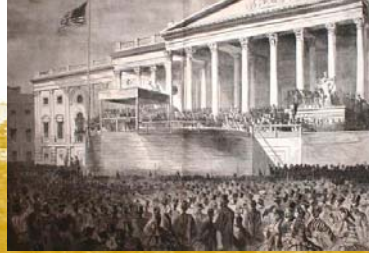


## The Conflict Takes Shape

Chapter 15, Section 1

## Abraham Lincoln

- Inaugurated on March 4, 1861
  - After slipping into Washington in disguise
- Sought to preserve the Union



## Lincoln's Cabinet

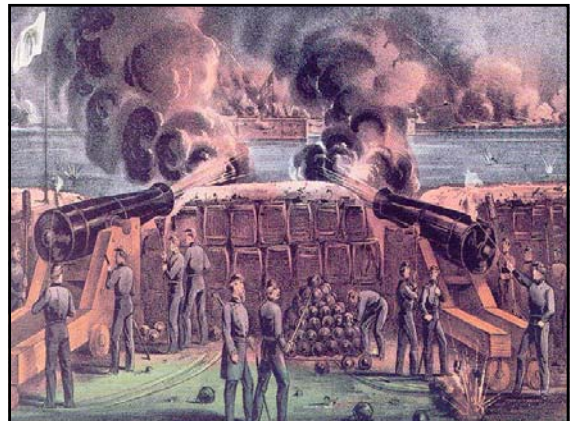
- Dominated by his rivals
  - William H. Seward
    - Sec. of state
    - Believed the U.S. should pick a fight with a foreign nation
      - And the S. would rally around the flag
      - Nixed by Lincoln
  - Salmon P. Chase
    - Sec. of the treasury
  - Edwin M. Stanton
    - Eventually replaced Cameron as sec. of war
      - B/c of corruption



Simon

## Fort Sumter

- 1 of only 2 federal forts still in Union control
  - Fort Pickens in Pensacola, FL, was the other.
- Located in Charleston Harbor
- Was running low on supplies
  - Would have to surrender by mid-April if not supplied
- Ordered to be re-supplied by a naval expedition
  - S. Carolina forewarned—*re-supplied not reinforced*
- Fired upon by the CSA on April 12, 1861
  - Held out for 34 hrs. of constant bombardment
  - Finally surrendered by Maj. Robert Anderson





## Balance of Forces

- Railroads—N.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> war in which RRs played any role
  - Advantages of RRs
    - Transport troops
      - So they are fresher for battle than after a long march
    - Transport supplies (food + munitions)
  - ¾ of all rail lines in the N.
    - Railroad mileage—7:1
  - RR mileage in S. actually decreases during war.
    - RRs were cannibalized to repair destroyed lines.

## Balance of Forces

- Farming—N.
  - N. producing foodstuffs; S. producing inedible cash crops.
    - Farm acreage—3:1
    - Draft animals—1.8:1
    - Livestock—1.5:1
    - Wheat production—4.2:1
    - Corn production—2:1
    - Cotton production—1:124
  - N. produced surpluses of food for foreign trade; S. was running out of food toward the end of the war.
  - N. had mechanized farming.
    - Didn't require as many workers
    - Freed people to serve in the military
  - S. continued to use labor-intensive techniques.

## Balance of Forces

- Political Leadership—N.
  - N. had a proven political system.
  - S. had to create an entirely new gov't from scratch.
    - Confederate gov't
      - States retain more powers, giving nat'l gov't only certain functions
    - Strong belief in states' rights
  - Jefferson Davis vs. Abraham Lincoln
    - Davis
      - Trained at West Point
      - Fought in Mexican War
      - Served as sec. of war for Pierce
      - Proven military background, but tried to micro-manage the war effort
    - Lincoln
      - Elected capt. of his company in Black Hawk War
      - Left the war up to his generals
        - ✦ At least once he found one that fought!

