



EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION

Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, ending slavery in states in rebellion against the Union. The Proclamation also allowed Black men to join the Union Army and Navy. Almost 200,000 joined by the end of the war.

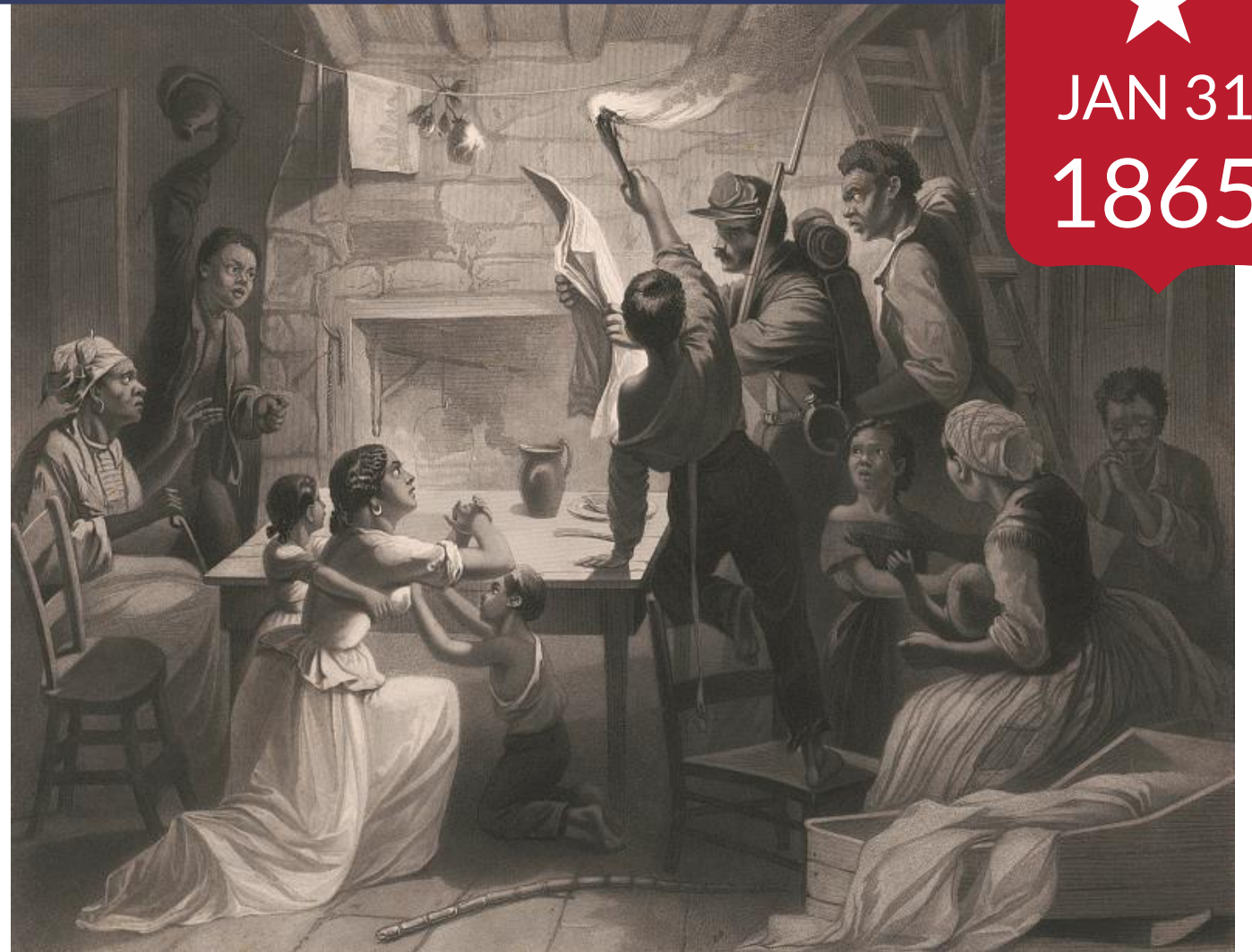
Image of Abraham Lincoln with flags, an eagle, the figures of Justice and Liberty, and the text of the Emancipation Proclamation. (LOC/The Strobridge Lith. Co., 1888)





13th AMENDMENT PASSED

The 13th Amendment to the Constitution ended slavery in all U.S. states and territories. Congress also gained the power to pass laws to enforce the amendment.



A family gathers as a soldier reads a newspaper. (LOC/H.W. Herrick, 1864)





FREEDMEN'S BUREAU CREATED

The Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands helped 4 million enslaved people transition to lives of

freedom. The Bureau provided food, housing, schools, legal assistance, and medical aid to those in need. However, the Bureau became caught in political battles that limited its effectiveness.



Drawn in 1868, a man representing the Freedman's Bureau stands between armed groups of Euro-Americans and Afro-Americans. (LOC/A.R. Waud)



MAR 3
1865





LINCOLN'S SECOND INAUGURATION

Abraham Lincoln won re-election in 1864 and in 1865 his second inauguration was held. After four years of fighting, the Civil

War was drawing to a close and a Union victory seemed guaranteed. While many expected a day of celebration, Lincoln's speech about "charity for all" was short and somber.

