

USH Module 1 Lesson 7

Reconstruction 4.4

- With the end of the Civil War, the task at hand was **Reconstruction**, bringing the South back into the Union.

Lincoln hoped to bind the wounds of the ruined South.
Others wanted to punish the South.

- Lincoln and Congress agreed on the creation of the **Freedmen's Bureau** just before the war ended.

This federal agency was to
Aid freed slaves
Attend to the South's immediate needs.



While debate over Reconstruction went on, Lincoln was assassinated.
(April 14, 1865)
Andrew Johnson became President. (4.3)

Johnson wished to restore political power to southerners if they swore allegiance to the United States.

•Radical Republican congressmen disagreed, instead favoring punishment for the South. Congress voted to impeach the President.

Though Johnson was not removed from office, he lost control of Reconstruction.

| Reconstruction Amendments to the Constitution | |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Amendment | Content |
| 13th Amendment | Ended slavery |
| 14th Amendment | Guaranteed full citizenship status and rights to every person born in the United States, including African Americans |
| 15th Amendment | Guaranteed that no male citizen could be denied the right to vote on the basis of "race, color, or previous condition of servitude" |

Reconstruction Ends 4.4

Radical Republicans gained control of Congress and designed an ambitious Reconstruction plan.

They divided the South into five districts controlled by Union generals. They required southern states to grant the vote to black men and pass the 14th Amendment. By 1868 many southern states had black elected officials.



Formerly enslaved people carved out new lives.

African American men and women legalized and celebrated their marriages and built strong churches.

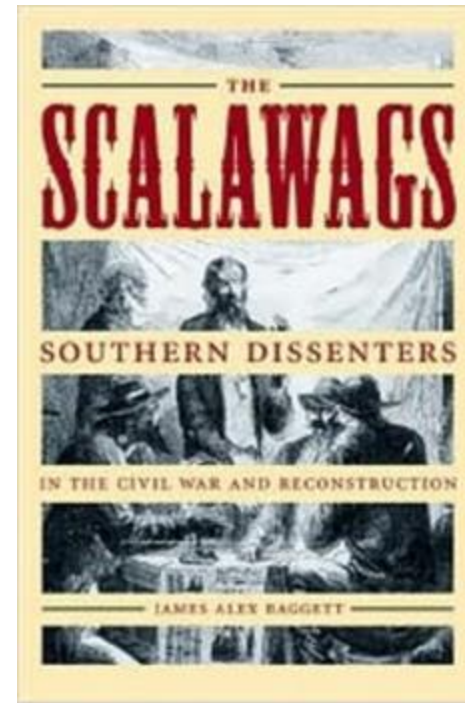
Freedmen's Bureau schools filled up and many black adults and children learned to read.

Reconstructing Society 4.4

Conditions in the Postwar South

By 1870, all former Confederate states have rejoined Union

Republican governments begin public works programs, social services



Politics in the Postwar South

Scalawags—farmers who joined Republicans, want to improve position

Carpetbaggers—Northern Republicans, moved to the South after the war

Many Southern whites reject higher status, equal rights for blacks

Reconstructing Society *{continued}* 4.4

Former Slaves Improve Their Lives

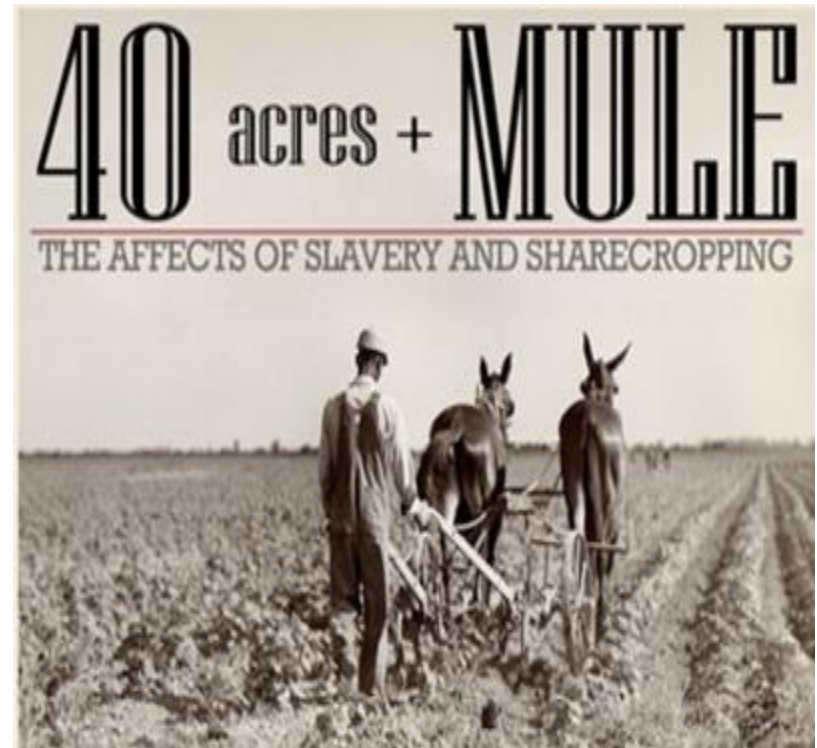
Freedmen found own churches; ministers become community leaders

Thousands move to reunite with family, find jobs

Sharecropping and Tenant Farming

Sharecropping—to farm land owned by another, keep only part of crops

Tenant farmers rent land from owner



The Collapse of Reconstruction 4.4

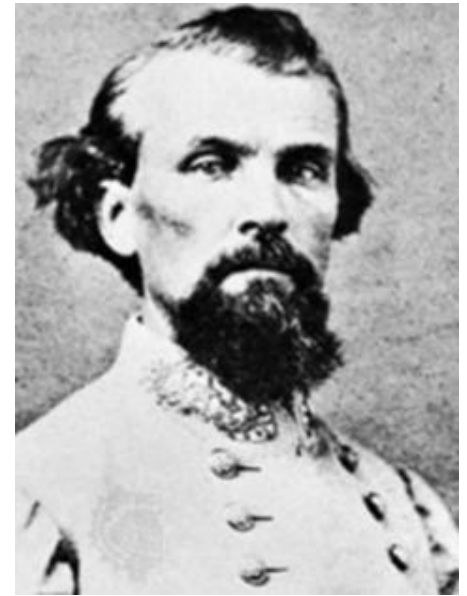
The Collapse of Reconstruction

Ku Klux Klan—southern vigilante group, wants to:

- destroy Republicans, aid planter class, repress African Americans
- to achieve goals, KKK kills thousand of men, women, children

Enforcement Acts of 1870, 1871 uphold federal power in South

In 1872, Amnesty Act passes, Freedmen's Bureau expires



Support for Reconstruction Fades

Republicans splinter; panic of 1873 distracts North's attention

Supreme Court rules against Radical Republican changes

Democrats "Redeem" the South

Democrats regain control as 1876 election deal ends Reconstruction