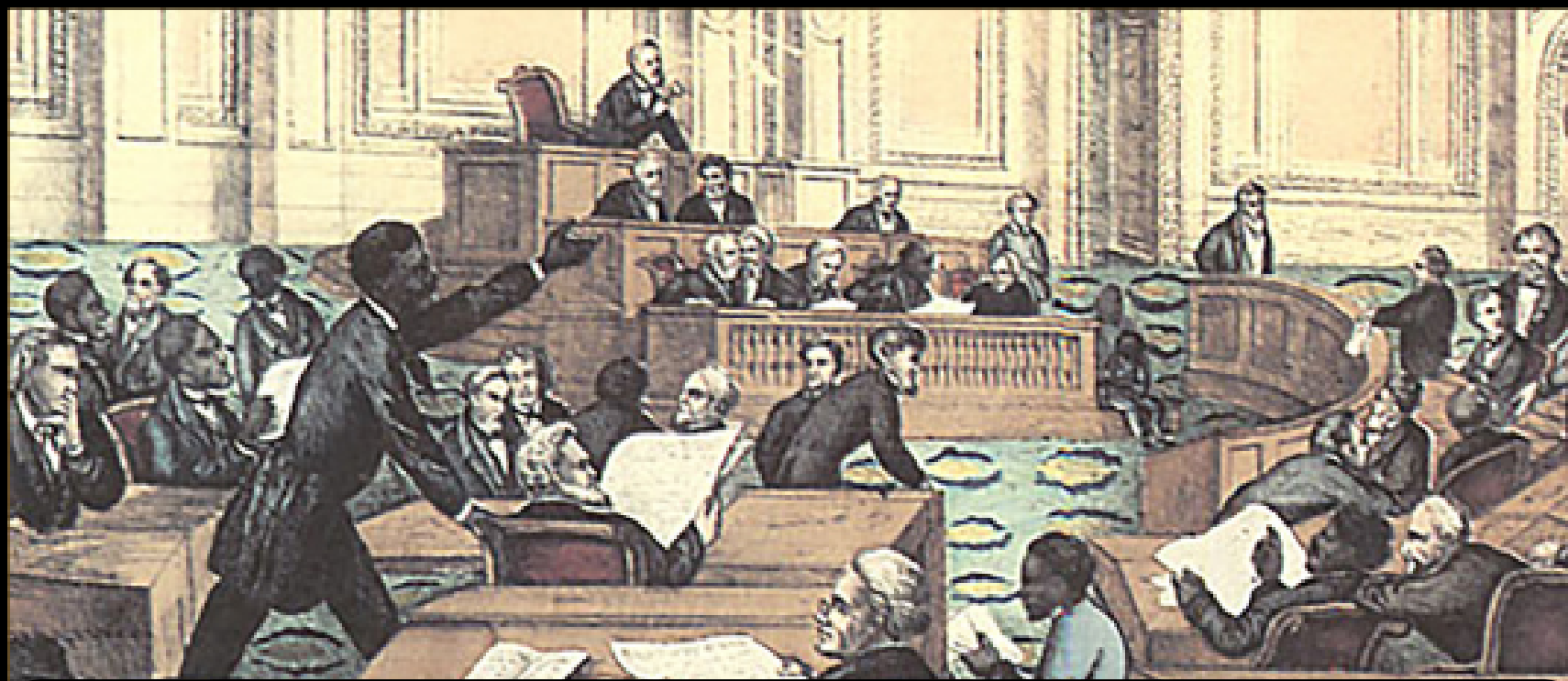




The Reconstruction Amendments

HISTORY IN A NUTSHELL Quiz





This quiz will test your knowledge on the history of the Reconstruction Amendments (13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments). Each question will be followed by the correct answer.

Think you know your history? Let's find out!

Ready?

Here We Go!

Question 1: What revolutionary invention caused the South's economy to skyrocket in profit following the American Revolutionary War?

- A. Steamboat (John Fitch, 1786)**
- B. Gas Turbine (John Barber, 1791)**
- C. Cotton "Gin" (Eli Whitney, 1793)**
- D. Preserving Jar (Nicolas Appert, 1795)**



The correct answer is...

C. Cotton “Gin”. Eli Whitney’s cotton engine (“gin” for short) made the processing of cotton much easier, and when the north’s demand for cotton increased, so too did the South’s need for laborers.

