

Chapter 12 Reconstruction APUSH Vocabulary Terms

Freedman's Bureau 1865 It was to be a welfare agency. It provided food, clothes, and education to freedman and to white refuge. Union General, Oliver O. Howard founded the program. Taught 200,000 blacks to read, expired in 1872.

10% Plan This was Lincoln's reconstruction plan for after the Civil War. Written in 1863, it proclaimed that a state could be reintegrated into the Union when 10% of its voters in the 1860 election pledged their allegiance to the U.S. and pledged to abide by emancipation, and then formally erect their state governments. This plan was very lenient to the South, would have meant an easy reconstruction.

Sharecropping After the Civil War former landowners "rented" plots of land to blacks and poor whites in such a way that the renters were always in debt and therefore tied to the land. Farmers had to "pay" a portion of their crops to the land owner.

Fourteenth Amendment First called the Civil Rights Bill, then turned into the Fourteenth Amendment proposed by Congress and sent to the states in June of 1866. "It (1) conferred civil rights, including citizenship but excluding the franchise, on the freedmen; (2) reduced proportionately the representation of a state in Congress and the Electoral College if it denied blacks the ballot; (3) disqualified from federal and state office holders had once sworn 'to support the Constitution of the US;' and (4) guaranteed the federal debt, while repudiating all Confederate debts." It did not grant the right to vote and all Republicans agreed that a state could not be part of the Union again without ratifying the amendment.

Military Reconstruction Act It divided the South into five military districts that were commanded by Union generals. It was passed in 1867. It ripped the power away from the president to be commander in chief and set up a system of Martial Law

Fifteenth Amendment An incorporation of black suffrage into the federal Constitution. The Amendment was passed in congress in 1869 and was ratified by the required number of states in 1870. Before ratification, Northern states withheld the ballot from the black minorities. The South felt that the Republicans were hypocritical in insisting that blacks in the South should vote. The moderates wanted the southern states back in the Union, and thus free the federal government from direct responsibility for the protection of black rights. The Republicans were afraid that once the states were re-admitted they would amend their constitutions and withdraw the ballot from blacks. The only ironclad safeguard to cease the tension was the Fifteenth Amendment.

Civil Rights Act In 1866 the Civil Rights Act was created to grant citizenship to blacks and it was an attempt to prohibit the black codes. It also prohibited racial discrimination on jury selection. The Civil Rights Act was not really enforced and was really just a political move used to attract more votes. It led to the creation and passing of the 14th amendment.

Scalawags Southerners who were former Unionist and Whigs who helped the radical Republicans in the South because they accepted the consequences of the war.

Carpetbaggers During the reconstruction period after the Civil War this nickname was given to Northerners who moved south to seek their fortune out of the destruction.

Ku Klux Klan In 1866, Tennessee formed one of the most notable anti-black groups. They were against any power or rights a black might have. They were violent and often times they killed blacks "to keep them in their place."

Force Acts These acts were passed in 1870 and 1871. They were created to put a stop to the torture and harassment of blacks by whites, especially by hate groups such as the Ku Klux Klan. These acts gave power to the government to use its forces to physically end the problems.