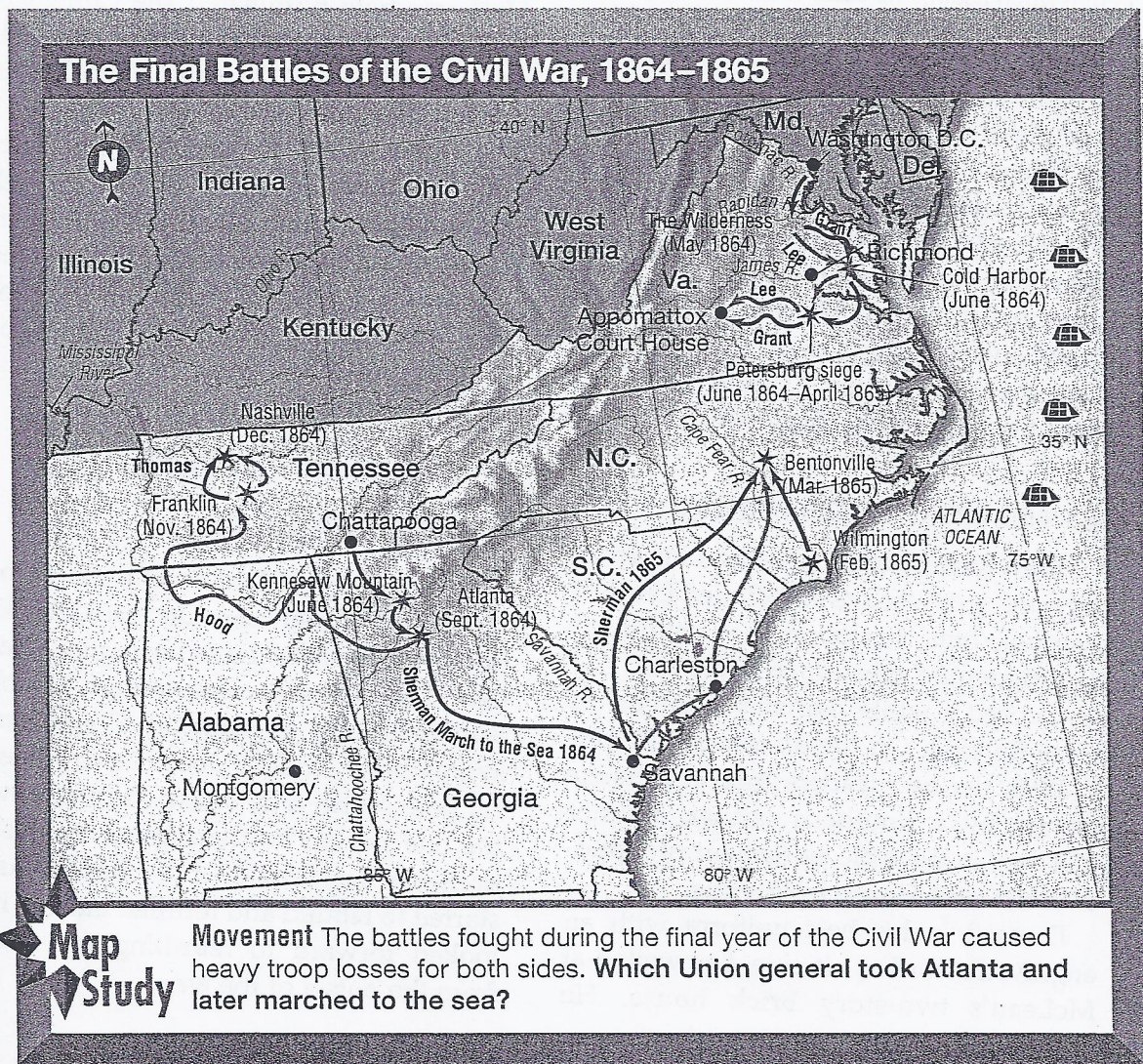
On to Richmond

Grant moved his army closer to Richmond after each battle. Lee's army followed and tried to prevent the Yankees from reaching the capital. Part of Grant's

army slipped past Lee and reached Petersburg, Virginia.

All railroads supplying Richmond ran through Petersburg. If Union troops took Petersburg, Richmond would also fall. The soldiers stormed the town but failed to capture it. Soon Lee and his army arrived and dug in to defend Petersburg. Grant's forces attacked Lee's defenses again and again but made little headway.

In June 1864, Grant realized that only a siege could destroy Lee's army. He would force Lee's troops to stay in the trenches at Petersburg until they ran out of supplies and soldiers. The siege lasted nine months. Grant's troops suffered severe losses, but so did Lee's forces. Grant could get new troops, while Lee ran out of soldiers.



Biography ★★☆☆

Lincoln in the White House

When Abraham Lincoln and his family first arrived at the White House they stood in the East Room, astonished at its immense size. Their simple home in Springfield, Illinois, could fit easily into this room alone!

A simple family man, Lincoln loved to frolic with his youngest sons, Tad and Willie. Family fun provided a happy diversion for Lincoln as he grappled with the horrors and difficulties of the Civil War. The issues of war forced the President to rise early and toil late into the night. He ended his days by visiting the War Department's telegraph office to read dispatches from the battlefield. President Lincoln often told stories and jokes, not only to illustrate important points, but also to dissolve tensions during the war. His sense of humor, though, could not transcend the national—or Lincoln's personal—despair.

Lincoln's family lived in constant fear that the capital would be attacked by Confederates. They worried over threats to the President's life. In February 1862, both Tad and Willie fell sick to typhoid fever. Although Tad recovered, Willie died.

As Lincoln's wife Mary became overwhelmed with grief, Lincoln recovered to lead the shattered nation. The anguish in



▲ ABRAHAM LINCOLN AND HIS SON TAD

the White House reflected the anguish of the nation. Knowing that he bore responsibility for so much suffering, Lincoln once asked a friend if it did not seem strange that he “who couldn't cut the head off a chicken, and who was sick at the sight of blood, should be cast into the middle of a great war, with blood flowing all about me?”

Not until General Lee surrendered the Confederate forces could Lincoln allow himself to relax. On April 14, 1865, he joined his wife for a carriage ride and a play. That evening an assassin took his life. No other President had faced such a national crisis, or endured such personal tragedies, yet the President dealt with both with compassion and greatness. ★★☆☆

★ SECTION 5 REVIEW ★

Checking for Understanding

1. Identify William Tecumseh Sherman, Philip Henry Sheridan, George McClellan, Appomattox Court House.
2. Define total war.
3. How did Sherman's march to the sea help end the war?
4. How did siege warfare defeat Lee's army?

Critical Thinking

5. Drawing Conclusions Why do you think Lincoln considered Grant to be a good general?

ACTIVITY

6. Write a poem that a Civil War soldier might have written after hearing that the war was over.