A detailed historical illustration depicting the Reconstruction Era. At the top, the word "EMANCIPATION" is written in an arch. Below it, a central scene shows a group of African American men and women gathered around a table, possibly in a school or community meeting. To the left, a man in a top hat stands near a podium. To the right, a woman stands holding a child. The background is filled with various scenes of daily life and social interaction. The entire illustration is rendered in a dark, monochromatic style with a sepia tone.

Ch. 18 – The Reconstruction Era

THIS SET OF NOTES IS INTENDED TO SERVE AS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
IN A FORMAT THAT YOU ARE FAMILIAR WITH.

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO WRITE DOWN THESE NOTES.

THEY ARE SIMPLY HERE FOR YOU TO REVIEW IF YOU
NEED ADDITIONAL REVIEW MATERIAL.

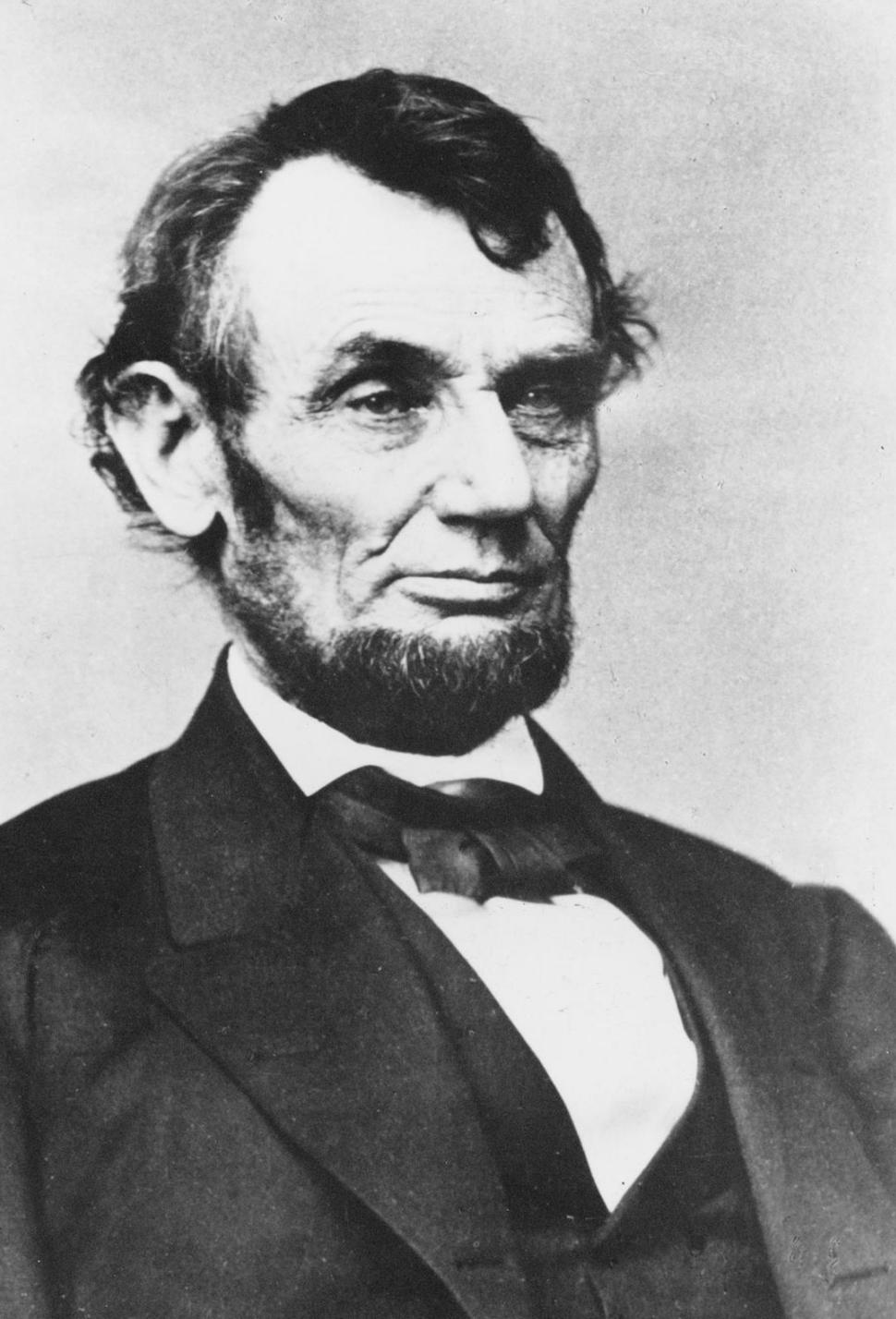
I. Planning Reconstruction



A. The Reconstruction Debate

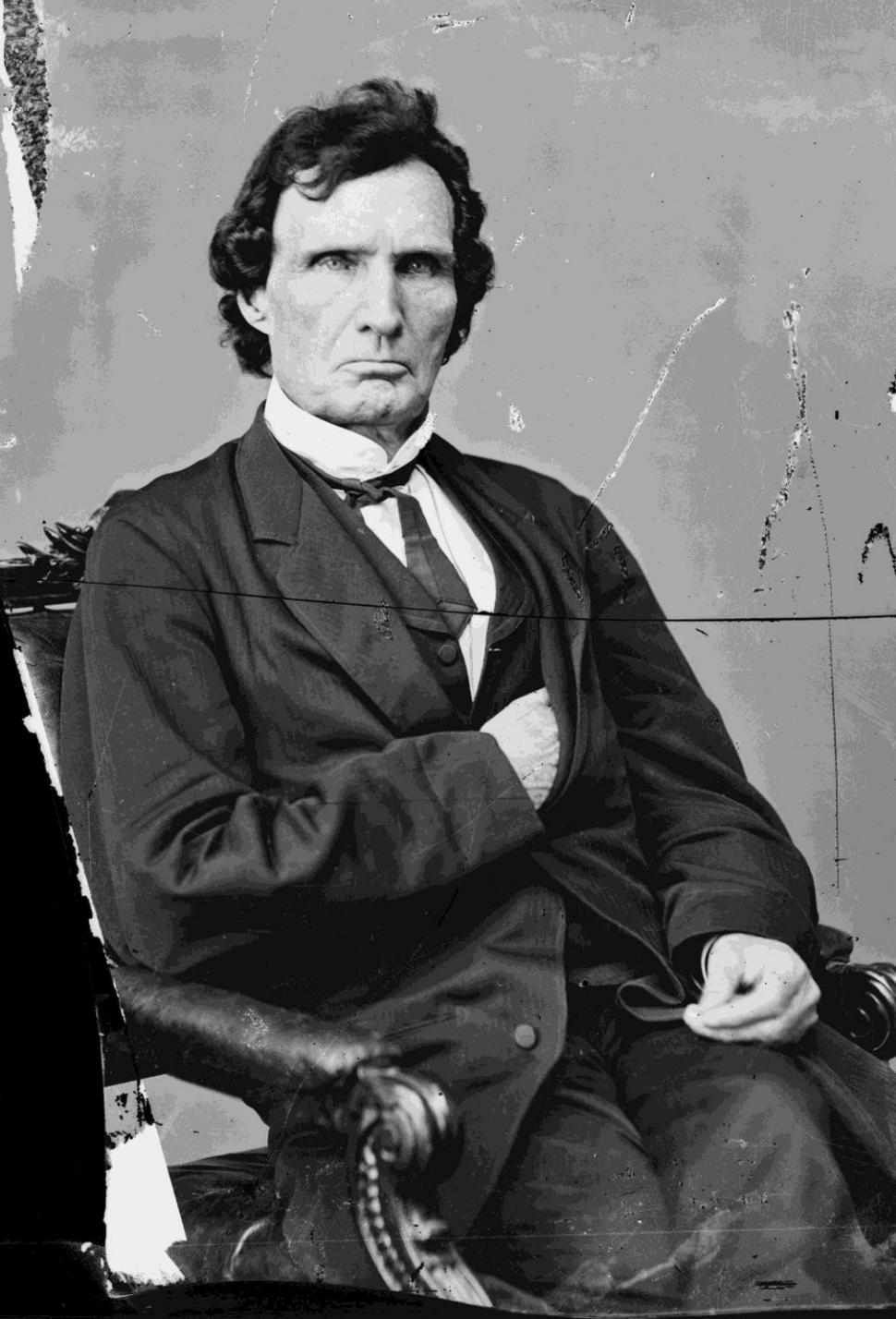
1. Confederate States

- Tried/failed to break away from U.S.
- Effort to restore the states after the war
- Reconstruction = the period of rebuilding the South and readmitting Southern states into the Union
 - ❖ Process debated between POTUS & Congress



