

Chapter Summary

Section 1: Democratic Reform in Britain

At the beginning of the 1800s, Britain was a constitutional monarchy in which only the rich and privileged were truly influential. By the 1900s it had transformed itself into a parliamentary democracy.

Section 2: Social and Economic Reform in Britain

Reformers called for a great many changes during the 1800s and early 1900s. These included penal reform, women's suffrage, and relief for workers. The troubles in Ireland remained a persistent problem.



Chapter Summary (continued)

Section 3: Division and Democracy in France

France prospered in the mid-1800s, but Emperor Napoleon III involved the nation in several costly adventures. The Third Republic made many reforms.

Section 4: Expansion of the United States

The United States expanded under its belief in Manifest Destiny. After the Civil War reforms, slavery was abolished but segregation still existed. Later, the Populists and Progressives continued to seek reforms.

Objectives

- Describe how reformers worked to change Parliament in the 1800s.
- Understand the values that Queen Victoria represented.
- Summarize how the Liberal and Conservative parties helped bring a new era to British politics.



Terms and People

- **rotten borough** – rural town in England that sent members to Parliament despite having few or no voters
- **electorate** – the body of people allowed to vote
- **secret ballot** – votes cast without announcing them publicly
- **Queen Victoria** – longest-reigning monarch in British history; embodied the values of her age including duty, thrift, honesty, hard work, and respectability

Terms and People (continued)

- **Benjamin Disraeli** – leader of the Conservative Party; pushed the Reform Bill of 1867 to increase suffrage in England
- **William Gladstone** – leader of the Liberal Party; worked to extend suffrage to farm workers and most other men
- **parliamentary democracy** – a form of government where ministers are chosen by, responsible to, and members of an elected legislature or parliament



How did political reform gradually expand suffrage and make the British Parliament more democratic during the 1800s?

Benjamin Disraeli described Britain in the 1800s as “two nations”, one right, one poor. He and other political leaders slowly worked to bridge the gap between these two nations by extending democratic rights.

Unlike some of its neighbors in Europe, Britain generally achieved change through reform rather than revolution.

In 1815 Britain was a constitutional monarchy

Members of the House of Commons were popularly elected, but only 5% of the people could vote.

The House of Lords had the power to veto bills passed by the House of Commons.

Despite a Parliament and two political parties, Britain was far from democratic.

Long-standing laws kept the system from becoming more democratic.



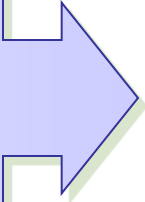
- Catholics and non-Anglican Protestants were denied the vote.
- Workers were moving from rural areas to new cities. Large landowners in these depopulated rural areas, or **rotten boroughs**, maintained seats in Parliament while growing cities had none.

Reformers fought to increase suffrage and correct imbalances in representation.

The Whig Party represented businessmen and the middle class looking for reform.

The Tory Party represented landowners and nobles who did not want major changes.

The Great Reform Act of 1832 finally brought change.



- The bill enlarged the electorate, allowing more men to vote.
- In 1832 Parliament changed the distribution of seats to eliminate rotten boroughs.

The **electorate** grew, but one still had to own property to vote. The middle class gained power, but the House of Lords still controlled Parliament.



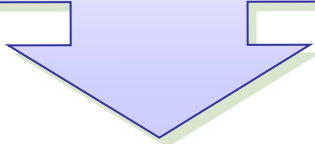
- Known as Chartists, these reformers demanded universal male suffrage and voting by **secret ballot**.
- Twice, million-signature petitions were ignored by Parliament. In 1848, Chartist marches were banned.
- Eventually, Parliament passed most of the reforms proposed by the Chartists.

The period from 1837 to 1901 is known as the Victorian age.



Although she had little real power, **Queen Victoria** set the tone for her age and symbolized British beliefs and values.

The queen embodied a strict code of morals and manners.



- Victorian values included thrift, honesty, duty, hard work, and respectability.
- The middle class gained new confidence under her reign as Britain's empire grew.
- Reformers were encouraged as Victoria noted the worthiness of the lower classes.

