

The Artios Home Companion Series

Unit 4: The Civil War, Part Two

Teacher Overview

As the war dragged on through battle after battle including the famous battle between the Merrimack and the Monitor, it became evident that stronger leadership was needed for both armies and that some statement must be made by the president to force the issues with the South. This came in the form of Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation.



Montage of the American Civil War

Key People and Events

Abraham Lincoln
Merrimack
Monitor
General Ulysses S. Grant
General Johnston
General Sherman
Battle of Shiloh
General Beauregard
Captain Farragut
Capture of New Orleans
General Lovell
Battle of Vicksburg
General Beauregard
General George McClellan
General Robert E. Lee
General Thomas
"Stonewall" Jackson
Battle of Bull Run
Battle of Antietam
Emancipation Proclamation
General Ambrose E.
Burnside
Battle of Fredericksburg

Vocabulary

Lesson 1:

blockade
ironclad
impertinent

Lesson 2:

torrent
impotent
allegiance
undaunted

Lesson 3:

impetuous
dislodge

Reading and Assignments

Based on your student's age and ability, the reading in this unit may be read aloud to the student and journaling and notebook pages may be completed orally. Likewise, other assignments can be done with an appropriate combination of independent and guided study.

In this unit, students will:

- Complete three lessons in which they will learn about **Abraham Lincoln, The Battle of the Ironclads, The Battle of Shiloh and the taking of New Orleans** and **Lincoln and The Emancipation Proclamation**.
- Define vocabulary words.
- Read selected chapters from *Freedom Train: Story of Harriet Tubman*.
- Learn about **Commas: Compound Sentence** and complete corresponding grammar exercises.
- Visit www.ArtiosHCS.com for additional resources.

Leading Ideas

Honesty is a character quality to be desired.

The Lord detests differing weights, and dishonest scales do not please Him.

— Proverbs 20:23

The Bible provides the ethics upon which to judge people and nations.

— Exodus 20:1-17

God is sovereign over the affairs of men.

From one man He made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and He marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands.

— Acts 17:26

Literature, Composition, and Grammar

Freedom Train: Story of Harriet Tubman

by Dorothy Sterling

Literature for Units 1 - 4

Unit 4 - Assignments

Literature

- Read Chapters 16 - 20 of *Freedom Train: Story of Harriet Tubman* or from “*Department of the South*” through “*The Years of Peace*.”

During these chapters, discuss with your family the mark that Mrs. Tubman left on the world.

Composition

- As you did with your own bio, edit your writing using a new Editing Checklist. Then create a Bio Board for the man or woman that you have chosen to represent, making sure to include a picture. You might choose to hang your personal Bio Board and that of your chosen man or woman next to each other on the wall to reflect upon as we move into our next piece of literature, which is set during the Civil War.

Grammar

- Read the notes on **Commas: Compound Sentence**, beginning on page 3.
- Complete the corresponding exercises on the **Artios Home Companion** website.
- Add “*compound sentence*” to your “cheat sheet.”

Grammar Notes for Unit 4

Used by permission: www.analyticalgrammar.com

Commas: Compound Sentence

COMMA RULE #3:

Buzzword: **Compound Sentence**

Sometimes we will say or write two sentences together like this:

EXAMPLE: I cleaned up my room. My sister washed the dishes.

That’s fine. There’s nothing wrong with that. But sometimes it just seems like those sentences need to be connected more. They relate to each other. That’s when you can do this:

EXAMPLE: I cleaned up my room, and my sister washed the dishes.

Do you see how the meaning is a little different that way? By combining the sentences, you can show a relationship between the two.

COMPOUND SENTENCE: Use a comma before the conjunction when it joins independent clauses (or sentences). Be careful that you really have two complete sentences, though. Look at this example:

EXAMPLE: I cleaned up my room and washed the dishes.

There should be no comma in this sentence because what comes after the conjunction is not a complete sentence.

EXCEPTION TO THE COMPOUND SENTENCE RULE:

IF you are using the conjunction “and,”

AND

IF either of the sentences contains four words or less

DO NOT USE A COMMA.

EXAMPLE: I cleaned up my room and my sister vacuumed.
(no commas because the second sentence is only three words long.)

But remember that this exception only applies when the conjunction is **AND**. If you used the same sentence above and substituted the conjunction **but**, or any other conjunction such as **or**, **nor**, or **yet**, you'd need a comma.