B. Lincoln's Ten Percent Plan

1. First plan for bringing Southern states back into Union
2. Presented December 1863 (while Civil War was still raging)
3. Required:
 - Oath of loyalty to the Union (by Southern voters)
 - ❖ Once a state hit 10% of voters it could form a new state govt.
 - States required to adopt a new state Constitution that banned slavery
4. Once requirements met = states could send representatives to Congress
5. Lincoln wanted amnesty = the granting of a pardon to a large number of persons (except for Confederate leaders)
6. 1864 = Louisiana, Arkansas, & Tennessee set up new govts. Under 10% plan, Congress refused to accept them



C. The Radical Republicans

1. Lincoln's plan = too easy on the South
2. Radical leader = Thaddeus Stevens
 - Southern institutions "must be broken up and relaid, or all our blood and treasure have been spent in vein."
3. Radicals = powerful
 - The Republican Party controlled Congress

4. July 1864 = Congress passed a plan for Reconstruction

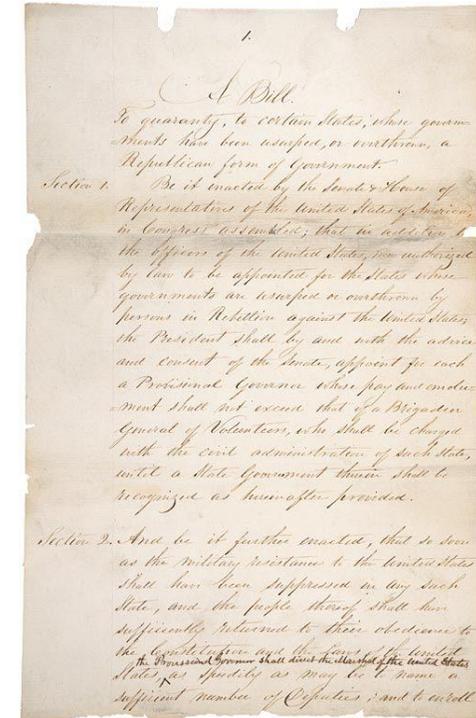
- The Wade-Davis Bill

- ❖ To rejoin, a state had to meet 3 requirements:

- 1) Majority of state's white males had to pledge loyalty to the Union
- 2) Only white males who swore they had not fought against the Union could vote for delegates to a state Constitutional Convention
- 3) All new state constitutions had to ban slavery

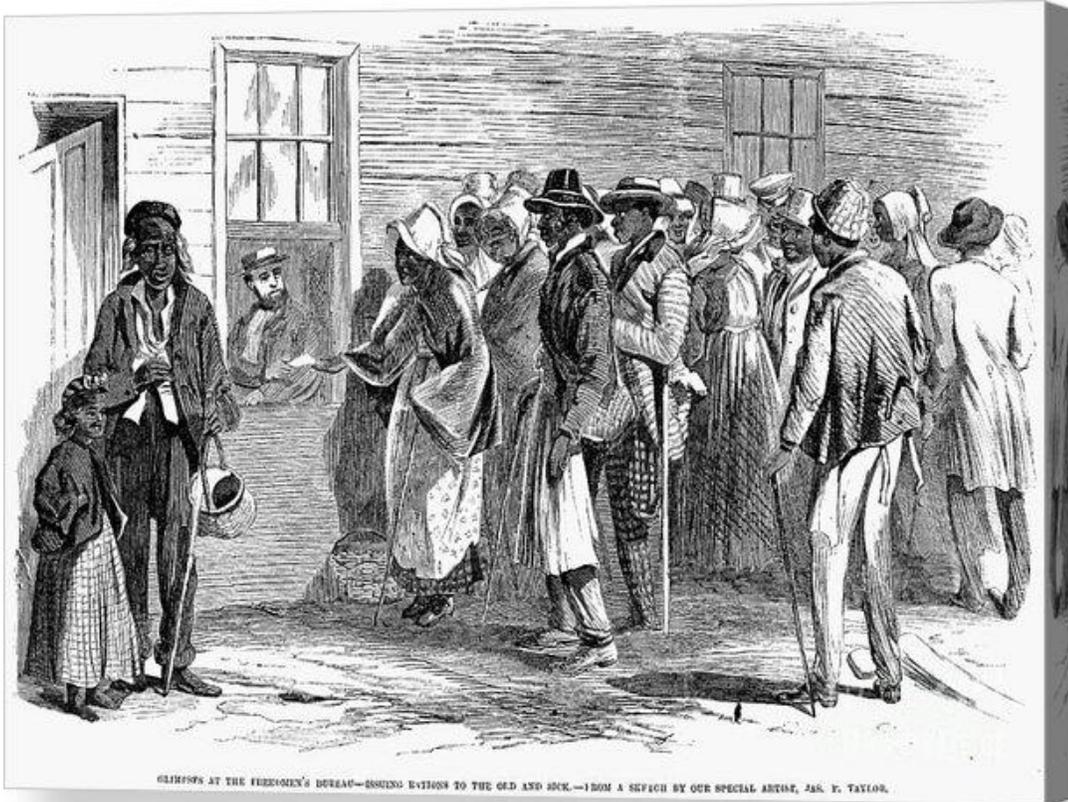
- ❖ The bill also barred former Confederates from holding public office

- ❖ Lincoln thought the plan was too harsh = pocket vetoed the bill (refused to sign it)