Crowd at Lincoln's second inauguration, which was held on a rainy day at the U.S. Capitol grounds. The crowd included African American troops who marched in the inaugural parade. (LOC, 1865)

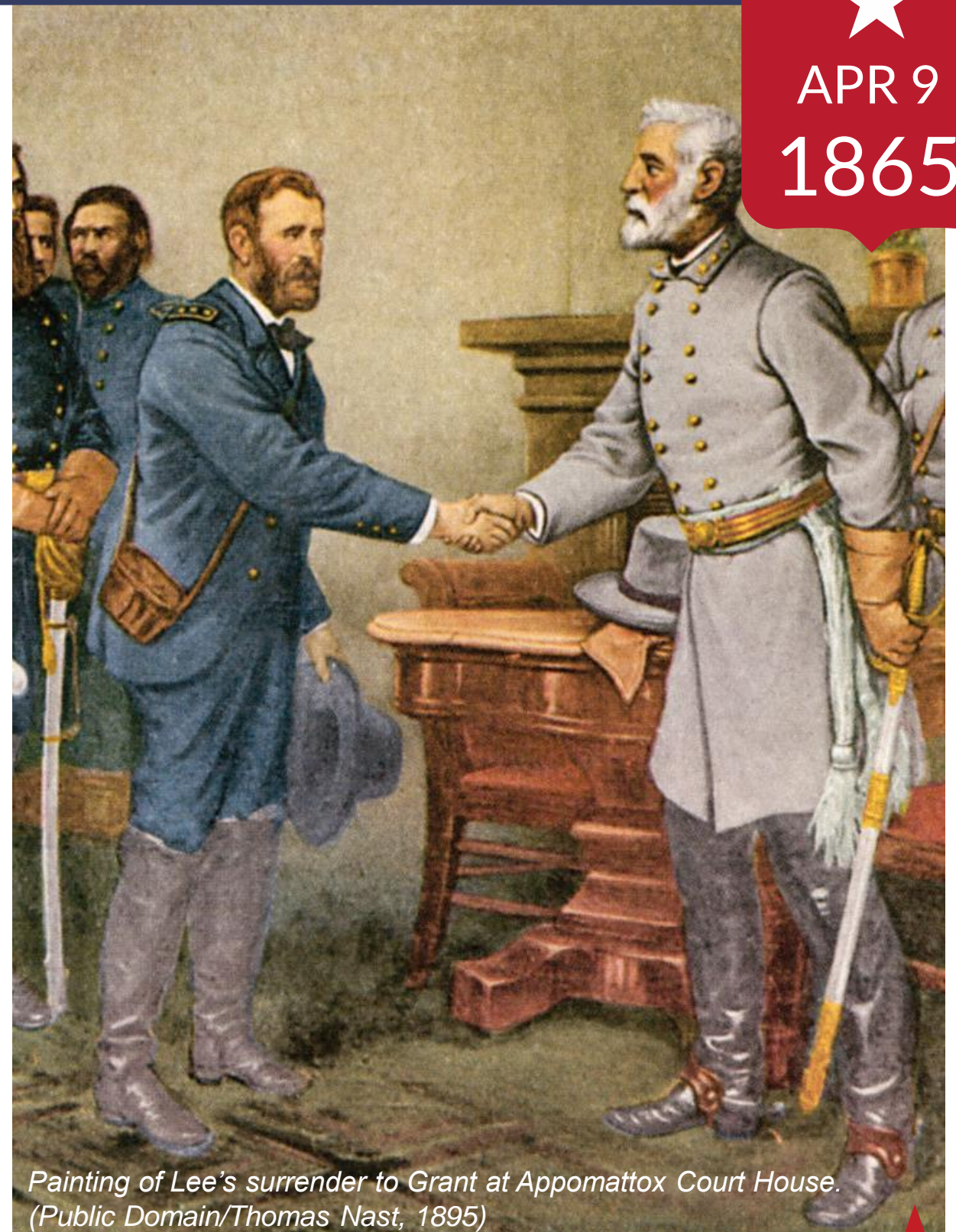




SURRENDER AT APPOMATTOX

With the surrender of Confederate General Robert E. Lee to Union General Ulysses S. Grant near Appomattox Court House in Virginia, the Civil War officially ended.