Lesson One

History Overview and Assignments The First Battle Between Ironclads

There was fighting on sea as well as on land. The South sent out privateers to catch the merchant vessels of the North and so bring ruin on their trade. But Lincoln replied by proclaiming a blockade of Confederate ports and essentially isolating the South from the rest of the world.



The Battle of Hampton Roads

Vocabulary

blockade
ironclad
impertinent

Key People and Events

Abraham Lincoln
Merrimack
Monitor
Ulysses S. Grant

Reading and Assignments

- Read the article: *Lincoln – The Story of the First Battle Between Ironclads*, pages 6-7.
- Define each vocabulary word in the context of the reading and put the word and its definition in the vocabulary section of your notebook.
- After reading the article, summarize the story you read by either:
 - Retelling it out loud to your teacher or parent.
 - OR
 - Completing an appropriate notebook page.Either way, be sure to include the answers to the discussion questions and an overview of key people, dates, and events in your summary.
- Be sure to visit www.ArtiosHCS.com for additional resources.

Discussion Questions

1. What challenges did the North face in having a strong blockade of Southern ports and trade?
2. Describe the battle between the *Merrimack* and the *Monitor*.
3. Why is it said that the battle between the *Merrimack* and the *Monitor* saved the Union?

Adapted from the book:

This Country of Ours

by H. E. Marshall

Lincoln - The Story of the First Battle Between Ironclads

There was fighting on sea as well as on land. The South sent out privateers to catch the merchant vessels of the North and so bring ruin on their trade. But Lincoln replied by proclaiming a blockade of all Confederate ports.

This was a bold thing to do, for several reasons. First, the coast to be watched was some three thousand miles long, and the government had fewer than fifty ships to blockade it with. Second, when the blockade was proclaimed, many of these ships were far away in foreign lands. Third, the greatest navy yard, at Norfolk in Virginia, was in the hands of the Confederates, and was therefore not available for the building of new ships.

So at first the blockade amounted to little. But by degrees it took effect. Ships that had been far away returned, others of all sorts and sizes were purchased, and still others were built with the utmost speed.

Slowly but surely the iron hand of the North gripped the commerce of the South, and before the end of the war the Southern ports were shut off from all the world.

This was a disaster for the Southerners, for they depended almost entirely on their cotton trade with Europe. Now the cotton rotted on the wharves. There were no factories in the South, for manufacturing could not be carried on with slave labor. So the Southerners depended entirely on the outside world for clothes, boots, blankets, iron, and all sorts of war material. Now they were cut off from the outside world and could get none of these things.

But the Southerners did not meekly submit to being cut off from the world. They had hardly any ships of any kind, and none at all meant for war. But they had possession of the government navy yard at Norfolk. There they found a half-finished frigate. They proceeded to finish her and turn her into an ironclad. When finished she was an ugly looking, black monster with sloping sides and a terrible iron beak, and she was given the name *Merrimack*.

At this time there were only about three ironclads in all the world. They belonged to Britain and to France, and had never yet been used in naval warfare. So when this ugly black monster appeared among the wooden ships of the North she created frightful havoc. It was one day in March that the black monster appeared in Hampton Roads, where there was a little fleet of five Federal warships.

The Federal ships at once opened fire upon the uncouth thing. But to their surprise their shots fell harmlessly from its sides, and paying no heed to their guns it made straight for the Cumberland and struck her such a terrible blow with her sharp beak that she sank with all on board. The defeated ship went down gallantly flying her flag to the last.

The Merrimac then turned upon another ship named the Congress. The struggle between a wooden vessel and an ironclad was a hopeless one from the beginning. But the Congress put up a splendid fight, and only when the ship was afire did she give in.

It was dusk by now and the terrible *Merrimack* veered off, leaving the Congress a blazing wreck.

The Federals were filled with consternation. This strange, horrible vessel would certainly return with daylight. And what chance had any wooden ship against it?

But help was near.

The government also had been busy shipbuilding. A Swede named Ericsson had invented a new vessel which would resist cannon fire. This ship was just finished, and came into Hampton Roads almost immediately after the battles with the *Merrimack*. When the commander heard the news, he took up his position beside the burning Congress and waited for dawn.

This new vessel was called the *Monitor*, and a stranger vessel was never seen afloat. Its hull, which was ironclad, hardly showed above the water, and in the middle there was a large round turret. It looked, said those who saw it, more like a cheese wheel on a raft than anything else.

