

## WAGING PEACE ENDNOTES (Parts I and II)

<sup>1</sup> The Copperheads were led by Ohio congressman **Clement Van Landingham**, who was such a pain to Lincoln that Lincoln: (a) had newspapers which supported Copperhead views seized and closed; (b) had Van Landingham arrested during a session of Congress by federal marshals; (c) had Van Landingham thrown into prison, and (d) had Van Landingham deported to Canada. All of these are, obviously, violations of the Constitution. From late 1863-1864 Van Landingham conspired with Free Soilers and Border State supporters of the Confederacy to attempt the formation of a **Northwestern Confederacy** consisting of Iowa, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, Ohio, Missouri, and New York. Came REALLY close to succeeding, too.

<sup>2</sup> Remember: Abolition was always relatively **regional in nature**, primarily confined to New England and the Burned Over District of New York, and consequently a minority, albeit a loud minority, throughout the 1850s and the war years. Although they never represented the majority of the northern populace, who were far more of a Free Soiler mentality than anything else, their desire for post-war political power through the enfranchisement of freed slaves relegated their public reputation far out of proportion to their actual constituency.

<sup>3</sup> This intent was actually quite effective. As a result of a provision of the Emancipation Proclamation, over 250,000 African Americans served in the Union Army from 1863-1865. Northern commanders eventually came to prefer black troops to immigrant soldiers due to the obvious: blacks had everything to gain, nothing to lose, and were possessed by a sacred crusade of freedom. Hard to beat that combination . . . but there was a problem: They were considered expendable.

<sup>4</sup> Abraham Lincoln, Presidential Address, 11 April 1865. *Papers of Abraham Lincoln, 1864-1865, Vol. VI*. Lincoln Presidential Library, University of Illinois Press, 1970.

<sup>5</sup> You think that this election business may have been behind the timing of the 10% Plan? Hmmm . . .

<sup>6</sup> In a telling statistic to the basic difference in Grant and Lee's logistic situations, in the first 20 minutes of the Battle of Cold Harbor 7,000 Union soldiers died in an ill-conceived frontal charge at entrenched Confederate lines reminiscent of the Stone Wall at Fredericksburg and Picket's Charge at Gettysburg. The difference? Because Grant could replace his casualties, typically with Irish immigrant and African American troops, he launched the same attack, with roughly the same results, the next morning.

<sup>7</sup> Although the Confederate army surrendered, NOT SO THE NAVY, which consequently plied the seas waging a *course de guerre* against Union commerce, fishing, and whaling. This, of course, could not last, and in June 1865 the leviathan Confederate cruiser CSS *Stonewall*, rumored to be invincible (she had stared down two Union warships in Spanish waters off of Corruna, Spain and forced the Federal ships into a shameful, unorganized retreat without firing a shot) and the South's best hope to relieve the blockade and rain destruction on northern cities, surrendered to Spanish authorities in Cuba (her skipper Thomas Jefferson Page could not bear to let the Union have his ship, so he sold *Stonewall* to the Spanish for the amount owed his crew in wages). The last naval action of the war occurred in November 1865, when CSS *Shenandoah* surrendered to Union warships in the Bering Sea. **SHAMEFUL PLUG WARNING!!!!** My upcoming book examines the saga of Captain Page and CSS *Stonewall*; look for it next year (maybe) from the United States Naval Institute Press. And yes, you are correct: I have no shame.

<sup>8</sup> He was also a Jacksonian in his personal pursuits. He possessed an inclination to duel, held no affection for Henry Clay, and by association, Abraham Lincoln, and he never met a jug of "potlikker" he didn't like. Unlike Jackson, however, Johnson had difficulty saying no to a drink, and was infamous at appearing in public . . . including his inauguration . . . stone cold drunk.

<sup>9</sup> After a tense meeting with Frederick Douglass, who was understandably concerned about Johnson's direction of Reconstruction, Johnson complained to his executive secretary "Those SOB's are trying to trap me in the memory of a dead president. I know that damned Douglass, he's just like any [racial epithet deleted] who would sooner cut a white man's throat as look at him." James Oakes *The Radical and the Republican: Frederick Douglass, Abraham Lincoln, and the Triumph of Antislavery Politics*, 255.

