

Comparing the North and the South During the American Civil War

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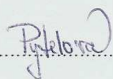
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ABSTRAKT

Tématem bakalářské práce je jedna z nejkrvavějších událostí v americké historii, občanská válka. Práce se zabývá historií války, ale hlavní pozornost je věnována srovnání Severu a Jihu během americké občanské války a jejich postoji k válce samotné. Část, popisující Sever se zaměřuje hlavně na to, jak se severní státy vyrovnávaly s důsledky války a co je zvyhodňovalo oproti jižním státům. Naopak kapitola popisující Jih se zaměřuje na situaci jižních států a jejich výhody oproti severním státům. Nechybí zde ani srovnání obou stran a důvody proč nakonec Sever porazil Jih a naopak proč Jih nemohl vyhrát. V závěru bude následovat shrnutí celé práce a osobní názor na americkou občanskou válku.

Klíčová slova: Občanská válka, otroctví, odtržení, Sever, Jih, Konfederace, Unie, Abraham Lincoln, Jefferson Davis

ABSTRACT

The theme of this bachelor thesis is one of the bloodiest events in the American history, the American Civil War. The work deals briefly with the history, but the main focus is on the comparison of the North and the South during the American Civil War and their attitudes toward the war itself. That section describing the North deals mainly with the situation how the northern states coped with the causes of the war and what advantages they had in comparison with the southern states. On the contrary, the other section describing the South focuses on the situation of the southern states and their advantages in comparison with the northern ones. Furthermore, the comparison of the both sides and the reasons why the North prevailed against the South and by contrast, why the South could not win is not missing. The summary will be included at the end of the thesis and my opinion on the American Civil War will be mentioned as well.

Keywords: Civil War, slavery, secession, the North, the South, the Confederacy, the Union, Abraham Lincoln, Jefferson Davis

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INTRODUCTION

This bachelor thesis deals with the history of the American Civil War, but the main focus is on the comparison of the North and the South during the war.

The first chapter briefly describes an outset of the Civil War, its causes like slavery or secession as well as differences between both nations. The second part of the thesis focuses on the South and its attitude towards the conflict. It shows the Southern successes at the beginning of the war as well as its failures. The third chapter deals with the North and its attitude towards the war. It describes Northern strengths and weaknesses during the war along with the economic issue and opposition to slavery. The last part of the thesis compares the North with the South, their advantages and disadvantages that set an outcome of the American Civil War. The reasons why the Union prevailed against the Confederacy and why the Confederacy could not win the war are mentioned there as well as the ways the South could have won the American Civil War.

This bachelor thesis shows the Civil War as one of the major events in the American history. Nevertheless, the main focus as I have already mentioned above is on the comparison of the South and the North, their secession and attitude towards the war. The considerable attention is given to their situation before and during the war as well as the problems of slavery and economy that influenced the war itself.

I have chosen this topic because of many facts. Firstly, I was interested in history and I wanted to know more about such interesting event in the American history that Civil War surely was. Secondly, because the Civil War was the great and last struggle in the American history in which new technologies such as railroads, telegraph lines, ironclad ships and observation balloons was used. The third reason was the problem of slavery and blacks that lasted many years after the American Civil War.

The aim of this thesis is to compare two different nations, the North and the South, during the American Civil War and look upon this period as the important event that changed the USA.

1 BACKGROUND

The first part of the thesis will focus on the beginning of the American Civil War and the causes that led to the war.

The American Civil War was the war in the United States of America, lasted from 1861 to 1865, and was also known as The War Between the States or The War of the Rebellion. This historic event was concerned in the essential problem of the USA because northeast was well developed in the industrial point of view and the bourgeois regime dominated there while in the undeveloped southwest the problem of slavery remained in existence. The United States of America originated from 13 colonies in the North American continent. Although the colonies distinguished from each other by economy, settlement and also geographically, the hatred for their homeland united them.^{1 2}

After the winning War of Independence (1775-1783) some states had stronger power than the federal government. The new Constitution, approved in 1789, changed this situation in favour of the Union. The problem of slavery became the most significant point. Although the slavery was criticised by the Union, the southern states were opposed to any solution, because their economy was mainly based on slavery. This problem was not fixed by itself and slavery became stronger and stronger. Cotton production was increasing and consequently the cheap labour demand increased. The conflict became acute every time the new state was accepted. The number of free and slave states continuously changed. The conflict concerning orientation of the new states was solved by “The Missouri Compromise”. Another thorny issue was duties which concentrated mainly on economically strong Great Britain. The South disagreed with the tariff policy because it embarrassed purchases in the North and also because Great Britain belonged to the major purchaser of cotton grown in the South. In 1854 Nebraska-Kansas Act contributed to conflicts between the North and the South. This Act appointed that only the people of each state has the right to decide if they establish slavery or not. In practice this Act dissolved the Missouri Compromise.³

¹ Leonid Křížek a kol, *Americká občanská válka* (nakladatelství X-EGEM, 1994), 11-12.

² Wikipedia: The Free Encyclopedia, “American Civil War”,
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_civil_war.

³ See, Křížek, *Americká občanská válka*, 11-12.

In 1860, when Abraham Lincoln was elected president, the southern states began to leave the Union. Due to this fact, eleven southern states including South Carolina, Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, Tennessee, North Carolina, Virginia seceded and formed a new country, the Confederate States of America (C.S.A.). The North, by contrast, consisted of thirty-six states such as California, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Wisconsin plus territories of Colorado, Dakota, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah and Washington plus border states Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri and West Virginia. Early in the war Louisiana and Tennessee were returned to the Union.⁴ The U.S. was divided between the pro-slavery South and the anti-slavery North. An immediate pretense for the war was Lincoln's effort to keep the northern garrison at Fort Sumter in South Carolina. On April 12, 1861 the American Civil War, known as the War Between the North and the South, could break out.⁵

1.1 Causes of the war

Ever since the Civil War broke out, causes that led to the War Between the States became the most talking points between people in America. The basic cause of the separation was probably that stated by Lincoln in his first inaugural: "*One section of our country believes that slavery is right and ought to be extended, while the other believes that it is wrong and ought not to be extended.*" It means that the slavery issue was the main reason for the South's secession.⁶

Basically, the South wanted and needed slavery while the North did not want it at all. At that time the labor force in the South had about 4 million slaves. They worked in the fields and plantations in the cultivation of tobacco, rice or cotton. Southerners could not understand why Northerners wanted slavery abolished because it was prosperous for them. During this time there were also demands for political equality and economic and social

⁴ Ivan Brož, *Hvězdy proti hvězdám: Americká občanská válka, 1861-1865* (Praha 1: Nakladatelství Epoque s.r.o., 2009), 10.

⁵ Patrick Phillips, "The Civil War (1861-1865)," *Bridge 05* (2003/04): 12.

⁶ Donald A. Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States* (New York, Macmillan Publishing Company, 1985), 347.

advances. The Northerners aims were free public education, better salaries and working conditions for workers or rights for women because they thought these views evoked the human right of being a free person. The South, on the other hand, thought these views were not important because they attacked slavery system in their territories. With all these views the North was ready for the complete abolition of slavery. The South tried to expand and use slavery in new territories, but the North wanted to stop this extension and limit the number of slave states in the Union. The first Northern attempt to realize it came when Missouri asked to be accepted to the Union as a slave state. After long discussion the Congress passed the Missouri Compromise that should regulate the extension of slavery in the United States. In 1850, the Congress passed another legislative measure, the Compromise of 1850. This compromise allowed abolition of the slave trade in the District of Columbia and acceptance of California as a free state. Another part of the compromise was the Fugitive Slave Law, which should help runaway slaves with returning to their masters. Many Northerners set up underground railroads where the runaway slaves could hide and escape to Canada for freedom. This obviously made Southerners angry. All these measures evoked a great antagonism between the slave and Free states. In addition, the Kansas-Nebraska Act was passed in 1854. This bill provided that the region west of Iowa and Missouri should be divided into two new territories, Nebraska and Kansas. This act split the Democratic Party and destroyed the Whig Party. The antislavery Democrats were joined by the northern Whigs to form the Republican Party. This conflict developed in Kansas was seen as the conflict between proslavery settlers from Missouri and antislavery newcomers from the north-eastern states. This dispute was known as "*Bleeding Kansas*". The last but not least cause that led to secession and afterwards to the Civil War was the presidential election of 1860 when the Republican Party nominated Abraham Lincoln who was opposed to slavery. In the North were also many people known as abolitionists. They were fully against slavery and influenced the views of many Northerners.⁷

Although slavery was the major cause of secession, it was not the only one. There were many reasons that led to secession of the South from the Union. The reason the South wanted to secede was a great sectional conflict between them. Both the South and the North were different in economic, social and political aspects. The South wanted to

⁷ 123helpme.com, "Causes of the Civil War", 123helpme.com,

become an independent nation while the North wanted to solve the problem of slavery. There were a few other reasons that the South disagreed on and that persuaded them to secede from the Union. The North wanted to give federal government increased powers while the South wanted to reserve all undefined powers to the individual states. The North also wished for internal improvements sponsored by the federal government such as more roads, railroads and canals. The South, on the contrary, did not want these projects to be done at all. Furthermore, the North wanted to develop a tariff because it would protect the Northern manufacturers. Due to the high tariff the South would not trade its cotton for foreign goods. In addition to this, the North wanted to establish a currency system and federal subsidies for shipping that the South thought as discriminatory treatment.⁸

The South also claimed that the basis for secession was states' rights, but the Confederacy was like a nation and its national flag, the "*Stars and Bars*", or its song "*Dixie*" were represented as a national patriotism. Southerners thought that the North would not fight. Even if the war began, Southerners supposed to win and they thought they could depend on aid from European nations. They also believed that their army was more dedicated than the North one. Southerners ignored the larger population, the greater industrial strength and the better transportation system of the North. The most important was the fact they forgot that all slaves looked forward to being free. Neither Southerners nor Northerners expected that the war would drag on for four years, more than 360,000 soldiers would die and thousands more would be wounded.⁹

Basically, the immediate cause of the war was slavery and its existence was the central point of the conflict between the North and South. The actual dispute concerning expansion of slavery into the territories only emphasized the social, economic and political advantages of a slave system that had carried through the America for over 200 years.¹⁰

⁸ 123helpme.com, "Causes of the Civil War", 123helpme.com, <http://www.123helpme.com/view.asp?id=23124>.

⁹ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 348.

¹⁰ 123helpme.com, "Causes of the Civil War", 123helpme.com, <http://www.123helpme.com/view.asp?id=23124>.

1.1.1 Slavery in the New Territories

The Mexican War and the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo brought already the slavery issue back to the center of American politics. Even before the Mexican War ended, antislavery feelings had grown in the North. This was revealed when the House of Representatives passed the Wilmot Proviso, an amendment to an army appropriations bill, which declared that all territory acquired from Mexico should be closed to slavery. Although this amendment did not succeed in the Senate, it had great impact on the South. Southerners argued that the Congress had no constitutional power to forbid slavery in the new territories. They said that denying slave-owners the right to take their human property into land that belonged to the nation as a whole was denying these property owners their rights as citizen. In the presidential election of 1848 both sides, Northerners and Southerners, tried to slow down the discussion of slavery. The Democrats nominated a Northern senator Lewis Cass of Michigan as their candidate. He supported the idea that people of the territories would decide whether or not they wanted slavery there. Another political party, the Whigs, nominated Zachary Taylor, a hero from the Mexican War. Northern Democrats associated with the former Liberty Party to create the Free Soil Party. The members of this Party came out against slavery in the territories. When California applied for admission to the Union as a free state, the danger of disunion had seemed so great. Every Northern legislature except one had passed resolutions supporting the Wilmot Proviso that would exclude slavery from the territories acquired from Mexico. Southerners threatened with secession if such action were taken. To deal with this worrying situation, a great politician Henry Clay returned to the Senate. He was the leading figure in Congress because he tried to arrange his last great compromise, The Compromise of 1850, between the North and the South.¹¹

1.1.1.1 The Compromise of 1850

Clay's compromise consisted of five laws dealing with the issue of slavery. The first one said that California was admitted as a free state. Then the slave trade in the District of Columbia was forbidden. The third act allowed New Mexico and Utah to use popular sovereignty to decide whether the states would be free or slave. Further, the Republic of Texas gave up lands that it claimed in present day New Mexico and received \$10 million to

pay its debt to Mexico. The last one of these five laws dealt with the Fugitive Slave Act that should made any federal official who did not arrest a runaway slave liable to pay a fine. This part of the Compromise of 1850 was the most disputable and caused that many abolitionists increased their efforts to abolish slavery.¹² Unfortunately, Clay's measures failed to receive enough support in Congress to pass and legislative management of the compromise proposals passed to Senator Stephen A. Douglas of Illinois. He put through the compromise as five separate bills and President Fillmore signed them.¹³

The apparent settlement of the slavery issue by the Compromise of 1850 took place during a time remarkable prosperity in the United States. The institution of slavery would once again become a disruptive force. This time, compromise would prove to be impossible because Northerners could not accept the Fugitive Slave Act that was an integral part of the Compromise of 1850 Act while Southerners demanded that slavery must be extended to the territories. The Compromise of 1850 saved the Union from immediate disaster, but it turned out to be a truce rather than a permanent peace. Eleven years later, the South seceded from the Union.¹⁴

1.1.1.2 Kansas-Nebraska Act, 1854

Another important act was Kansas-Nebraska Act from 1854 because it provided that the region west of Iowa and Missouri should be divided into two new territories, Nebraska and Kansas. The question of whether or not slavery should exist in the new territories was left to the future decision of the people living there. This bill repealed the Missouri Compromise of 1820 that had set the 36°30' parallel from the Mississippi River to the Rocky Mountains as the dividing line between free and slave territory. Both Kansas and Nebraska were north of this line and had been closed to slavery, but now because of this act they were open to slavery. However, the results of the Kansas-Nebraska Act were disastrous. Nullification of the Missouri Compromise was criticized in the North as violating an agreement. On the contrary, the South continued to demand that the North

¹¹ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 327-328.

