

What led to the Civil War

The South (which made up the Confederacy) and the North (which made up the Union) had political, social, and economic differences leading to the Civil War. The Confederacy, for one, was more agricultural than the industrialized North. To have agriculture, the South believed they needed slavery. The Union did not need to stabilize their economy with free labor as the South did. In the Confederacy, most people wanted slavery, while most of the Northerners were against slavery. In addition, the Union and the Confederacy had different political opinions.

The North and the South were split in many ways politically that led to the Civil War. Many of the states in the Union had laws against slavery, while the Confederacy did not. When Abraham Lincoln was elected in 1860, the North mainly supported him while the slave-owning South did not. This caused more violence to grow between the two sides. In 1904, John B. Gordon, a soldier, said that the Union thought the whole country's power was more important than the individual state's authority. However, the Confederacy believed that the respective state's administration was more important than the country's ability to be governed as a whole.

The way the Union and the Confederacy were built economically, their economic structure was very different. While the North was industrialized, the South had miles of plantations where slaves worked generation after generation. Thomas R. Dew, a Virginia legislator, spoke in defense of slavery in a debate. He said there are 470,000 slaves in Virginia and that each slave is worth \$200. He argued if you take away slavery, Virginia's whole structure will be destroyed, and she will become a "waste howling wilderness." However, I saw data from Documents 1a in 1860 and 1c in 1850-1860 that free states made more money and exports than slave states.

As for society, the Union and Confederacy differed in the following ways. The Union was against slavery, and there was a group called the American Anti-Slavery Society. They told people how terrible slavery was and attempted to get them to understand the horrors of it. They would say things like "slavery is un-American" and goes against religious freedom. Historian Eric Foner noted that the Confederacy argued that slavery was necessary for the upper-class to give them time to be involved in art, literature and keep evolving. These were small, wealthy White families that owned miles of plantations where slaves worked in the South. The Confederacy thought this way of life was essential for the westward expansion across America. The Union did not want slavery to be a part of the westward expansion because then there would be more slave states, giving the Confederacy more power than the Union. This fight over the new territory was one of the main arguments that led to the Civil War.

In conclusion, there were many conflicts that led to the Civil War. The Union and the Confederacy were split politically, socially, and economically. Politically, the North and South had different laws and opinions about how the country should be run. Economically, the Confederacy was full of plantations and farming, while the Union was more industrialized and better off financially. Socially, the people of the Union fought against slavery, and the people in the South used it to build up their communities. The South wanted slavery in the westward expansion, and

the North did not. These were the central conflicts that started the Civil War. The Civil War began on April 12, 1861, and ended on May 9, 1865. After four long years of war, the Union was victorious. Even though the North won the war and slavery was abolished, racism still existed in our country, and we are still fighting it today.

Bibliography

- https://www.senate.gov/artandhistory/history/minute/Civil_War_Begins.htm