

# Section III: Politics After Reconstruction

# Reconstruction

the period after the Civil War when  
the U. S. military (North)  
occupied the South.

# 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment

abolished slavery, designed to  
cause economic changes

# 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment

required equal “civil rights”  
for the former slaves,  
to cause social changes

# 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment



required suffrage (voting rights)  
for the former slaves,  
to cause political changes

# Sharecropping

A farmer worked on someone else's land in return for a share of the profits from the crops.

# “Jim Crow” Laws

required separation, or segregation  
between the races, such as  
separate public facilities,  
separate public transportation,  
separate schools and churches.

# Plessy v. Ferguson

railroad lawsuit that upheld  
Jim Crow laws on the basis of a  
“separate but equal” philosophy

“Grandfather Clause”



If a voter's grandfather was eligible to vote, a person was exempt from a literacy test.

carpetbaggers

northerners during Reconstruction  
who took advantage of southerners

Booker T. Washington

did not ask for immediate social equality, but pushed for economic and educational opportunities for blacks.

W. E. B. DuBois

one of the founders of the NAACP,  
which sought social change through  
legal challenges.

**Solid South**



Once the southern soldier regained the vote, the Northern interference consolidated the South into a solid Democratic block of voters.

# Poll Tax

tax voters had to pay to register

G.O.P.

“Grand Old Party”  
(Republicans)

**bloody shirt**

“Waving a bloody shirt” was a tactic used by Republicans in the north to remind people they had shed blood to save the country and the Constitution.

U. S. Grant



elected president in 1868 & 1872,  
but scandals plagued his  
administration, especially  
railroad scandals.

**Credit Mobilier\***

\$72 million dollars was given by  
Congress to the railroads and only  
\$53 million was used.

Rutherford B. Hayes

elected president in 1876 in a deal  
to end Reconstruction.

# Freedmen's Bureau

designed to help former slaves  
make adjustment to freedom.

Samuel Tilden\*



a Democratic reformer from New York who helped convict Boss Tweed, had 19 more electoral votes than Rutherford B. Hayes and was not elected in 1876.

# Compromise of 1877

The Democrats agreed to accept the results of the 1876 election if Reconstruction was ended and the army was pulled out of the South.

halfbreeds

Republicans in favor of  
Civil Service reform

stalwarts

# Republicans against Civil Service reform

civil service reform



get rid of the spoils system and  
require exams  
for federal jobs

James A. Garfield

half-breed elected president in  
1880...later shot by a stalwart

Chester A. Arthur

stalwart vice president who went  
ahead with Garfield's reforms

# Pendleton Act

Civil Service Reform act passed by  
Congress under Chester A. Arthur,  
still in effect today.

Grover Cleveland



only Democrat elected after Civil War in 19<sup>th</sup> century, elected in 1884 and 1892.

“mugwumps”

former half-breeds who crossed  
over to the Democrats to elect  
Cleveland instead of a stalwart

Benjamin Harrison

elected between Cleveland's term;  
grandson of William Henry Harrison

protective tariffs

tax on imports that favored  
U. S. industry

pensions



army retirement benefits only for  
Union soldiers

Mary E. Lease\*

political activist involved with the  
Populist Party

L. Frank Baum\*

# The Wizard of Oz

**Ida B. Wells**

African American sociologist active  
in civil rights and  
the women's rights movement

Scott Joplin/ragtime



American composer of ragtime  
music, “The Entertainer”

inflation

increase in prices and wages, but  
decrease in the value of a dollar

depression

sales drop, prices go down, but loss  
of jobs leaves people  
with no money

# Munn v. Illinois

states could regulate railroads  
intrastate

I.C.C.



Interstate Commerce Commission  
made rebates and other unfair legal  
practices illegal

rebates

discounts given to large companies,  
but not smaller companies &  
farmers

# Sherman Anti-Trust

law aimed at monopolies

# The Grange

loose organization for farmers which  
aided socially & economically

# The Farmers Alliance



organized groups which lobbied  
state & federal legislatures

# The Populist Party

political party organized for farmers  
& the “little people”

**William J. Bryan**

presidential candidate as a  
Democrat/Populist who lost in 1896,  
1900, & 1904

**William McKinley**

supported tariffs, military pensions,  
and fought inflation; elected in 1896  
& 1900; assassinated in 1901.

# Election of 1896



McKinley: supported by business,  
labor-north, east

Bryan: supported by farmers-  
south & west

Elizabeth Stanton\*

organizer of the Seneca Falls  
Convention of 1848, the start of the  
women's rights movement

Susan B. Anthony\*

**active in women's rights movement**

Teddy Roosevelt

vice president who became  
president in 1901, when McKinley  
was assassinated