A historical painting depicting a battle scene from the American Civil War. The scene is filled with soldiers in uniform, some on horseback, engaged in combat. Several American flags are visible, flying amidst a large plume of white smoke that rises from the center of the battlefield. The background shows a vast field with more soldiers and a line of trees under a bright sky. The overall atmosphere is one of intense action and historical significance.

# ROAD TO THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR

# ROAD TO THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR

The Civil War, a defining moment in American history, began with the trigger event of the plan to resupply Fort Sumter.

This conflict would shape the nation's future and have profound social, economic, and political ramifications.



# BACKGROUND ON FORT SUMTER

- Fort Sumter held strategic importance as a federal military base in the South.
- President Lincoln's decision to send supplies to the fort was seen as a symbolic gesture of federal authority in the face of secession.

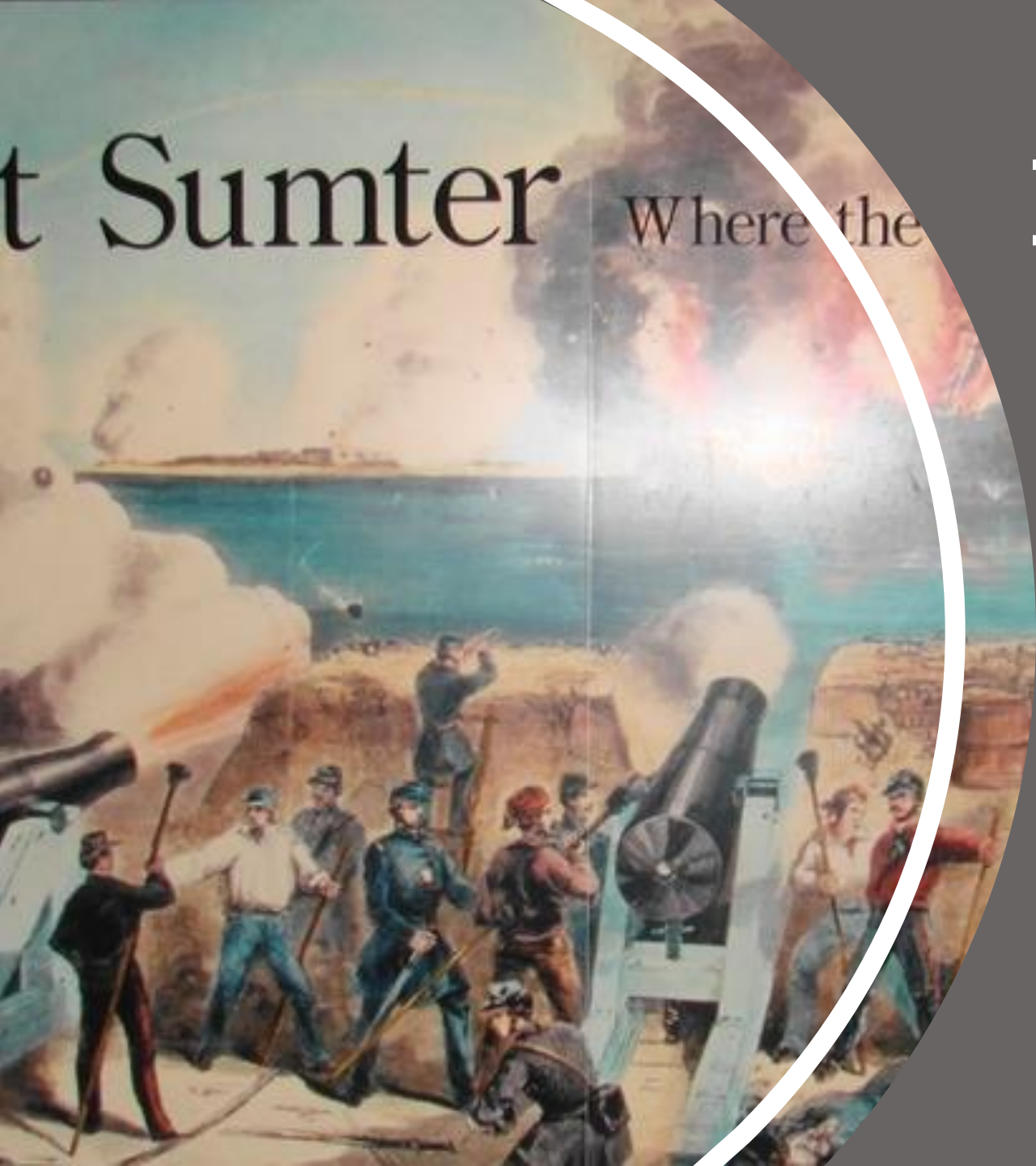


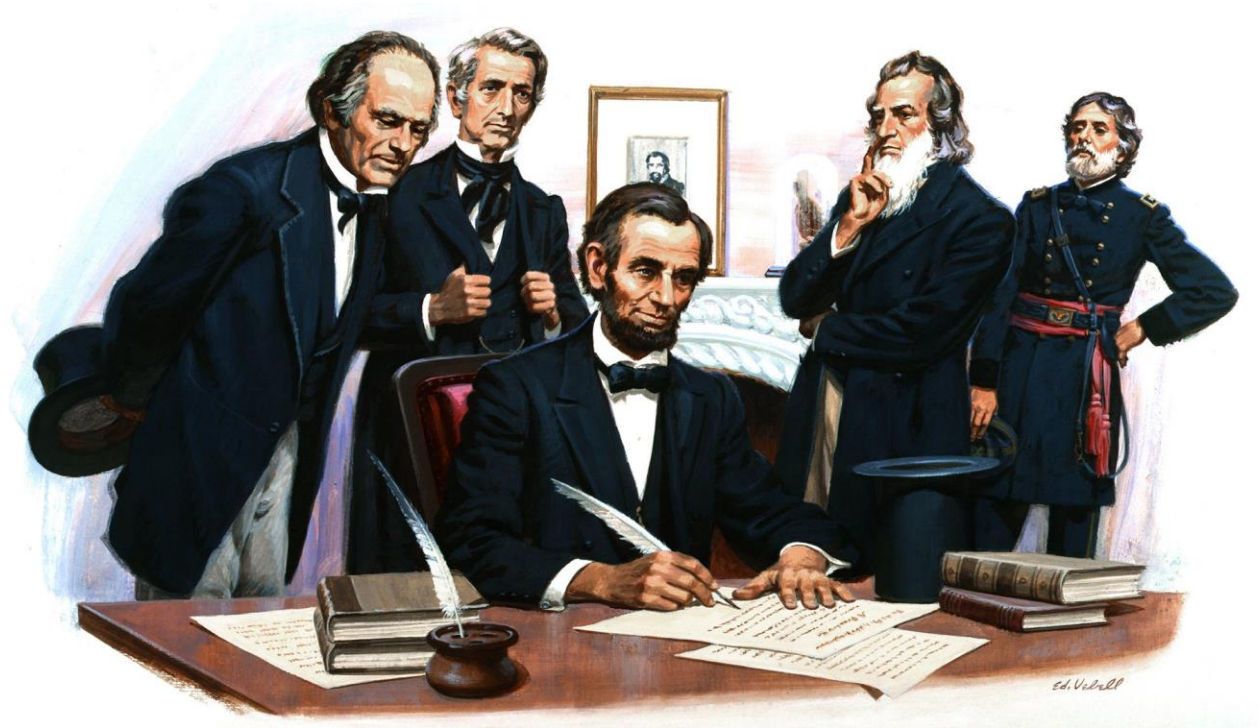
# t Sumter

Where the

## NIGHT OF APRIL 12, 1861

The night of April 12, 1861, marked a pivotal moment as Confederate forces bombarded Fort Sumter, leading to its surrender and the beginning of the Civil War.





# PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S ATTEMPTS TO AVOID WAR

President Lincoln sought to avoid war and preserve the Union through diplomatic means, as evidenced by his inaugural speech and attempts at reconciliation.



# CONFEDERATE DILEMMA

Confederate President Jefferson Davis faced a dilemma in responding to the Union's actions at Fort Sumter, balancing the desire to maintain sovereignty with the risk of provoking war.



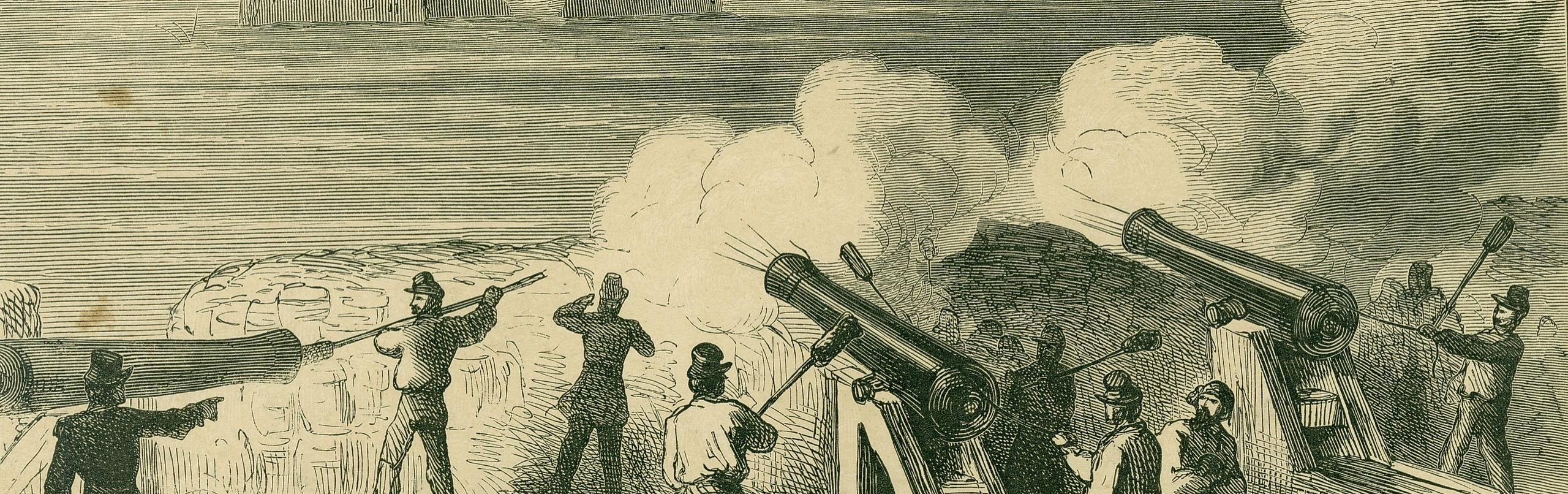
*Published at 311 Nassau St. N.Y. (op. stairs) H. H. Smith*

*"Don't provoke the President, or he may hurt some of you!"*

## THE CAPTURE OF JEFF DAVIS.

*His last official act "The adoption of a new rebel uniform"*

*He attempts to "Clear his Skirts," but finds it "All up in Dixie."*



# FALL OF FORT SUMTER

- The surrender of Fort Sumter represented a significant victory for the Confederacy and a turning point in the conflict.
- It galvanized both sides and set the stage for further military engagements across the country.

THE ATTACK ON FORT SUMTER.



# CALL FOR MILITARY VOLUNTEERS

- President Lincoln's call for 75,000 volunteers following the fall of Fort Sumter created a sense of urgency and led to the secession of additional states from the Union.