D. Founding the Freedmen's Bureau

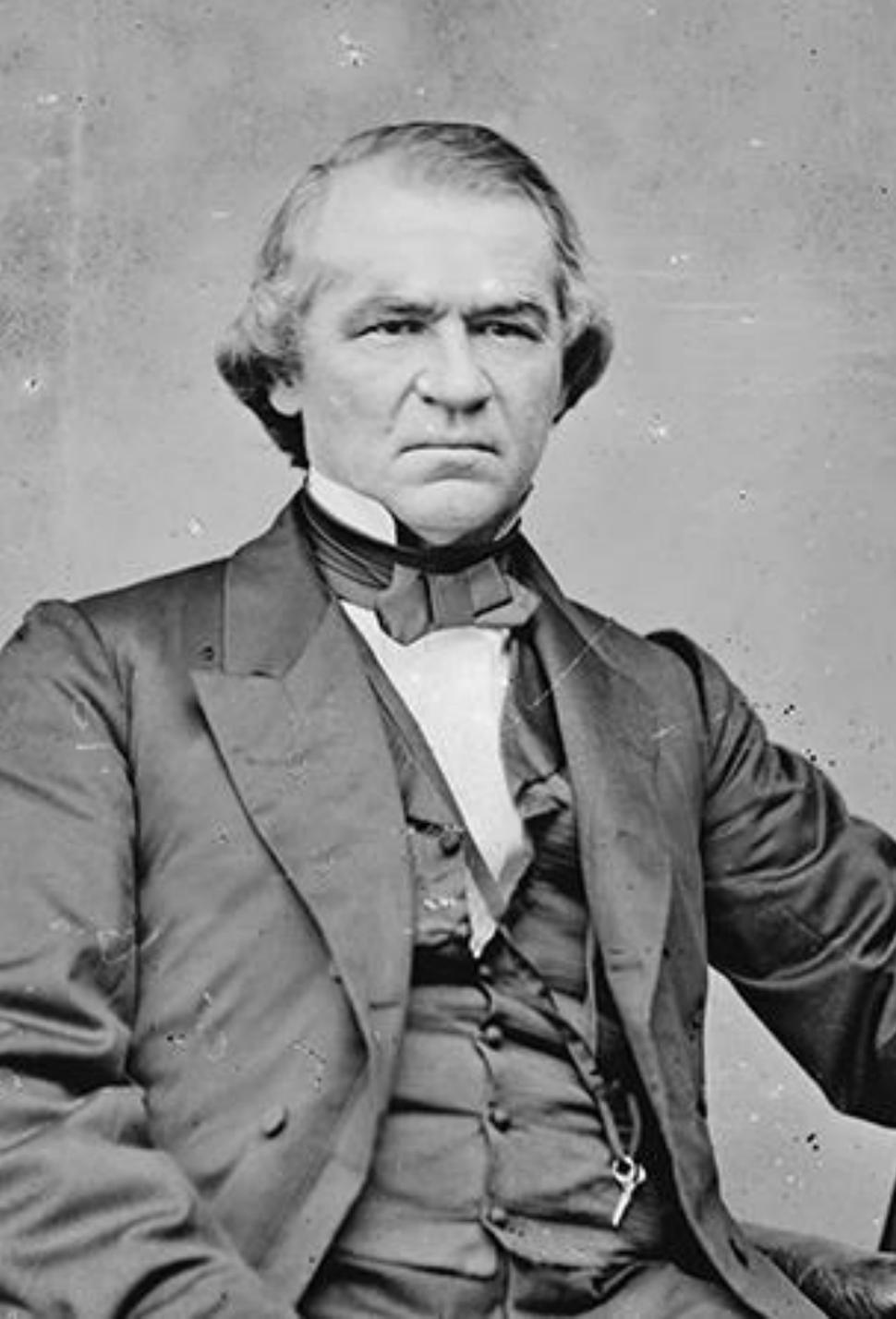
1. March 1865 = created by Lincoln & Congress
2. Purpose = to help African Americans to adjust to life after slavery
3. Provided:
 - Clothing
 - Food
 - Medical Care
 - Helped set up schools
 - Helped some get their own land to farm
 - Helped some find work for fair pay





4. Freed African American Leaders pushed for more schools in the South

- EX: Fredrick Douglass = with community groups helped est. schools
- By 1900 most African Americans could read and write
- Many formed Equal Rights Leagues in the South
 - ❖ Held state & local conventions to protest discrimination & demand equality



E. Johnson's Reconstruction Plan

1. April 14, 1865 = President Lincoln is assassinated
 - During a play at Ford's Theater by Confederate sympathizer John Wilkes Booth
2. Vice President Andrew Johnson became President
 - Southerner
 - Supported Union during war
 - Had own ideas about rebuilding the South
 - ❖ Amnesty to most Southerners who swore loyalty to the Union
 - ❖ High ranking Confederates could receive a pardon by appealing to the President
 - ❖ Opposed equal rights for African Americans
 - ❖ Southern states must outlaw slavery before rejoining the Union
 - ❖ Had to ratify the 13th Amendment (passed January 1865)
 - ❖ All former Confederate states except Texas set up new govts. under Johnson's plan

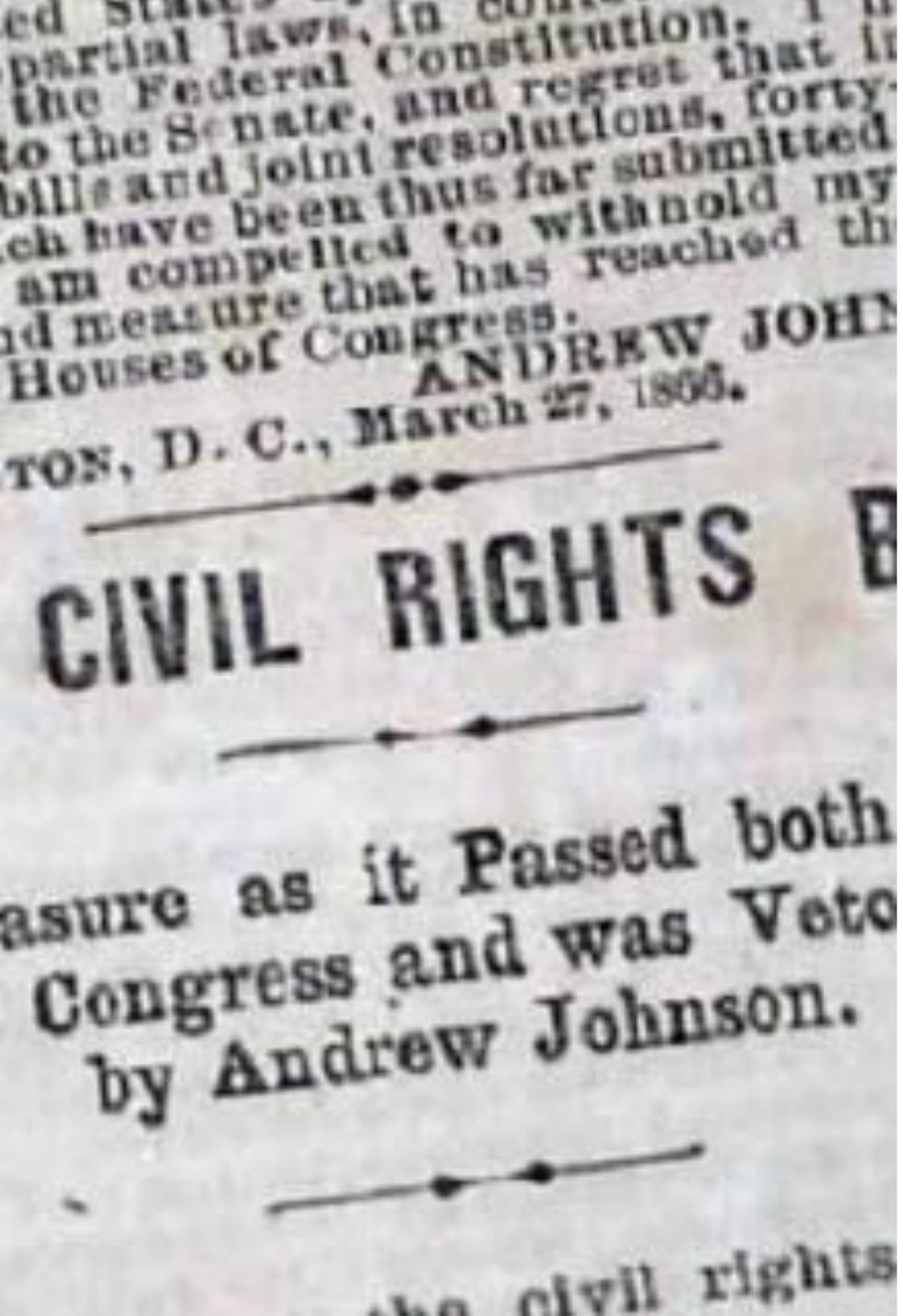
II. The Radicals Take Control

A. Protecting African Americans' Rights

1. Black Codes & Civil Rights

- Black Codes = laws passed in the South just after the Civil War, aimed at controlling freed men and women, and allowing plantation owners to take advantage of African American workers
 - ❖ Designed to help control newly freed African Americans
 - ❖ Some made it illegal for African Americans to own or rent farms
 - ❖ Made it each for white employers to take advantage of African American workers
 - ❖ Some allowed officials to fine/arrest African Americans who didn't have jobs