¹² Martin Kelly, "Compromise of 1850", About.com: American History, <http://americanhistory.about.com/od/beforethewar/g/compromise1850.htm>.

¹³ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 328-329.

¹⁴ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 333.

recognize the rights of slaveholders in the territories of the United States. The struggle between the proslavery South and antislavery North began to resemble a civil war.¹⁵

1.1.1.3 The Dred Scott Decision, 1857

Two years after the Kansas-Nebraska Act, the Whig Party had broken up and split between proslavery Whigs of the South and antislavery Whigs of the North. In the presidential election of 1856, two new political parties were created. The first one, the American Party tried to divert attention from slavery by whipping up feeling against immigrants. The second one, the Republicans favored “*free soil*” or keeping slavery out of the territories. Meanwhile, another political party called the Democrats tried to avoid the slavery issue. To balance the fact that Southerners dominated the party, the nomination went to a Northerner, James Buchanan of Pennsylvania. Democrats finally won the election and James Buchanan became a president. He suggested that the question of slavery in the territories would be settled by the Supreme Court. He knew that the Court soon solved the problem of slavery in the case of Dred Scott.¹⁶

Dred Scott was a slave whose master had taken from the state of Missouri to the free state of Illinois and the Wisconsin territory, which was closed to slavery by the Missouri Compromise. After his return to Missouri, Scott sued for his freedom. He claimed that residence in a free territory released him from slavery, but the Court’s opinion was that it had not given Scott his freedom. Furthermore, Chief Justice Roger Taney claimed that Scott could not sue in a federal court because black Americans were not citizens. The Court further ruled that the Missouri Compromise was unconstitutional because Congress had no right to prohibit slavery in the territories. Instead of settling the slavery dispute, the Dred Scott decision made it worse than before. Northerners disagreed with the Supreme Court’s decision and they were angry when the Court decided free soil as unconstitutional. The Dred Scott decision, supported in the South, was flatly opposed by the Republicans that had dominating position in the North.¹⁷

¹⁵ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 342.

¹⁶ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 343.

¹⁷ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 343.

1.1.2 Secession of the South

Events such as protest over the Fugitive Slave Law or violence in Kansas caused increasing tension between the North and the South and actually pulled them apart. Southerners were afraid of the growing strength of the abolitionist movement in the North that wanted to abolish slavery. Northerners, by contrast, were afraid of the Southern attempts to spread slavery all over the nation. In the presidential election of 1860, the issue of slavery split the Democrats up in the territories. A Northern side of the Democratic Party, supporting popular sovereignty, nominated Stephen Douglas while a Southern side, supporting the Dred Scott decision, nominated John C. Breckinridge of Kentucky. Another group, the Constitutional Union Party consisted of former Whigs, nominated John Bell of Tennessee and tried to dodge the slavery issue. The Republican Party was closer to the victory in this election because of huge disparities among their opponents. In choosing a suitable candidate, the Republicans nominated Abraham Lincoln. They tried to play down the slavery issue. Consequently, Southerners threatened to secede if Lincoln was elected. The election turned out to Republicans and Lincoln won them. The Republican victory caused a great alarm in the Deep South, where leadership passed to extremists so called “fire-eaters”. They considered Lincoln as a reckless leader of the abolitionists and predicted that his election meant abolition and slavery uprising. South Carolina had declared it would secede from the Union if Lincoln was elected. Soon after the election, it did so. During the four-month interval between Lincoln’s election and his inauguration, six other states of the Deep South, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Georgia, Florida, and Texas, seceded.¹⁸

After the firing on Fort Sumter and Lincoln's call for volunteers to suppress the rebellion, the other slave states of Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Arkansas joined the Confederacy. The border slave states of Delaware, Maryland, Kentucky, and Missouri remained not entirely voluntarily in the Union. Their secession was based on the theory of states’ rights.¹⁹

¹⁸ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 344-346.

Map 1: Secession of Southern States²⁰

1.1.2.1 State Rights

Even though slavery played a significant role in secession it was not the only one. The primary cause for secession was also based on the idea of state rights. This caused that the individual states would have greater power than the states of the Federal government.²¹ States of a Deep South that seceded said that it was a contract between sovereign states. The Free states had broken the contract by refusing the Fugitive Slave Law along with equal rights of the Southern states in the territories. Therefore, the Southern states were allowed to separate from the nation and form the Confederate States of America.²² During

¹⁹ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 344-346.

²⁰ Maps.com, "Secession of Southern States Map 1861", Maps.com 2008, http://www.maps.com/ref_map.aspx?pid=11327#.

²¹ Civilwarhome.com, "States' Rights", Civilwarhome.com, <http://www.civilwarhome.com/staterights.htm>.

²² See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 346.

the war, the principle of state rights, sense of state loyalty, reappeared in the Confederacy. To be independent, the Confederacy needed a strong government, but its statesmen were not willing to allow the Confederate government greater power than had the Federal government. They rejected efforts that made Jefferson Davis like controlling blockade running or impressing slaves and other property. The greatest deniers of these efforts were Georgia and North Carolina, but practically all the states could express their opposition to such measures. Actually, none of the states ever came close to seceding from the Confederacy and most of them avoided the state rights throughout the war. From the historical point of view, opinions on states rights as a primary cause of the Southern defeat differed from each other. Some people said that the effects of state rights were not as big as everybody expected and it was just a symbol of fundamental grievances. Others claimed it was an asset rather than a commitment to the Confederacy and even one writer suggested that these words should be written on the Confederacy's tombstone: "*Died of State Rights.*"²³

1.2 Differences between the North and the South

Just before the Civil War broke out, the U.S. was clearly divided between the proslavery South and the antislavery North. The southern states, which were agricultural, felt slavery was necessary, while people living in the industrial north felt it should be abolished in every state.²⁴

Geographically, the North and the South were very different places. Southern lands were perfect for cotton growing and the invention of Eli Whitney's Cotton Gin caused that the South became increasingly dependent on this crop. This contrasted with the North that had always been an industrious society. The North produced steel and iron while the South mainly produced cotton. There were two very distinct economies that were part of the country. The economy of the South was based on agriculture and was dependent on slave labor while the Northern economy was based on industry, was centered around technology

²³ Civilwarhome.com, "States' Rights", Civilwarhome.com, <http://www.civilwarhome.com/statesrights.htm>.

²⁴ Janet Grischy, "The economic and social differences between the north and the south as a cause of the Civil War", Helium.com, <http://www.helium.com/items/1563428-the-economic-and-social-differences-between-the-north-and-the-south-as-a-cause-of-the-civil-war>.

and manufacturing and did not need slave labor to keep their economy running.²⁵ The Union had also many advantages over the Confederate States. They had larger population, stronger economy, professional military and most of the factories were in the North.²⁶ Considering the North's rapid industrial growth, an abundant supply of labor was needed. Northern workers had long tradition in social organization and they were willing to move from place to place. Furthermore, their numbers were increased by immigrants from Europe who came to America because they wanted to be free and equal.²⁷

Nevertheless, not all immigrants came to the United States voluntarily. For instance, some cities in Germany and England sent their poor to the United States rather than to keep them in poorhouses or jails. The others came to America because they believed they find a better life. Several states established immigration agencies in Europe and tried to attract immigrants by such offers as the right to vote even before the foreigners became naturalized citizens. In spite of the fact that America was represented as a symbol of freedom and equality, the move to this country was difficult and dangerous. For example, immigrants were packed together so horribly that almost 10 percent died from malnutrition and disease. Furthermore, it was hard to find a job and a place to live. In addition to this, many Americans did not like immigrants because of their different religions, languages and customs. Despite of these early problems, immigrants were accepted by Americans and some aspects of their cultures blended into the American one and produced rich and varied heritage.²⁸

Another group of people in the North who had problems with American prejudice were black Americans. Northern blacks could not vote, work in public office, do skilled professions and their children could only attend segregated schools. At the beginning of the war, black Northerners as well as the blacks in the South were still considered as second-class citizens.²⁹

²⁵ Janet Grischy, "The economic and social differences between the north and the south as a cause of the Civil War", Helium.com, <http://www.helium.com/items/1563428-the-economic-and-social-differences-between-the-north-and-the-south-as-a-cause-of-the-civil-war>.

²⁶ Michael W. O'Brien, "Understanding the Civil War", scribd.com 2008, <http://www.scribd.com/doc/7871223/Understanding-the-Civil-War#about>, 10.

²⁷ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 336.

²⁸ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 336-337.

²⁹ See Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 337.

Based on information from several sources the most feature that set the South apart from the North was the institution of slavery.³⁰

1.3 Conclusion

In my opinion, the history of the American Civil War is very important for an understanding of the events that caused the conflict between the North and the South. So, in this chapter I have decided to describe the causes like slavery or secession that led to the war as well as the differences that separate the South from the North.

It is also necessary to mention that the conflict between the North and the South had existed even before the American Civil War began and its outbreak I think was just a result of their disagreements with the issue of slavery that later led to the sectional differences between them.

³⁰ See Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 338.

2 THE SOUTH

The second part of the thesis will focus on the description of the South. It will show southern advantages in the war as well as its disadvantages like the issue of slavery that was an integral part of the Southern society.

As it was already mentioned in the first chapter, the South was mainly relied on agriculture and cotton production which has been very profitable at that time. Therefore the Southern region was called the “*Land of Cotton*”. When Britain’s textile machinery had become efficient, it was impossible to keep up with the demand for raw cotton. Meeting this demand brought prosperity to the Deep South and cotton production rapidly increased. As a result of this success, seven-eighths of the world’s supply of cotton came from the United States and raw cotton made up free-fifths of the nation’s exports. Another great increase in the South was noticed in tobacco growing because of finding a new method of curing this product. Despite the fact that the South used most of its capital and labor force for growing staples, it was not enough as compared with the industrial boom of the North. This resulted from a protective tariff, internal improvements at federal expense and free land for homesteaders.³¹

After the presidential election of 1860, when Abraham Lincoln was elected President, the South divided into three basic regions. The first one called the Lower South consisted of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina and Texas, had the largest population of slaves and was the most committed to the issue of slavery. The second region called the Middle South consisted of Arkansas, North Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia, inclined towards secession and the third one was Border South represented by Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland and West Virginia. In this region slavery was legal, but less common.³²

2.1 Early Successes

When the state of Virginia seceded, the Union capital of Washington, D.C., was put in perilous position. On one side was the Confederate state of Virginia and the slaveholding

³¹ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 337-338.

³² Michael W. O’Brien, “Understanding the Civil War”, scribd.com 2008, <http://www.scribd.com/doc/7871223/Understanding-the-Civil-War#about>, 9.

state of Maryland, where many people sympathized with the Confederacy, was on the other one. In 1861, when the first Northern troops tried to defend Washington, they were attacked by an angry crowd of people in Baltimore. After other attacks on the city, President Lincoln worried that Washington would be cut off from the Union. As a result, a circle of forts were built around the city because of protection.³³

At the same, the Confederates moved their capital from Montgomery to Richmond. Unfortunately, from a military point of view, this could be the mistake because Richmond was close to northern border of the Confederacy thus easily attacked. On the other hand, the Confederate government in Richmond was close to the fighting and could better control it. The success of the Confederate armies there was remarkable. They repelled following invasions of the Union and prevented the Confederate capital from the fall. These Southern victories would not have happened if it were not for General Robert E. Lee and General Thomas J. “Stonewall” Jackson who knew the land, were able to move their armies and encourage them. Although the Confederate armies were not as large as the Union ones, the South achieved success and defeated the North at the Battle of Bull Run in 1861, at the Second Battle of Bull Run in 1862 and at Chancellorsville in 1863.³⁴

2.1.1 The Battle of Bull Run, 1861

The Union strategy against the Confederacy was to destroy it economically by blockade and invading and cutting it in two, but this would take time and Northern politicians wanted a quick and dramatic military victory. As a result, the Union army was not well prepared for the first major battle of the Civil War.³⁵ On July 21, 1861 a Union army began to move toward Confederate troops that were grouped southwest of Washington, D.C. The battle known as First Bull Run was named after a small river in Virginia and seemed to be successful for the North, but the Confederate troops were better able to reinforce at critical moments and tired Union army retreated and back to Washington. The First Battle of Bull Run ended in overwhelming victory for the South³⁶ Defeat at Bull Run made the Union army reorganize its troops and tried to train and supply them more

³³ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 355.