## Balance of Forces

- Military Leadership—S.
  - Military tradition deeply embedded in S.
    - Thought of themselves as the continuation of medieval nobility
      - Given land in exchange for military service
    - 2nd sons had little else to do except join the military to get ahead
  - S. quickly found their generals.
    - Robert E. Lee, Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson, James Longstreet, J.E.B. Stuart, Albert Sidney Johnston, Joseph E. Johnston, Pierre P. T. Beauregard, etc.
  - N. went thru a period of trial and error.
    - Winfield Scott—too old and unfit for field command
    - George B. McClellan, John Pope, Ambrose Burnside, Joseph Hooker, George Meade, etc.
    - Until they found their men—Ulysses S. Grant, William T. Sherman, Phil Sheridan

## Balance of Forces

- Military Strategy—S.
  - Southern Strategy
    - Had only to defend itself
      - Requires fewer troops
      - Gave the S. the will to fight
    - Got to fight on their own territory
      - Know the territory and terrain better
      - Shorter supply lines
    - Never had to win
      - They just had to hold out until the N. gave up.
        - ✦ Northern merchants not seen as having stomach for war.
        - ✦ N. had opposed the War of 1812 and the Mexican War.
  - Northern Strategy
    - Had to invade and conquer the S.
      - Requires more troops
      - Longer supply lines
    - Had to beat the S. back into submission

## Balance of Forces

- Naval Forces—N.
  - New England has a tradition built around the sea.
  - N. had overwhelming power on the seas.
    - Naval tonnage—25:1
    - Merchant ship tonnage—9:1
  - Navy used to blockade the S.
    - Cut supplies from getting into the S.
      - Since they had little industry to sustain themselves
    - Made the Civil War a war of attrition
      - Making the opponent exhaust their men and supplies

## Balance of Forces

- Diplomacy—S.
  - European leaders identified more with southerners.
    - B/c of that aristocratic tradition
  - “Cotton Diplomacy”
    - European countries depended upon southern cotton.
      - Esp. the industries of Great Britain
    - Undermined b/c of bumper crops in yrs. prior to war.
      - English textile mills had enough cotton on hand for awhile
    - Undermined by greater reliance on other sources of cotton
      - Egypt and India
  - Northern advantage was the question of slavery.
    - European countries had already abolished slavery.
    - Would Europe fight a war to preserve slavery in the U.S.?

## New Technology

- Breech-loaded rifle
  - Has grooves on the inside of the barrel
    - Spins the bullet
  - Advantages
    - Fires w/ greater velocity.
    - Greater range
      - More shots could be fired before enemy can close on position
    - More accurate
- Minié ball
  - Standard ammunition of the Civil War
  - Everything needed to fire rifle in one packet
    - Allowing rifles to be loaded more quickly
  - Made out of soft lead
    - So projectile expands and takes advantage of the rifling
    - Explodes and fragments more easily
      - Esp. when it hits something hard, like a bone!
      - Increased the death rate

## New Technology

- Artillery
  - Used the same rifling technology as the rifle
  - Could now fire shells beyond site of gunners
- Hot-air balloon
  - Used for artillery observation and recon.



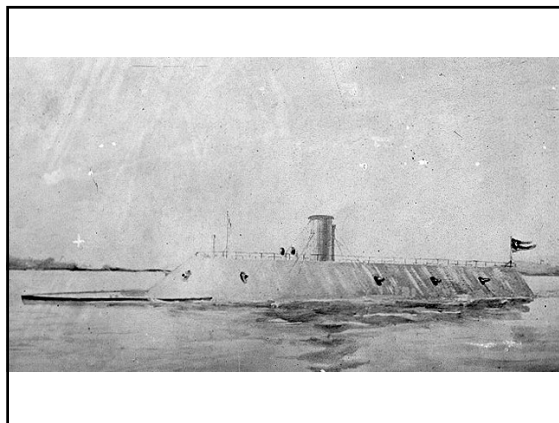
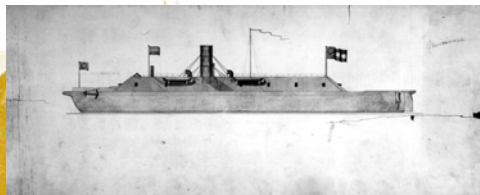
## New Technology