• Civil Rights

- ❖ 1866 = bill passed that gave the Freedmen's Bureau new powers
 - Could now set up special courts to try persons charged with violating African Americans' rights
 - African Americans could sit on juries in these courts
- ❖ Civil Rights Act of 1866
 - Gave federal government power to get involved with state affairs to protect African American's rights
 - Granted citizenship to African Americans
 - Meant to counter Supreme Court decision of 1857 – Dred Scott v. Sandford
 - President Johnson vetoed the bill = claimed federal govt. was exceeding its authority, unconstitutional
 - Republicans in Congress were able to override (reject or defeat) the vetos & the bills become law

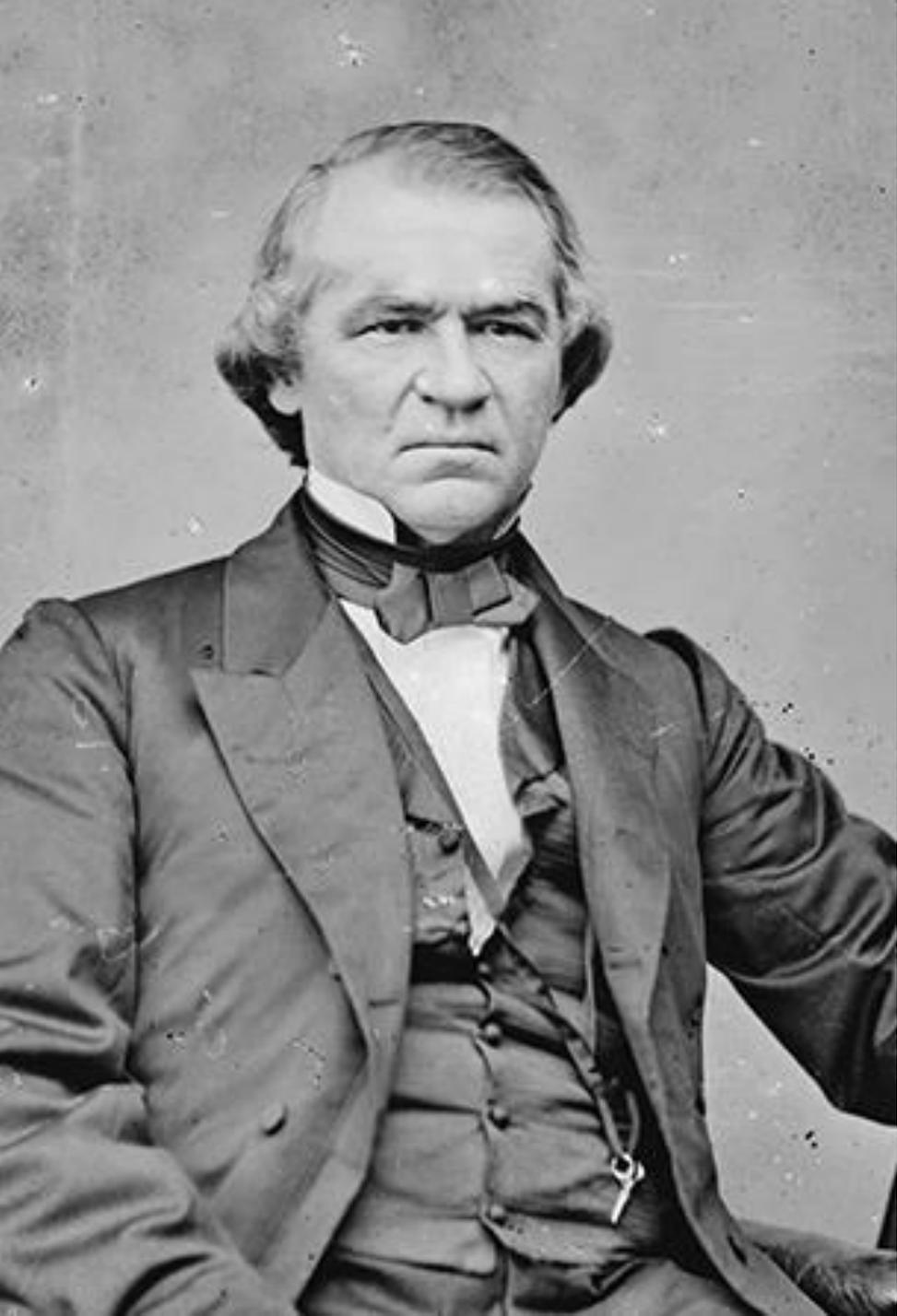
Amendment 14

naturalized in the United States, and subject
States and of the State wherein they reside
shall abridge the privileges or immunities of
State deprive any person of life, liberty, or prop
any person within its jurisdiction the equal

shall be apportioned among the several Sta

2. The 14th Amendment

- Proposed because Congress worried the courts might overturn the Civil Rights Act
- 14th Amendment ratified in 1868
- Language of the Amendment:
 - ❖ Protected the citizenship extended to African Americans (by the Civil Rights Act of 1866)
 - ❖ Made it clear that if a state barred any adult male from voting, that state could lose representation in Congress
 - ❖ No state could take a person's life, liberty, or property without due process
 - ❖ Every person is entitled to equal protection of the laws
 - ❖ Excluded former Confederate leaders from holding national or state office (unless Congress pardoned them)



B. Radical Republicans in Charge

1. President Johnson

- Campaigned against the Radical Republicans in the congressional elections of 1866
- Attacked the 14th Amendment
- Northerners disliked his tone
- Voters rejected his views = majority of Republicans won Congress
- Began period of Radical Reconstruction

2. The Reconstruction Acts



- By 1867, 10 former Confederate states had not ratified the 14th Amendment
- Response = Congress passed First Reconstruction Act
 - ❖ Required those states form new govts.
 - ❖ Divided 10 defiant states into 5 military districts
 - ❖ Each district governed by an army general until new state govts. formed
 - ❖ Former Confederate leaders were banned from serving in new govts.
 - ❖ Each state had to submit new state constitution to Congress
 - ❖ Guaranteed African American men the right to vote in state elections

- Second Reconstruction Act

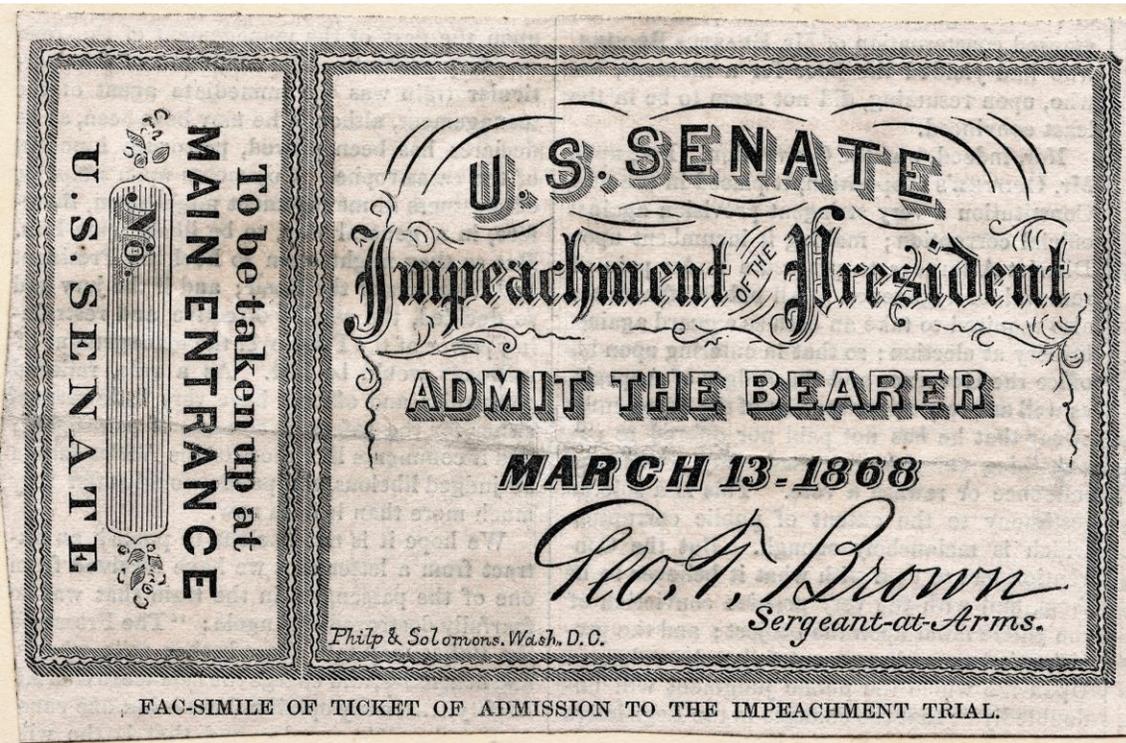
- ❖ Empowered the army to register voters in each district
- ❖ Helped to organize state constitutional conventions