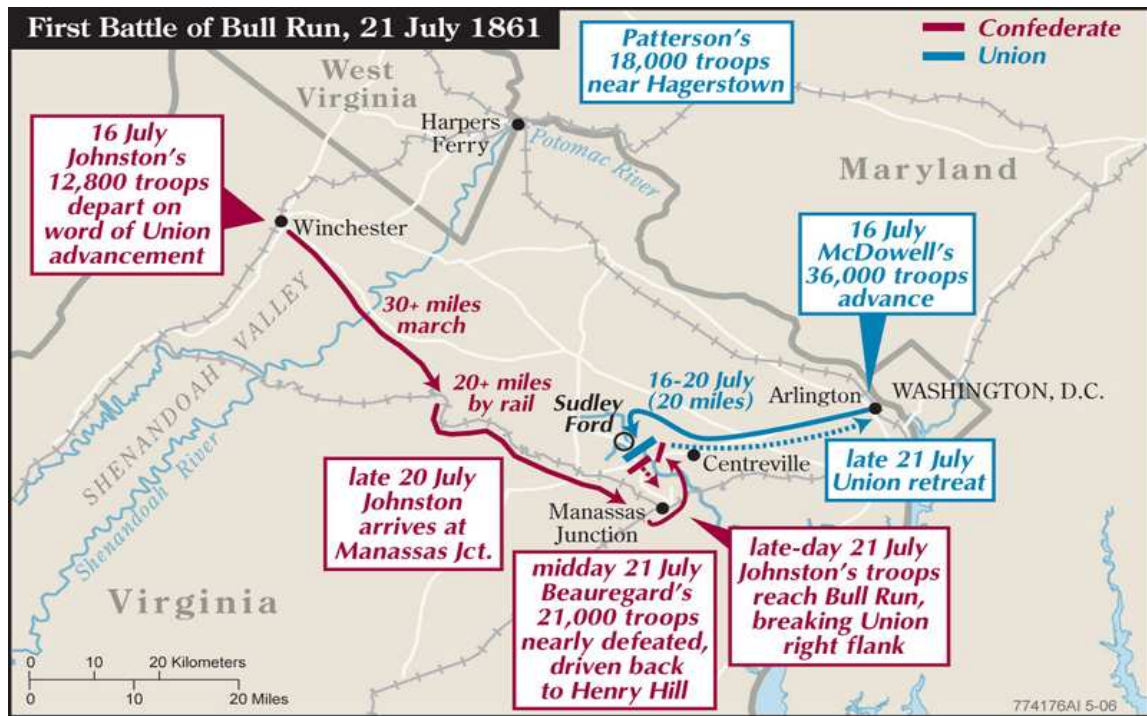
³⁴ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 355.

³⁵ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 356.

³⁶ History World, “Major Civil War Battles”, [history-world.org](http://history-world.org/some_major_civil_war_battles.htm), http://history-world.org/some_major_civil_war_battles.htm.

properly. But any other Union attempts to take Richmond were unsuccessful.³⁷ After several eastern victories of the South, Lincoln and his generals realized that the war would be longer than they expected.³⁸

Map 2: First Battle of Bull Run³⁹



2.2 The Political War in the South

The central figure in the political war in the South was Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States of America.⁴⁰ Although he was President of the Confederacy, he came from the North. Davis was born in Kentucky so he came from the same country as Abraham Lincoln. Unlike Lincoln, Davis believed his success lay in the South and moved to Mississippi where he attended a Catholic High school.⁴¹ After finishing the school, Davis was educated at an official military academy, West Point that provided many great

³⁷ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 356.

³⁸ History World, "Major Civil War Battles", [history-world.org](http://history-world.org/some_major_civil_war_battles.htm), http://history-world.org/some_major_civil_war_battles.htm.

³⁹ Wikispaces.com, "The Civil War: The First Battle of Bull Run", [wikispaces.com](http://os8thsoth.wikispaces.com/The+Civil+War), <http://os8thsoth.wikispaces.com/The+Civil+War>.

⁴⁰ Michael W. O'Brien, "Understanding the Civil War", [scribd.com](http://www.scribd.com/doc/7871223/Understanding-the-Civil-War#about) 2008, <http://www.scribd.com/doc/7871223/Understanding-the-Civil-War#about>, 49.

⁴¹ See, Brož, *Hvězdy proti hvězdám: Americká občanská válka, 1861-1865*, 31-32.

military leaders, and became a professional soldier as second lieutenant.⁴² When South Carolina seceded the Union he held the office as a senator of Mississippi.⁴³

To fight an effective war, the South needed to form a strong union among the Southern states, but this was exactly what they were fighting against. States rights were written into the Confederate constitution and made it difficult for a central authority to prosecute a war. Southern governors would often oppose the war effort. The great problem of the Confederacy was the fact that there were no political parties during the war. The Confederate Congress in Richmond was ineffective and was not able to raise taxes and form economic policy in the South. Therefore, the Confederate States of America had never had political power under control of a single authority.⁴⁴

After an outbreak of the war, the economic problems in the South were enormous and the Confederacy realized that they had to do some changes. As a result, Southerners set up factories producing gun powder mills and foundries for casting cannon as well as guns and munitions. Nevertheless, they were not able to supply uniforms and shoes to their troops. Southern farmers had to change their production from cotton to food production, because food became very important. It was difficult to get supply of food where it was needed because almost all of the wagons and draft animals were already in the army. Furthermore, the blockade of Southern ports made everything more difficult and also Jefferson Davis and his Congress did not do enough for making the Southern economy better. They paid for the war through taxes and loans, but this solution was not successful and they were forced to printing more money. All in all, it led to runaway inflation.⁴⁵

During the war the issue of slavery also changed. Slaves were less overseen and did less work. More slaves worked off their debt in war production or army work. It caused weakening of a slavery system. The Confederacy had to deal with entire lack of men for its armies because Southerners were reluctant to fight, so they began to draft men into military service. However, the exceptions existed and wealthy Southerners did not have to fight if

⁴² Hugh Brogan, *The Pelican History of the United States of America* (Toronto, Penguin Books Canada Limited, 1986), 325.

⁴³ Michael W. O'Brien, "Understanding the Civil War", scribd.com 2008, <http://www.scribd.com/doc/7871223/Understanding-the-Civil-War#about>, 49.

⁴⁴ Michael W. O'Brien, "Understanding the Civil War", scribd.com 2008, <http://www.scribd.com/doc/7871223/Understanding-the-Civil-War#about>, 50.

⁴⁵ Michael W. O'Brien, "Understanding the Civil War", scribd.com 2008, <http://www.scribd.com/doc/7871223/Understanding-the-Civil-War#about>, 50.

they pay substitutes. Planters who owned 20 slaves or more did not have to fight as well. This draft caused more enemies of Jefferson Davis and they used it as a weapon against him. The fact that Southern politicians were not able to work together for independence, became one of the main reasons the South lost the war. Despite all of these disagreements, the Confederacy finally made out large and eligible army.⁴⁶

Picture 1: Jefferson Davis: President of the Confederate States of America⁴⁷



2.3 The Institution of Slavery and Southern Defense

Slavery in nineteenth century was seen as a survival. It had begun as a device that should have secure cheap labour and slavery as a regime of cheap labour was nothing abnormal. It is necessary to say that for the blacks, slavery was a regime of sorrow, degradation and frustration. Furthermore, they were often whipped to work and work from morning till evening for no pay or for food. Slaves without wages had to accept such clothing and food as their masters gave to them. Their clothes and shoes were often of cheapest and poorest manufacture and the quantity of them were not enough so most of the slaves were dirty and barefoot. In general, masters cared only about production and profit so no wonder the slaves were over-worked.⁴⁸

⁴⁶ Michael W. O'Brien, "Understanding the Civil War", scribd.com 2008, <http://www.scribd.com/doc/7871223/Understanding-the-Civil-War#about>, 51.

⁴⁷ American Civil War, "Jefferson Davis 1808-1889: President of the Confederate States of America", <http://americancivilwar.com/south/jeffdavi.html>.

⁴⁸ See, Brogan, *The Pelican History of the United States of America*, 288-290.

Despite these hardships, nobody cared about slaves' lives. Slave-owners could do anything to them, because they were threatened by no punishment. They saw them as items they could buy on the market. Many slave-owners cared about them badly, but this caused that the slaves did bad work on plantations. On the other hand, those owners who treated their slaves well could expect good work from them. It is also necessary to point out that lots of slaves' families were split up because they were sold and had to go to different plantations to work. Moreover, Southerners made laws that should keep the slaves under control. The slaves could not go outside after dark, gather in groups of three and more, own weapon, learn to read and write etc. These cruelties caused the slaves more and more wanted freedom and equality.⁴⁹ Based on the information from several sources, slavery was an evil that separated the Southern society from the rest of the United States, not to mention Europe.⁵⁰

To support their way of life, Southerners developed a defense of slavery. They tried to prove Calhoun's assertion that slavery was, "*instead of evil, a positive good.*"⁵¹ For better understanding, John C. Calhoun was southern intellectual and politician who developed two-point defense of slavery. The first one was a theory that the rights of the minorities especially the South, needed special protection in the federal union. The second one was an argument that the institution of slavery should be prosperity for all involved.⁵² Southerners also claimed that the slave working in plantation was "*as happy as a human being can be.*" The proslavery argument insisted that slavery was good because slaves were provided for and taken care of. Defenders in the South argued that slavery was better than the unemployment or poverty that workers had to face in the North. In addition, they tried to use arguments from science and the Bible to show that slavery was acceptable. According to Calhoun, southern society was not divided into the rich and poor but into the white and black and all the former, the poor as well as the rich, belonged to the upper classes and were respected and treated as such. Actually, the institution of slavery gave every white

⁴⁹ ThinkQuest, "Life of a Slave", Novi Meadows Elementary 2002, http://library.thinkquest.org/CR0215469/life_of_a_slave.htm.

⁵⁰ See, Brogan, *The Pelican History of the United States of America*, 296.

⁵¹ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 339.

⁵² Ethan S. Rafuse, "John C. Calhoun: He Started the Civil War", HistoryNet.com 2002, <http://www.historynet.com/john-c-calhoun-he-started-the-civil-war.htm>.

Southerner a certain status and every white person in the South knew that every black person had lower status than the white.⁵³

Map 3: Slave Populations in the Southern States⁵⁴



2.4 Southern Advantages and disadvantages

Another important issue I would like to mention will be pros and cons of the South. In the Civil War the Confederacy had several advantages on its side. First of all, Southerners were fighting for independence on their home soil. It was easier for them to defend their way of life because majority of war was fought in the South so the Confederate army knew the terrain and could better take this advantage for its benefit.⁵⁵

Since the South was an agricultural nation with poor communications and few big cities, it could not be threatened by an attack on vital centers.⁵⁶ Despite smaller population and thus smaller army, the Southern army received help from its civilians who spied on the

⁵³ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 339-340.

⁵⁴ Slavery in America, "Slave Population in the Southern States c.1860", Slavery in America, http://www.slaveryinamerica.org/geography/slave_census_1860.htm.

⁵⁵ The US Civil War, "Causes of the Civil War", Elements of the Civil War, <http://theuscivilwar.tripod.com/causes.html>.

⁵⁶ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 351.

enemy and knew the land better than the North.⁵⁷ Southern generals could wait for the enemy to invade their soil and then choose the right time for their counterattack.⁵⁸ It is necessary to say that incredible generals were another southern advantage and much of these officers, including Jefferson Davis, graduated at well-known military academy, West Point and had army experience.⁵⁹ Furthermore, some of the top officers in the United States Army and Navy resigned their commission to fight for the Confederacy, for example, General Robert E. Lee of Virginia. He opposed the secession, but when Virginia left the Union, he resigned from the army. After he refused Lincoln's offer to lead the Union army, Lee took command of the Confederate forces in Virginia.⁶⁰

Nevertheless, the Confederacy was not able to supply such experienced troops by guns, munitions and other equipment because it was less industrialized and mainly agrarian. Another significant disadvantage of the Confederate State of America was newly established government that was afraid of imposing too much power on the people.⁶¹ The formation of the Confederacy had stirred Southern nationalism and the South became a nation that fought and died for its independence. White Southerners believed in slavery as an economic and social system and felt they were fighting to preserve their way of life.⁶²

2.5 Southern War Financing

To begin with, the Confederacy was less able to finance the war than was the Union so the South wanted to obtain some money by selling cotton in Europe.⁶³ In the antebellum period, the South had one of the lightest tax burdens of all contemporary civilizations. All obligations were assessed by local or state governments. Confederate government, on the other hand, did not have required infrastructure to collect internal taxes. Besides this, land as well slaves comprised the essential part of southern capital and mintage or paper money was not easy to use in this agricultural region. The Confederacy tried to raise war revenue

⁵⁷ The US Civil War, "Causes of the Civil War", Elements of the Civil War, <http://theuscivilwar.tripod.com/causes.html>.