- Trench warfare
  - Digging trenches and building other fortifications
  - Foolish to walk into the picket lines of the enemy
    - Esp. w/ the new technologies available



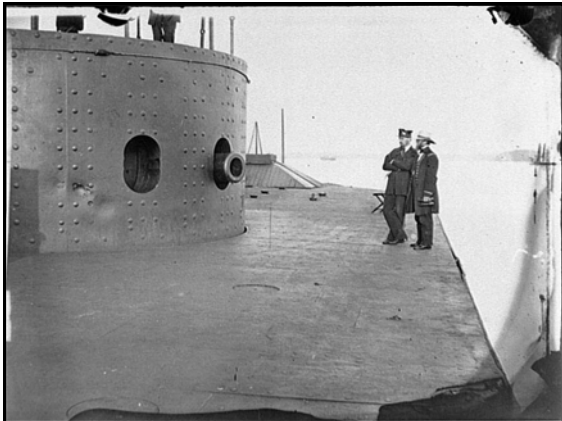
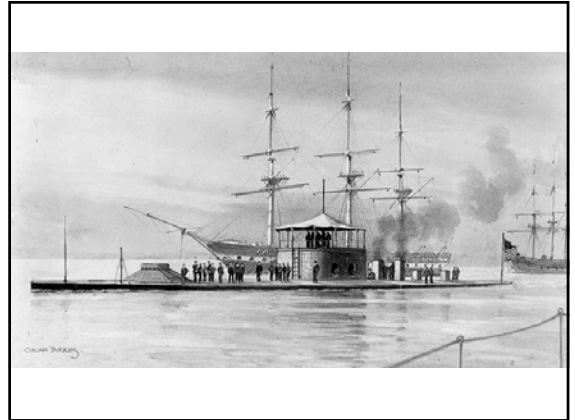
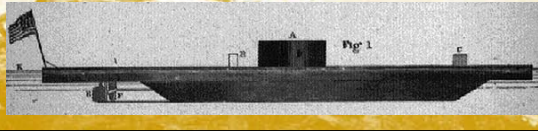
## Ironclads

- Merrimack
  - Union frigate being built at Norfolk, VA
  - Scuttled before union forces w/drew from Norfolk
  - Salvaged by CSA and plated w/ iron rails
    - Renamed the C.S.S. Virginia
  - Destroyed two wooden Union ships in Chesapeake
    - Right before McClellan was to launch Peninsular Campaign



## Ironclads

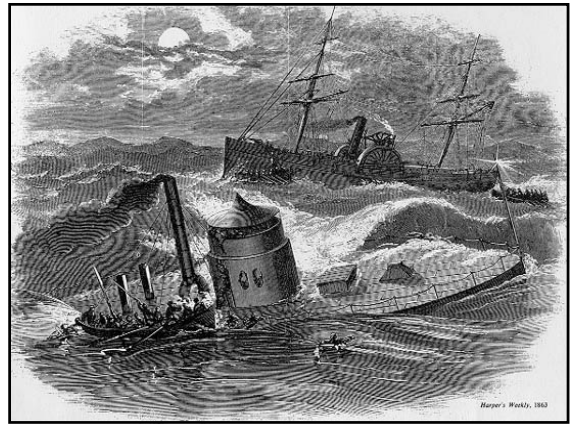
- *U.S.S. Monitor*
  - Built in 100 days to deal w/ threat posed by Merrimack
  - 1<sup>st</sup> warship built completely out of iron
  - Basically featured a revolving turret above the waterline
  - So slow it had to be towed by a wooden ship into battle



## Monitor vs. Merrimack

- Met on March 9, 1862
- Battle lasted for 4 hrs.
- Inconclusive
  - Cannon balls simply bounced off the iron hulls of each
  - Casualties
    - Two union sailors passed out from heat exhaustion.
    - One CSA sailor burnt himself on a cannon.
- Each ultimately destroyed shortly after battle.
  - *Merrimack*—run aground on May 11<sup>th</sup> and burned
  - *Monitor*—sank in heavy seas on Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>