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APR 9
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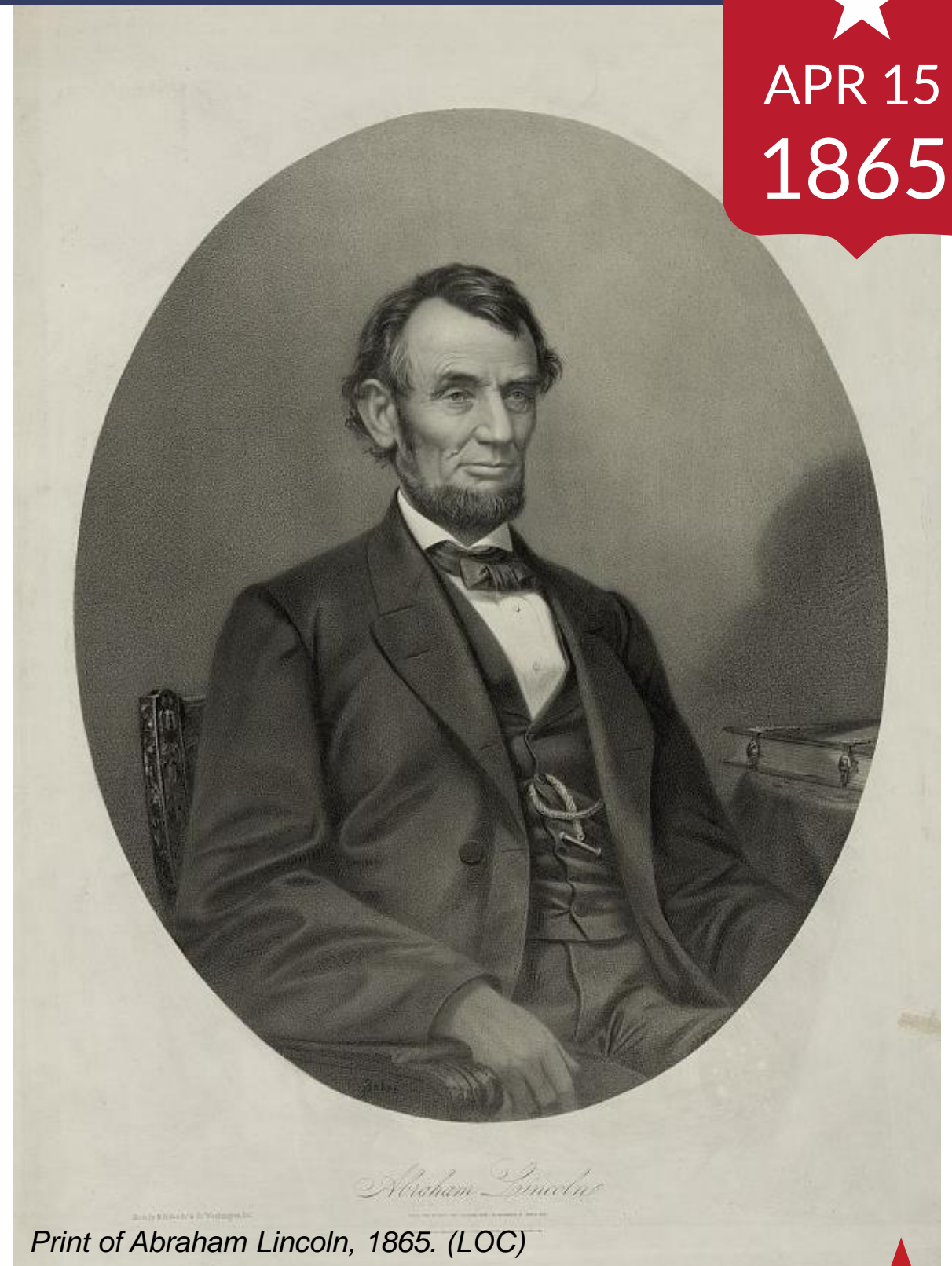
*Painting of Lee's surrender to Grant at Appomattox Court House.
(Public Domain/Thomas Nast, 1895)*





LINCOLN ASSASSINATED

President Lincoln was shot while attending a play at Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C. Within 12 hours, he died and Andrew Johnson became president.