⁵⁸ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 351.

⁵⁹ The US Civil War, "Causes of the Civil War", Elements of the Civil War, <http://theuscivilwar.tripod.com/causes.html>.

⁶⁰ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 351-352.

⁶¹ The US Civil War, "Causes of the Civil War", Elements of the Civil War, <http://theuscivilwar.tripod.com/causes.html>.

⁶² See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 351.

by several method of taxation, but they were not effective at all. As a result, the Confederate Congress enacted a minor tariff. Unfortunately, this solution brought only 3.5 million dollars in four years so the Congress implemented a small direct tax on real and personal property.⁶⁴

At the beginning of the war, the Confederacy had to pay for its war debts, so the administration of Jefferson Davis' decided to pay by loans. In 1861, the Treasury in the South earned about 15 million dollar by selling out their bond issue. Few Southerners had the cash and wanted to purchase them, but 12% inflation rate that year did not promise them any real financial return.⁶⁵ To raise money, the Confederacy enacted an income tax and requested of 10% of all produced crops. However, printed money was the most successful way the Confederate government as well as Southern state government could raise more money to pay its bills. They issued billions of dollars in paper money that later became worthless.⁶⁶ The Confederate government in its first function year derived 75% of its total revenue from Treasury notes, 25% from bonds and 2% from taxes. The Treasury refused establishing the notes as a compulsory legal tender and hoped that the confidence in the currency undermining will not be threatened. They also hoped that the public confidence in the Confederacy's survival gave support to the currency. It is also necessary to mention that the notes should be redeemable in specie at face value within two years of the end of the Civil War.⁶⁷

The irony is that decision of the Confederacy to use paper money instead of a system of internal taxation caused regressive taxation and the southern society had to face runaway inflation that appeared in consequence of military reversals in 1862. Due to accumulation of war debts the tax law which stopped the census based on apportionment of direct taxes and imposed a 5% levy on land and slaves, was revised. Unfortunately these changes came too late in order to influence the Southern war effort.⁶⁸

⁶³ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 365.

⁶⁴ Tax Analysts, "The Civil War 1861-1865: Confederate War Financing", Tax History Museum 1997-2006, <http://www.taxanalysts.com/Museum/1861-1865.htm>.

⁶⁵ Tax Analysts, "The Civil War 1861-1865: Confederate War Financing", Tax History Museum 1997-2006, <http://www.taxanalysts.com/Museum/1861-1865.htm>.

⁶⁶ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 365.

⁶⁷ Tax Analysts, "The Civil War 1861-1865: Confederate War Financing", Tax History Museum 1997-2006, <http://www.taxanalysts.com/Museum/1861-1865.htm>.

⁶⁸ Tax Analysts, "The Civil War 1861-1865: Confederate War Financing", Tax History Museum 1997-2006, <http://www.taxanalysts.com/Museum/1861-1865.htm>.

Picture 2: A Confederate Bond⁶⁹

2.6 Conclusion

To conclude this part of the bachelor thesis, I would like to summarize the main points that were described there. First of all, I wanted to show how the South looked like after the presidential election of 1860 when Abraham Lincoln became President of the United States of America. Then I concentrated on the early successes the Confederacy made at the beginning of the war especially the First Battle of Bull Run in 1861 that showed the Confederate army was well prepared for the war than the Union. Among other victories of the South belonged the Second Battle of Bull Run and the Battle at Chancellorsville. Despite these victories, it was obvious that the struggle between the North and the South would be longer than everybody expected.

Further, I decided to mention something about politics, the Confederate government and Jefferson Davis as President of the Confederate States of America because they played the important role in the Civil War as well as the problem of slavery in the following part. The institution of slavery I paid a special attention in this chapter should not be omitted because it belonged to the major causes of the secession and it significantly affected the war itself. To better understanding the Southern successes and losses it was necessary to mention its pros and cons. The last part of second chapter focused on the southern ability to finance the war effort.

⁶⁹ Tax Analysts, "The Civil War 1861-1865: Confederate War Financing", Tax History Museum 1997-2006, <http://www.taxanalysts.com/Museum/1861-1865.htm>.

3 THE NORTH

In the third part of the bachelor thesis I will concentrate on describing the North and its strengths and weaknesses that were important for winning the war. Further, an economic issue and opposition to slavery will be mentioned.

When the Civil War began the North as well as the South had certain advantages that increased their chances for winning the war. The North had a larger population thus larger army and navy and a stronger industrialized market economy than the South. The population of 22 million Northerners giving the Union greater manpower than the South had. Besides this, 80% of the countries bank deposits were in the North. Even though the Union army had only 16,000 men at the beginning of the war, the North was able to build a professional and larger army. To win the war, the North had to attack the Southern soil and fight harder because Southerners protected their homes at any cost.⁷⁰

The Civil war was the first modern war because it used new technology such as railroads, ironclad ships or telegraph lines.⁷¹ The Northern railroad system was a great advantage because supplies and equipment for the war were moved faster to the Union troops. In addition, the Northern navy became larger and the Union used naval power to blockade Southern ports. Even though the blockade was ineffective at the beginning, it had later a significant effect on the Southern war effort. Furthermore, the development of the ironclad ships made better use of the waterways and these ironclads played an important role in Northern successes.⁷²

By contrast, the South was not able to build ships thus it could not move its army by sea and attack the Union one. The ability to build ships showed that the economy of the North was stronger than the economy of the Southern states. At that time, political pressure began to grow in the North for the army to do something about the rebels to the South.⁷³

⁷⁰ Michael W. O'Brien, "Understanding the Civil War", scribd.com 2008, <http://www.scribd.com/doc/7871223/Understanding-the-Civil-War#about>, 10-11.

⁷¹ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 351.

⁷² Michael W. O'Brien, "Understanding the Civil War", scribd.com 2008, <http://www.scribd.com/doc/7871223/Understanding-the-Civil-War#about>, 11-12.

⁷³ Michael W. O'Brien, "Understanding the Civil War", scribd.com 2008, <http://www.scribd.com/doc/7871223/Understanding-the-Civil-War#about>, 12.

3.1 Political war in the North

Sooner than we examine the political situation in the North, we will look closely on the role of President of the United States of America and central political figure during the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln.

Honest Abe, the most common nickname for Abraham Lincoln, was born in Kentucky, but his family moved to Illinois.⁷⁴ Lincoln's career was not clear at the beginning of his life and he worked as a woodcutter, boatman or postmaster. Finally, he became a successful lawyer in Illinois.⁷⁵ He came to the Northern attention when he ran against Stephen Douglas for Senator. Although he lost this election, Lincoln gained a national reputation that helped him in the presidential election of 1860 where he won as a Republican candidate and become President of the United States of America.⁷⁶

It is necessary to point out that Lincoln at the beginning of his political career was not well known and people hardly believed that he will be able to lead the falling country. In spite of scepticism Lincoln had the ability to work with difficult people. He formed a cabinet of capable people who would effectively run the country. Abraham Lincoln was not a military man like his Southern counterpart Jefferson Davis, but he learned a lot from his military advisors. His first major challenge as President was to keep as many slave states as possible from secession. He knew that the main cause of the war was slavery.⁷⁷ Although he regarded slavery as a moral wrong and disaster for both black and white Americans, Lincoln was not an abolitionist. He said that he did not want to interfere with the institution of slavery. Lincoln opposed only the expansion of slavery into the territories where it existed. He proclaimed that he just wanted to save the Union no either to save or destroy slavery.⁷⁸

For the first year of the war, Lincoln insisted that he had no intention of interfering with slavery where it existed. He wanted to do everything possible to win the loyalty of the Border States. Because of his political steps, Lincoln kept border slave states from the

⁷⁴ Robert Laurence, "Abraham Lincoln: Honest Abe", All About Stuff 2004-2008, http://www.allaboutstuff.com/Biographies/Abraham_Lincoln_Honest_Abe.asp.

⁷⁵ See, Brož, *Hvězdy proti hvězdám: Americká občanská válka, 1861-1865*, 24.

⁷⁶ American Civil War, "Abraham Lincoln: Sixteenth President 1861-1865", US National Park Service, http://americancivilwar.com/north/abe_lincoln.html.

⁷⁷ Michael W. O'Brien, "Understanding the Civil War", scribd.com 2008, <http://www.scribd.com/doc/7871223/Understanding-the-Civil-War#about>, 46.

⁷⁸ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 369.

rebellion. Lincoln's greatest opposition came from the "*Peace democrats*", also known as Copperheads, a group of Northerners who wanted to let the South in peace. The leader of this group was Clement Vallandigham who served in the United States Senate and ran for Governor of Ohio in 1863. During his campaign, he openly instigated Union soldiers to desert the army. Considering this offence, Vallandigham was arrested and convicted of sedition.⁷⁹

Afraid of political implications that could follow, Lincoln had released him from prison and expelled to the South. In the North, the number of War Democrats was equal and Peace as well as War Democrats had the same opinion on their opposition to freeing the slaves.⁸⁰ Lincoln realized that the issue of slavery divided the North and Northerners would not be willing to fight only to free the slaves. Moreover, he was pressed by abolitionists, known as Radical Republicans, to free the slaves.⁸¹

Plenty of volunteers that join the Union army at the beginning were less willing to fight as the war dragged on. As a result, Lincoln decided to institute a draft. This solution could help wealthy men to avoid military service in case of paying a substitute to fight. Many Northern men did not want to fight to free black slaves because they feared that these slaves would take their jobs. Although Lincoln knew that slavery was the major issue behind the war, he downplayed its importance. In addition he knew that the Border States in the South as well as the Northern states would not be willing to fight a war just because of freeing the slaves. Following happenings on the battlefields at Antietam, Gettysburg and Vicksburg forced him to change his mind.⁸²

In 1863, Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation which freed all of the slaves in the rebel territories. In many ways, the Civil War looked like class conflict in England. The North sat for elected government, equal rights and free labor. Issuance of the Emancipation

⁷⁹ Michael W. O'Brien, "Understanding the Civil War", scribd.com 2008, <http://www.scribd.com/doc/7871223/Understanding-the-Civil-War#about>, 46-47.

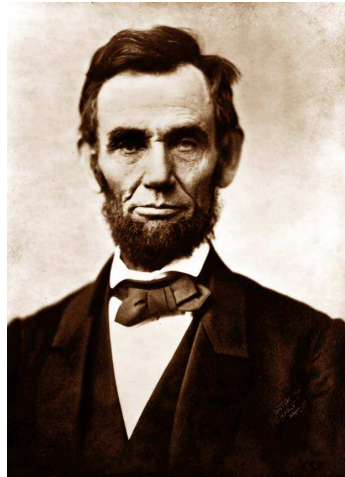
⁸⁰ Michael W. O'Brien, "Understanding the Civil War", scribd.com 2008, <http://www.scribd.com/doc/7871223/Understanding-the-Civil-War#about>, 46-47.

⁸¹ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 369.

⁸² Michael W. O'Brien, "Understanding the Civil War", scribd.com 2008, <http://www.scribd.com/doc/7871223/Understanding-the-Civil-War#about>, 47-48.

Proclamation caused that Europe denied support the South. It also opened the door for black soldiers who represented 10% of the Union fighting force.⁸³

Picture 3: Abraham Lincoln Portrait⁸⁴



3.1.1 The Emancipation Proclamation, 1863

As it was mentioned in the previous part, Lincoln held the view that the struggle based on the idea of saving the Union was a test that should show the power of national democracy. Lincoln also figured out that the North had different opinions on the issue of slavery and would not fight a war only to free the slaves.⁸⁵

Not only in the South, but also in the North was hostility against black citizens and laws limited their rights. Lincoln decided to suggest a policy of gradual emancipation and of paying such slave-owners whose slaves were freed. He also wanted to colonize freed slaves in South America and Africa, but none of these policies satisfied the Radical Republicans requiring freedom and equality for black Americans. Abolitionists also believed that the war was worth fighting only if it destroyed slavery. Among other strong reason for emancipation was the need to win foreign support because no European government would presume to help the Confederacy if the North was fighting to abolish slavery. Considering all these reasons, Lincoln decided to change his policy and issued the Emancipation

⁸³ Michael W. O'Brien, "Understanding the Civil War", scribd.com 2008, <http://www.scribd.com/doc/7871223/Understanding-the-Civil-War#about>, 48.