The 1860s were the dawn of a new age in British politics as the old parties regrouped under new leaders.

- **Benjamin Disraeli** reformed the Tories into the modern Conservative Party.
- **William Gladstone** led the new Liberal Party that evolved from the Whigs.

Between 1868 and 1880, Gladstone and Disraeli alternated as prime minister.

Both men pushed reforms that increased the size of the electorate.

Conservatives passed the Reform Act of 1867, giving working-class men the vote.

Liberals passed the Reform Act of 1884-85, giving farm workers the vote.

By 1900 most men could vote, and the secret ballot was passed.

In the early 1900s the House of Lords rejected a large number of acts passed by the House of Commons.

- After Commons threatened to appoint a flood of new lords, the House of Lords backed down.
- In 1911, most of the Lords' power was removed. Today the House of Lords is largely ceremonial.

Britain had transformed itself from a constitutional monarchy to a **parliamentary democracy**.



- Government ministers were elected by, responsible to, and members of Parliament.
- The Chartist goals of universal male suffrage and a secret ballot were almost completely met.
- In 1918 women over 30 were also given the vote.

Objectives

- Identify the social and the economic reforms that benefited British workers and others.
- Describe how British women worked to win the vote.
- Understand the causes of conflict between the British and the Irish nationalists.



Terms and People

- **free trade** – trade between countries without quotas, tariffs, or other restrictions
- **repeal** – to cancel a law
- **abolition movement** – the campaign against slavery and the slave trade
- **capital offense** – a crime punishable by death
- **penal colony** – a settlement to which convicts were sent

Terms and People (continued)

- **absentee landlords** – one who owns a large estate but does not live there
- **home rule** – local self-government

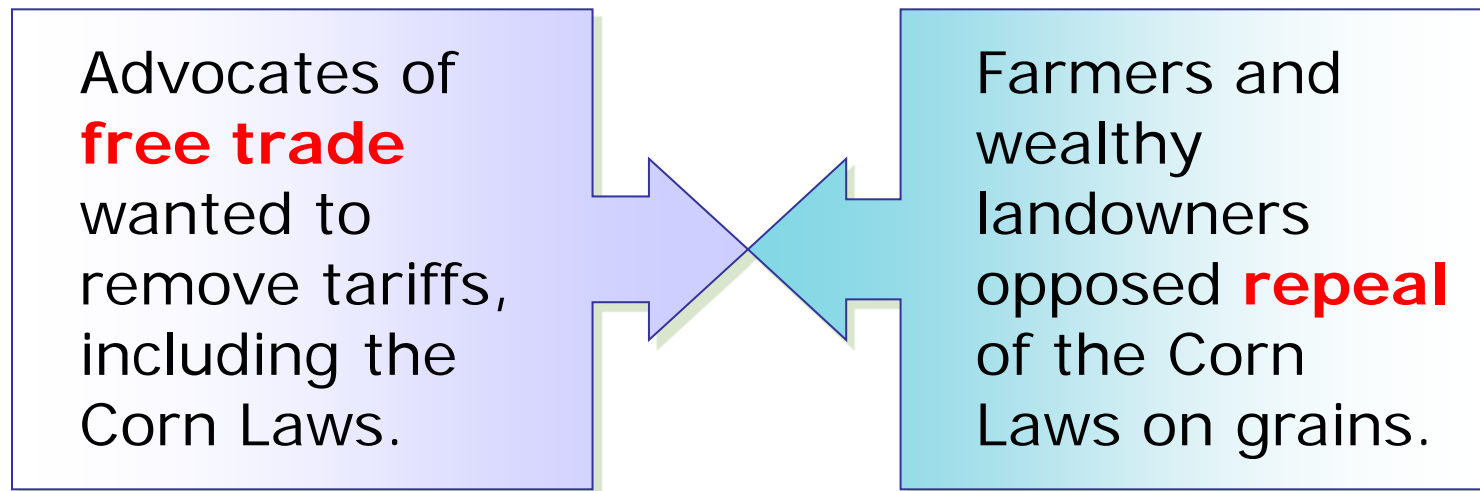


What social and economic reforms were passed by the British Parliament during the 1800s and early 1900s?