- By 1868, Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, and South Carolina had set up new govts. = 14th amendment ratified

- By 1870, Mississippi, Virginia, and Texas readmitted



C. Impeaching the President

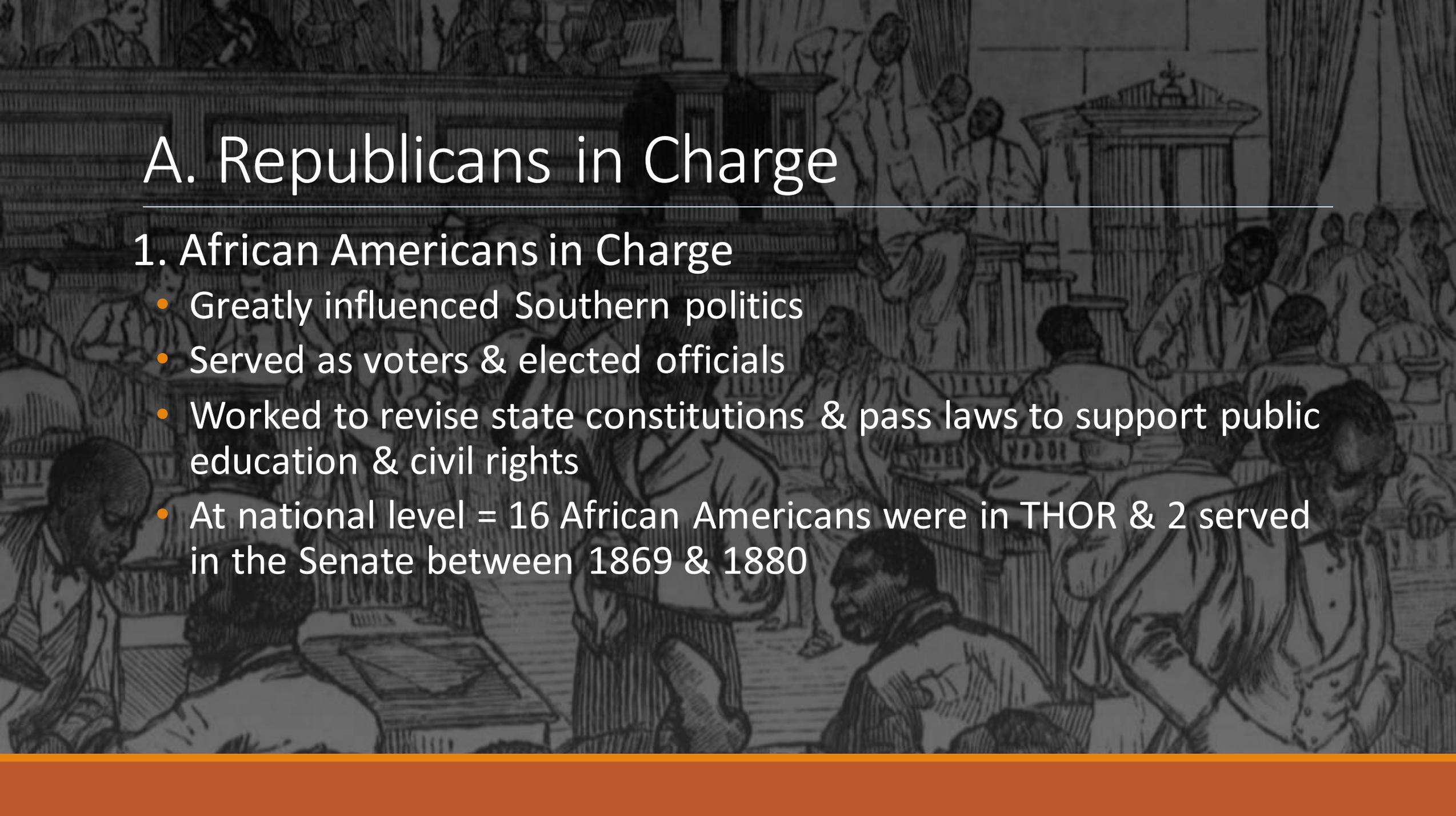


1. Johnson strongly opposed the Reconstruction Acts = they limited his power
 - Tenure of Office Act = stated the President could not remove govt. officials without Senate approval
 - ❖ Congress wanted to protect Sec. of War, Edwin Stanton
2. Tensions grew
 - Johnson suspended Stanton (Senate refused to approve the suspension)
 - Johnson fired Stanton (violated the Tenure of Office Act)
 - Johnson appointed people the radicals opposed to command military districts
3. THOR voted to impeach
 - Trial lasted 3 months
 - Did not get the 2/3 majority required
 - Johnson stayed in office until the end of Lincoln's second term in 1869

D. The 15th Amendment

1. Presidential election, 1868 = most Southern states rejoined Union
 - Republican party rejected Johnson and instead nominated Ulysses S. Grant (Civil War hero)
 - Democrats chose NY governor Horatio Seymour
 - Most African Americans supported Grant
 - Grant won = results showed the voters continued to support Radical Reconstruction
2. Congress proposed the 15th Amendment, 1869
 - Guaranteed state & federal govts. could not deny the right to vote to any male citizen because of race, color, or previous condition of servitude

III. The South During Reconstruction



A. Republicans in Charge

1. African Americans in Charge

- Greatly influenced Southern politics
- Served as voters & elected officials
- Worked to revise state constitutions & pass laws to support public education & civil rights
- At national level = 16 African Americans were in THOR & 2 served in the Senate between 1869 & 1880