⁸⁴ Son of the South, "Pictures of Abraham Lincoln: Abraham Lincoln Portrait", Son of the South, <http://www.sonofthesouth.net/slavery/abraham-lincoln/abraham-lincoln-pictures.htm>.

Proclamation which freed all the slaves in rebellious areas.⁸⁶ Nevertheless, the Emancipation Proclamation actually freed only few people because it did not apply to slaves in Border States that were fighting on the Union side.⁸⁷ It applied only to slaves in areas behind Confederate lines, where Lincoln was less able to enforce the proclamation.⁸⁸ Even though the Emancipation Proclamation did not end slavery in the nation, it considerably changed the character of the war and caused that the blacks were allowed to join the Union armies to fight for their freedom. According to this, almost 200,000 black soldiers had fought in the Civil War for the Union.⁸⁹

3.2 Union Successes

In this part called Union Successes I will concentrate on the Union victories in the west and briefly mention the most important struggle the Battle of Gettysburg that turned the advantage on the Northern side and influenced an effect of the war itself.

Sooner than we examine the Battle of Gettysburg itself, we will look at the situation before this struggle. Although Southern armies were more successful in the East, the North, by contrast, was successful in the western territories. General Robert E. Lee made two attempts to attack the North, but he failed and his army turned back in a campaign ended in Antietam.⁹⁰ The Battle of Antietam was the bloodiest one-day battle of the American Civil War because more than 22,000 Union and Confederate soldiers were killed there. Due to this fact Lee was not able to continue his campaign against the North and had to go back. The Union army had problems with finding suitable leadership for its army and after a several changes George Gordon Meade had become General of the Union Army. General Meade tried to strike a battle with Lee as soon as possible and Gettysburg seemed to be a good choice for it. On July 1, 1863 the Battle of Gettysburg broke out.⁹¹

⁸⁵ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 369.

⁸⁶ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 369.

⁸⁷ Douglass T. Miller, "By the President of the United States of America: A PROCLAMATION", National Public Telecomputing Network, <http://libertyonline.hypermall.com/Lincoln/emancipate.html>.

⁸⁸ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 369.

⁸⁹ U.S. National Archives & Records Administration, "Featured Documents: The Emancipation Proclamation", NARA, http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/featured_documents/emancipation_proclamation/

⁹⁰ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 357.

⁹¹ See, Křížek, *Americká občanská válka*, 29-31.

3.2.1 The Battle of Gettysburg, 1863

This clash between the Union and Confederate troops developed into a great three-day battle.⁹² Even before the battle started, the northern cities like Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington were afraid of attack from the Confederate Army led by General Lee which had crossed the Potomac River and drew nearer to Pennsylvania. The Union Army of the Potomac led by General Meade, followed Lee's army and wanted to stop them. After a fierce fighting and heavy casualties on both sides, the Union troops were forced to go to the high ground near cemetery. Lee enjoined Confederate General Ewell to take advantage of tired Union troops, but Ewell hesitated to do so. As a result the Union army had a chance to reinforce its troops and supply them more weapons and cannons. After the Union army increased its numbers and Meade strengthen his defensive position, the Confederate General James Longstreet drew Lee's attention to larger Union army and advised him to give it up. Nevertheless, Lee believed his army was unconquerable and decided to attack the defense of the Union troops at the southern part of Cemetery Ridge expecting smaller defense against aggression. Unfortunately, Lee was wrong.⁹³

Generals from both sides planned strategies for following days. General Meade decided to remain in place waiting for Lee's attack while General Longstreet tried to convince Lee not to attack such a strong position of the Union army, in vain again. Lee believed that the Union troops were tired and would collapse under one other attack. He was wrong again.⁹⁴ In the last day Lee decided to attack the center of Union troops in Cemetery Ridge.⁹⁵ Due to larger army, stronger position and sufficiency of munitions, the Union defeated the Confederacy in this battle.⁹⁶

After three days fighting, Union casualties numbered over 23,000 as compared with over 28,000 Confederate ones. Considering such heavy losses, Lee retreated back into Virginia.⁹⁷ On the same day, General Ulysses S. Grant celebrated his triumph on the

⁹² See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 357.

⁹³ The History Place, "Battle of Gettysburg", The History Place 1996, <http://www.historyplace.com/civilwar/battle.htm>.

⁹⁴ The History Place, "Battle of Gettysburg", The History Place 1996, <http://www.historyplace.com/civilwar/battle.htm>.

⁹⁵ American Civil War, "American Civil War Battle: Gettysburg Pennsylvania July 1-3 1863", Library of Congress, <http://americancivilwar.com/getty.html>.

⁹⁶ See, Křížek, *Americká občanská válka*, 31.

⁹⁷ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 357.

Mississippi River when capturing Vicksburg.⁹⁸ After the fall of Vicksburg, the Union controlled the entire Mississippi River and achieved its goal of cutting the South in two along the Mississippi.⁹⁹

3.3 The growing economy of the North

This part will focus on the growing economy of the North. According to historians the war was a major turning point in American economic history. All parts of the nation's economy like cotton planting, wheat farming, manufacturing, transportation were booming. A combination of factors influenced this economic development. Not only new inventions and sufficient capital for building new factories, but also an increasing number of business people willing to start new businesses were the most crucial factors of the northern economy. Among other factors affected the economy belonged supply of workers willing to move from place to place to take new jobs, an increasing agricultural productivity as well as a transportation system that connected urban and rural areas.¹⁰⁰

Despite the fact that almost two-thirds of Americans worked in agriculture, industry sector increased as well. As a result new inventions were coming. For example, the sewing machine that cut down the time for making shirt from over fourteenth hours to little more than one hour. Then the rotary press caused that newspapers could publish larger edition than ever before. In addition to these inventions, use of the telegraph helped building a line between Baltimore and Washington. Besides this, the development of older industries continued and the size of textile factories increased as well as steam engines became more efficient. The new techniques were applied to the mass production of farm machinery, sewing machines and many others. The U.S. had produce goods like mechanical butter churns, revolvers or alarm clocks that invaded world markets, for example in London.¹⁰¹

Not only industrial sector increased, but also agricultural productivity rapidly grew. The land in the Middle West attracted farmers from the Northeast and immigrants from Europe because it was very suitable for planting. To move goods like grain and meat to the markets the North had build new railroads which supplemented sailing ships on the Great Lakes

⁹⁸ See, Křížek, *Americká občanská válka*, 33.

⁹⁹ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 360.

¹⁰⁰ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 333.

¹⁰¹ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 333.

and the canal system. As a result the North sold more products abroad and started to build more ships as well as more railroads. Among the first successful use of the steam locomotive belonged South Carolina. Nevertheless, railroads did not become popular immediately because it was very difficult and expensive to build and maintain them. Finally all problems were solved and great expansion of railroads began.¹⁰²

3.4 Northern Advantages and Disadvantages

Another important issue I would like to mention was the advantages and disadvantages of the North. As it was already indicated in the first chapter, the North had larger population than the South which allowed them to build larger army and navy and hold many more troops in reserve.¹⁰³ It is necessary to point out that the Union army also profited from the destruction of slavery because lots of African Americans enlisted in the Union army to fight for freedom.¹⁰⁴ In addition, the North was better able to supply such armies because it produced more equipment and other things important for fighting. Moreover, the North had well established transportation so it could better and faster supply the Union troops and its naval advantage allowed the North to blockade Southern ports which caused the South was unable to supply its armies. Another great advantage of the North was long established government under Lincoln's control as compared with the government in the South that was new and created practically overnight.¹⁰⁵

Despite all of these advantages, the North had some disadvantages on its side. First of all, the Union army had to fight on foreign lands located in the South so the soldiers were not familiar with the terrain. Furthermore, the Union troops fought through invasion and did not have to defend their homeland which could cause less motivated soldiers. In addition to this, the Union generals were constantly pressured by Washington to fight.¹⁰⁶

Considering the pros and cons we could say that the North was superior in resources of every sort. It had more soldiers, more money, transportation facilities, food and factories

¹⁰² See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 333-335.

¹⁰³ Socyberty, "The Advantages and Disadvantages of the Both Sides During the Civil War", Socyberty 2008, <http://socyberty.com/history/the-advantages-and-disadvantages-of-the-both-sides-during-the-civil-war/>

¹⁰⁴ BookRags, "Abraham Lincoln vs. Jefferson Davis", BookRags Student Essays 2000-2006, <http://www.bookrags.com/essay-2005/5/6/174848/3459>.

¹⁰⁵ Socyberty, "The Advantages and Disadvantages of the Both Sides During the Civil War", Socyberty 2008, <http://socyberty.com/history/the-advantages-and-disadvantages-of-the-both-sides-during-the-civil-war/>

¹⁰⁶ The US Civil War, "Causes of the Civil War", Elements of the Civil War, <http://theuscivilwar.tripod.com/causes.html>.

and its government was well established than the Southern one. Due to these factors the North had a greater chance to win.¹⁰⁷

3.5 Opposition to Slavery in the North

Other subject of my interest will be the issue of slavery and its opposition in the North. As it was already mentioned slavery was one the main factors that set the South apart from the North because people living in the North opposed slavery while people living in the South defended slavery because their economy was dependent on slave labour.¹⁰⁸

The strong opposition to slavery increased when abolitionist movement grew stronger in the North and abolitionists tried to freed runaway slaves from jail. It is necessary to say that not all abolitionists agreed with each other's ideas, but their influence upon the North spread widely. The Strong opposition to slavery grew to the stricter Fugitive Slave Law, I had already mentioned in the first chapter. Under this law any runaway slave could be captured anywhere in the country and returned to slavery. Northern authorities as well citizens were supposed to help Southerners when capturing and returning runaway slaves back to slavery, but after seeing these runaways in chains Northerners decided not to participate on this cruelty. Antislavery feeling was intensified also by the publication of Uncle Tom's Cabin written by Harriet Beecher Stowe. Her writing had a great impact on thousands of people and convinced them that slavery was a moral wrong.¹⁰⁹

3.6 Northern War Financing

In this part I will concentrate on the Northern ability to finance the war. As it was already said in the second chapter, the North was better able to finance the war than the South. Nevertheless, the Northern government had some problems at the beginning.¹¹⁰

The North had not enough money to pay for all its economic activities and the government needed more money to continue economic growth of the North. Moreover, the state banks and brokerage houses refused to issue more notes because this would deflate

¹⁰⁷ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 352.

¹⁰⁸ Prabhakar Pillai, "Slavery During the Civil War", Buzzle.com 2000-2009, <http://www.buzzle.com/articles/slavery-during-the-civil-war.html>.

¹⁰⁹ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 340-341.

¹¹⁰ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 365.

the value of their currency.¹¹¹ During the war, the federal government, fortunately, issued over 2.5 billion dollars in bonds and 400 million greenbacks. These greenbacks changed its value depending on the success or failure of the Union armies.¹¹²

Based on the information from several sources the North was far more successful in financing the war because it had great resources in western mines, foreign markets and more capital to begin with. In addition the North could finance the war efforts by almost 4 billion dollars that made from taxation, borrowing or paper money.¹¹³ Like the Confederacy, the Union government also inflated its currency but solved this problem by stopping of printing money and tried to control incurred inflation.¹¹⁴

Picture 4: Greenback¹¹⁵



¹¹¹ Sullivan Press, “Brief Financial History of the Civil War”, Sullivan Press, <http://www.sullivanpress.com/finance.htm>.

¹¹² Sullivan Press, “Brief Financial History of the Civil War”, Sullivan Press, <http://www.sullivanpress.com/finance.htm>.

¹¹³ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 365.

¹¹⁴ Sullivan Press, “Brief Financial History of the Civil War”, Sullivan Press, <http://www.sullivanpress.com/finance.htm>.

¹¹⁵ Ellen Brown, “The Federal Reserve Finally Acts Federal”, CommUnity of Minds 2009, <http://solutions.synearth.net/2009/03/30/>

3.7 Conclusion

In conclusion of the third chapter I will summarize the main points which were described there. First of all I concentrated on political aspects and the role of Abraham Lincoln as President of the United States of America because both played a significant role in the war. I also wanted to mention Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation which freed all the slaves in the rebellious territories and caused lots of black Americans enlisted to the Union army to fight for their equality as well as freedom.¹¹⁶

Following part dealt with the Union successes in the west and focused on the most famous battle, the Battle of Gettysburg where the Northern army showed its strength and defeat the South. Other subject of my interest was the growing economy in the North that brought not only lots of new inventions like telegraph lines or railroads, but also huge development of factories. All of these factors helped the North in the war. Among other themes I paid attention to belonged the comparison between the pros and cons of the North. I tried to show that the North had strong opportunities to win as well as the weaknesses that could cause the Northern defeat. Further I wanted to mention how the issue of slavery affected the Northern society. The last part of this chapter concentrated on finances and showed if the North had enough money to finance the war.