Like a tiger hungry for prey, the *Merrimack* came back next morning. The captain expected an easy victory, but to his surprise he found this queer little cheese wheel between him and his victims. He

would soon do in the impertinent little minnow, he thought, and he opened fire. But his shells might have been peas for all the effect they had, and the *Monitor* steamed on unhurt until she was close to the *Merrimack*. Then she fired.

A tremendous duel now began, which lasted three hours. The lumbering *Merrimack* tried to run down her enemy, but the quick little *Monitor* danced round and round, turning the turret now this way, now that, firing how she pleased like a terrier yapping at a maddened bull. At length the *Merrimack* gave up the tussle and sailed away.

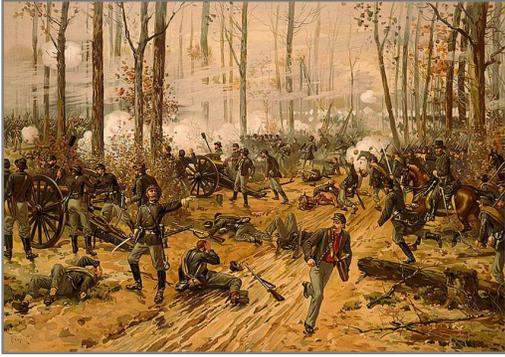
This was the first battle ever fought between ironclads, and it has been called a draw. But in truth the honors were with the little *Monitor*, for she forced her big opponent to run away.

It might almost be said that this battle saved the Union, for it showed the Confederates that they would not have it all their own way on sea, and that since they were building ironclads the Federals were building them also. And indeed the government built ships so fast that by the end of the war, instead of having only about forty they had over six hundred ships, many of them ironclad.

Lesson Two

History Overview and Assignments The Battle of Shiloh and the Taking of New Orleans

With Grant other successes soon followed the taking of Fort Donelson, and many places both in Kentucky and Tennessee fell into the hands of the Federals.



The Battle of Shiloh by Thure de Thulstrup

Key People and Events

General Johnston
General Sherman
Battle of Shiloh
General Beauregard
Captain Farragut
Capture of New Orleans
General Lovell
Battle of Vicksburg
General Beauregard

Vocabulary

torrent

impotent

allegiance

undaunted

Reading and Assignments

- Read the article: *Lincoln- The Battle of Shiloh and the Taking of New Orleans*, pages 9-12.
- Define each vocabulary word in the context of the reading and put the word and its definition in the vocabulary section of your notebook.
- After reading the article, summarize the story you read by either:
 - Retelling it out loud to your teacher or parent.
 - OR
 - Completing an appropriate notebook page.Either way, be sure to include the answers to the discussion questions and an overview of key people, dates, and events in your summary.
- Be sure to visit www.ArtiosHCS.com for additional resources.

Discussion Questions

1. Why was the control of New Orleans so important to each army?
2. Describe the Battle of New Orleans.
3. What did the governor of Mississippi say when called upon to surrender the town of Vicksburg?

Adapted from the book:

This Country of Ours

by H. E. Marshall

Lincoln - The Battle of Shiloh and the Taking of New Orleans

With Grant other successes soon followed the taking of Fort Donelson, and many places both in Kentucky and Tennessee fell into the hands of the Federals.

By the beginning of April, Grant, with an army of forty thousand men, lay at Pittsburg Landing on the Tennessee River. At Corinth, about thirty miles to the south, the Confederates were gathered in equal force. But although the Confederates were so near and in such force, the Federals took no heed. They had of late won so many easy victories that they had begun to think lightly of the foe. So no attempt was made to protect the Union army. No trenches were dug, and but few scouts were sent out to watch the movements of the enemy. The Confederate leader, General Johnston, therefore determined to creep up stealthily and attack the Federals where they lay in fancied security.

As secretly as possible, he left Corinth and marched towards Pittsburg Landing. The weather had been wet, the roads were deep in mud, but in spite of dreadful difficulties for two days the army toiled silently on. At length, on the night of Saturday the 5th of April, they arrived within four miles of the Federal lines.

Here they halted for the night. The men had brought no tents, they dared light no fires lest they should be seen by the foe. So, weary, wet, and shivering they lay on the cold damp ground, awaiting the dawn while secure in the comfortable shelter of their tents, the Federals slept peacefully. So

secure indeed did Grant feel his position to be that he was not with his army that night, but at Savannah some miles distant.