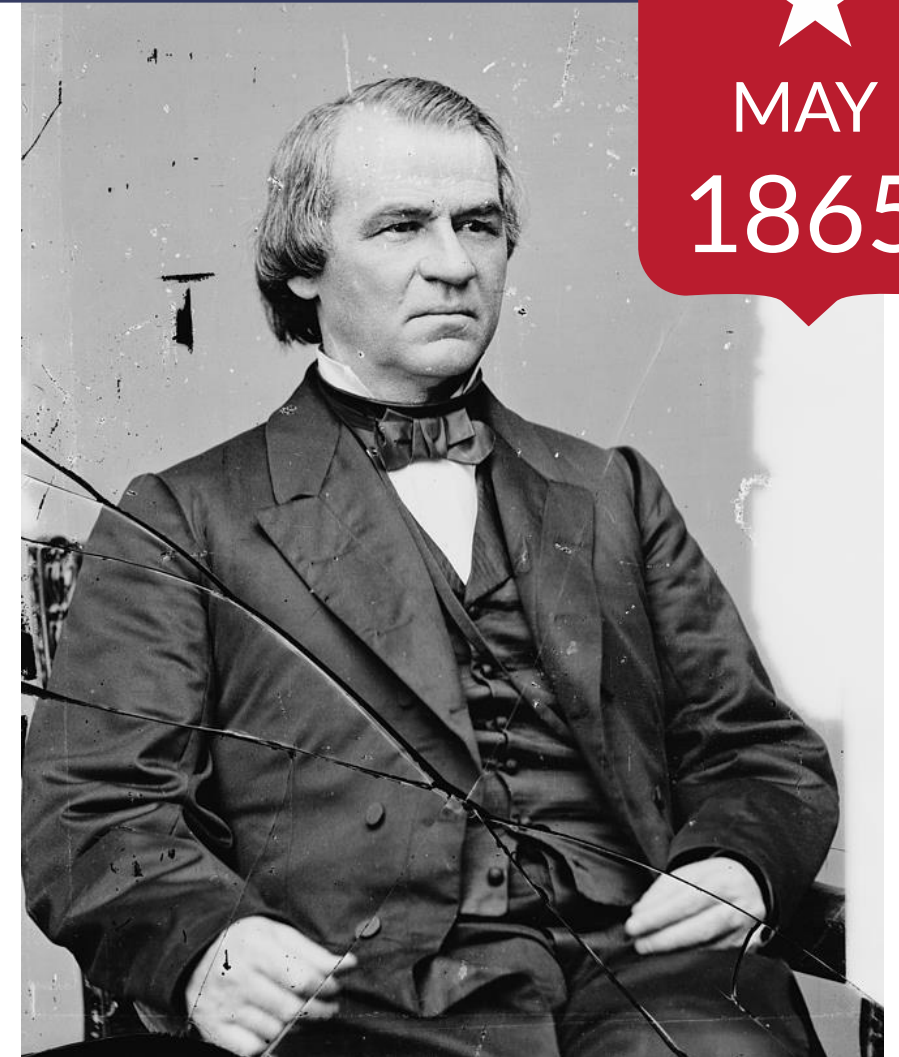
Print of Abraham Lincoln, 1865. (LOC)





JOHNSON'S RECONSTRUCTION

President Andrew Johnson set up Reconstruction for the South. He appointed new Southern governors and set conditions for readmitting Confederate states to the Union. Congress believed that they should be in charge of Reconstruction. They spent Johnson's presidency fighting about it.



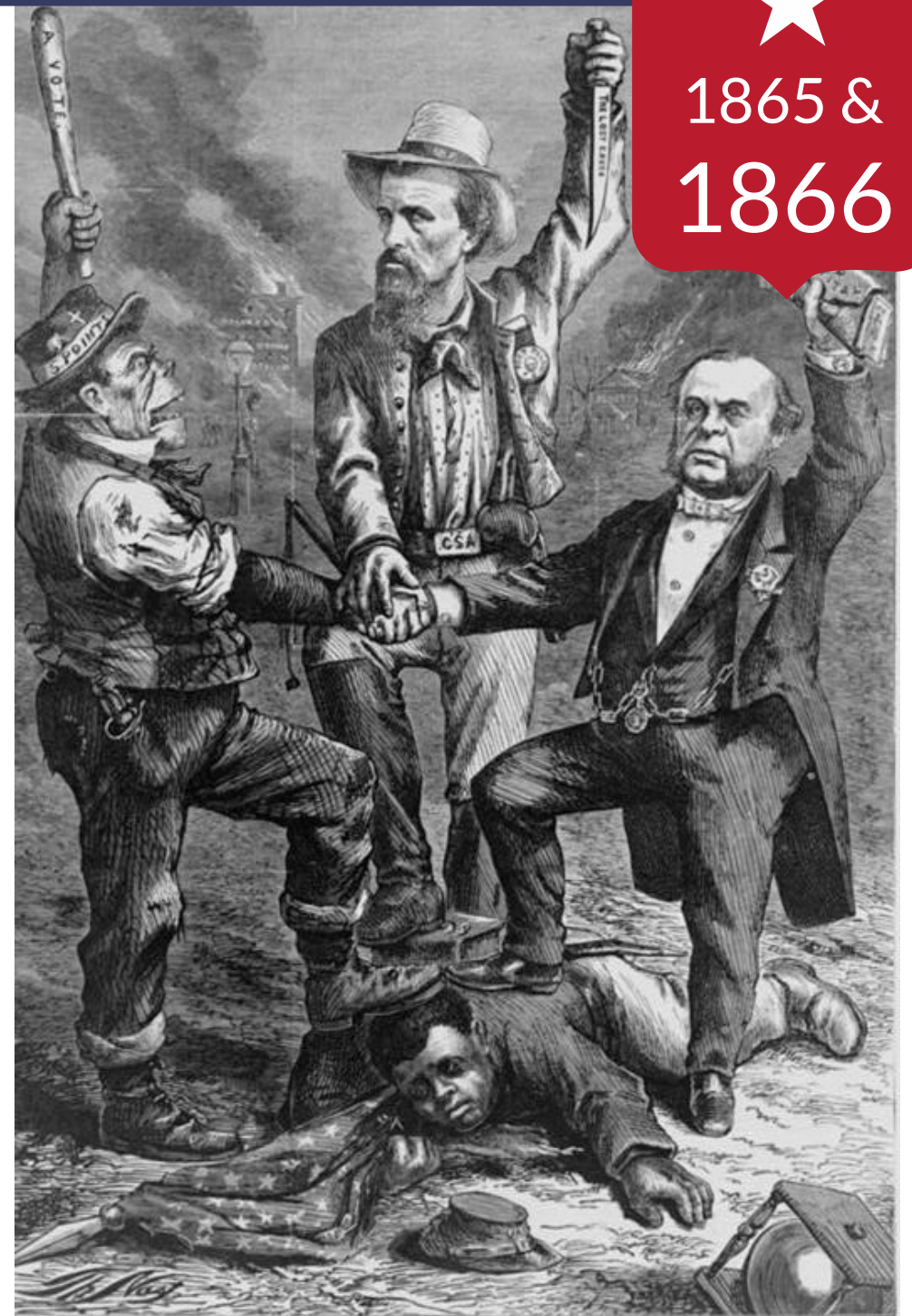
Photograph of Andrew Johnson, taken between 1870-1880. (LOC)