10 Throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century the overwhelming majority of ALL Americans, including Abraham Lincoln, were in favor of white control of their society, hence the popularity of colonization. As Lincoln himself stated in an 1864 speech “I have always been in favor of my race remaining the dominant one.” No wonder he drove Douglass and Garrison nuts.

11 In yet another heated White House exchange with Frederick Douglass regarding post-emancipation black equality Johnson emphatically stated to Douglass “I think you will find that the colored people can live and advance to better advantage elsewhere than crowded in the South. There will be no work, only conflict. To this end I suggest emigration. If your black people cannot find employment and peace in the South they have it in their power to go to where they can get them.” Oakes, *Radical and Republican*, 254.

12 Many northern congressmen were appalled at Stephens’ presence, as he was still under federal indictment for treason.

13 Tindal and Shi, *America: A Narrative History*, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition, 724.

14 *Civil Code of the State of Mississippi, 1866*.

15 Eric Foner *Reconstruction: America’s Unfinished Revolution*, 265.

16 Tindal and Shi, 729.

17 Ibid.

18 Reconstruction historian Eric Foner of Columbia University identifies this change in dynamic as “reconstruction NOT for the Southern states, but for the entire nation.” Foner, *Reconstruction*, 87.

19 Ibid. 305

20 Others claim it was the blood of a murdered carpetbagger in Mississippi; either way, to Southern extremists a dead Yankee is still a dead Yankee.

21 Each new state constitution, which must include males over 21 years of age of ANY “race, color, or previous condition of servitude,” must include provisions for the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment.

22 The Radicals claimed that since Johnson was serving out Lincoln’s term by virtue of assassination he could not constitutionally remove any of Lincoln’s cabinet. This is pure, partisan political BS; the precedent to remove a previous president’s cabinet had been set by John Tyler in the wake of William Henry “Tippecanoe and Cold Medicine Too” Harrison’s death in 1841.

23 **RED FLAG!!!!** What the heck were the Radicals thinking? Freedom from the oppression of military justice is directly listed in the Declaration of Independence. Ignorance of this, whether intentional or not, does not bode well for civil liberties in post-Civil War America.

24 Grant, obviously in an awkward position having replaced his boss, refused the position and returned it to Stanton.

25 Tindal and Shi, 735.

26 Lord knows this wasn’t the first attempt to impeach Johnson. Throughout his battles with the Radical Republicans he was accused of, among other things, having an affair with a woman who was seeking pardons for former Confederates; public drunkenness (heck, if that were an impeachable crime Congress, then and now, would be empty); he was even accused as being an accomplice to the assassination of Lincoln. Tindal and Shi 732.

27 Ahem . . . **what about women????** Well, they remain on the outside looking in; the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Amendments were the first to contain the word “male” and specify exactly who would . . . and who would not . . . enjoy civil right protection and the right to vote. You have to assume that going home after a hard day’s work to a POS (pissed off suffragette) wasn’t the most warm and fuzzy feeling in the world. And they wonder why it took so long to rid men of their alcohol . . .

28 The Klan played on freedman superstition, often dressing in outlandish costumes that conjured images of

ghouls. Later they would dress in their infamous uniform of white robe and hood, supposedly representing the ghosts of dead Confederate soldiers bent on vengeance.

<sup>29</sup> In Louisiana alone in 1868, 25 freedmen were murdered and over 250 injured, most often by mutilation.

<sup>30</sup> Tindal and Shi 745.

<sup>31</sup> I love this word. “Cracker” is not a racial or derogatory slur; it was a term used by yeoman farmers and poor whites to refer to themselves. Many times these poor folks could not afford to eat anything other than dry hardtack flour wafers, or crackers; hence the term. Within the culture of resentment afforded to the cavalier elites by these regular folks, “cracker” became a badge of honor; it was a euphemism for “yeoman.” Andrew Jackson would have worn it with pride; Andrew Johnson did.

<sup>32</sup> They acquired their name due to their practice of packing their belongings in travel bags made of old carpet remnants. There were instances that, in a horrific irony, many of them, after becoming acquainted with the Klan, were found with their mutilated and severed remains stuffed inside these same bags.

<sup>33</sup> Even though many former Confederates were able to retain at least portions of their land most were forced to either sell or enter into tenant farming arrangements to try and recover losses due to the devastation of war, the least of which was due to the lost labor costs.

<sup>34</sup> Remember what this saying means? You read about it “The Personal Side of a Developing People.”

