

# **Reconstruction**

**1865-1877**

# Key Questions

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graph TD; A[Key Questions] --> B[1. How do we bring the South back into the Union?]; A --> C[2. How do we rebuild the South after its destruction during the war?]; A --> D[3. How do we integrate and protect newly-emancipated black freedmen?]; A --> E[4. What branch of government should control the process of Reconstruction?];
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**1. How do we bring the South back into the Union?**

**2. How do we rebuild the South after its destruction during the war?**

**3. How do we integrate and protect newly-emancipated black freedmen?**

**4. What branch of government should control the process of Reconstruction?**



# Presidential Reconstruction

## 10% Plan

- **Proclamation of Amnesty and Reconstruction (December 8, 1863)**
- **He didn't consult Congress regarding Reconstruction**
- **Pardon to all but the highest ranking Confederate officers**
- **When 10% of the voting population in the 1860 election had taken an oath of loyalty and established a government (constitution), that state would be recognized**

## Wade-Davis Bill

- **Required 50% of the number of 1860 voters to take an "iron clad" oath of allegiance**
- **Enacted specific safeguards of freedmen's liberties**

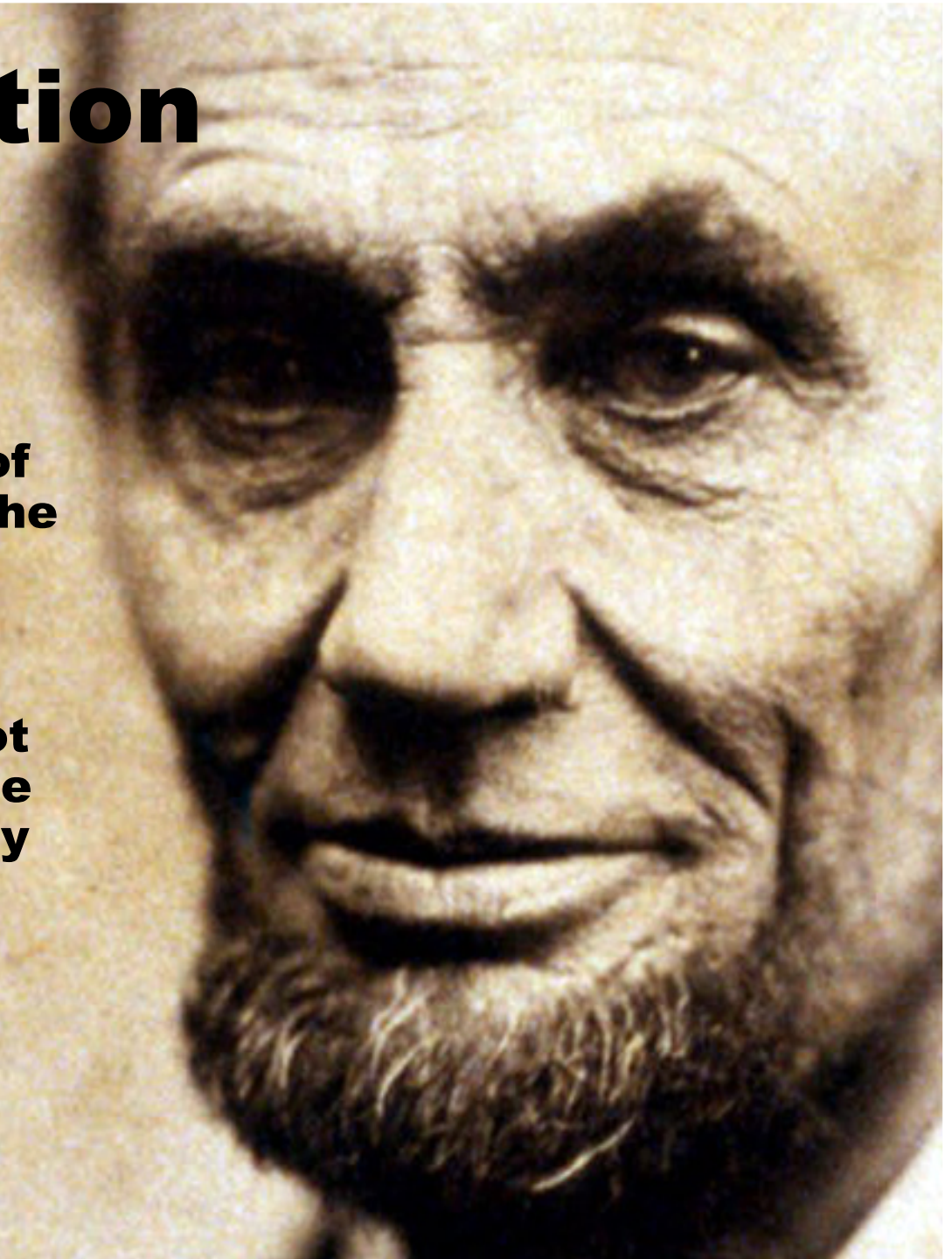
# **Assassination**

**April 14, 1865**

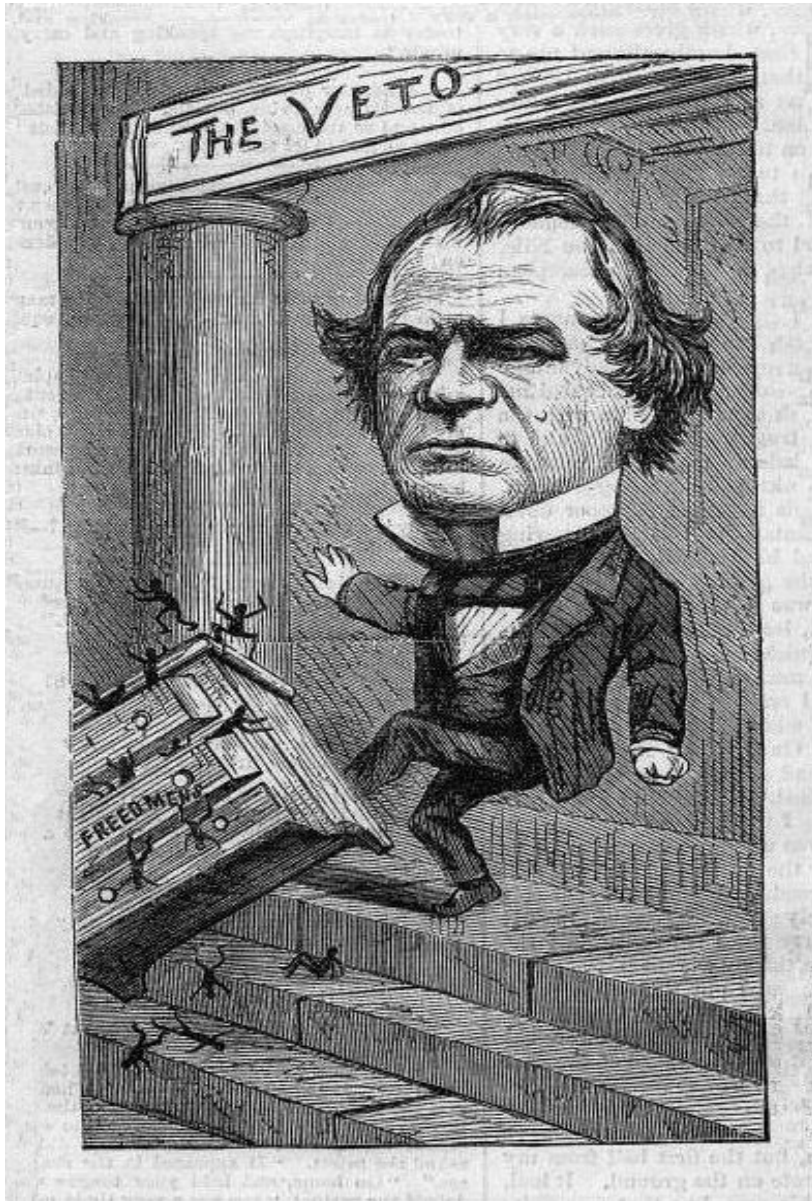
**Assassinated as part of  
a conspiracy against the  
Federal government  
(Johnson/Seward)**

