

African American Civil War Museum

My name is Banister Jackson.

I am a 12 year-old slave boy who ran away to join the Union Army. As you walked up the promenade into the museum you may have seen a banner with my picture on it. Join me as I show how and why I became a soldier in the United States Colored Troops.

Can you find my picture inside the museum?

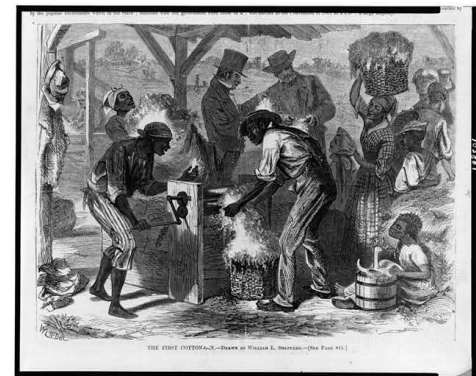


Look for these under "Building a Nation" →

These shackles were used to secure African captives in the belly of ships as they crossed the Atlantic Ocean.

Why were slaves kept in shackles?

How long do you think it took to cross the Atlantic Ocean?



Go to "A Military Necessity" and look for this picture.

Cotton was a major cash crop and the invention of the cotton gin made production easier and made slavery more profitable.

What year was the cotton gin invented?

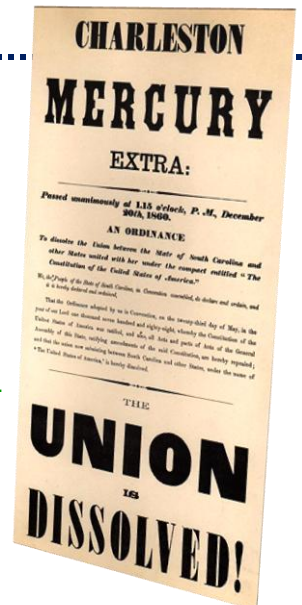
Go to "Electing Secession" → South Carolina became the first of 11 states to secede from the Union on December 24, 1860.

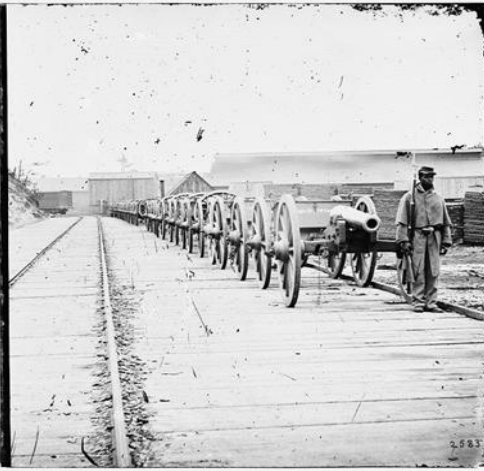
10 other state seceded— write the names of the other states next to their abbreviations below.

Why do you think they decided to leave the Union?

- 1. MS _____
- 2. LA _____
- 3. NC _____
- 4. VA _____
- 5. FL _____

- 6. GA _____
- 7. AL _____
- 8. TX _____
- 9. AR _____
- 10. TN _____





Find "A Soldier's Duties"



Over 200,000 African American soldiers answered the Union's call for help and enlisted in the Army. Fill in the blanks below to find out what types of duties they performed.

Ar__il__ery

__av__l__y

M__sicia__

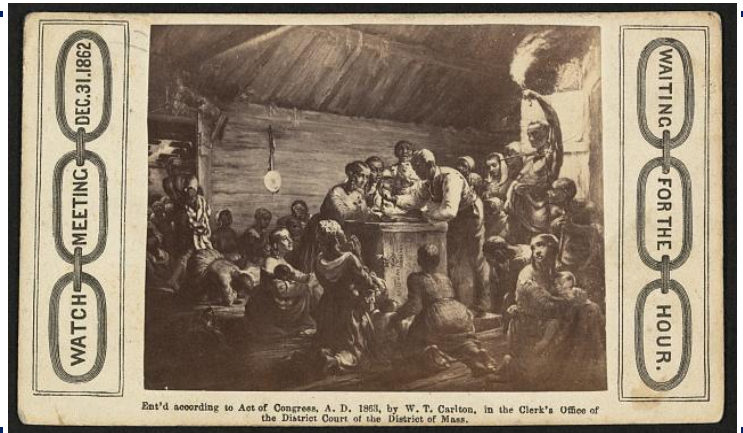
l__ant__y

P__o__ee__

Go to "The Union and Emancipation"

In this picture African Americans are gathered around a man with a watch waiting for the issuing of the Emancipation Proclamation.

Why were they waiting for the issuing of the Emancipation Proclamation?
What did the Proclamation do?



Go to "Powerful Allies"

The 54th Massachusetts Infantry was the 9th regiment of African American soldiers mustered into service under the United States Colored Troops. The regiment was commanded by Colonel Robert Gould Shaw, and Frederick Douglass' son was a Sergeant Major.

What was their most famous military assault?

Bonus! Go To "Military Contributions"

Harriet Tubman, born a slave in 1823, escaped and went on to lead many slaves to freedom. During the Civil War she was a spy for the Union Army and became the only woman to lead soldiers in the United State Colored Troops. Can you find another picture of Harriet Tubman in the exhibit?
Which state was she born in?



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