Suffragists were just one of many British groups fighting for reform in the 1800s. Between 1815 and 1914, Parliament passed a series of social and economic reforms.

At the same time, the question of British control over Ireland was becoming a dominant and divisive political issue.

Britain taxed imports to protect local producers, including farmers.



“Corn” meant all grains, including crops such as wheat or barley.

Tariffs kept prices high by adding to the cost consumers paid.



- Free traders, who believed in Adam Smith's laissez-faire ideas, argued that repealing the tariffs would make food more affordable for workers.
- In 1846 Parliament finally repealed the Corn Laws.

British ships transported African slaves to America in the 1700s. **Abolitionists** fought hard to end the practice.

In 1807 Britain banned the slave trade on its ships.

In 1833 slavery was outlawed in all British colonies.

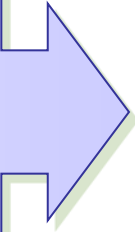
Reformers saw injustices in the criminal justice system, notably the number of **capital offenses**.

Over 200 crimes were punishable by death—even shoplifting.

- Reformers limited capital crimes to murder, arson, treason, and piracy.
- **Penal colonies** were set up. Convicts might be sent to Australia.

Prison conditions were improved, public hangings ended, and imprisonment for debt was outlawed.

Reformers began to pass laws to improve the harsh work conditions of the industrial age.



- In 1842 mine owners were **forbidden from hiring women or children under ten.**
- In 1847 the work day was **limited to ten hours for women and children.**
- Laws were passed later to further limit hours and set wages for all workers.

Reformers fought for better working conditions.

In 1825,
trade
unions were
legalized.

Strikes remained illegal until
later in the 1800s, but over
time unions won higher
wages and better conditions.

Unions grew gradually over the 1800s, then
membership soared between 1890 and 1914.

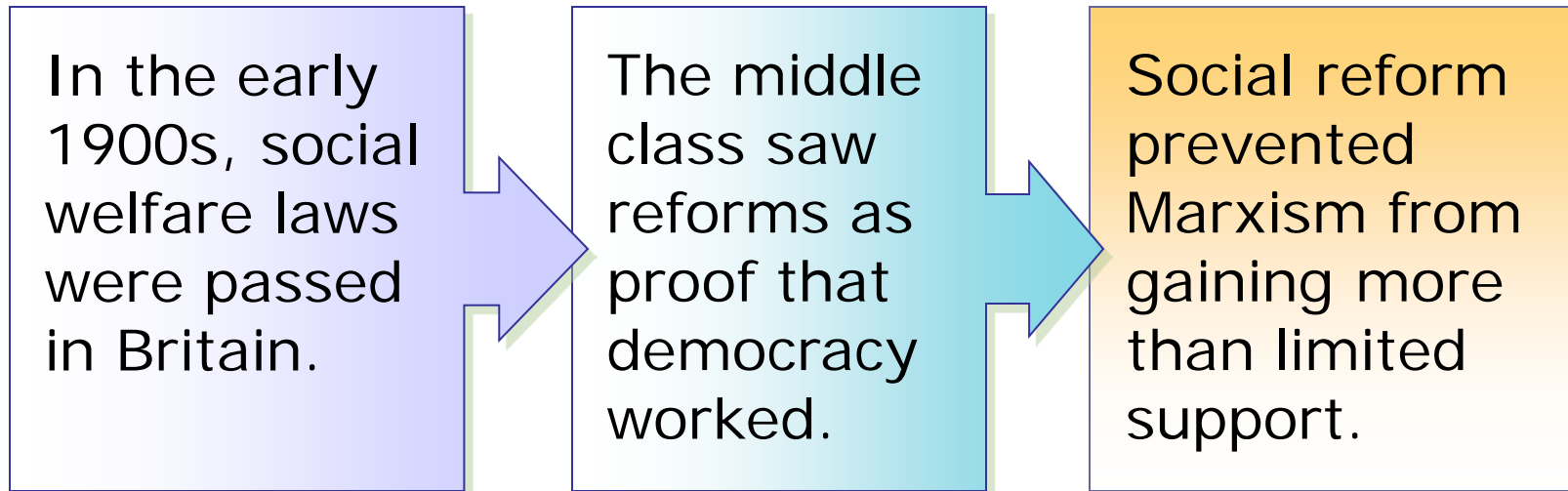
In the late 1800s and early 1900s, both political parties achieved social reform.