**John Wilkes Booth shot  
and killed Lincoln while  
he was watching a play  
w/ his wife at Ford's  
Theater**

**Succeeded by Andrew  
Johnson**



# Freedmen's Bureau



**Created in 1865 to provide freedmen w/ skills they needed to compete for jobs and be productive citizens**

- Education
- Clothing
- Medical Care
- Mediating Labor Contracts

**President Johnson vetoed a Congressional bill designed to expand the powers of the Bureau in 1866**

**Bureau was disbanded in 1872 under President Grant**

# Black Codes



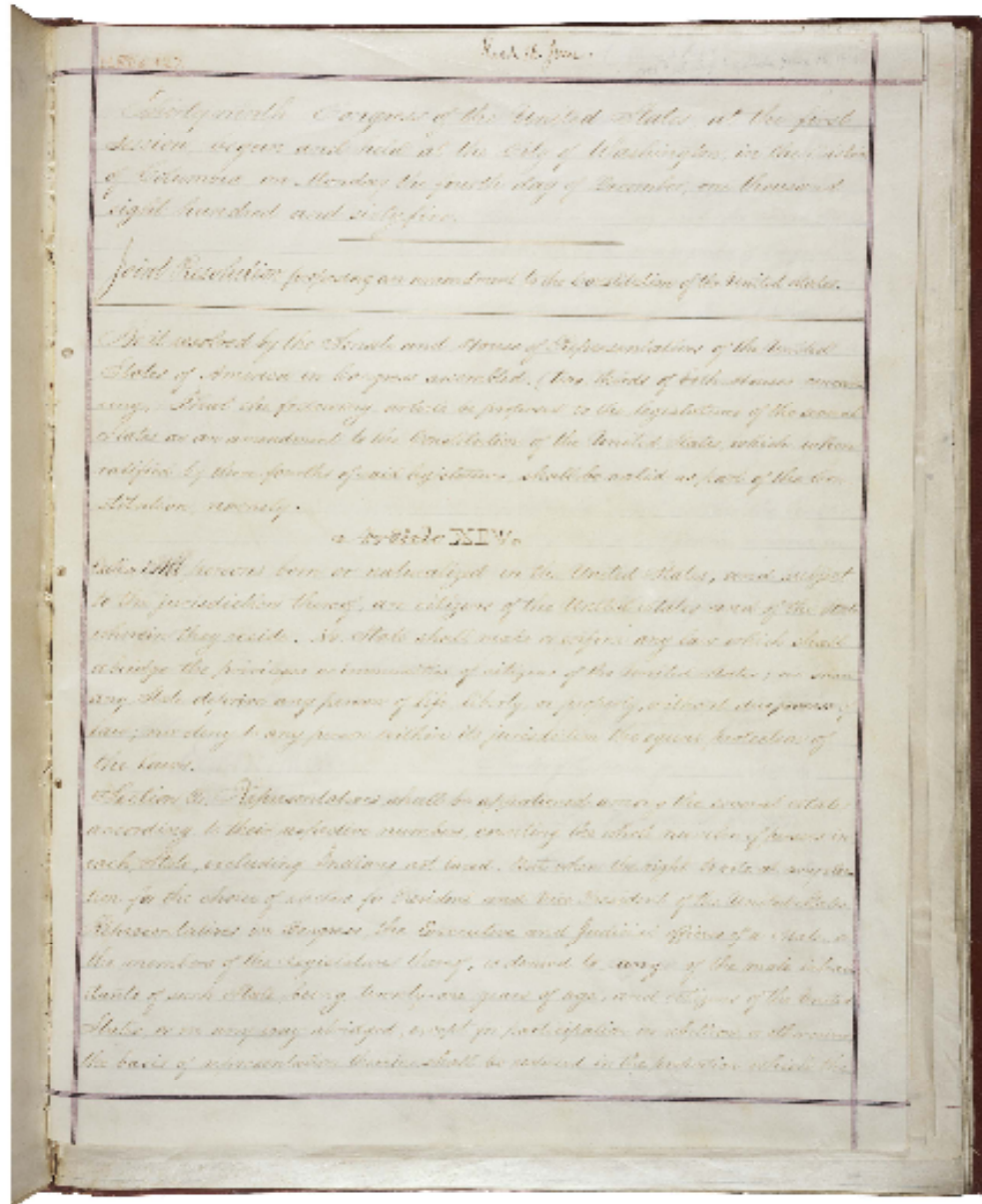
**Southern states passed laws that kept blacks in a state of servitude**

