

Section 4. Gettysburg: A Turning Point



- While neither side won the battle of Antietam, it was enough of a victory for Lincoln to take his first steps toward ending slavery.
- On January 1, 1863, President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation. The proclamation, or formal order, declared slaves in all Confederate states to be free.

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- In the summer of 1863, Lee felt confident enough to risk another invasion of the North.
- Union and Confederate troops met on July 1, 1863, west of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

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- After a brief skirmish, they occupied four miles of high ground along an area known as Cemetery Ridge. About a mile to the west, some 75,000 Confederate troops gathered behind Seminary Ridge.
- Pickett's charge marked the northernmost point reached by Southern troops during the war.

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- Although Gettysburg was a victory for the Union, the losses on both sides were staggering.
- More than 17,500 Union soldiers and 23,000 Confederate troops were killed or wounded in three days of battle.
- Lee, who lost about a third of his army, withdrew to Virginia. From this point on, he would only wage a defensive war on Southern soil.

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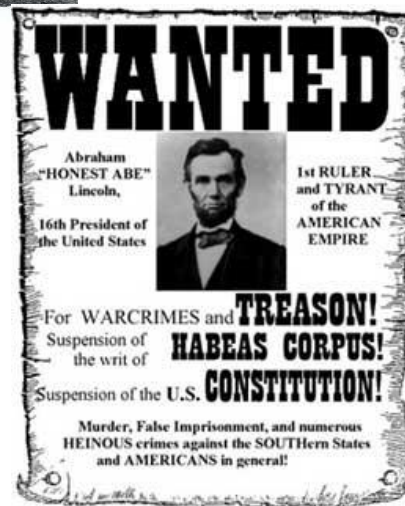


- Despite the victory at Gettysburg, Lincoln faced a number of problems on the home front, including opposition to the war itself.
- A group of Northern Democrats were more interested in restoring peace than in saving the Union or ending slavery.

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MASSACHUSETTS MILITIA MARCHING THROUGH BALTIMORE.



- Other Northerners opposed the war because they were sympathetic to the Confederate cause.
- When a proslavery mob attacked Union soldiers marching through Maryland, Lincoln sent in troops to maintain order.
- He also used his constitutional power to temporarily suspend the right of habeas corpus.

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- Lincoln was among those invited to speak at the dedication of this new burial ground. The nation would never forget Lincoln's **Gettysburg Address**.