At daybreak the Federal camp was astir. Men were washing and dressing, some were cooking or eating breakfast, most of the officers were still abed, when suddenly the sound of shots broke the Sunday stillness, and the wild "rebel yell" rent the air.

A moment later the surrounding woods seemed to open and pour forth an army. With tremendous dash the Confederates flung themselves upon the half dressed, weaponless crowd of men who fled before them, or were bayoneted before they could seize their muskets. Thus the greatest battle that as yet had been fought on the continent of America was begun.

Soon the roar of cannon reached Grant at Savannah. He knew at once that a fierce battle had begun, and flinging himself on his horse he hurried back to the camp. At eight o'clock in the morning he arrived. But already it seemed as if his army was defeated. It was, however, to be no easy victory for the Confederates. Many of the Federals were only raw recruits, but after the first surprise and flight they rallied repeatedly, making many a stubborn stand against the onslaught of the foe, which from the first great charge of early dawn till darkness fell never seemed to slacken.

In many colored uniforms, with many colored pennants waving over them, the Confederates charged again and yet again. And with each charge the air was rent with

their wild yell, which could be heard far and wide, even above the roar of the cannon. Bit by bit the Union army was pressed back. They fought doggedly as they went while from division to division Grant rode, cheering, directing, and urging them to greater and ever greater efforts.

Some of the fiercest fighting raged round the little log meeting house called Shiloh, and from this meeting house the battle takes its name. Sherman commanded here, and he held his untried men together with marvelous skill, handling them as no other commander on the field could have done, said Grant later.

On the Confederate side through the thickest of the battle rode Johnston. More than once his horse was shot under him, and his clothes were torn to pieces, but still through the fray he rode unharmed. At length a ball hit him in the thigh. He paid no heed. Still his tall soldierly figure dominated the battle, still his ringing voice cheered on his men. Then suddenly the voice grew faint, the tall figure bent, and a deathly whiteness overspread his cheeks.

“General, are you wounded?” asked one of his officers, anxiously.

“Yes,” he answered, faintly, “and I fear badly.”

They were his last words. Gently he was lifted from his horse and laid on the ground, and within a few minutes he died.

When the sun went down the Confederates claimed the victory. But if victory it was, it was too dearly bought with the death of their commander-in-chief. Nor did the Federals own themselves beaten. They were dumbfounded and bleeding, but not shattered. They felt that the struggle was not over, and still facing each other the weary armies lay down to rest on the field,

under the lashing rain, each side well aware that with the morrow would come the decisive contest.

All through the night the guns from the river boomed and crashed, and rain fell in torrents, adding to the discomforts of the wearied men, making sleep almost impossible.

When day dawned rain still fell in a cold and dismal drizzle. The Federals, however, rose cheerfully, for the inspiring news that twenty-five thousand fresh troops had arrived ran through the lines. Before the sun had well risen the battle began again, but now the advantage was on the Federal side.

The Confederates fought bravely still. To and fro rode General Beauregard cheering on his men, but step by step they were driven backward and by noon were in full retreat. As the Federals realized that the day was theirs, cheer after cheer went up from their lines.

The second day’s fighting had turned the battle of Shiloh into a victory for the Union, although not a decisive one. On the same day, however, the navy captured a strongly fortified island on the Mississippi called Island Number Ten, with its garrison of seven thousand men and large stores of guns and ammunition. This considerably increased the force of the victory of Shiloh and gave the Federals control of the Mississippi Valley from Cairo to Memphis.

Meanwhile command of the lower Mississippi had also been wrested from the Confederates by General Benjamin F. Butler in command of the army and Commander David Glasgow Farragut in command of the fleet.

Captain Farragut, who was already sixty-three at this time, was a Southerner

by birth, but he had never faltered in his allegiance to the Union. “Mind what I tell you,” he said to his brother officers when they tried to make him desert his flag, “you fellows will catch the devil before you get through with this business.” And so unshaken was his faith that he was trusted with the most important naval expedition of the war, the taking of New Orleans.

New Orleans is about a hundred miles from the mouth of the Mississippi and the Confederates, who were aware even more than the Federals of the importance of the great waterway, had from the very beginning done their utmost to secure it. Seventy-five miles below New Orleans, two forts named Jackson and St. Phillips guarded the approaches to the city. These the Confederates had enormously strengthened, and had stretched a great chain between them from bank to bank, to prevent the passage of hostile ships. They had also gathered a fleet of ironclads and gunboats further to defend the city.