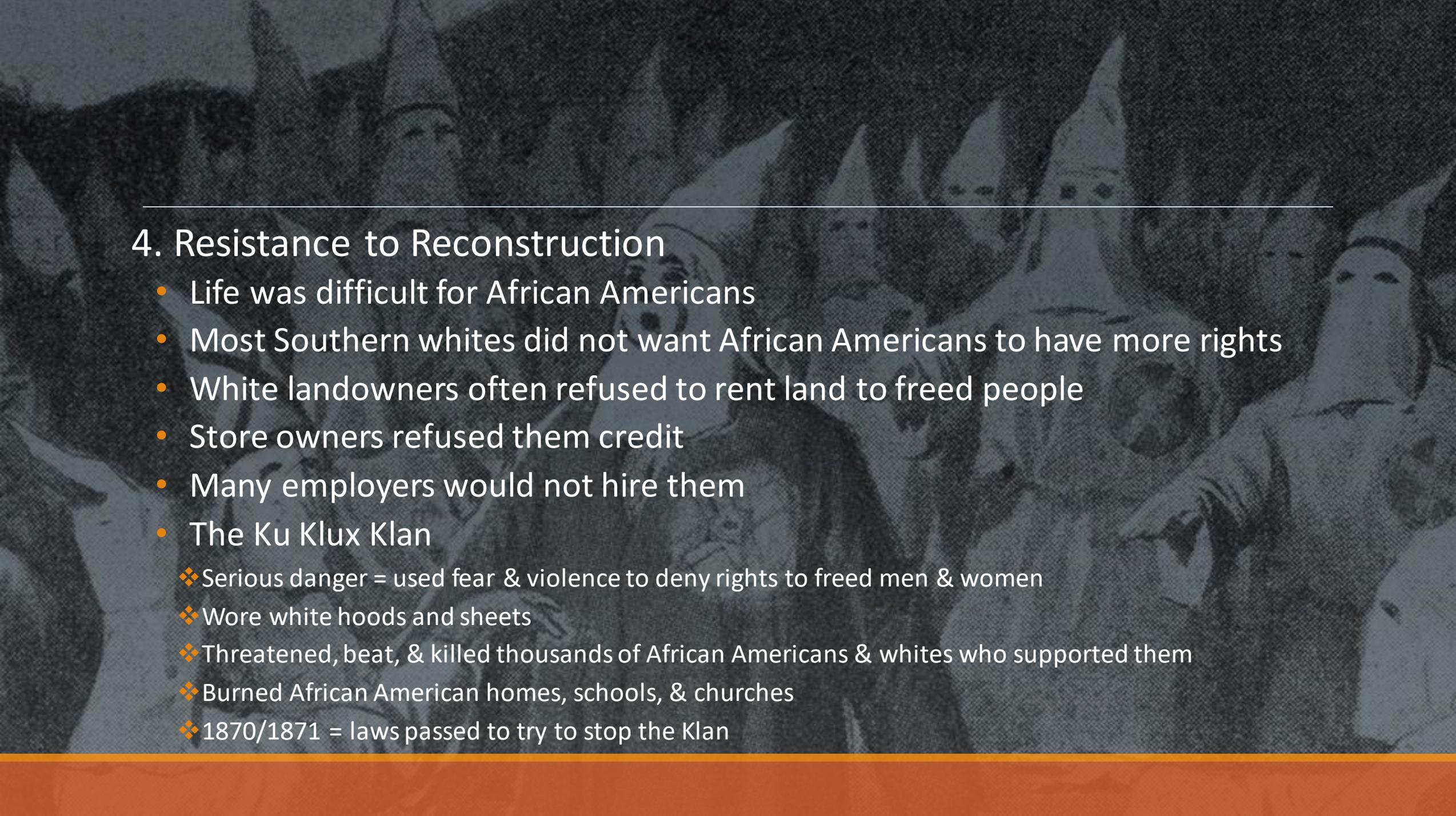
2. Carpetbaggers & Scalawags

- Scalawags = name given by former Confederates to Southern whites who supported Republican Reconstruction of the South
 - ❖ Meaning worthless rascal or scoundrel

3. Northern whites who moved to the South

- Supported Republicans
- White Southerners called these Northerners Carpetbaggers
- Carpetbaggers = thought by white Southerners to be untrustworthy newcomers
 - ❖ Term referred to cheap suitcases made of carpet fabric
- Some Carpetbaggers wanted to help, some were dishonest people looking to take advantage of the South's difficulties





4. Resistance to Reconstruction

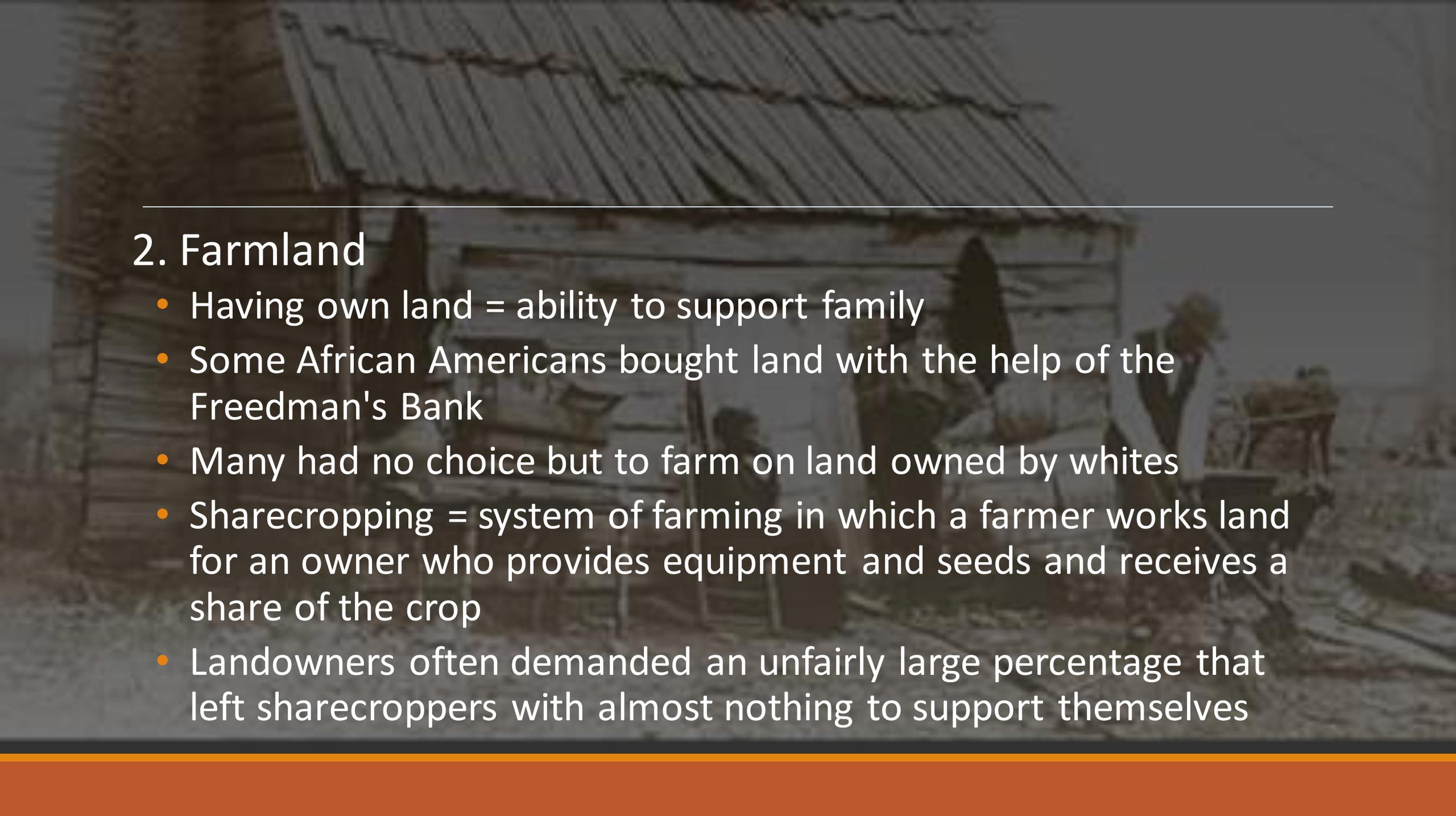
- Life was difficult for African Americans
- Most Southern whites did not want African Americans to have more rights
- White landowners often refused to rent land to freed people
- Store owners refused them credit
- Many employers would not hire them
- The Ku Klux Klan
 - ❖ Serious danger = used fear & violence to deny rights to freed men & women
 - ❖ Wore white hoods and sheets
 - ❖ Threatened, beat, & killed thousands of African Americans & whites who supported them
 - ❖ Burned African American homes, schools, & churches
 - ❖ 1870/1871 = laws passed to try to stop the Klan