BLACK CODES

Southern states passed laws to restrict the freedoms of Black Americans. Some laws required African Americans to sign yearly labor contracts, with heavy punishments for breaking the contract. Other laws restricted their occupations or the property they could own.



Political cartoon depicting violence toward African Americans by different white groups. (LOC/Thomas Nast, 1868)





CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1866

In what became a familiar pattern, Congress passed legislation and President Johnson vetoed it. Congress then overrode Johnson's veto by passing it with a two-

thirds majority in both houses. The Act granted citizenship to "all persons born in the United States," and outlined some rights of citizenship.



U.S. Capitol, ca. 1920-1950. (LOC/Theodor Hrydczak)



APR 9
1866





CONGRESS' RECONSTRUCTION

With the passage of the Reconstruction Acts, Congress set requirements for readmitting Confederate states. Five military districts were created to handle government tasks. States had to write new Constitutions and ratify the 13th and 14th Amendments to be readmitted.



Map of the United States, showing the important geographic features of the Southern states. (LOC/Read & Co., 1861)





VIOLENCE AND INTIMIDATION INCREASED

Throughout the South, violence increased against voting African

Americans. The Ku Klux Klan and other groups used violence and the threat of violence to intimidate African Americans and white Republicans. Black schools and churches became targets. People were terrorized for voting, running for office, or serving on juries.



1860s





JOHNSON IMPEACHED

After three years of vetoes, overrides, and disagreement, Congress impeached Johnson. He was the first president to be impeached, but he wasn't removed from office. Ulysses S. Grant was elected president in November.