In spite of all these defenses, the Federals determined to take New Orleans and on the 18th of April the Union ships began to bombard the forts. The Confederates replied fiercely, and for four days the sky seemed ablaze and the earth shook. Then, having succeeded in cutting the chain across the river, Farragut determined to sail past the fort and take New Orleans.

At two o'clock in the morning the ships began to move. The night was dark but very still and clear, and soon the noise of slipping anchor cables warned the enemy of what was afoot. Then a very hail of shot and shell fell upon the Federal boats. Burning fire ships too were sent down upon them, and the red light of battle lit up

the darkness. Yet through the baptism of fire the vessels held on their way undaunted. The forts were passed, the Confederate fleet disabled and put to flight, and Farragut sailed unhindered up the river.

At his approach, New Orleans was seized with panic. Filled with a nameless fear women and children ran weeping through the streets, business of every kind was at a standstill. The men, mostly gray-haired veterans and boys, turned the keys in their office doors and hurried to join the volunteer regiments, bent on fighting to the last for their beloved city. Thousands of bales of cotton were carried to the wharves and set on fire, lest they should fall into the hands of the enemy. Ships too were set on fire and cast loose, till it seemed as if the whole riverfront was wrapped in flames. Thirty miles away the glare could be seen in the sky, and at the sight even strong men bowed their heads and wept. For they knew it meant that New Orleans had fallen, and that the queen of southern cities was a captive.

But there was no fighting, for General Lovell who was in command of the city marched away with his army to support other portions of the Confederacy as soon as the Union ships appeared, knowing he didn't have a great enough force to defend New Orleans now that the forts had been defeated. The citizens who were left were filled with impotent wrath and despair. They felt themselves betrayed. They had been assured that the city would fight to the last. Now their defenders had marched away, leaving them to the mercy of the conqueror.

The streets were soon filled with a dangerous, howling cursing mob, many of

them armed and all of them desperate. Yet calmly through it, as if on parade, marched two Federal officers, without escort of protection of any kind. The mob jostled them, shook loaded pistols in their faces, yelling and cursing all the while. But the two officers marched on side by side unmoved, showing neither anger nor fear, turning neither to right nor to left until they reached the city hall, where they demanded the surrender of the city.

“It was one of the bravest deeds I ever saw done,” said a Southerner, who as a boy of fourteen watched the scene.

By the taking of New Orleans, Farragut won for himself great fame. His fame was all the greater because in his fleet he had none of the newly invented ironclads. With only wooden vessels, he had fought and conquered. *“It was a contest between iron hearts and wooden vessels, and ironclads with iron beaks, and the iron hearts won,”*

said Captain Bailey who served in the expedition under Farragut.

After taking New Orleans Farragut sailed up the river and took Baton Rouge, the state capital. So at length the Federals had control of the whole lower river as far as Vicksburg. The upper river from Cairo was also secure to the Federals. Thus save for Vicksburg the whole valley was in their hands, and the Confederacy was practically cut in two.

But Vicksburg stood firm for the South. When called upon to surrender, the governor refused. *“I have to state,”* he said, *“that Mississippians do not know, and refuse to learn, how to surrender to an enemy. If Commodore Farragut, or Brigadier General Butler, can teach them, let them come and try.”*

At the time soldiers enough could not be spared to help the fleet to take Vicksburg. So, for the time being it was left alone.

Lesson Three

History Overview and Assignments The Slaves are Made Free

Lincoln felt that his first object was to save the Union “and not either to save or destroy slavery. If I could save the Union, he said, without freeing any slaves I would do it. If I could save it by freeing all the slaves I would do it. And if I could save it by freeing some, and leaving others alone I would also do that.” Gradually however, as the war dragged on, Lincoln began to believe that the only way to save the Union was to free the slaves. So, he prepared his Emancipation Proclamation and waited until the right time to make it public. After the Battle of Antietam, he issued his proclamation.



The first reading of the Emancipation Proclamation

Key People and Events

General George McClellan
General Ulysses S. Grant
General Robert E. Lee
General Thomas
“Stonewall” Jackson
Battle of Bull Run
Battle of Antietam
Emancipation Proclamation
General Ambrose E.
Burnside
Battle of Fredericksburg

Reading and Assignments

- Read the article: *Lincoln – The Slaves are Made Free*, pages 14-17.
- Memorize the Emancipation Proclamation.
- Define each vocabulary word in the context of the reading and put the word and its definition in the vocabulary section of your notebook.
- After reading the article, summarize the story you read by either:
 - Retelling it out loud to your teacher or parent.
 - OR
 - Completing an appropriate notebook page.Either way, be sure to include the answers to the discussion questions and an overview of key people, dates, and events in your summary.
- Be sure to visit www.ArtiosHCS.com for additional resources.