In my point of view the North was far more able to cope with inflation of its currency because it attained greater financial means from taxation than the South where its currency became worthless.¹¹⁷

¹¹⁶ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 369-370.

¹¹⁷ See, Ritchie et al., *Heritage of Freedom: History of the United States*, 365.

4 COMPARISON OF THE NORTH AND THE SOUTH

The last part of the thesis will focus on the comparison of the both sides, the North and the South, including the most important differences as well similarities between them. Further, it will show the most significant strengths and weaknesses of the North and the South which could help them or disserve to win the Civil War.

As I have already mentioned in previous chapters, the Southern states as well as Northern states varied in many ways, which later led them to the Civil War. There were political, social and economic differences between them.¹¹⁸ The South was mainly relied on agriculture, cotton production and dependent on slave labour, as opposed to the North, which was predominantly industrial and an urban society was based on immigration and social mobility.¹¹⁹ Furthermore, the North had better supplies and equipment to fight the war than the South had.¹²⁰

Before the Civil War started, the North and the South grew in different ways. The Northern cities were mostly manufacturing and have skilled people working in factories. On the other hand, in the South, most of the people were farmers or slaves working in plantations. During the Civil War, both parts had some advantages that helped them a lot. The North produced three-fourths of the nation's wealth. They had a bigger army than the South as well as better supplies, weapons and technology for starting the war. The South, however, had also some advantages. Their soldiers did not have to travel a lot because most of the battles took place on Southern soil such as Battle of Chancellorsville or Second Battle of Bull Run, where the CSA beat the Union.¹²¹

Moreover, the southern army include better generals such as Robert E. Lee, who led the Confederate army in many battles or Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson, one of the greatest

¹¹⁸ 123helpme.com, "Differences Between the North and South that Led to the Civil War", 123helpme.com 2009, <http://www.123helpme.com/preview.asp?id=42775>.

¹¹⁹ Janet Grischy, "The economic and social differences between the north and the south as a cause of the Civil War", Helium.com, <http://www.helium.com/items/1563428-the-economic-and-social-differences-between-the-north-and-the-south-as-a-cause-of-the-civil-war>.

¹²⁰ Wayne, "The North & South", Pocantico Hills School 1999, <http://www2.lhric.org/pocantico/civilwar/north&south.htm>.

¹²¹ Wayne, "The North & South", Pocantico Hills School 1999, <http://www2.lhric.org/pocantico/civilwar/north&south.htm>.

Confederate commanders and tactician who was mistakenly shot by his own men at the Battle of Chancellorsville.¹²²

To better understanding the differences between the both sides, have a look at three main aspects that contradistinguished one side from the other one.

4.1 Political Aspects

The American Civil War was the costliest conflict in American history and totally destructive for the entire nation. What were the aspects, especially political aspects that led to the crisis of the American Civil War? Most people claim that the issue of slavery was the leading cause of the Civil war, but the others claim that the war was caused by social and economic differences between the North and the South or because of their sectional conflict that lasted before the war.¹²³

I would say that slavery tested the American constitutional system, but no one from the Congress, the Supreme Court, the Presidency or the state governments, could find any acceptable solution.¹²⁴ According to historians, the Civil War and its aftermath were crucial for the American system of government because of adoption of new Constitution that caused a Federal government was stronger and its powers included regulation of interstate commerce or foreign affairs.¹²⁵

Although the issue of slavery belonged to one of the leading cause of the Civil War, the war itself was fought because of the significant political difference. That difference is concerned in the question of sovereignty if the states retain their sovereignty and thus their right to withdraw voluntarily from the U.S. Constitution. Their sovereignty had already begun during the American Revolution, when the thirteen colonies were declared to be free and independent states by the Second Continental Congress. The founding era brought a

¹²² American Civil War, “Confederate General Stonewall Thomas Jonathan Jackson 1824-1863”, U.S. National Park Service VMI, http://americancivilwar.com/south/stonewall_jackson.html.

¹²³ Brian Tubbs, “Political Causes of the Civil War: Why the North and South Divided Over States’ Rights”, suite101.com, http://us-civil-war.suite101.com/article.cfm/political_causes_of_the_civil_war.

¹²⁴ Civil War Stories, “Political Aspects of the Civil War: Introduction”, National Park Service Civil War Institute, <http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/manassas/political/intropol.htm>.

¹²⁵ Spartacus, “American Civil War”, Spartacus Educational, <http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/USAcivilwar.htm>.

strong disagreement over how much authority the national government should have and how much independent the individual states should be as opposed to the others.¹²⁶

At the beginning of the American Revolution, Thomas Jefferson claimed, that liberty was an unalienable right of the people. Several years later, the delegates of a new constitution proclaimed that people's responsibility was to secure the liberty not only for themselves, but also for future generations. Even though, the founding fathers saw the sense of liberty, they allowed maintaining of slavery and thus debasing the value of liberty for the Americans. The federal constitution promoted slaves states by allowing them to continue importing new and new slaves. The Northern states, in return, wanted more freedom in exporting their products.¹²⁷

Another crucial point in the political culture was compromises. For example, when Missouri sought admission to the Union as a slave state, Congress, in return, admitted Maine as a free state. This compromise, called the Missouri Compromise of 1820, managed to maintain a balance between slave and Free states. Furthermore, Congress determined a line at the southern boundary of Missouri that would specify free and slave states in the future. This resolution worked efficiently until the Texas joined the Union as a slave state, because its area overlapped the Missouri Compromise line and it caused the sectional differences became more dangerous.¹²⁸

When California sought admission to the Union as a free state, the balance would be broken, because of the fact that California was on the slavery side of the line and no other potential slave state sought admission. Henry Clay, one of the great political leaders, proposed the Compromise of 1850 that admitted the California as a free state and established the fugitive slave act that insured slave owners against slave escapist. Leaders in the North and the South believed that this compromise would prevent the Union for a long time, but they were wrong. The malfunction of the compromise appeared in the situation when Stephen A. Douglas, another political figure and Senator of Illinois, proposed a bill that would organize the Kansas and Nebraska under the theory of popular

¹²⁶ Brian Tubbs, "Political Causes of the Civil War: Why the North and South Divided Over States' Rights", suite101.com, http://us-civil-war.suite101.com/article.cfm/political_causes_of_the_civil_war.

¹²⁷ Civil War Stories, "Political Aspects of the Civil War: Introduction", National Park Service Civil War Institute, <http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/manassas/political/intropol.htm>.

¹²⁸ Civil War Stories, "Political Aspects of the Civil War: Introduction", National Park Service Civil War Institute, <http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/manassas/political/intropol.htm>.

sovereignty. That meant Kansas as well as Nebraska would be organized, but people living in these territories could decide whether or not they wanted slavery.¹²⁹

Few years later, another considerable event came into existence and split up the nation. Dred Scott, a slave from Missouri, had sued for his freedom, because he came to Illinois and Wisconsin Territory, where slavery was not legal. He claimed that he should have been freed because of the fact that his master took him there. The United States Supreme Court adjudged that Dred Scott had no right to sue, not only because he is a slave, but also because of the fact that he is a Negro. The Supreme Court also dealt with the concept of popular sovereignty, repudiated it and finally assigned supremacy definitely to the states.¹³⁰ The supremacy of the national government over the states was established, so why did the Civil War start? Shortly after electing Abraham Lincoln as President, South Carolina along with other states of the Deep South started to secede from the Union. Southerners argued that the northern states were not cooperative with the Fugitive Slave Act and also that the U.S. government had no right to restrict their property rights. Furthermore, they believed that the Northern power in the U.S. government threatened the interests of Southern states. The Founding Era proved crucial for the war because the states that voluntarily joined the Union thought they could voluntarily leave the Union. Abraham Lincoln disagreed and attempted to stop the secession, but unsuccessfully.¹³¹

Simply said, the Civil War seemed to have been a constitutional issue, whether or not states could secede from the Union, but the issue of slavery was more crucial talking point. The South defended the existence of slavery and its expansion. The North was willing to allow slavery, but only where it existed and refused its potential expansion into the new territories.¹³²

¹²⁹ Civil War Stories, "Political Aspects of the Civil War: Introduction", National Park Service Civil War Institute, <http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/manassas/political/intropol.htm>.

¹³⁰ Civil War Stories, "Political Aspects of the Civil War: Introduction", National Park Service Civil War Institute, <http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/manassas/political/intropol.htm>.

¹³¹ Brian Tubbs, "Political Causes of the Civil War: Why the North and South Divided Over States' Rights", suite101.com, http://us-civil-war.suite101.com/article.cfm/political_causes_of_the_civil_war.

¹³² Civil War Stories, "Political Aspects of the Civil War: Introduction", National Park Service Civil War Institute, <http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/manassas/political/intropol.htm>.

4.2 Economic Aspects

Economic aspects were also one of the differentiating features between the North and the South and varied on many issues. We can recognize two very different economies that were part of the country. Economy in the Southern states was based on agriculture and was dependent on slave labour while the economy in the North was based on industry and dependent on technology and manufacturing.¹³³ The North had more factories than the South, as well as more factory workers. Furthermore, the number of northern skilled workers reached 90%, so it was clear that the majority of industrial manufacturing took place in the North. The labour forces in both areas were different as well. In the North, labour was expensive and workers were mobile, while labour in the South used African American slaves, who were willing to work for lower wages.¹³⁴ The Southern farmers were good at planting a variety of crops, especially cotton. They called it “*King*” because cotton was the main crop grown in the South and thus the South became a one-crop economy. Although plantation economy grew in the South, there were huge disparities in income. White people in the South who owned a good land were wealthier than the landless white people who were almost as poor as the slaves were. On the other hand, in the North were small family farms and lack of plantations because of unsuitable climate, lots of factories, mines and business.¹³⁵

The issue of slavery also belonged to the notable economic difference between the slave society of the South and the free-labor North. Even the value of slaves as property exceeded the total investment in northern factories, banks and railroads. Due to utilizing slave labor, cotton farmers were allowed to cut production costs for sale to other regions as well as for export to England. Further, they could purchase manufactured goods from the North, food from the West or imported luxuries like furniture from England. Resulting

¹³³ Janet Grischy, “The economic and social differences between the north and the south as a cause of the Civil War”, Helium.com, <http://www.helium.com/items/1563428-the-economic-and-social-differences-between-the-north-and-the-south-as-a-cause-of-the-civil-war>.

¹³⁴ History Central, “Economics of the Civil War”, HISTORYCENTRAL.com, <http://www.historycentral.com/CivilWar/AMERICA/Economics.html>.

¹³⁵ Janet Grischy, “The economic and social differences between the north and the south as a cause of the Civil War”, Helium.com, <http://www.helium.com/items/1563428-the-economic-and-social-differences-between-the-north-and-the-south-as-a-cause-of-the-civil-war>.

from this situation, the growth of the Southern cotton industry became a considerable factor of the nation's economy growth in pre-war years.¹³⁶

Later, when the war broke out, slave system in the South was not any problem for the Northern economy because black Americans took advantage of the crisis to sabotage production of the South and join the Union army. Due to stoppage of production, the South looked for help from Britain and France, the greatest cotton purchasers, in vain. During war preparations, the North as well as the South showed their strengths and weaknesses of the free market and the slave labour economic systems. Both were able to support and sustain a war economy. If we look at the beginning of the war, we can see that the dissimilar economies of the North and the South played a decisive role in the Civil War.¹³⁷

As I have already mentioned above, the South was predominantly agricultural and highly dependent on trading with a world market. Despite the fact that the Southern states produced two-thirds of the world's supply of cotton, the South had only 25% of the railroad tracks and 13% of the nation's banks caused by entire lack of factories and labour force. As a result, the South tried to use slave labour to reform its manufacturing sector. This experiment proved that agricultural sector is more suitable for the South. The North, on the contrary, had almost 90% of the nation's manufacturing output, produced more textiles, boots, pig iron or firearms than the South thereupon the North had greater advantage in making the war.¹³⁸

After industrialization and urbanization of the North, 40% of Northerners were farmers, as compared to 84% farmers in the South. Free states were settled by foreign immigrants who took advantage of urbanization and industrialization in America. During this period, many Southerners emigrated to the North as well as many Northerners moved to the South. As a consequence, the population of the Union amounted to 22 million in comparison with 9 million of the population in the Confederate states. Because of these changes in population, the Union could use about 3.5 million men-at-arms as compared with only 1 million men of the Confederacy. Despite the fact that the South lag behind the North in

¹³⁶ History Central, "Economics of the Civil War", HISTORYCENTRAL.com, <http://www.historycentral.com/CivilWar/AMERICA/Economics.html>.