- Disraeli sponsored laws to improve public health and housing for workers in cities.
- Gladstone pushed for free elementary school education and merit tests for public service jobs.

The Fabian Society, a socialist group formed in 1883, was an important reform organization.

- Though small in size, **the Fabian Society was influential** as it pressed for gradual change in a nonviolent fashion through legislation.
- In 1900 **socialists and workers united to create the Labour Party**, which by the 1920s had become a major British political party.



Social welfare laws protected workers with accident, health, and unemployment insurance as well as old-age pensions.

Women suffragists demanded the right to vote.

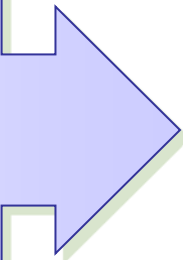


- Not all women supported suffrage; Queen Victoria called it a “mad, wicked folly.”
- In the early 1900s Emmeline Pankhurst led violent protests, while others resorted to hunger strikes.
- In 1918 the vote was granted to women over 30.
- Younger women got the vote a decade later.



The “Irish question” became a major issue for Britain.

In the 1600s, British and Scottish settlers colonized Ireland, taking possession of the best farm lands.



- By the 1800s most of these settlers were wealthy **absentee landlords** who did not live on the land.
- Poor Irish farmers resented these landlords, to whom they had to pay high rents.

In the 1800s, Irish nationalists led by Daniel O'Connell demanded "Ireland for the Irish."

In 1829 they won the right to hold office and to vote.

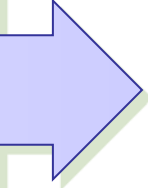
But many injustices remained. Absentee landlords could evict a tenant at will.

The situation became desperate when a potato blight struck in 1845.



- Three-quarters of Irish farm land was used to grow crops for export.
- The remainder was used to grow potatoes, which were the staple of the Irish diet.

The blight destroyed the potato crop. The other crops were still exported.



- During the “Great Hunger,” almost a million people died of starvation and disease.
- British relief agencies did little to help.
- Unable to pay their rent, destitute families were evicted.

Those who could emigrated, mainly to the United States or Canada.

Number of Overseas Emigrants from Ireland, 1851–1921*

1851–1860	1,216,219
1861–1870	818,582
1871–1880	542,703
1881–1890	734,475
1891–1900	461,282
1901–1910	485,461
1911–1921	355,295
Total 1851–1921	4,614,017

*Primarily to the United States, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand

SOURCE: Commission on Emigration and Other Population Problems, Dublin, 1954

- Resentment against Britain rose among those who couldn't leave.
- In the 1850s militants organized the Fenian Brotherhood to fight for **home rule**.

In the 1870s, moderate nationalists rallied behind Charles Stewart Parnell.

The Irish question continued to divide Parliament.

Gladstone pushed through laws that ended tithing to the Anglican Church and protected the rights of tenant farmers.

In 1914 a home rule bill was finally passed, but implementation was delayed by World War I.

Objectives

- List the domestic and foreign policies of Napoleon III.
- Analyze the impact of the Dreyfus affair and other challenges of the Third Republic.
- Describe the French government's steps toward reform in the early 1900s.