Vocabulary

impetuous

dislodge

Discussion Questions

1. Why was General McClellan dismissed as commander in chief?
2. Who replaced General McClellan?
3. Who succeeded Joseph E. Johnston in command of Confederate forces?
4. Describe the background of Robert E. Lee.
5. Describe Stonewall Jackson and explain how he got his nickname “Stonewall.”
6. What was Lincoln’s chief object in the war?
7. What was the Emancipation Proclamation and why did Lincoln issue it?

Adapted from the book:

This Country of Ours

by H. E. Marshall

Lincoln - The Slaves are Made Free

The Federals rejoiced greatly at the successes of Grant and the navy, and indeed they had need of success somewhere to keep up their spirits, for on the whole things did not go well. George McClellan was commander-in-chief, and although he drilled his army splendidly he never did much with it. He was a wonderful organizer, but he was cautious to a fault and always believed the enemy to be far stronger than he really was.

He was at last dismissed and was succeeded by one commander-in-chief after another. Not one proved truly satisfactory. Indeed it was not until the last year of the war, when Ulysses S. Grant took command, that a really great commander-in-chief was found.

At the beginning of the war, no matter who was leader, the long campaigns in Virginia ended in failure for the Federals. On the Confederate side these campaigns were led first by Joseph E. Johnston, and then by the great soldier, Robert E. Lee.

Lee came from soldier stock, being the

youngest son of “Light Horse Harry Lee,” who had won fame during the War of the Revolution. He was a noble, Christian gentleman, and when he made his choice and determined to fight for the South, he believed he was fighting for the right.

With Lee was Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson, his great “right hand,” and perhaps a finer soldier than Lee himself. His men adored him as they adored no other leader. Like Cromwell he taught them to pray as well as to fight. He never went into battle without commending his way to God, and when he knelt long in prayer his men might feel certain that a great fight was coming. He was secret and swift in his movements, so swift that his troops were nicknamed “Jackson’s foot cavalry.” Yet he never wore his men out. He thought for them always, and however urgent the situation might be, he called frequent halts on his flying marches and made the men lie down even if only for a few minutes.

To conquer such leaders and the men devoted to them was no easy matter, and it was not surprising that the campaigns in Virginia marked few successes for the Federals. At length the long series of failures ended with a second, and for the Federals, disastrous, Battle of Bull Run. This was followed two days later by the Battle of Chantilly, after which the whole Federal army fell back to Washington.

Lee, rejoicing at his successes in Virginia, made up his mind then to invade Maryland, which state he believed would readily join the Confederacy. But he was disappointed. For if the Marylanders had not much enthusiasm for the Union cause, they had still less for the Confederate, and the invaders were greeted with exceeding coldness. Their unflinching good fortune, too, seemed to forsake the Confederates, and the Battle of Antietam, one of the fiercest of the war, although hardly a victory for the Federals, was equal to a defeat for the Confederates. For fourteen hours the carnage lasted, and when at length night put an end to the slaughter thousands lay dead on either side. Next day, having in a fortnight lost half his army, Lee withdrew once more into Virginia.

Lincoln's chief object in carrying on the war was not to free slaves, but to save the Union.

"My first object is to save the Union," he wrote, "and not either to save or destroy slavery. If I could save the Union without freeing any slaves I would do it. If I could save it by freeing all the slaves I would do it. And if I could save it by freeing some, and leaving others alone I would also do that." Gradually, however, Lincoln began to believe that the only way to save the Union was to free the slaves.

Many people impetuously urged him to do it. But Lincoln would do nothing rash. It was a tremendous step to take, and the question as to when would be the right moment to take it was, for him, one of tremendous importance. So he prepared his Emancipation Proclamation and bided his time. Following his own good judgment and the advice of one of his Cabinet, he resolved not to announce it so long as things were going badly with the North, lest it should be looked upon as the last measure of an exhausted government, a cry for help. It was not to be sent forth into the world as "a last shriek in the retreat," but as a companion to victory.