¹³⁷ Civil War Stories, "Economic Aspects of the Civil War: Introduction", National Park Service Civil War Institute, <http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/manassas/economic/index.htm>.

¹³⁸ Civil War Stories, "Economic Aspects of the Civil War: Introduction", National Park Service Civil War Institute, <http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/manassas/economic/index.htm>.

industrial development, there was a lot of wealth. However, this wealth resulted from the slave economy.¹³⁹

Most of the Southern leaders believed that the importance of cotton on the world market would help the Confederacy win the war, but the others was convinced that the South will need more help and better commanders or knowledge of a territory where many battles took place would not be enough to win the war.¹⁴⁰

4.3 Social Aspects

Social differences between the North and the South were also countable feature in the Civil War. What surprised me a lot was the fact that three out of four white families in the South owned no slaves. Nevertheless, the Southerners believed that slavery was the foundation of their culture and the ideal of society should look like the cultivated, hospitable Southern planter, with a well equipped home. Although some people thought Southerners were not well off, white supremacy resulted in the bigger solidarity of the Southern society and gave white people quite high social status. While the South thought of slavery as a way of life, many Northerners were abolitionists and were not aware of it. Their social roles were more flexible than the Southern one and also their economy offered varied opportunities for people in the North. The Southern ideal was the wealthy planter whereas the Northern ideal was the person who is notable for society because of work.¹⁴¹

From historical point of view, Americans were one of the fastest-growing nations, because their population in the United States grew from four million to thirty million at the beginning of the Civil War. Eighty per cent of Americans lived on farms or in small rural communities and many immigrants arrived as well, especially from England and Ireland. Regardless of growing population, four million African Americans were still slaves. In spite of the fact that half-million of them were free in both the North and the South, they had practically no rights and discrimination as well as economic disability influenced their

¹³⁹ Civil War Stories, “Economic Aspects of the Civil War: Introduction”, National Park Service Civil War Institute, <http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/manassas/economic/index.htm>.

¹⁴⁰ Civil War Stories, “Economic Aspects of the Civil War: Introduction”, National Park Service Civil War Institute, <http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/manassas/economic/index.htm>.

¹⁴¹ Janet Grischy, “The economic and social differences between the north and the south as a cause of the Civil War”, Helium.com, <http://www.helium.com/items/1563428-the-economic-and-social-differences-between-the-north-and-the-south-as-a-cause-of-the-civil-war>.

living. The enslaved could not read because they were forbidden to attend schools, however, five per cent of them were literate at the time of the Civil War.¹⁴²

What was the social experience of the war itself? Most historians thought the home front played a significant role in the past two decades. What is clear is the fact that the diversion of so many men and so much money to the war effort limited nation's growth. The absence of men caused that southern women had to assume the responsibility for their farms and plantation, production of goods and discipline over slaves till their husbands came back from the war. Women in the North and the South took an opportunity to join the war effort by taking care of the ill and wounded. During the war, the Republicans tried to change social and economic life of Americans by establishing new policies like higher tariffs, cheaper money and many others that would create growth after the war. Nevertheless, effect of these policies was not as great as Republicans expected.¹⁴³

According to information from several sources, slavery had never been any difficulty for an economic expansion in America, but it was still running institution on the eve of the Civil War. The Southern slave society was afraid of rebellion inside as well as criticism from outside the region, because it contrasted with the free labor society in the North. Even though, the ideology of the United States was built on liberty, America was ranked among the largest slave-holding society in the world. Because of this fact, Abraham Lincoln and others feared whether or not a nation survive an existing division into slave and free territory. Freedom became a moot point in 1861, as well. Americans including immigrants, women, workers, the poor or free people of color living in towns together were equal neither in the social sphere nor in the economic or political one. Despite the segregation, the struggle against slavery was finally an important step toward establishing the indivisibility of American freedom. The Civil War had a great impact on black Americans as well, because they considered it as a Second American Revolution and the end of power and prestige of the plantation owners of the South.¹⁴⁴

¹⁴² Civil War Stories, "Social Aspects of the Civil War: Introduction", National Park Service Civil War Institute, <http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/manassas/social/introsoc.htm>.

¹⁴³ Civil War Stories, "Social Aspects of the Civil War: Introduction", National Park Service Civil War Institute, <http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/manassas/social/introsoc.htm>.

¹⁴⁴ Civil War Stories, "Social Aspects of the Civil War: Introduction", National Park Service Civil War Institute, <http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/manassas/social/introsoc.htm>.

4.3.1 The Role of Black Americans in the Civil War

The life of African Americans in the USA was not as easy as for white Americans, because they were discriminated in many ways. After their arrival to the United States, Africans were forced to work as laborers, became slaves to wealthy Americans without any pay. So, nobody could be marveled that they wanted to join the Union army and fight for their freedom.¹⁴⁵

Even the Emancipation Proclamation, issued by President Abraham Lincoln, helped Africans to enlist in the Union army, Lincoln was afraid of Border States' reaction that would secede from the Union.¹⁴⁶ However, he believed that seeing the blacks fighting against the Confederacy would have a psychological effect upon the South. Consequently, the North started to recruit black soldiers to the Union army. At the beginning, the recruitment was not as popular between blacks as Lincoln expected and only two black regiments existed. Nevertheless, the number of black regiments had grown up to eighty by the end of the war.¹⁴⁷

Although almost 180,000 African Americans had take apart in the Civil War, discrimination in pay and other areas still remained.¹⁴⁸ Further, inequality of rights between black soldiers and their white counterparts was seen when black ones had to support duties as cooks, laborers or teamsters instead of true soldiers fighting in battles. Despite the fact that both, African American soldiers and white soldiers, fought in the Union army together, their salary was different. Black soldiers were paid 10 dollars per month and they had to pay 3 dollars for clothing as compared to 13 dollars per month for white soldiers who got clothing for free.¹⁴⁹ Many regiments containing blacks wanted equal pay, some refused any money till the Congress granted equal pay for all black soldiers.¹⁵⁰

¹⁴⁵ ExampleEssays.com, "The Role of African Americans in the Civil War", ExampleEssays.com 2002-2010, <http://www.exampleessays.com/viewpaper/98092.html>.

¹⁴⁶ American Memory, "Civil War and Reconstruction, 1861-1865: African-American Soldiers During the Civil War", The Library of Congress 09/26/2002, <http://memory.loc.gov/learn/features/timeline/civilwar/aasoldrs/soldiers.html>.

¹⁴⁷ Free Essays, "African-Americans In the Civil War", FreeEssays.cc 2003, <http://www.freeessays.cc/db/2/aky10.shtml>.

¹⁴⁸ Civil War History, "History of African Americans In the Civil War", National Park Service, http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/history/aa_history.htm.

¹⁴⁹ American Memory, "Civil War and Reconstruction, 1861-1865: African-American Soldiers During the Civil War", The Library of Congress 09/26/2002, <http://memory.loc.gov/learn/features/timeline/civilwar/aasoldrs/soldiers.html>.

¹⁵⁰ Civil War History, "History of African Americans In the Civil War", National Park Service, http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/history/aa_history.htm.

Although African-American soldiers had to put up with racial prejudice, they served the Union army well and fought in many battles.¹⁵¹ As well as Lincoln helped African-American soldiers to enlist in the Union army by issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation, Frederick Douglass, American abolitionist, encouraged them by these words: *“Once let the black man get upon his person the brass letters U.S., let him get an eagle on his button, and a musket on his shoulder and bullets in his pockets, and there is no power on earth which can deny that he has earned the right of citizenship in the United States.”* The struggle against slavery took a long time, but I would say that the African Americans were finally satisfied, because they fought for an important thing, their freedom. By the end of the war, the Union army contained 10 percent of black soldiers and sixteen of them were awarded the Medal of Honor.¹⁵² In 1864, when Congress granted equal pay to black soldiers, the same rations, supplies and comparable medical care were received for African American soldiers as well.¹⁵³ No matter how the Civil War was devastating, black Americans proved they can fight as true American heroes.¹⁵⁴

According to Frederick Douglass, the Civil war was a struggle between freedom and slavery and he believed in establishing of abolition and full citizenship for black Americans.¹⁵⁵ He was a friend of Abraham Lincoln because they had much in common. For instance, both wanted an equal pay for black soldiers. Their ideas were not always the same because Douglass believed in dissolution of the Union, while Abraham Lincoln wanted to preserve the Union at any cost.¹⁵⁶ Proving this statement, I found a short part of a letter that Lincoln wrote to Horace Greeley, editor of the influential New York Tribune. He said:

¹⁵¹ American Memory, “Civil War and Reconstruction, 1861-1865: African-American Soldiers During the Civil War”, The Library of Congress 09/26/2002,

<http://memory.loc.gov/learn/features/timeline/civilwar/aasoldrs/soldiers.html>.

¹⁵² Civil War History, “History of African Americans In the Civil War”, National Park Service, http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/history/aa_history.htm.

¹⁵³ The National Archives, “Teaching With Documents: The Fight for Equal Rights: Black Soldiers in the Civil War”, Archives.gov, <http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/blacks-civil-war/>

¹⁵⁴ ExampleEssays.com, “The Role of African Americans in the Civil War”, ExampleEssays.com 2002-2010, <http://www.exampleessays.com/viewpaper/98092.html>.

¹⁵⁵ William Connery, “An Unusual Friendship: Lincoln & Frederick Douglass”, renses.com, <http://www.renses.com/general63/friend.htm>.

¹⁵⁶ ExampleEssays.com, “The Role of African Americans in the Civil War”, ExampleEssays.com 2002-2010, <http://www.exampleessays.com/viewpaper/98092.html>.

*“If I could save the Union without freeing any slave, I would do it; and if I could save it by freeing all the slaves, I would do it; and if I could do it by freeing some and leaving others alone, I would also do that.”*¹⁵⁷

Historians believe that the participation of African Americans in the Civil War played a significant role for the North as well as for the South efforts. Historians also agree with the statement that the struggle for freedom and equality gave more confidence to the blacks all around the world.¹⁵⁸

4.4 Comparison of the Advantages and Disadvantages

The North and the South fought together for a long time, but it was not clear who will be the winner. Both sides had unique advantages as well disadvantages and they supposed it would be enough to ensure a triumph in the Civil War. Historians claim that the war would not be a question of few days as well as the fact that the Union would prevail over the Confederacy. As the war progressed, the North was most closely to prevail it, although at the beginning of the war the victory was closer to the South. If we look back, we can see why the North had better presumption for winning the war.¹⁵⁹

Firstly, the Union had population of 22 million inhabitants, while the Confederate population was only 9 million. That meant that the North had much larger armies and more troops in reserve. Furthermore, the North could better supply those armies, because it produced more weapons and equipment than the South did. Secondly, the cornerstone of the Southern economy was agriculture, whereas industry and commerce were important for the Northern economy. That allowed the North to produce things it needed to prosecute the war, whereas the South was strongly dependent upon trade with foreign countries to get these necessities. Since the Union had a naval advantage over the Confederacy, the Confederate army was unable to procure necessary supplies. Finally, the South was forced to surrender, not because of military disadvantage, but because its economy was destroyed

¹⁵⁷ Abraham Lincoln Online, “Letter to Horace Greeley”, Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, edit. Roy P. Basler, <http://showcase.netins.net/web/creative/lincoln/speeches/greeley.htm>.

¹⁵⁸ Free Essays, “African-Americans In the Civil War”, FreeEssays.cc 2003, <http://www.freeessays.cc/db/2/aky10.shtml>.

¹⁵⁹ Socyberty, “The Advantages and Disadvantages of the Both Sides During the Civil War”, Socyberty 2008, <http://socyberty.com/history/the-advantages-and-disadvantages-of-the-both-sides-during-the-civil-war/>

by the North.¹⁶⁰ How? The main reason for this was the fact that the southern economy depended on the institution of slavery and slaves were the ones who planted and harvested crops especially cotton. Slaves were considered as unpaid work force thus the profit from the sale was high. In the North, on the contrary, slavery was outside of economic realities and beliefs.¹⁶¹

Due to this information I believe that the economy of the Southern states fell to pieces because of threat of abolition that came from the North.¹⁶² The most considerable advantage of the Southern states that helped them at the beginning of the war was the fact that they had better generals than the Union. Among the best military officers in the United States army were General Stonewall Jackson or General Robert E. Lee. After the secession of the Southern states, both resigned their commissions and acceded to the Confederate Army. The Union army had good officers too, but their poor leadership was one of the causes of their defeats. Knowledge of their home field was another advantage of the South because they knew the terrain more than the Northerners. If the North and the South were similar from the industrial point of view and had the same population, we could hardly believe in the Union victory. If some of the key Confederate officers had remained loyal to the Union, the war could be less destructive and could end earlier.¹⁶³

4.5 Northern Victory vs. Southern Defeat

Although, the South was more successful at the beginning of the war, the North won the Civil War because of many reasons such as economic, military and political advantages. As I have already mentioned above, the Northern economy was based on industry and they had more factories to produce more weapons and equipment for the war than the South. From the military point of view, the Northern army comprised better generals like R. E. Lee or Thomas Stonewall Jackson and the Union army also profited from the destruction of slavery because lots of African Americans enlisted in the Union army to fight for freedom.