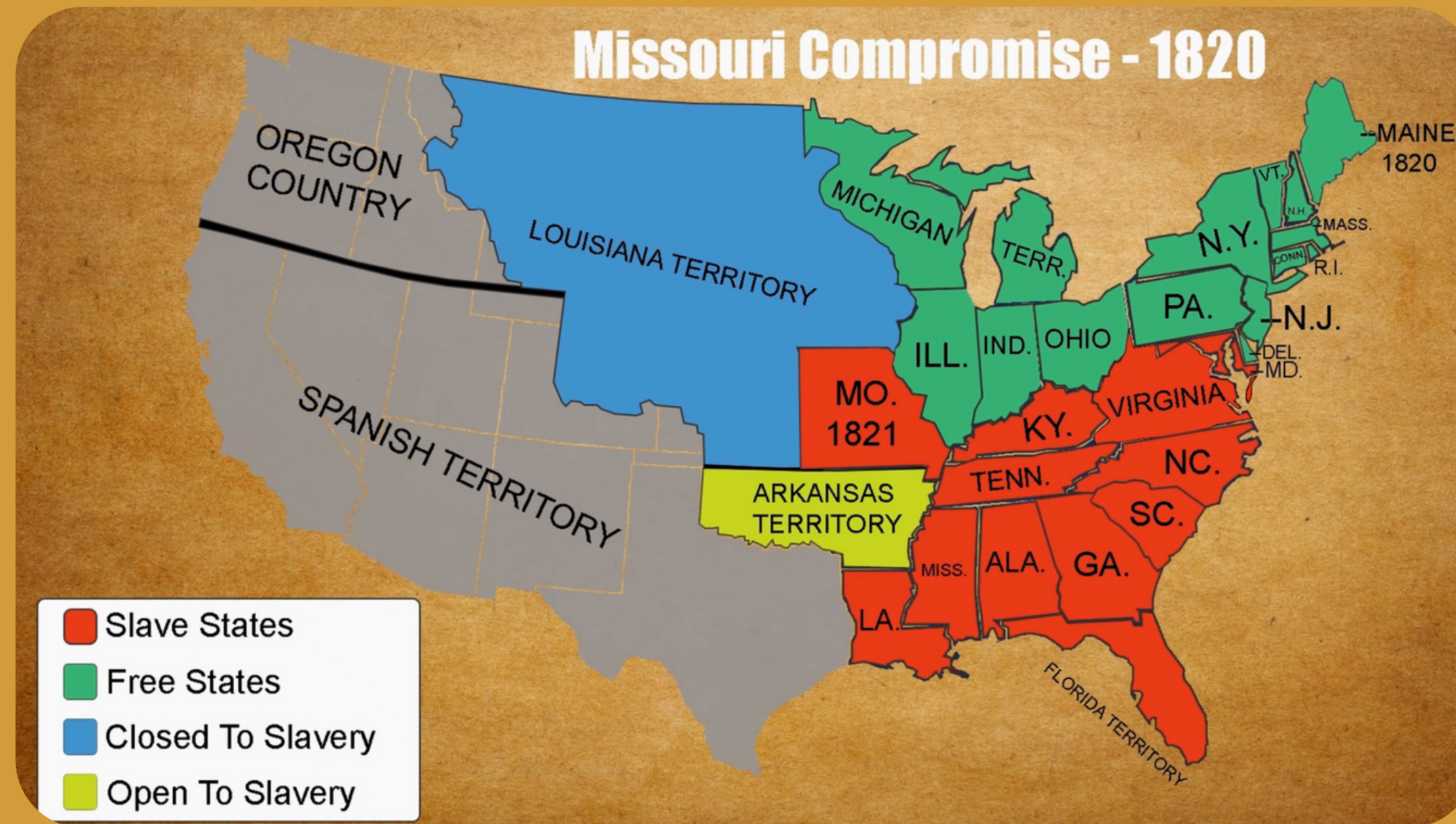
Question 2: Which critical legal decision in the early 1800's ruled that slavery would not be allowed in the Louisiana Territory north of the 36° 30' latitude line?

A. 3/5 Compromise

B. Missouri Compromise

C. Kansas–Nebraska Act

D. Dred Scott vs. Sanford Case



The correct answer is...

B. Missouri Compromise. Passed in 1820, to maintain the balance between free states and slave states, Missouri was admitted as a slave state, and Maine remained free. The Missouri Compromise also ruled that slavery would not be allowed in the Louisiana territory north of the 36° 30' latitude line. In 1854, the Missouri Compromise would be repealed by the Kansas–Nebraska Act, which decided that, under “popular sovereignty”, settlers in new states would decide for themselves if their state was free, or slave.