But victory was slow in coming. At length the great battle was fought at Antietam. It was scarcely a victory, for the Federals had lost more men than had the Confederates. Yet it had to pass for one. And a few days after it, Lincoln issued his proclamation of Emancipation. In this he declared that in every state which should be in arms against the government on the 1st of January, 1863, the slaves should be free forevermore. This gave the rebel states more than three months in which to lay down their arms and return to their allegiance.

Meanwhile the war went on. In November General Ambrose E. Burnside was appointed Union commander of the army of the Potomac. He accepted the post unwillingly, for he did not think himself great enough to fill it. It was soon proved that he was right.

On December 13th, a great battle was fought at Fredericksburg in Virginia. The weather had been very cold, and the ground was covered with frost and snow. But on the morning of the 13th, although a

white mist shrouded the land, the sun shone so warmly that it seemed like a September day. Yet, though the earth and sky alike seemed calling men to mildness and peace, the deadly game of war went on.

The center of the Confederate army occupied some high ground known as Marye's Heights, and Burnside resolved to dislodge them. It was a foolhardy attempt, for the hill was strongly held, the summit of it bristled with cannon. Yet the order was given, and with unquestioning valor the men rushed to the attack. As they dashed onward the Confederate guns swept their ranks, and they were mowed down like hay before the reaper. Still they pressed onward, and after paying a fearful toll in dead and wounded they at length reached the foot of the hill. Here they were confronted by a stone wall so thick and strong that their fire had not the slightest effect on it, and from behind which the Confederates poured a deadly hail of bullets upon them.

Here the carnage was awful, yet still the men came on in wave after wave, only to melt away as it seemed before the terrible fire of the Confederates. "It was like snow coming down and melting on warm ground," said one of their leaders afterward.

Never did men fling away their lives so bravely and so uselessly.

An artillery battery was ordered forward.

"General," said an officer, "a battery cannot live there."

"Then it must die there," was the answer.

And the battery was led out as dashing as if on parade, although the

men well knew that they were going to certain death.

At length the short winter's day drew to a close, and darkness mercifully put an end to the slaughter.

Then followed a night of pain and horror. The frost was intense, and out on that terrible hillside the wounded lay beside the dead, untended and uncared for, many dying from cold ere help could reach them. Still and white they lay beneath the starry sky while the general who had sent them to a needless death wrung his hands in cruel remorse. "Oh, those men, oh, those men," he moaned, "those men over there. I am thinking of them all the time."

So great was the suffering that a Confederate officer named Richard Kirkland was moved the next morning to provide water to numerous Union wounded lying on the field of battle. Union soldiers held their fire as it was clear what Kirkland's intent was. Kirkland was nicknamed the "Angel of Marye's Heights."

Burnside knew that he had failed as a general, and in his grief and despair he determined to wipe out his failure by another attempt. But his officers well knew that this would only mean more useless sacrifice of life. With difficulty they persuaded him to give up the idea, and two days later the Federal army crossed the Rappahannock and returned to their camp near Falmouth.

With this victory of Fredericksburg the hopes of the Confederates rose high. They believed that the war would soon end triumphantly for them, and that the South would henceforth be a separate republic. There was no need for them, they thought, to listen to the commands of the president of the North, and not one state paid any

heed to Lincoln's demand that the slaves should be set free.

Nevertheless on New Year's Day, 1863, Lincoln signed the great Emancipation Proclamation.

He had first held a great reception and had shaken hands with so many people that his right hand was trembling. "*If they find my hand trembling,*" he said to the secretary of state as he took up his pen, "*they will say, 'He hesitated,' but anyway it is going to be done.*"

Then very carefully and steadily he wrote his name. It was the greatest deed of his life. "If my name is ever remembered," he said, "it will be for this act, and my whole soul is in it."

And thus slavery came to an end. From the beginning of the war there had been a danger that France and Britain might help the South. Lincoln had now made that impossible by making the war one against

slavery as well as one for Union. For both France and Britain were against slavery by that time, and could not well help those who now fought to protect it.

Now that they were free, many African Americans entered the army. At this the Southerners were very angry and declared that any who were taken prisoner would not be regarded as soldiers, but simply as rebellious slaves, and would be punished accordingly. But in spite of their anger many African American regiments were formed, and they proved themselves good soldiers. And before the end of the war the Confederates, too, were making use of African American soldiery. But this was cutting the ground from under their own feet, and showing the injustice of slavery. For, as a Southerner said, "If [an African American] is fit to be a soldier, he is not fit to be a slave."