Terms and People

- **Napoleon III** – nephew of Napoleon Bonaparte; took power after the revolution of 1848; achieved reforms in France, but foreign policy failures led to his capture and exile
- **Suez Canal** – the canal that links the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean
- **provisional** – temporary
- **premier** – the prime minister

Terms and People (continued)

- **coalition** – an alliance of various political parties that join together to run a government
- **Dreyfus affair** – the conviction of Alfred Dreyfus on spying; based on false evidence due to anti-Semitism in the French government
- **libel** – the knowing publication of false and damaging information
- **Zionism** – the movement devoted to rebuilding a Jewish state in Palestine



What democratic reforms were made in France during the Third Republic?

In January 1871, France was forced to surrender to the Germans, ending the Franco-Prussian War. With their surrender, a long period of French domination of Europe ended. From the ashes of Napoleon III's Second Empire rose the Third Republic.

Economic growth, democratic reforms, and fierce nationalism all played a part in shaping modern France.

After the Revolution of 1848, Napoleon III proclaimed the Second Empire.

Napoleon appealed to many groups in French society. He promised to end poverty, restore past glory, and establish order.

At first glance, the government of Napoleon III looked like a constitutional monarchy, but in reality, it was a dictatorship.

The National Assembly was elected, but with tight control over candidates.

In the 1860s, Napoleon eased up on his control, lifting censorship and even offering a new constitution.

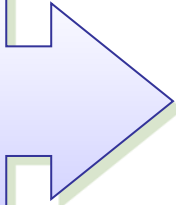
France prospered in the mid 1800s.



- Napoleon promoted large-scale projects, including railroads and urban renewal in Paris.
- Workers gained as unions were legalized and education was extended to girls.

Ferdinand de Lesseps organized the building of the **Suez Canal**, which linked the Red Sea to the Mediterranean.

Napoleon III had a number of disastrous foreign misadventures.




- He attempted to install Maximilian of Austria as ruler of Mexico.
- Maximilian was overthrown and shot by Mexican patriots.

Even his successes were costly. He gained territory while helping Italian states overthrow Austrian rule, only to have a united Italy emerge on France's border. Victory in the Crimean War yielded little benefit.

In 1870, Otto von Bismarck lured Napoleon into the Franco-Prussian War.



After surrounding and starving Paris, the Prussians forced France to surrender.



France had to pay a large sum and give Alsace and Lorraine provinces to Germany.

With the capture of Napoleon, republicans in Paris proclaimed the Second Empire ended.



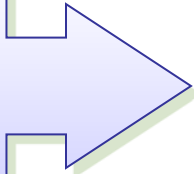
- A **provisional** government was set up in Paris.
- It evolved into the Third Republic.

In 1871 rebels in Paris set up the Paris Commune.



- Called Communards, their goal was to save the Republic from Royalists.
- Patriots among them dreamed of rejecting the terms of the treaty with Prussia.
- Radicals dreamed of establishing a new socialist order.

The National Assembly ordered the Communards to disband.



- When they refused, troops were sent to restore order.
- Civil war raged for weeks.
- Buildings were burned and 20,000 Communards died.

The Third Republic would last for 70 years.

It had two houses: the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies.

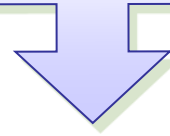
The Chamber of Deputies was elected by universal male suffrage.

The houses chose a president, but the **premier** had the real power.

Many parties formed **coalitions** to create a government.

Coalitions often broke down, leading to new elections.

During the 1880s and 1890s France prospered.



- France's war debt to Germany was paid and its overseas empire expanded.
- But the government was plagued by political scandal.

A minister of war was accused of plotting to against the government.

A nephew of the president was caught trying to sell nominations to the Legion of Merit.

The worst and most divisive scandal was the **Dreyfus Affair.**

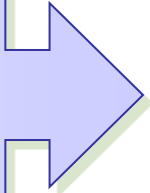
Alfred Dreyfus was accused of spying.

Dreyfus didn't receive a fair trial. He and his defenders were widely condemned and vilified.

Even the writer Émile Zola was charged with **libel** for defending Dreyfus.

