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Chapter 28 Extra Credit

by Joe Escobar - Saturday, February 23, 2013, 2:05 PM

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QUESTION- 13th Ammendment

by Whitney Stevens - Sunday, March 3, 2013, 6:06 PM

Lincoln worked towards making slavery illigel, by passing the 13th ammendment. However, the struggle with Democrats made it difficult. "Even if the war had killed slavery, they (Democrats) refused to help bury it" (McPherson). How many of the eighty democrats voted "aye" on this ammendment? How many were lame ducks and how many failed to show? What type of lobbying went on to pass this ammendment? Is it ever fair to make deals/lobby in government to pass a new law, ammendment, exc?


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ANSWER

by Julie Skinner - Sunday, March 10, 2013, 9:25 PM

Most of the Democratic party "...preferred to stand on principle in defense of the past." (McPherson 839:2) The party was officially opposed to the

13th Amendment. There were a few holdouts. When the amendment finally went to the House for a vote, it would pass with only two votes to spare, 119 to 56. Sixteen of the eighty Democrats voted “aye”, fourteen of which were lame ducks, an official, whose successor has already been elected and is approaching the end of his or her term. Eight of the Democrats were absent and therefore did not vote.

The Lincoln administration identified about twelve lame-duck Democratic Congressmen who they would offer certain incentives to if they would bore for the Amendment. Secretary of State Seward oversaw the lobbying of these Congressmen. Some of them were offered government jobs for themselves or relatives, others were granted other favors.

I believe that lobbying and making deals can be a fair way to gain votes needed to pass important legislation, as long as what is offered is legal and it is done without strong-arming or pressure of any kind. We live in a give-and-take society, if there weren't lobbyists nothing would ever get through the House.

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Freedmen's Bureau

by Micah Young - Sunday, March 3, 2013, 6:30 PM

"The wartime experience of Union army officers who governed occupied territory, of Treasury agents who had charge of abandoned plantations, and of freedmen's aid societies that sent missionaries and teachers to the freed slaves made clear the need for a government agency to coordinate their efforts." Having enacted emancipation, the government now grappled with how to provide opportunity and services (such as employment and education) to men and women that, during their lives as slaves, were unavailable to them. The US government initially considered legislation to establish a freedmen's bureau in '63 but it wasn't passed until March 3, 1865. McPherson also states "The success or failure of the Freedmen's Bureau would be partly determined by the political terms of reconstruction." What was the stated goal of the Freedmen's Bureau, what was it's formal title, and how would reconstruction legislature affect its success? Briefly, how was Sherman's Order No. 15, the Freedmen's Bureau, and pending reconstruction legislation interconnected?



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Re: Chapter 28 Extra Credit  



by Jessica Cadenasso - Sunday, March 3, 2013, 10:34 PM

"Victory itself would be robbed of its glory if shared with the help of black men" said a mississippi congressman, Why did he says this and what start this whole debate about arming blacks whit guns in the confederate army?



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ANSWER  

by Micah Young - Sunday, March 10, 2013, 8:18 PM

""Victory itself would be robbed of its glory if shared with slaves," said a Mississippi congressman" (pg. 835). This quote is in reply to McPherson's statement that "many southerners apparently preferred to lose the war than to win it with the help of black men." Regarding the use of slaves in battle, the *Lynchburg Republican* declared, "we infinitely prefer that Lincoln shall be the instrument of our disaster and degradation, than that we ourselves should strike the cowardly and suicidal blow" (pg. 836). These sentiments were expressed in response to debate about whether it was reasonable to arm southern slaves in order to save the Confederacy from defeat. Now, in the early part of 1865, Confederate leaders in desperation were beginning to consider certain military options for the first time.

In September, 1864, the governor of Louisiana proposed the use of "every able-bodied negro men as a soldier" (pg. 833). "A month later the governors of six more states, meeting in conference, enigmatically urged the impressment of slaves for "the public service as may be required"" (pg. 833). "On November 7, Jefferson Davis urged Congress to purchase 40,000 slaves for work as teamsters, pioneers, and laborers with the promise of freedom after "service faithfully rendered"" (pg. 834). However, this proposal was too radical for Congress and it did not act on the president's request. In his analysis of the debate about using slaves to defend the Confederacy, McPherson uses several questions to present the southern dilemma: "had secession been a means to the end of preserving slavery? Or was slavery one of the means for preserving

the Confederacy, to be sacrificed if it no longer served that purpose" (pg. 832)? By 1864, southerners were beginning to realize that they might have to make a choice between the two, as intoned by the *Jackson Mississippian*, "Although slavery is one of the principles that we started to fight for... if it proves an insurmountable obstacle to the achievement of our liberty and separate nationality, away with it" (pg. 833)!

Three months had passed since Davis' November proposal to use slaves as laborers and now, in February 1865, as Lee's army was diminishing while under siege at Petersburg, Sherman was driving through South Carolina, and Canby and Wilson were moving through Alabama, Davis was pressing Congress to arm slaves to fight against the Yankees. He had Lee's support for this proposal as well as the acceptance of soldiers defending Petersburg. A bill "authorizing the president to requisition a quota of black soldiers from each state" (pg. 837) narrowly passed the House and Senate, becoming law on March 13. Still, much dissention and debate continued about the consequences of arming slaves and whether or not their freedom should be guaranteed to exchange for military service.

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QUESTION: Surrender

by Julie Skinner - Sunday, March 3, 2013, 11:19 PM

On April 9, 1865 at Appomattox, the war would end with General Robert E. Lee's surrender to General U. S. Grant. Explain the terms of this surrender, the favor that Lee asked for and was granted, what Grant did to help bring the former rebels back into the Union and the symbolic gesture Joshua Chamberlain made at the formal ceremony three days later.



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ANSWER Surrender

by Whitney Stevens - Sunday, March 10, 2013, 9:03 PM

The terms of the surrounder allowed officers and men to go home and "not to be disturbed by US authority" (McPherson, 849). This allowed Confederate

solidiers to not be prosecuted for Treason. Grant allowed all of the confederate solidiers to keep their horses, at the request of Lee. Grant also sent 3 days of rations to the 25,000 confederate solidiers that remained, in an effort to promote unity.

At the official surrender, three days later, Chamberlain ordered the solidiers to "carry arms", as a salute to General John Gordon, one of Lee's best Generals and Gordon returned the salute and ordered his men to "carry arms" as well.



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