

Ch 12 Reconstruction and Its Effects

Section 1 The Politics of Reconstruction

Lincoln's Plan for Reconstruction

Lincoln's Ten-Percent Plan

- **Reconstruction**—period of rebuilding after Civil War, 1865–1877
- Proclamation of Amnesty and Reconstruction calls for 10% allegiance
- **Radical Republicans** led by Charles Sumner, **Thaddeus Stevens** a Northern Republican representative
 - want to destroy power of former slaveholders
 - give full citizenship, suffrage to African Americans

Radical Reaction

- 1864 **Wade-Davis Bill** makes Congress responsible for Reconstruction
- Lincoln uses pocket veto to kill Wade-Davis; Radicals outraged

Johnson's Plan

Johnson Continues Lincoln's Policies

- President Andrew Johnson proposes own Presidential Reconstruction:
 - states must swear allegiance, Confederate leaders should be punished, annul war debts, ratify 13th Amendment
 - does not address voting rights, land, laws for former slaves
- States that had not applied under Lincoln agree to Johnson's terms
 - some states do not fully comply

Presidential Reconstruction Comes to a

Standstill

- Radical Republicans in Congress refuse new Southern legislators
- Congress enlarges **Freedmen's Bureau**—helps former slaves, poor whites
 - gives social services, medical care, education

Civil Rights Act of 1866

- Congress passes Civil Rights Act of 1866:
 - grants citizenship to African Americans
 - forbids **black codes** or discriminatory laws
- Black codes restore many restrictions of slavery
- Whites use violence to prevent blacks from improving their lives
- Johnson vetoes Freedmen's Bureau and Civil Rights Act
- Alienates moderate Republicans; angers Radicals

Congressional Reconstruction

Moderates and Radicals Join Forces

- In mid-1866, moderate Republicans join Radicals to override veto
- Draft **Fourteenth Amendment**—makes African Americans full citizens and provides a constitutional basis for the Civil Rights Act of 1866
- Most Southern states reject amendment; not ratified until 1868

1866 Congressional Elections

- Johnson jeered on tour urging election of supporters of his plan
- Moderates, Radicals win 2/3 majority in Congress, can override veto

Reconstruction Act of 1867

- 1867 Reconstruction Act doesn't recognize most new state governments
 - divides South into military districts

- sets new conditions for reentry in Union
- Johnson believes act unconstitutional, vetoes; Congress overrides

Johnson Impeached

- Radicals seek to **impeach**—formally charge with misconduct in office
- Johnson fires Stanton, Secretary of War—test constitutionality of Tenure of Office Act
- House Radicals impeach Johnson; Senate does not convict

Ulysses S. Grant Elected

- 1868, Grant wins presidency with help of African-American vote
- **Fifteenth Amendment**— gives voting rights to all, regardless of color
- South does not enforce 14th, 15th Amendments
- White Southerners use violence to prevent blacks from voting
- Enforcement Act of 1870—federal government can punish violators