**Blacks were restricted from:**

- **Breaking a labor contract**
- **Voting**
- **Serving on a jury**
- **Renting/leasing land**

**Sharecropping**

# 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment

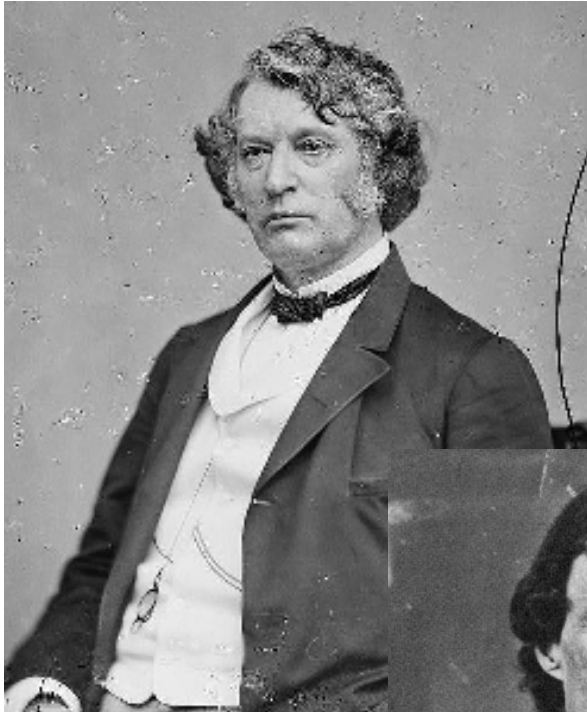


**Congress passed the Civil Rights Bill (1866) which President Johnson vetoed**

**Congress overrode the veto, and pushed for the addition of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment**

- **Civil rights guaranteed to former slaves**
- **Reduced reps for states that denied voting rights to blacks**
- **Disqualified former Confederates for high office**
- **Repudiated Confederate debt**

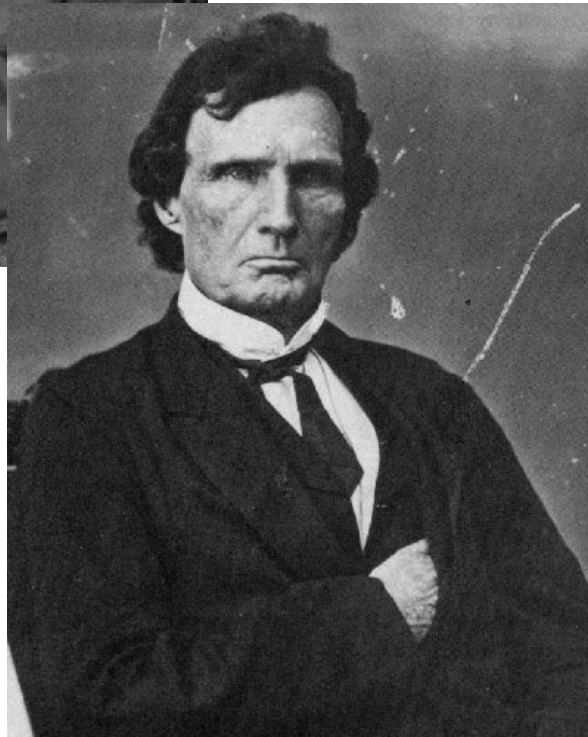
# Midterm Elections (1866)



