



## PEOPLE

### Susan B. Anthony

- Major leader of American suffrage movement
- Advocate of abolition and temperance
- Opposed giving suffrage to freedmen without also giving it to women
- Arrested for trying to vote, 1872

### Frederick Douglass

- Runaway slave who became prominent abolitionist
- Leading figure in the American Anti-Slavery Society, founder of abolitionist publication *North Star*
- Also advocated for women's rights

### Rutherford B. Hayes

- Republican President of the United States
- Fought in Civil War; supported Radical Reconstruction while in Congress
- Elected as part of the Compromise of 1877
- Withdrew federal troops from South (thus ending Reconstruction), 1877

### Oliver O. Howard

- Chief commissioner of Freedmen's Bureau
- Founded Howard University
- Union general during Civil War
- Offered education and opportunities to blacks as head of Freedmen's Bureau, but undercut by President Andrew Johnson

### Andrew Johnson

- Democratic Tennessee Governor, then Vice President and President of U.S.
- Selected as Lincoln's Vice President despite belonging to opposite party
- After Lincoln's assassination, oversaw failed Presidential Reconstruction, offering lenient terms to defeated southerners
- Impeached by House of Representatives, 1868

### Abraham Lincoln

- First-ever Republican President of the United States, elected in 1860
- Oversaw Union victory in Civil War; issued Emancipation Proclamation in 1863
- Barely began Presidential Reconstruction before being assassinated, 1865

### William T. Sherman

- Union general in Civil War
- Offered forty acres and a mule to freed slaves, before orders were countermanded by President Andrew Johnson

### Thaddeus Stevens

- Pennsylvania representative, leader of Radical Republicans in Congress
- Felt both Lincoln and Johnson were not radical enough in Reconstruction reforms
- Pushed forward Civil Rights Act and Fourteenth Amendment
- Committed to racial equality in political rights

## EVENTS

### 1863 Proclamation of Amnesty and Reconstruction

- Lincoln issued standards by which rebel states could be readmitted to the Union following the Civil War
- So-called 10 Percent Plan required 10% of population to take "ironclad oath" of loyalty before state could re-enter the Union

### 1865 Sherman's Special Field Order 15

- William T. Sherman, commanding Union army occupying Deep South, issued proclamation seizing Confederate properties and distributing land in forty-acre plots to freedmen in Georgia and South Carolina
- Eventually countermanded by President Johnson

### 1865 Freedmen's Bureau Established

- Provided educational assistance and other opportunities for freed blacks
- Congress established Freedmen's Savings Bank in the same year

### 1865 Lincoln Assassination

- President Lincoln killed by southerner John Wilkes Booth at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C.
- Vice President Andrew Johnson became President, took control over Reconstruction

### 1865 Thirteenth Amendment

- Declared slavery unconstitutional

### 1865 Ku Klux Klan Founded

- White supremacist terror organization founded by group of Confederate Army veterans
- Served as paramilitary wing of Democratic Party in South, ensuring white power through violence and intimidation

### 1868 Fourteenth Amendment

- Guaranteed "equal protection of the laws" to all citizens, regardless of race

### 1870 Fifteenth Amendment

- Guaranteed right to vote to all men, regardless of race

### 1871 Ku Klux Klan Act

- Allowed individuals to sue states for private or public violations of their civil rights
- Designed to protect blacks from the KKK when local law enforcement authorities in South refused to press charges against white supremacists
- Major piece of Radical Reconstruction legislation

### 1875 *United States v. Cruikshank*

- Ruled that U.S. Constitution did not "confer right of suffrage upon anyone," despite Fifteenth Amendment
- First of series of Supreme Court decisions that undermined Reconstruction

### 1875 Mississippi Redemption

- Democrats returned to power, re-establishing white power in state government
- First Southern state government to expel blacks and Republicans from power

### Compromise of 1877

- After close election resulted in Electoral College deadlock, Democrats agreed to allow Republican Rutherford B. Hayes assume presidency in exchange for promise by Republicans to withdraw Federal troops from South
- Marked end of Reconstruction

## GROUPS

### Radical Republicans

- Republicans in Congress who sought to use federal power to ensure equal treatment under the law for all races through Reconstruction
- Hated President Johnson's willingness to compromise with conservative southerners
- Leading figures were Sen. Charles Sumner, Rep. Thaddeus Stevens

### Ku Klux Klan

- Secret white supremacist terrorist organization
- Attacked blacks, Republicans, northerners, foreigners, Catholics, Jews in South
- Blacks especially targeted for success or for trying to vote
- Destroyed after Ku Klux Klan Act of 1871; recreated in twentieth century

### Scalawag

- Disparaging southern term for supporters of Republican Party
- Often subjected to insults and violence from southern Democrats
- Some genuinely wanted to help blacks; many merely supported Republicans because they wanted to industrialize South

### **Carpetbagger**

- Disparaging southern term for northerners who moved into positions of authority in South during Reconstruction
- Often were Union officers trying to make profit
- Some had genuinely altruistic motives; some just wanted to get rich; most in between

### **Freedman's Bureau**

- Tried to advance cause of blacks in South through education and social services
- Ultimately undermined by southern hostility, northern fatigue

## **CONCEPTS**

### **Redemption**

- Southern term for period when white southern Democrats regained control of local governments at conclusion of Radical Reconstruction
- Power gained and maintained through intimidation of blacks and Republicans

## **PLACES**

### **Ford's Theatre, Washington, D.C.**

- Playhouse where Abraham Lincoln was assassinated by actor John Wilkes Booth in 1865