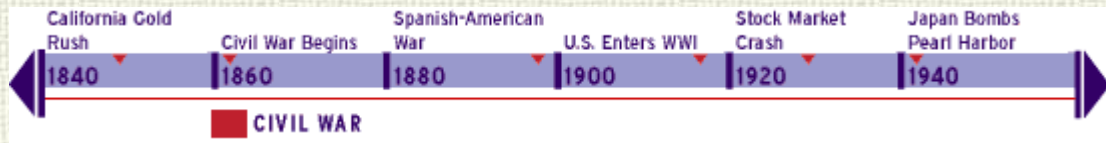


# From division to unity



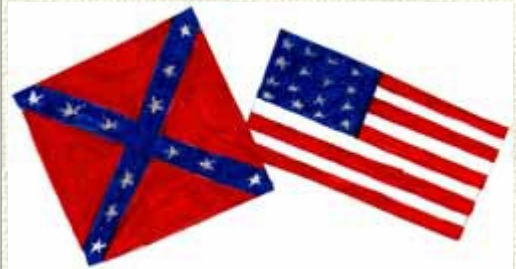
## Conflicts between the states

After [Abraham Lincoln](#) was elected president in 1860, 11 Southern states seceded from the Union and set up an independent government called "The Confederate States of America".

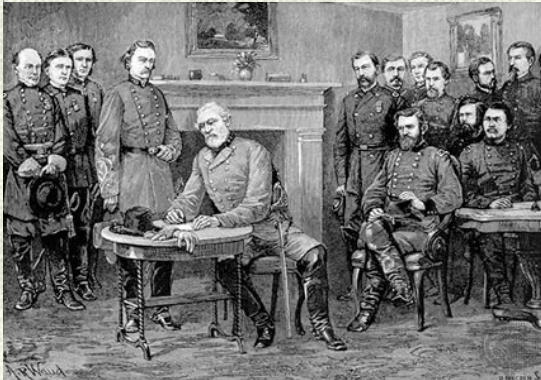
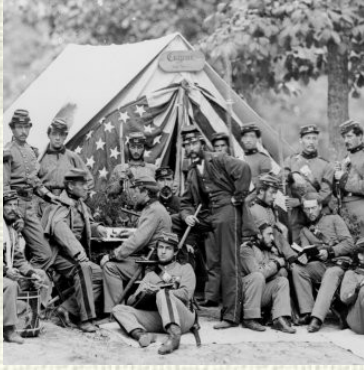
The union states and the confederacy states didn't like each other because they lived differently :

- the South was an agricultural area. There were a lot of plantations and farms. There were very few factories.
- the North was an industrial area with a lot of factories. People in the North wanted people in the South to abandon their farm and start building factories.

Slavery was another reason for the split. The North did not agree with slavery and wanted to abolish it. The South would not give up slavery because they believed it was their right. Congress could not abolish slavery because the slaves were considered personal property. These were some of the reasons the war started.



## The Civil War



General Lee signing the capitulation of the Confederacy.

The Civil War started in 1861. This conflict between the Confederacy and the Union lasted four years. General Ulysses Grant was the leader of the Union army. General Lee was the leader of the Confederacy army. Half a million people died during the war. Eventually, the South was defeated. General Lee surrendered on April 9th 1865.

## The end of slavery

Slavery was abolished by Lincoln on the 1st of January 1863.

President Lincoln was assassinated in 1865. President Andrew Johnson tried to reunite former enemies. With the Reconstruction Acts of 1867, the rebellious Southern states were readmitted into the Union.

The Fourteenth Amendment (1868) provided former slaves with national citizenship, and the Fifteenth Amendment (1870) granted black men the right to vote. These were only the first steps, however, toward reconstructing the fragmented nation.