Charles  
Sumner

**Johnson campaigned for moderates in several states hoping to win support for his Reconstruction policies**

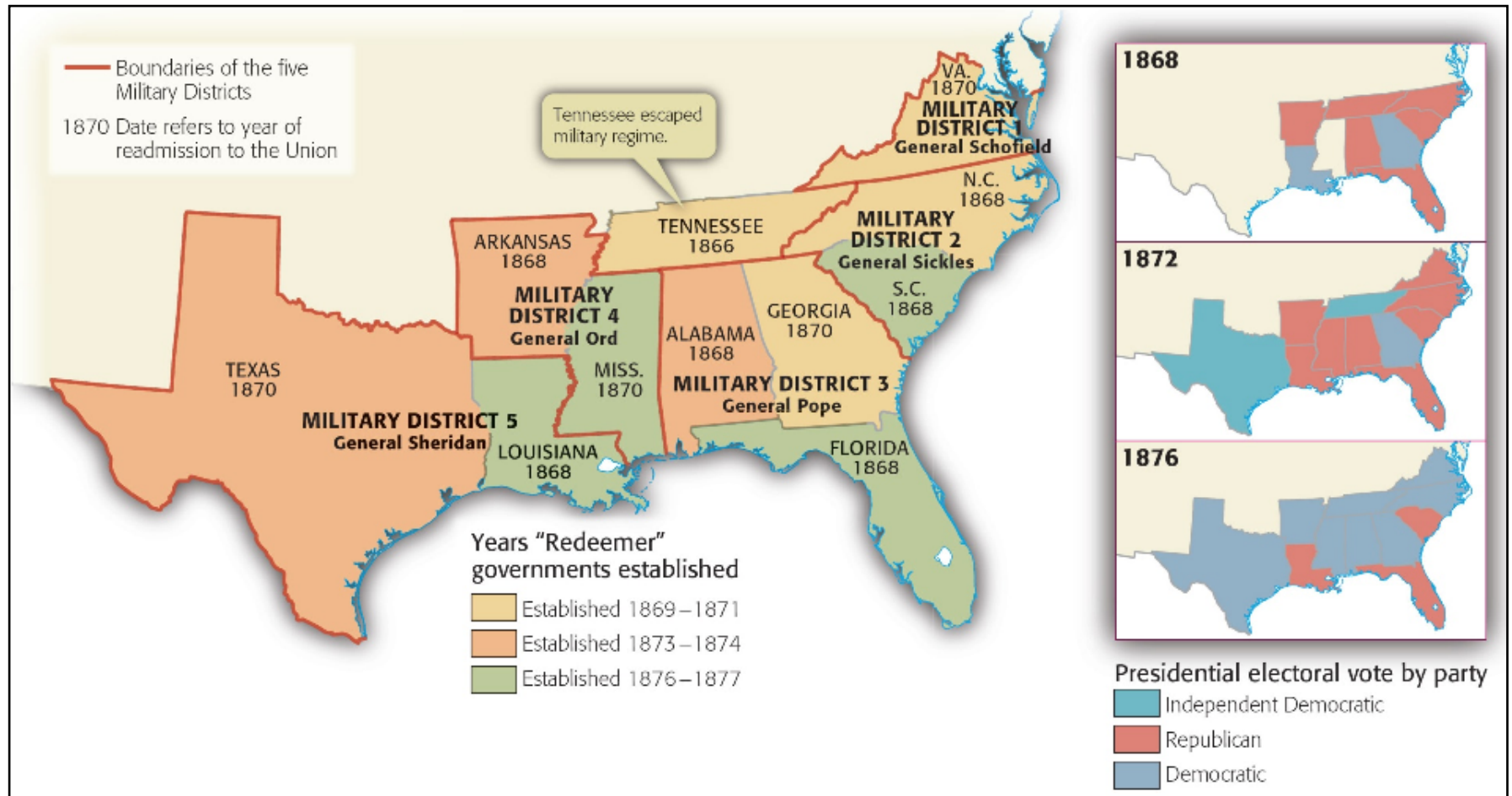
**His embarrassing performance allowed his opponents to win a 2/3 majority in both houses of Congress**



Thaddeus  
Stevens



# Radical Reconstruction



**Reconstruction Act passed by Congress (1867)**

**15<sup>th</sup> Amendment passed to protect voting rights**

# Radical Reconstruction

**During Reconstruction former slaves were able to hold public office, and did so in many states**

**Black Codes and the Ku Klux Klan caused black disenfranchisement through bribery, fraud, and violence**



# Impeachment

## Tenure of Office Act (1867)

Required consent of the Senate for removal of presidential appointees (Meant to protect SecWar Stanton)

Johnson replaced Stanton b/c he disagreed w/ Radical Reconstruction

House impeached Johnson for violating the Tenure of Office Act

**VOTE = 35 guilty**

**19 not guilty**

**7 Republicans voted not guilty b/c they felt the evidence against Johnson was flimsy at best**