Later it was proven that Dreyfus was innocent.

**The Dreyfus
Affair split the
nation, but the
real issue was
anti-Semitism.**



- At his trial, evidence had been hidden.
- A new trial was denied even when evidence surfaced that he was innocent.

Dreyfus was Jewish at a time when anti-Jewish feeling was on the rise in Europe. Most Jews were poor, lived in ghettos or slums, and were subject to increasing discrimination.

Rising anti-Semitism led Theodore Herzl to call for a separate Jewish state.

Many Jews wanted to escape European prejudice and return to their ancient homeland.

Herzl launched modern **Zionism**, a movement to restore a Jewish homeland in Palestine.

In the 1900s reform did come to France.

Government support for the Church ended.



- Schools were made public and payments to clergy ended.
- There was now freedom for all religions.
- In 1896, women received control of their own wages.
- A French Union for Women's Suffrage was founded in 1906, though women couldn't vote until after World War II.

By 1914 France was the largest democratic nation in Europe.

France was prosperous. It had an overseas empire and a constitution that protected basic rights.

But France was itching to avenge its defeat and regain the “lost provinces” of Alsace and Lorraine.

Objectives

- Describe how the territory of the United States changed during the 1800s.
- Summarize how American democracy grew before and after the Civil War.
- Analyze the impact of economic growth and social reform on the United States.



Terms and People

- **expansionism** – a policy of extending a nation's boundaries
- **Louisiana Purchase** – a large territory purchased from France in 1803
- **Manifest Destiny** – the belief that the United States was destined to expand from sea to sea across the entire North American continent
- **secede** – to withdraw; usually referring to part a nation leaving in an attempt to gain independence
- **segregation** – forced separation by race, sex, religion, or ethnicity



How did the United States develop during the 1800s?

In the 1800s, the United States was a beacon of hope for many people. The American economy was growing rapidly. The Constitution and Bill of Rights held out the hope of political and religious freedom.

Not everyone shared in the prosperity or the ideals of democracy. Still, by the turn of the nineteenth century, important reforms were being made.

The United States followed a policy of **expansionism** in the 1800s.

- Americans believed in **Manifest Destiny**, the idea that the United States was destined to expand across the entire continent from Atlantic to Pacific.
- The largest addition of land was the **Louisiana Purchase** in 1803. It virtually doubled the nation's size.



The nation added new territory throughout the 1800s.

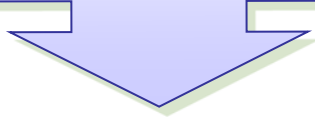
American expansionism



Covered wagons heading west.

Year	Territory
1803	Louisiana Purchase
1845	Texas Annexation
1846	Oregon
1848	Mexican Cession
1852	Gadsden Purchase
1867	Alaska
1898	Hawaii

In 1800, more people could vote in the United States than anywhere else in the world.