<sup>35</sup> Tindal and Shi, 800.

<sup>36</sup> For years this situation permeated the lowland areas of the Mississippi Delta, resulting in the birth of the blues. Crop lien slavery was what Robert Johnson, John Lee Hooker, BB King, Muddy Waters, among others, were blue about. Crop liens are still being paid off in the river parishes of northeastern Louisiana; I’ve seen this firsthand and it is heartbreaking. Remind me to tell you about it.

<sup>37</sup> Ibid, 783.

<sup>38</sup> To fulfill his campaign promise to pay off the national debt in gold Grant ordered that all wartime greenbacks be retired; taking inflationary paper money out of circulation is known as a contraction.

<sup>39</sup> This Panic was precipitated overseas; the first stock market to fold was in Vienna, Austria.

<sup>40</sup> Henry Adams, quoted in Tindal and Shi, 790.

<sup>41</sup> Ibid. 791

<sup>42</sup> In this respect “filibuster” refers to the tactic of initiating a series of speeches designed to preclude voting on an issue. Often it is the only weapon a minority party has against the majority party. It can be ridiculous, it’s almost always entertaining, but it definitely works . . . which is why the *threat* of a filibuster is all you really need.

<sup>43</sup> This speech actually had its impetus earlier in 1881, ironically at the Atlanta International Cotton Exposition, by virtue of a speech delivered by a black advocate for a New South. We’ll talk about this a little later, but it should come to no surprise that of all persons involved blacks had the greatest desire to see something . . . anything . . . change

<sup>44</sup> This was Grady taking an intentional shot at the overt pretension of the ongoing “Gilded Age.”

<sup>45</sup> Henry Grady, “The New South Creed.” *Harper’s Weekly*, 1886.

<sup>46</sup> Textiles were also the harbinger of the Industrial Revolution in England.

<sup>47</sup> This is a cool instance of economic revenge. IF New England’s textiles entrepreneurs had demanded subsidies from Congress ala pre-war, the same subsidies would have been available to southern mills. HAH!

<sup>48</sup> OK, inadvertent personal tangent note here: *Domus Scalianus* is Tarheel Territory, which means we

(especially the Beast, a former Cy Fair High School basketball All-American) abhor anything having to do with Duke University. The University of North Carolina was the first public university in American history to hold classes (1795) and gave the world His Airness Michael Jordan; due to its founding by Buck Duke of Bull Durham fame we refer to Duke as the “School that Cancer Built,” whose law school gave the world Richard Nixon. Yep, we root hard and mean in my world . . . and we hate Duke almost as much as the Dallas Cowboys.

<sup>49</sup> The predominance of iron and smelting was so vital to Alabama’s economy that the annual football game played between the states’ two primary universities (University of Alabama and Auburn University) is known as the Iron Bowl. For years it was played in, you guessed it, Birmingham.

<sup>50</sup> Drake later founded his own oil company; it was named after the state in which he made his discovery and called Quaker State

<sup>51</sup> C. Van Woodward *Origins of the New South 1867-1913*, 168. For credibility, these “great men” usually had some sort of Confederate military affiliation; that’s why Harlan Sanders of KFC fame referred to himself as “Colonel” Sanders.

<sup>52</sup> “**Home Rule**” referred to the reinstatement of local (ie ‘home’) control of Southern society rather than to adhere to the constraints of the Republican-imposed Reconstruction state constitutions. Its success served as the rebirth of the post-war watered-down doctrine of state rights.

<sup>53</sup> One of the most, uh, entertaining books you can read is Pollard’s *The Lost Cause*, published in 1866. Horribly biased, historically questionable (as are most biased works of history), it does reveal the Bourbon Redeemer state of mind in the post-Reconstruction years. It is Southern salve for the soul, but it is also one heckuva hoot and a half!

<sup>54</sup> The most notorious system was the one run in Louisiana by Chief Warden Joseph James. James and his conspirators, the actions of whom were ultimately responsible for thousands of convict deaths, were collectively known as the “James Gang.” James was arrested for his conspiracy in 1903 and soon found himself in the company of some of those he had leased out. Awkward.

<sup>55</sup> From 1860 until 1912 the Democrats will capture the White House only two times, and that was by the same man (Grover Cleveland). We’re talking dynasty here, dynasty born of Reconstruction