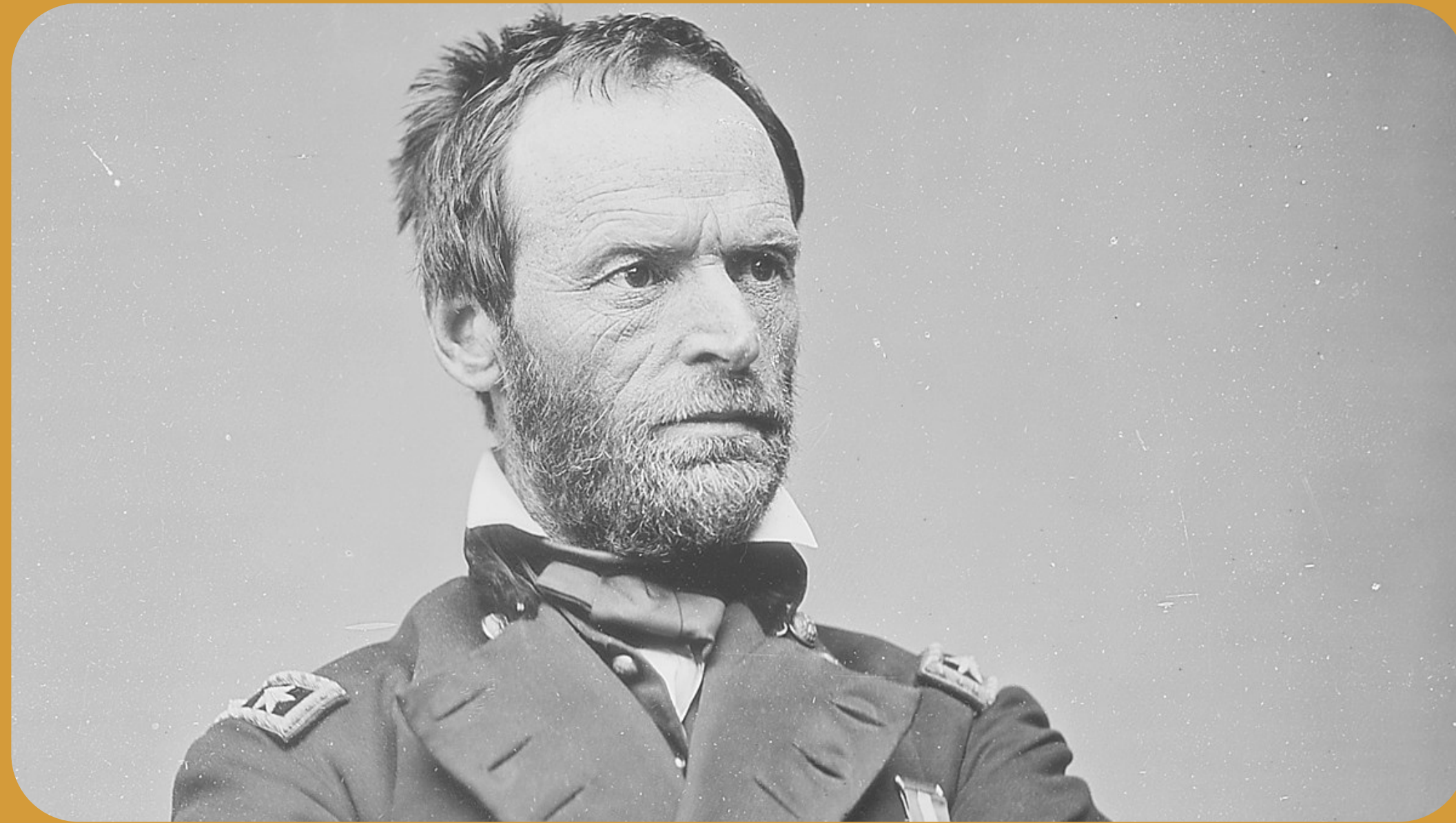
Question 3: Which Union General from the Civil War was the pioneer behind Special Field Order #15, or “Forty Acres and a Mule”?

A. William T. Sherman

B. Ulysses S. Grant

C. Ambrose Burnside

D. George McClellan



The correct answer is...

A. William T. Sherman. Union troops seized plantation lands during the Civil War, and under Special Field Order 15, those seized lands were intended to be broken up and redistributed to African American “Freedmen” so they could begin new lives. With the assassination of Pres. Abraham Lincoln in April 1865, and Pres. Andrew Johnson’s returning of plantation lands back to their original owners, “40 Acres and a Mule” never fully came to be.

Question 4: True/False – Reconstruction policies were enforced equally in the southern states as well as in the north.

True

False



The correct answer is...

False! Anger in the south was stirred even further at the blatant hypocrisy of Reconstruction policies in the north. Out of all the states in the north, only five allowed African Americans to vote; states such as Illinois, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, did not. “Why should we be forced to abide by Reconstruction policies when they aren’t tolerated in the north?” many southerners felt.

Question 5: Which U.S. President declared martial law and cracked down on White southern vigilantes to quell violence in southern states?

A. Andrew Johnson

B. Ulysses S. Grant

C. Rutherford B. Hayes

D. James A. Garfield



The correct answer is...

B. Ulysses S. Grant. The violence towards Blacks in the South became so bad, that President Ulysses S. Grant had to take matters into his own hands and declare martial law. Pres. Grant's crackdowns on White southern vigilantes gave a measure of peace during Reconstruction, albeit only temporarily.

Question 6: Which of the following factors led to Reconstruction's “great experiment in biracial democracy” to fail in 1877?

A. Government Corruption

B. Rumors of Black Lawmakers

Plundering the Treasury

C. The Panic of 1873

D. All of These



The correct answer is...

D. All of these contributed to Reconstruction's goals to fail. In 1877, Reconstruction had officially died, and much of the progress made for African American civil rights, would be undone. A backroom political compromise was struck. To solve the disputed results of the 1876 Election, Republicans could keep the White House, in exchange for their abandonment of Reconstruction policies. Thus, the era of Jim Crow and Segregation was ushered in.

How well
did you do?