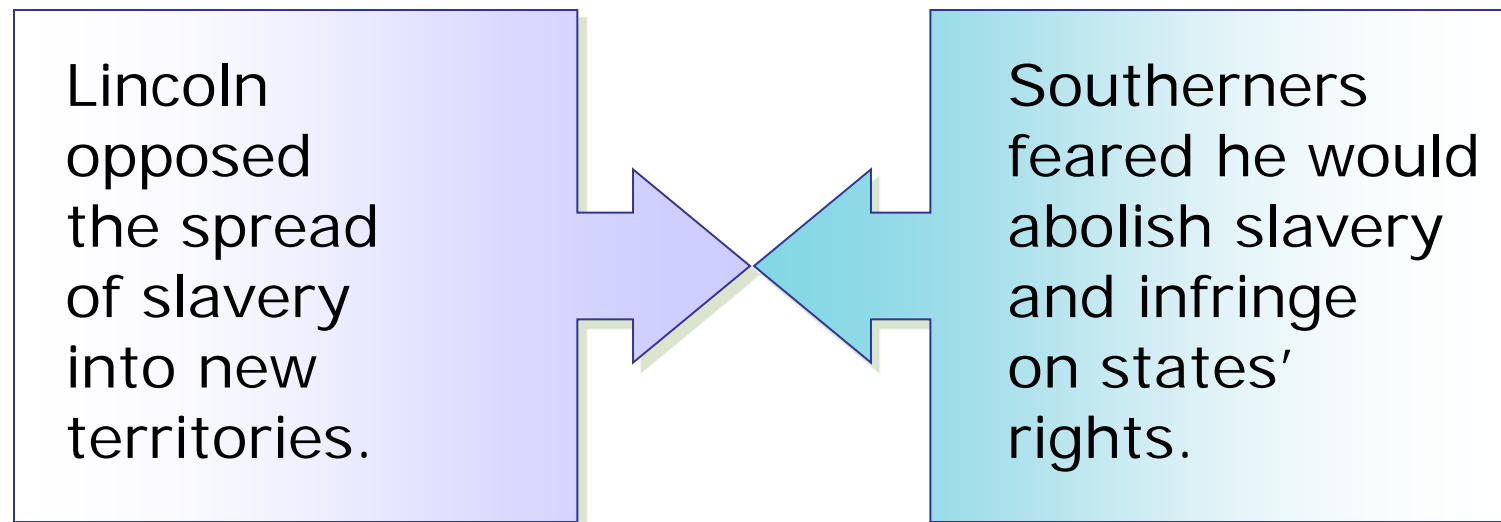
- Even so, only white men who owned property could vote.
- Reformers soon called for better care for the mentally ill, free elementary education, and a ban on the sale of alcohol.
- The major reform campaigns, however, were to abolish slavery and gain rights for women.

In the early 1800s a few reformers began to call for an end to slavery.

As new states joined the union, arguments over slavery erupted.

- William Lloyd Garrison printed a newspaper attacking slavery.
- Frederick Douglass, a former slave, gave eloquent speeches.
- Many northerners were convinced by reading Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin*.

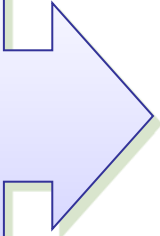
Economic differences as well as slavery split the union when Abraham Lincoln was elected president in 1860.



Following Lincoln's election in 1860, southern states **seceded** from the union, beginning the Civil War.

- The South had fewer men, industries, and resources and was eventually forced to surrender.
- The war lasted from 1861 to 1865, killing 600,000 Americans.

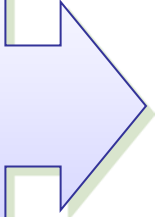
During the Civil War, Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, freeing slaves in the South.



- Following the war, three amendments were added to the Constitution.
- Slavery was banned, and former slaves were made citizens and given the right to vote.

Despite these amendments, **segregation** in the South separated the races. Other restrictions prevented African Americans from voting.

After the Civil War the United States became the world leader in manufacturing, transportation, and agriculture.



A special combination of factors contributed to this growth.

Factors that helped the United States economy grow:

Political stability

Private property rights

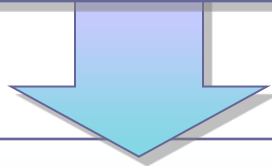
Free enterprise system

Inexpensive supply of labor (mostly immigrants)

Growing transportation network

New communication technologies

Wealth was not equally shared. Men such as John D. Rockefeller and Andrew Carnegie earned millions from monopolies in oil and steel.



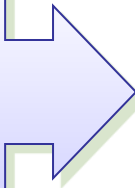
Factory workers labored under brutal conditions for low wages.



Union and business confrontations were often violent. Labor made very slow gains.

Farmers created a reform party called the Populists in the 1890s.

During economic hard times, farmers joined with urban workers.



The Populists never became a major political party, but some of their ideas, such as the eight-hour work day, were later adopted.

**In the
1900s the
Progressives
pressed for
reforms,
including:**



- An end to child labor
- Suffrage for women
- Regulation of monopolies
- Limited working hours
- More power for voters

The Progressives achieved many of their goals.