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FEB 24
1868

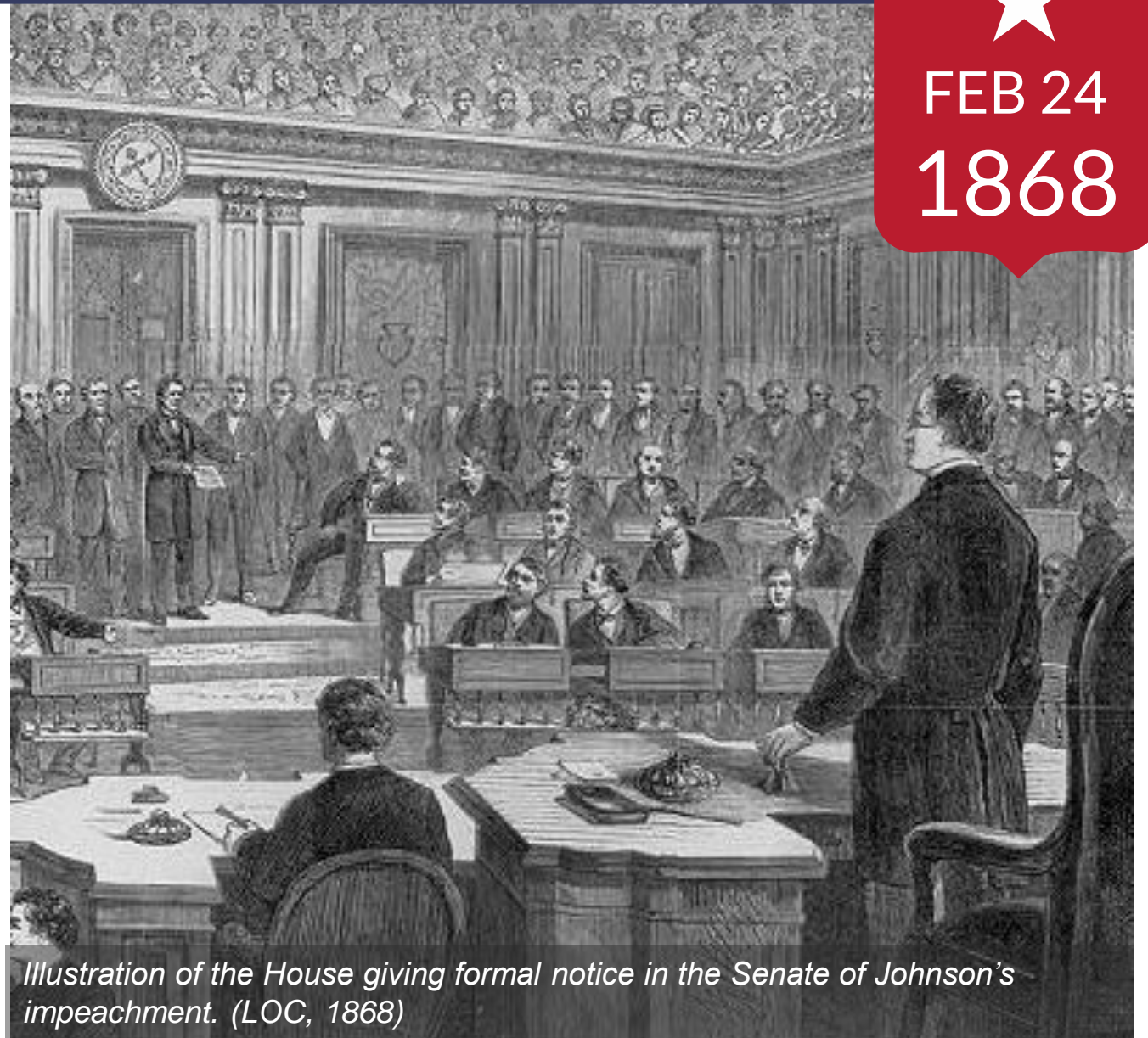


Illustration of the House giving formal notice in the Senate of Johnson's impeachment. (LOC, 1868)





RATIFICATION OF 14th AMENDMENT

The 14th Amendment put male citizen voting rights and birthright citizenship in the constitution. Citizens of every race were promised “equal protection under the laws.”



African Americans of different ages and backgrounds wait in line to vote for the first time. (LOC/Alfred R. Waud, 1867)





RATIFICATION OF 15th AMENDMENT

The 15th Amendment
extended voting rights for
male African Americans to all
parts of the country. States

weren't allowed to disenfranchise voters based on race. The 14th and 15th
Amendments formed the legal basis for the civil rights movement.



Center image shows a parade, while the surrounding images illustrate life events and rights granted by the 15th amendment. (LOC/ Thomas Kelly, ca. 1870)