B. Education & Farming

1. African American Schools

- Built during the early days of Reconstruction
- Northerners came to South to teach
- 1870s = Reconstruction govts. created public schools for both races
- Schools largely segregated
- African American gains in higher education
 - ❖ Academies grew into a network of colleges including Howard University (Washington D.C.) & Morehouse College (Atlanta, GA)





2. Farmland

- Having own land = ability to support family
- Some African Americans bought land with the help of the Freedman's Bank
- Many had no choice but to farm on land owned by whites
- Sharecropping = system of farming in which a farmer works land for an owner who provides equipment and seeds and receives a share of the crop
- Landowners often demanded an unfairly large percentage that left sharecroppers with almost nothing to support themselves

IV. The Post- Reconstruction Era



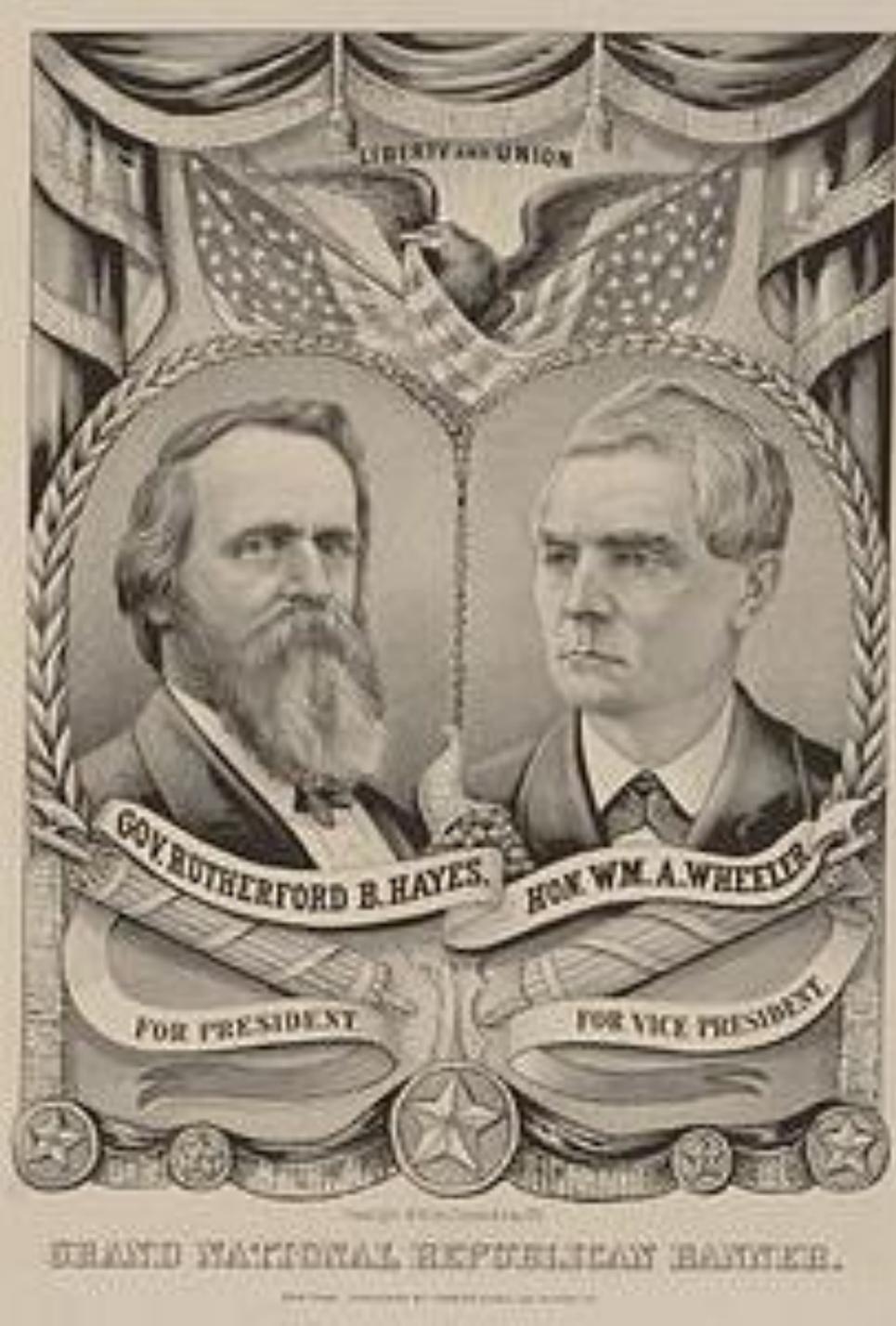
A. Reconstruction Ends

1. General Ulysses S. Grant

- Won election of 1868
- Won reelection in 1872
- Had little experience in politics
- Scandal & corruption plagued his presidency as well as a severe economic depression
- Panic of 1873
 - ❖ Triggered by banking firm declaring bankruptcy
- Democrats won back THOR & made gains in the Senate
- Southern Democrats worked hard to regain power
 - ❖ Got help from the KKK
 - ❖ Southern Democrats called themselves "redeemers" = claimed to have redeemed (saved) their states from "black Republican" rule

2. The Election of 1876

- Republicans nominated Ohio Governor Rutherford B. Hayes
 - ❖ Moderate views on Reconstruction
- Democrats nominated New York Governor Samuel Tilden
- Neither got a majority of electoral votes
 - ❖ Confusion in Florida, South Carolina, & Louisiana (all still under Republican rule)
 - ❖ Insisted many voters in these states favored Hayes but their votes had not been counted
 - ❖ Congress named commission to decide which candidate would receive the electoral votes
 - ❖ Commission recommended giving them to Hayes
 - ❖ To ensure victory, Republicans made promises to Democrats
 - Withdraw troops stationed in the South since the end of the Civil War
 - Shortly after Hayes took office, troops left



3. Rise of the "New South"

- 1880s, forward thinking Southerners wanted industrial economy
 - ❖ Argued the South lost the Civil War because its industry did not match the North's
 - ❖ Urged to "Out-Yankee" the Yankees and build a "New South"
 - Industries based on region's coal, iron, tobacco, cotton, & lumber
 - This new economy was created by embracing a spirit of hard work and regional pride
 - ❖ Made great gains in the 1880s
 - Textile Mills
 - The American Tobacco Company (by James Duke of NC)
 - By 1890, the South produced 20% of the nation's iron & steel
 - Lots of industry in Alabama = deposits of iron ore
 - Florida = port cities (Jacksonville & Pensacola) prospered because of lumber demands
 - Railroad building boom helped



