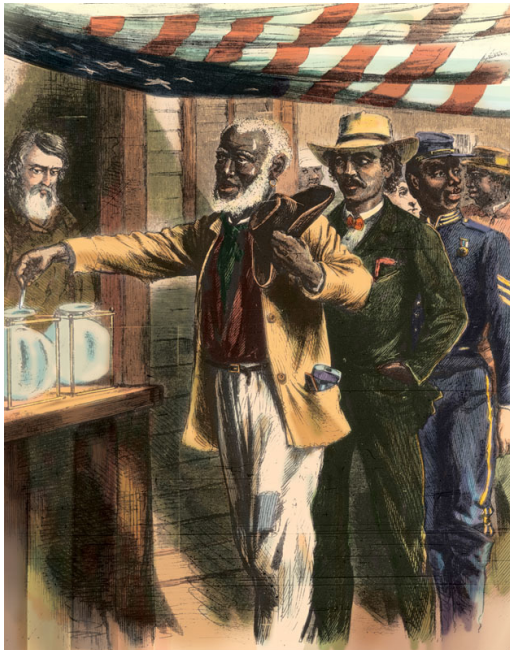


Lesson 23:

The Reconstruction Era

To what extent did Reconstruction bring African Americans closer to full citizenship?

Introduction



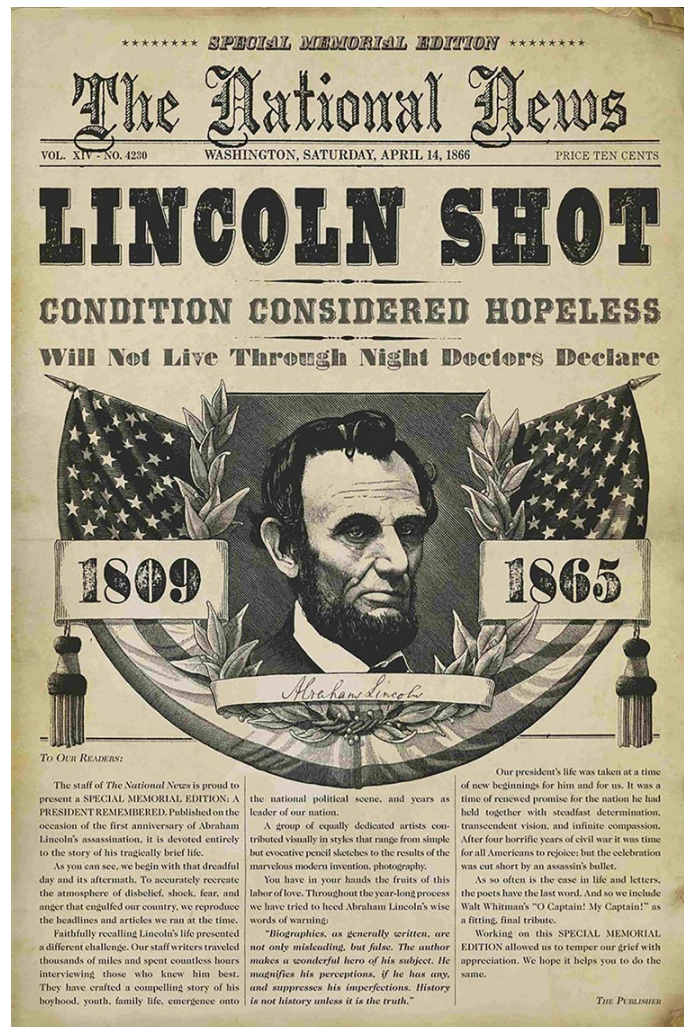
- By the end of the Civil War, Americans longed for peace. But what kind of peace?
 - One that punished the South for its rebellion?
 - A peace that helped rebuild the devastated region?
 - A peace that helped the 4 million African Americans freed from slavery become full and equal citizens?

Introduction



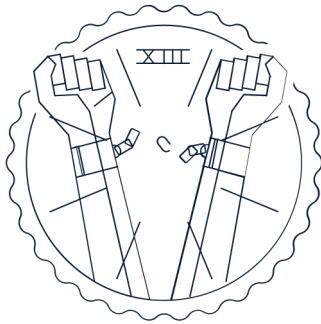
- In his second inaugural address, delivered in 1865, President Abraham Lincoln spoke of a healing peace:
- *With malice [hatred] toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish [hold dear] a just and lasting peace.*

Introduction



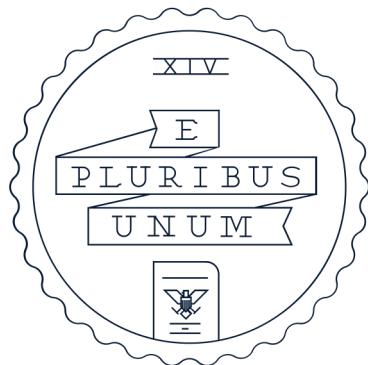
- The nation would never know how Lincoln planned to achieve such a peace.
- On April 14, 1865, just five days after the war ended, the president was assassinated while attending a play at Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C.
- After Lincoln's death, Vice President Andrew Johnson became president.

Vocabulary



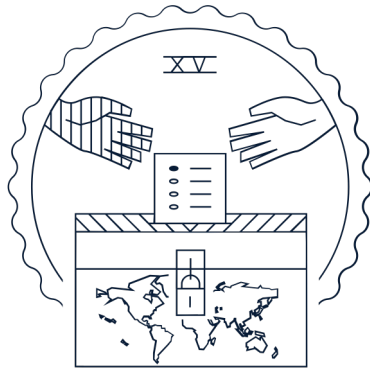
- **Reconstruction** - the period after the Civil War in which Southern states were rebuilt and brought back into the Union
- **Thirteenth Amendment** - a change to the Constitution, ratified in 1865, abolishing slavery in the United States
- **Freedmen's Bureau** - an agency established by Congress at the end of the Civil War to help and protect newly freed black Americans

Vocabulary

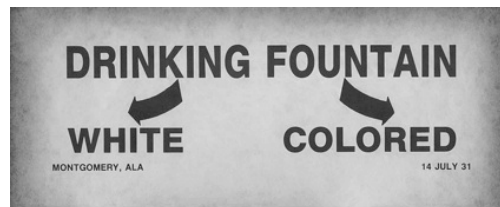


- **black codes** - laws passed in 1865 and 1866 in the former Confederate states to limit the rights and freedoms of African Americans
- **civil rights** - the rights guaranteed by the Constitution to all people as citizens, especially equal treatment under the law
- **Fourteenth Amendment** - a change to the Constitution, ratified in 1868, granting citizenship to anyone born in the United States and guaranteeing all citizens equal protection of the law

Vocabulary



- **Fifteenth Amendment** - a change to the Constitution, ratified in 1870, declaring that states cannot deny anyone the right to vote because of race or color, or because the person was once a slave



- **Jim Crow laws** - laws enforcing segregation of blacks and whites in the South after the Civil War