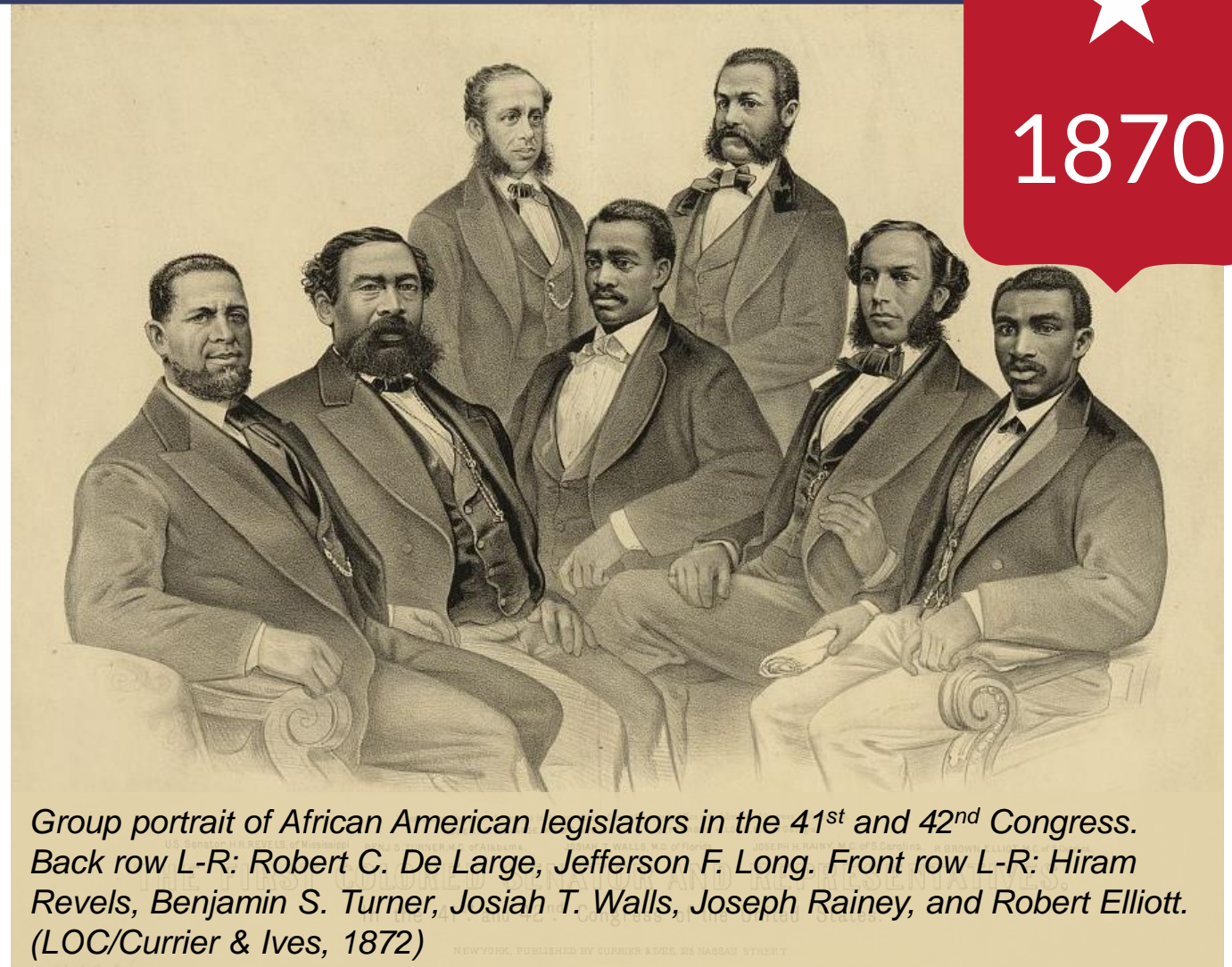




FIRST BLACK AMERICANS ELECTED

Finally able to participate in democracy, Black Americans were elected to different local, state, and federal offices. Hiram

Revels, of Mississippi, was the first African American senator. Joseph Rainey, of South Carolina, was the first African American representative.





ENFORCEMENT ACTS (KKK ACTS)

In response to violence against Blacks in the South, Congress aimed legislation at the Klu Klux Klan and other white supremacist groups. President Grant sent troops to the South. KKK members were put on trial. The acts decreased Klan terrorism and provided some legal protections for African Americans.



Photograph of President Ulysses S. Grant taken ca. 1870-1880. (LOC)





FREEDMEN'S BUREAU SHUT DOWN

Americans' attention had shifted from the problems facing Black Americans. With more Confederate states back in the Union, the balance of power in Congress shifted and the Bureau was closed.



This image shows the Office of the Freedmen's Bureau in Memphis, Tennessee and was published in Harper's Weekly on June 2, 1866. (New York Public Library)





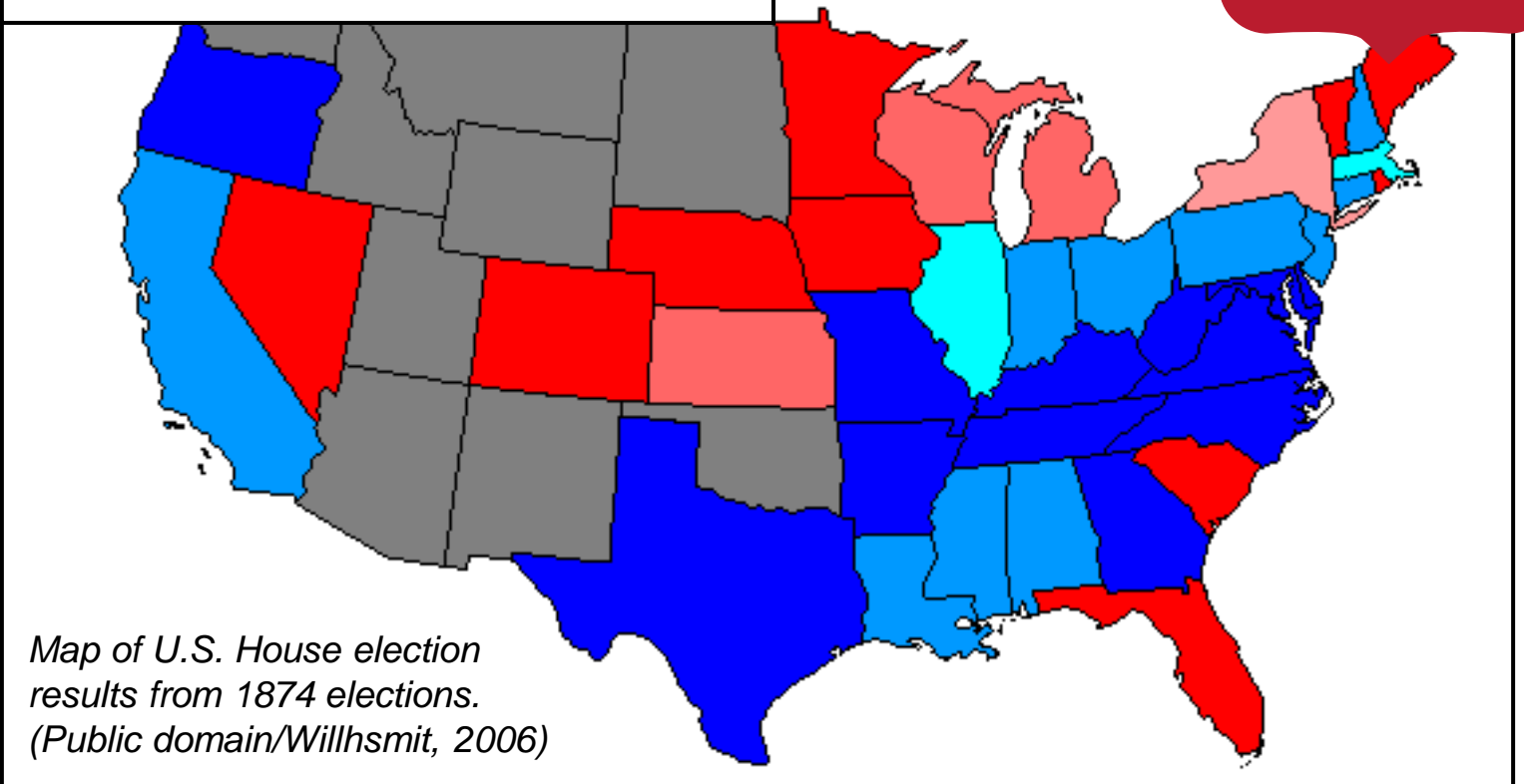
DEMOCRATS WIN THE HOUSE

For the first time since the Civil War began, Democrats controlled the House of Representatives. Radical