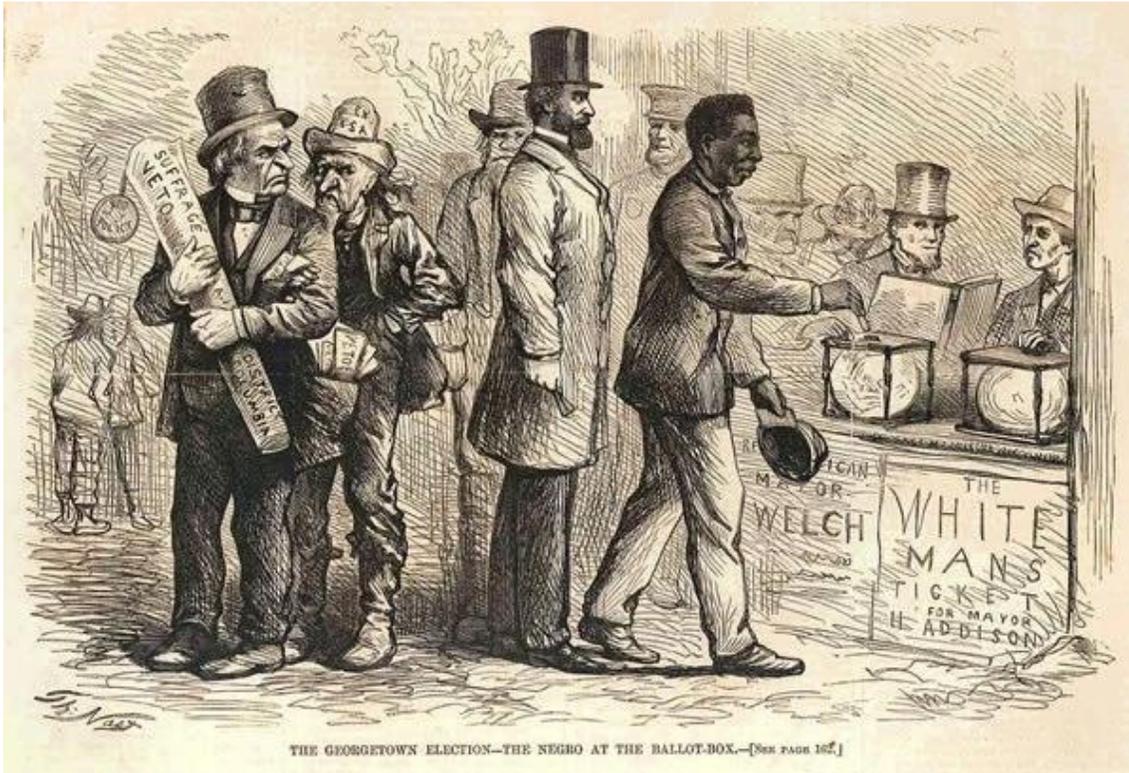
4. The New South's Rural Economy

- Agriculture remained the South's main economic activity
- Hoped to promote small profitable farms
- Large estates were divided into land for sharecropping & tenant farming (neither profitable)
- Major debt for smaller farmers
 - ❖ Used credit to buy supplies
 - ❖ Merchants supplied credit & charged high prices

B. A Divided Society

1. Voting Restrictions

- White Southerners looked to find ways around the 15th Amendment
 - ❖ Poll Taxes = a tax a person must pay in order to vote (many African Americans could not afford the tax so they could not vote)
 - ❖ Literacy Test = A method used to prevent African Americans from voting by requiring prospective voters to read and write at a specified level
 - ❖ Grandfather Clauses = A device that allowed people to vote if their fathers or grandfathers had voted before Reconstruction began
 - Used to ensure literacy tests & poll taxes didn't keep whites from voting



2. Jim Crow Laws

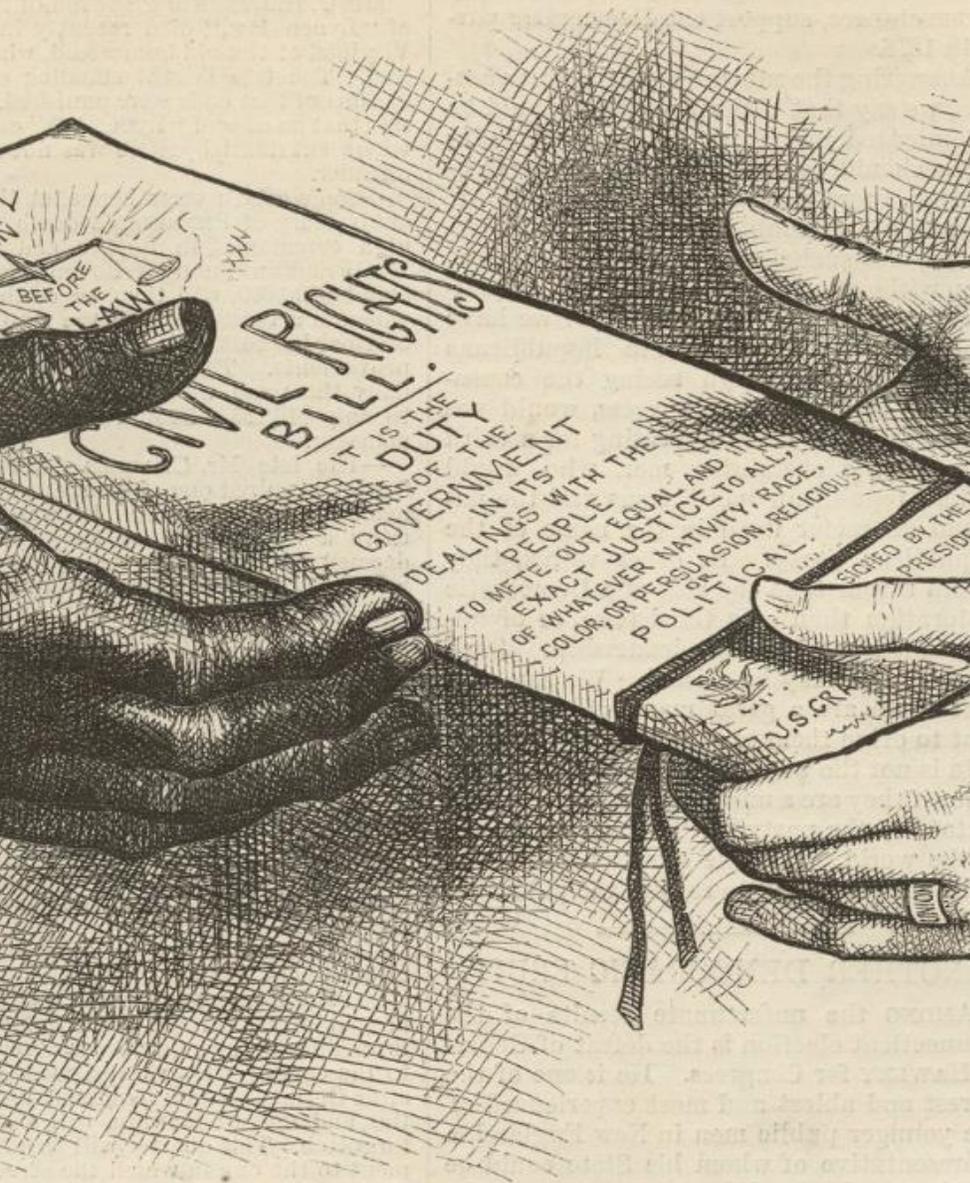
- Segregation = the separation or isolation of a race, class, or group
- Jim Crow Laws = required African Americans & whites to be separated in almost every public place
 - ❖ 1896 = Supreme Court case Plessy v. Ferguson upheld segregation
 - ❖ The Court ruled that segregation was legal as long as African Americans had access to public places equal to whites
 - ❖ Segregation was far from equal
 - Southern states put more money into white schools/facilities than those for African Americans
 - Separate but equal doctrine was supported legally for more than 50 years
 - ❖ Violence rose for African Americans = lynching = angry mobs killed people by hanging



3. Exodusters & Buffalo Soldiers

- Exodusters = formerly enslaved people who left the South during Reconstruction
 - ❖ The name comes from the biblical book Exodus which describes Israelite's escape from Slavery in Egypt
 - ❖ Exodus of 1870s = more than 20,000 African Americans migrated to Kansas
- Others escaped by becoming soldiers
 - ❖ Served in segregated army units
 - ❖ Fought conflicts with Native Americans in the West from 1867 until 1896
 - ❖ Legend says they were called "Buffalo Soldiers" by the Apache and Cheyenne
 - ❖ The name was adopted as a sign of respect

"TO THINE OWN SELF BE TRUE."



"THESE FEW PRECEPTS IN THY MEMORY."

Costly thy habit as thy purse can buy,
But not express'd in fancy; rich, not gaudy:
For the apparel oft proclaims the man.

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4. Reconstruction's Impact

- Success
 - ❖ Helped the South rebuild its economy
 - ❖ African Americans gained greater equality & shared power in govt.
- Failure
 - ❖ Much of the South remained agriculturally & economically poor
 - ❖ African American advances were impeded and were subjected to laws and segregation meant to hinder their freedom