¹⁶⁰ Socyberty, "The Advantages and Disadvantages of the Both Sides During the Civil War", Socyberty 2008, <http://socyberty.com/history/the-advantages-and-disadvantages-of-the-both-sides-during-the-civil-war/>

¹⁶¹ ExampleEssays.com, "Southern Civil War Economy", ExampleEssays.com 2002-2010, <http://www.exampleessays.com/viewpaper/56891.html>.

¹⁶² ExampleEssays.com, "Effects of Civil War on American Economy", ExampleEssays.com 2002-2010, <http://www.exampleessays.com/viewpaper/23668.html>.

Despite the fact that the Confederate President Jefferson Davis had problems with faithfulness of the members of his cabinet, because he superseded the wishes of political leaders that were for the good of the Confederacy and he wanted to fight rather than maintain a stable government, the South affirmed that their state government is still strong. Although Abraham Lincoln was a great President, he showed poor leadership in political sphere, because he was hardly able to control his cabinet as well as the people under him.¹⁶⁴ However, he was the commander-in-chief of the Union army so he had better control than Jefferson Davis. Further, Lincoln passed the Emancipation Proclamation, which set African Americans free in the North. As a consequence, the slaves joined the Union army and increased its troops. Both, the North and the South, started a draft, but the Southern one did get less response than the Northern one. Reason for this was simple. People in the South could buy the way out of the draft, whereas the North's ranks filled up and helped them more in the war.¹⁶⁵

At the beginning of the Civil War, more than eighty percent of the nation's factories were in the North. These factories produced 93 percent of iron which was important for manufacturing weapons and equipment to fight the war.¹⁶⁶ Due to this fact, the North had definitely stronger military advantage against the South and its army was better trained, equipped and supplied than the Southern one, which consisted of farmers and civilians.¹⁶⁷ These aspects helped the Union defeat the Confederacy and win the Civil War.¹⁶⁸

When the South surrendered the war to the North, all Americans debated about this loss. There are many theories describing why the North won. Some people argued that the South never had chance to win, because the North had better military resources than the South at almost every point. Another group of people claim that the South could win when using slaves as soldiers so the number of soldiers would increase. From the industrial point of

¹⁶³ Socyberty, "The Advantages and Disadvantages of the Both Sides During the Civil War", Socyberty 2008, <http://socyberty.com/history/the-advantages-and-disadvantages-of-the-both-sides-during-the-civil-war/>

¹⁶⁴ BookRags, "Abraham Lincoln vs. Jefferson Davis", BookRags Student Essays 2000-2006, <http://www.bookrags.com/essay-2005/5/6/174848/3459>.

¹⁶⁵ 123helpme.com, "Why the North Won the Civil War", 123helpme.com 2000-2010, <http://www.123helpme.com/preview.asp?id=126439>.

¹⁶⁶ WikiAnswers, "What Are the Reasons North Won the Civil War", Answers.com, http://wiki.answers.com/Q/What_are_the_reasons_North_won_the_Civil_War.

¹⁶⁷ 123helpme.com, "Why the North Won the Civil War", 123helpme.com 2000-2010, <http://www.123helpme.com/preview.asp?id=126439>.

¹⁶⁸ 123helpme.com, "How the North Won the Civil War", 123helpme.com 2000-2010, <http://www.123helpme.com/preview.asp?id=124395>.

view, the South could not touch the North in output of weapons, ammunitions and supplies. Due to this disadvantage, the South needed any help so it looked to England and France. Even though, the South got more weapons, it still did not have enough soldiers to use them.

Another reason why the South could not win the war was the great difference in population between both sides. The South could count with only 9 million men, of whom almost four million were slaves, against twenty million of Northerners. The South could use slaves to support the war through work on the plantations, in industries or as pioneers in the Confederate army, but they did not take this advantage and cuts its manpower.¹⁶⁹

Although, there are many reasons why the South lost including insufficient supplies, lack of fresh manpower or bad governing system along with poor leadership, there are also some ways how the South could win. Firstly, the Confederacy should follow up its early victories like at Shiloh and took advantage of fresh, relatively well supplied army with high morale. Secondly, if the South took advice of General Longstreet who said: "*We should have freed the slaves first and then fired on Fort Sumter*", if they did it before the issuance of Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, they could expect the European support. Last but not least, was the possible support from France and Great Britain that could help the South with a Northern naval blockade and shortage of supplies. These two countries just wanted to be sure that the South had a real chance in winning the war. Unfortunately, the defeat at Gettysburg and the issuance of Emancipation Proclamation ended the possibility of having their support.¹⁷⁰

Even some sources claim that the Southern leadership was poor, another ones claimed that the leadership of the Confederacy was far superior to the Union one and this superiority caused the Southern earlier successes. In the end of the war this superiority had changed not because of an overwhelming power of the North, but because of failure of some military and political leaders to understand the opportunities of this advantage they could exploit. What is also important to recognize that President of the Confederacy, Jefferson Davis along with Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson and Robert E. Lee influenced the

¹⁶⁹ 123helpme.com, "Why the South Could Not Win the Civil War", 123helpme.com 2000-2010, <http://www.123helpme.com/preview.asp?id=23384>.

¹⁷⁰ WikiAnswers, "Could the South Have Won the US Civil War", Answers.com, http://wiki.answers.com/Q/Could_the_South_have_won_the_US_Civil_War.

effect of the Civil War because of their military strategies. General Jackson offered the South plans that would help in winning the war, but neither Davis nor Lee gave support to them. By avoiding Northern strength and field armies, Jackson wanted to strike at Northern weaknesses like undefended factories, farms or railroads. His strategy was to keep away from the Union armies and to win by assaulting the Northern people's will to pursue the war. By contrast, General Robert E. Lee wanted to confront the Union armies with the armies of the Confederacy. President Davis disagreed with both strategies, because he believed that European powers would entry into action and help the Confederacy or that the Northern soldiers would not have enough energy to finish the war. Later, this strategy proved as wrong because no European country would help the South. Despite the fact that Jackson found out what would help the South win the war, Davis and Lee were not willing to take his advice which was, in my opinion, crucial for the South.¹⁷¹

Historians also claim that everything might have been different, if the South had five million soldiers instead of the same number of slaves. Nevertheless, not only population differences of the both sides confounded the South in the war, but also the lack of industrial resources, the bad military strategy along with the poor leadership just dragged the war out until May 1865.¹⁷²

4.6 Conclusion

To conclude the fourth part I would like to summarize again the main points which form the last chapter of the thesis. Like the theme of the bachelor thesis, this chapter concentrated on the comparison of the both sides, the North and the South and describes these nations from economic, political and social point of view. Actually, this chapter summarize the second part called the South and the third part called the North. Among the main themes I decided to concentrate on belonged the role of African Americans in the Civil War and their difficult life at that time. In the following part I tried to summarize the advantages and disadvantages of the two and compare them. In the centre of my attention was also the reason why the North won and the South did not, so I tried to think about the

¹⁷¹ Bevin Alexander, "How the South Could Have Won the Civil War: The Fatal Errors That Led to Confederate Defeat", Bevin Alexander 1986-2010, <http://www.bevinalexander.com/books/how-the-south-could-have-won-intro.htm>.

¹⁷² 123helpme.com, "Why the South Could Not Win the Civil War", 123helpme.com 2000-2010, <http://www.123helpme.com/preview.asp?id=23384>.

Southern defeat and if the South had any possibility to win the Civil War. Based on information from several sources I think the South could win if they had larger population thus larger army. Although slavery was seen as the way of life it caused that great number of black Americans join the Union army and fought against the Confederacy just to be free and equal with whites. In my opinion this was the crucial point of the Southern failure.

CONCLUSION

The aim of this bachelor thesis was to analyze the North and the South from different ways, describe their strengths and weaknesses, attitude towards the war and finally compare these factors from different perspectives.

When I start writing the thesis I had only basic information and facts about the American Civil War and what had happened. As I have found during the writing the South as well as the North had problems even before the war broke out. Among these disagreements belonged opposing views on the way of life especially the issue of slavery. The North, on the one side, was against slavery while the South, on the other one, tried to defend it at any cost. The question of slavery became a turning point in the conflict between the North and the South because it caused the secession of some southern states from the Union. As I have already mentioned before these states decided to secede also because of Lincoln's victory in the presidential election of 1860 by reason that Lincoln disagreed with slavery. Disputes between the North and the South cumulated and became stronger and the solution for them was the war. According to information from several sources the war was inevitable. Furthermore, many historians agree that without slavery there would be no war. In my point of view, it is hard to say if the war was a good solution or not because the war cost lives of many people on both sides and the problem of slavery as an essential cause, was not resolved even after the Civil War ended. After analyzing the situation between the North and the South I am not sure if they could solve the conflict in other way instead of fighting the war.

Even though the Civil War was considered as bloodiest conflict in history of the United States of America, it is also necessary to point out that it did not cause the deeper contradictions between the North and the South as for example in Ireland. According to my research I would say that the American Civil War played a significant role in American history because many Americans nowadays commemorate it by organizing uniformed meetings at which they put the individual battles on.

To sum up the thesis I would say that today's America would not be the same country without the American Civil War and maybe the institution of slavery would be still an integral part of the Southern way of life.

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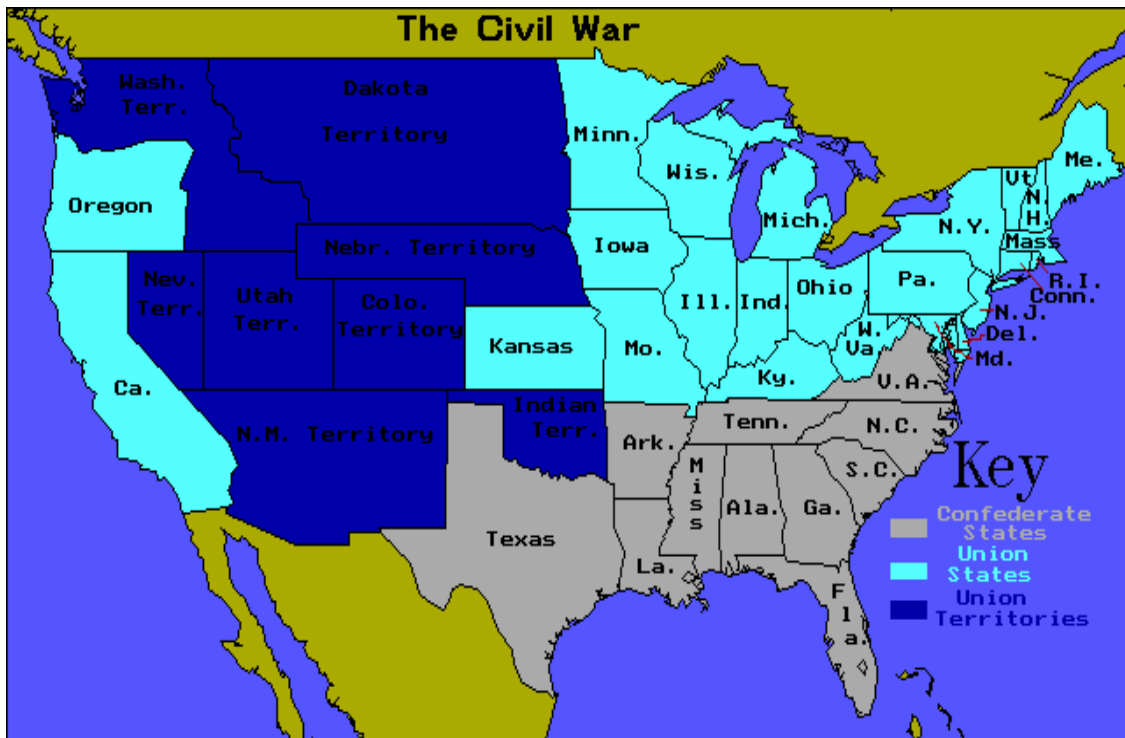
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APPENDICES

P I Northern and Southern States Map

P II The Emancipation Proclamation

APPENDIX P I: NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN STATES MAP



American Civil War Pictures

http://americancivilwar.com/pictures/north_south_states.gif

APPENDIX II: THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION



Rhapsody In Books Weblog

<http://rhapsodyinbooks.wordpress.com/2009/01/01/january-1-1863-lincoln-issued-the-final-version-of-the-emancipation-proclamation/>