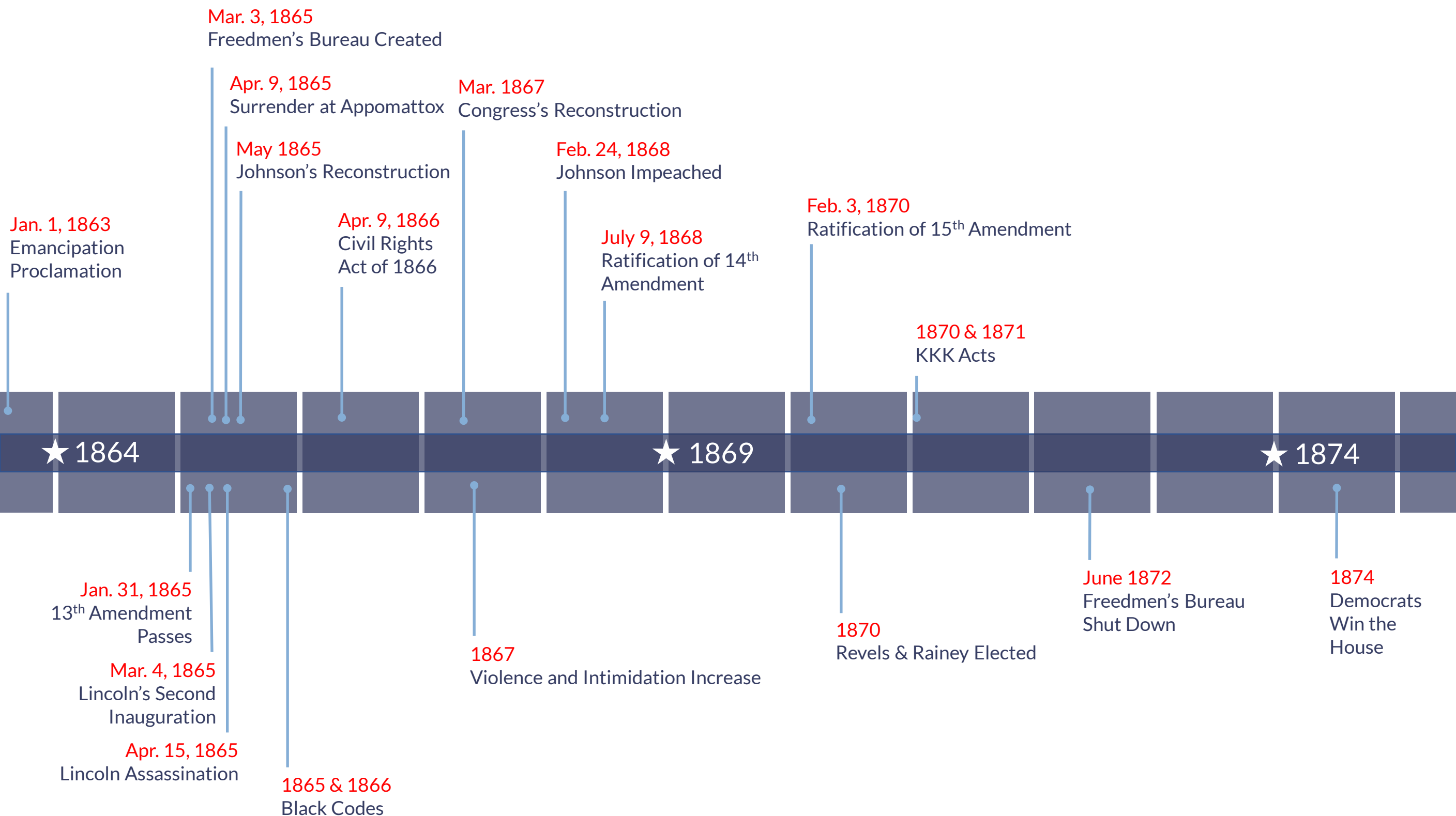
Republicans were committed to protecting the rights of Black citizens. With Democrats in charge of the legislative agenda, Congress focused on other issues and Reconstruction era protections weren't enforced.

House seats by party holding plurality in state

80%+ Democratic	80%+ Republican
60+ to 80% Democratic	60+ to 80% Republican
Up to 60% Democratic	Up to 60% Republican



RECONSTRUCTION: A TIMELINE



1863



1864



1865



1866



1867



1868



1869



1870



1871



1872



1873



1874



1875