## "Anaconda" Plan

- Developed by Winfield Scott to defeat the S.
  - General-in-chief of Union armies
- Blockade the S.
  - Cut off southern ports from foreign trade
  - Intended to deprive the S. of manufactured goods and foodstuffs
    - Making it difficult for them to sustain the war
- Seize control of the Miss. R.
  - To prevent the S. from using the river
    - To move and re-supply troops
  - To cut Louisiana, Arkansas, and Texas off from the CSA
    - "Divide and conquer"
- Seize Richmond
- Eventually—with some modification—used to win the war



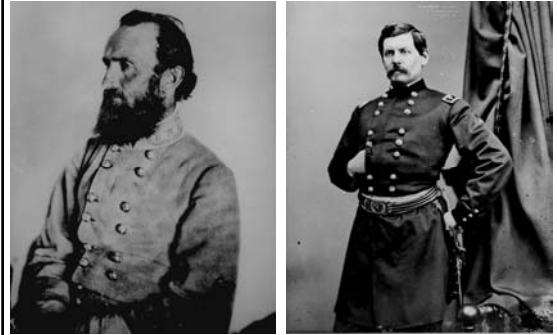
## Battle of Bull Run (Manassas)— July 21, 1861

- Launched by the N. before troops were fully prepared
  - Prodded by newspapers clamoring "On to Richmond!"
    - Press and public eager for a quick end to the war.
  - Prodded by the 90-day enlistments.
    - Which were sought b/c of belief war would be over quickly
    - Which were about to expire
- Irwin McDowell
  - Commanded Union army w/ about 30,000 troops
- Pierre G. T. Beauregard
  - Commanded CSA army w/ about 22,000 troops
- Attended by congressmen and their families
  - Came to watch w/ picnic lunches
- Dominated initially by Union forces



## Battle of Bull Run (Manassas)

- Thomas J. Jackson
  - Arrived w/ brigade to reinforce Beauregard
  - Earned the nickname “Stonewall”
    - “Look, there is Jackson w/ his Virginians, standing like a stone wall against the enemy!”
  - Turned the tide of the battle
    - Ill-trained Union troops fled back to Washington
      - In disgraceful confusion
- Showed the war would last longer than anticipated
- Led to McDowell being replaced
  - W/ George B. McClellan
    - Also named general-in-chief when Scott retired in Nov. 1861



## Financing the War

- Congress passed an income tax in August 1861.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> in the nation’s history
  - 3% on incomes over \$800
    - Exempting ordinary wage earners
- “Greenbacks”
  - Paper currency
  - About \$450 million issued during the war
- Wartime spending helped spur the economy.
  - N. was more prosperous after the war than before.
  - Spending produced nation’s 1<sup>st</sup> millionaire class.
    - Some, unfortunately, from war profiteering!



## Other Important Legislation

- Homestead Act (1862)
  - Granted 160 acres of land to whomever settled and lived on it for 5 yrs.
- Morrill Land Grant Act (1862)
  - Granted each state 30,000 acres of public land for each congressman
  - Used to provide support for state colleges in agricultural and the mechanical arts
    - U of I in IL
- Pacific Railway Act (1862)
  - Authorized construction of transcontinental RR
    - Along the 32<sup>nd</sup> parallel
  - Gave land grants to RR companies
    - To assist w/ the construction

## Diplomatic Problems

- Trent Affair
  - U.S.S. *San Jacinto* stopped British vessel *Trent*
    - On the high seas in Nov. 1861.
  - James M. Mason and John Slidell
    - Two envoys of the CSA en route to London
    - Arrested by the capt. of the *San Jacinto*
    - Ultimately released by Lincoln to avoid int'l crisis
- Alabama and Florida
  - Commerce-raiders built by Britain
    - But armed elsewhere to get around int'l law
    - Proved very effective
  - Charles Francis Adams
    - U.S. minister to Britain
    - Son of John Quincy Adams and father of Henry Adams
    - Threatened war w/ Britain if any more CSA ships were built in Britain
  - Led the British to settle a claim in the U.S. in 1872
    - Paying \$15.5 million for damages caused by the commerce-raiders