# THE BORDER STATES

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## BORDER STATES' DILEMMA

- The retention of border states such as Maryland and Kentucky became crucial for both the Union and the Confederacy, as their allegiance could tip the balance of power

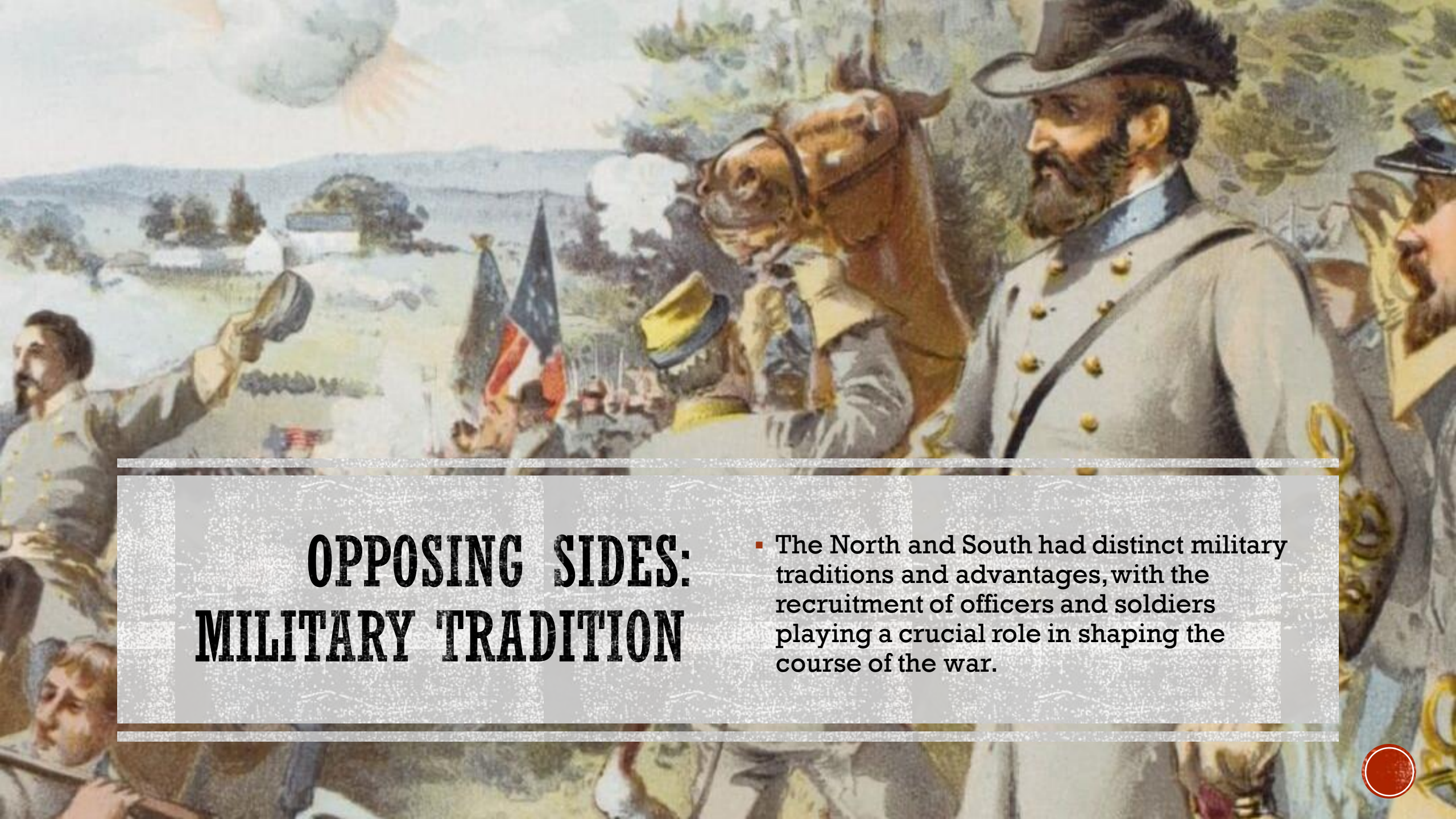




# POLITICAL DYNAMICS

- Political divisions within the Union and the Confederacy further complicated the Civil War, with disagreements over issues such as conscription and the suspension of habeas corpus.





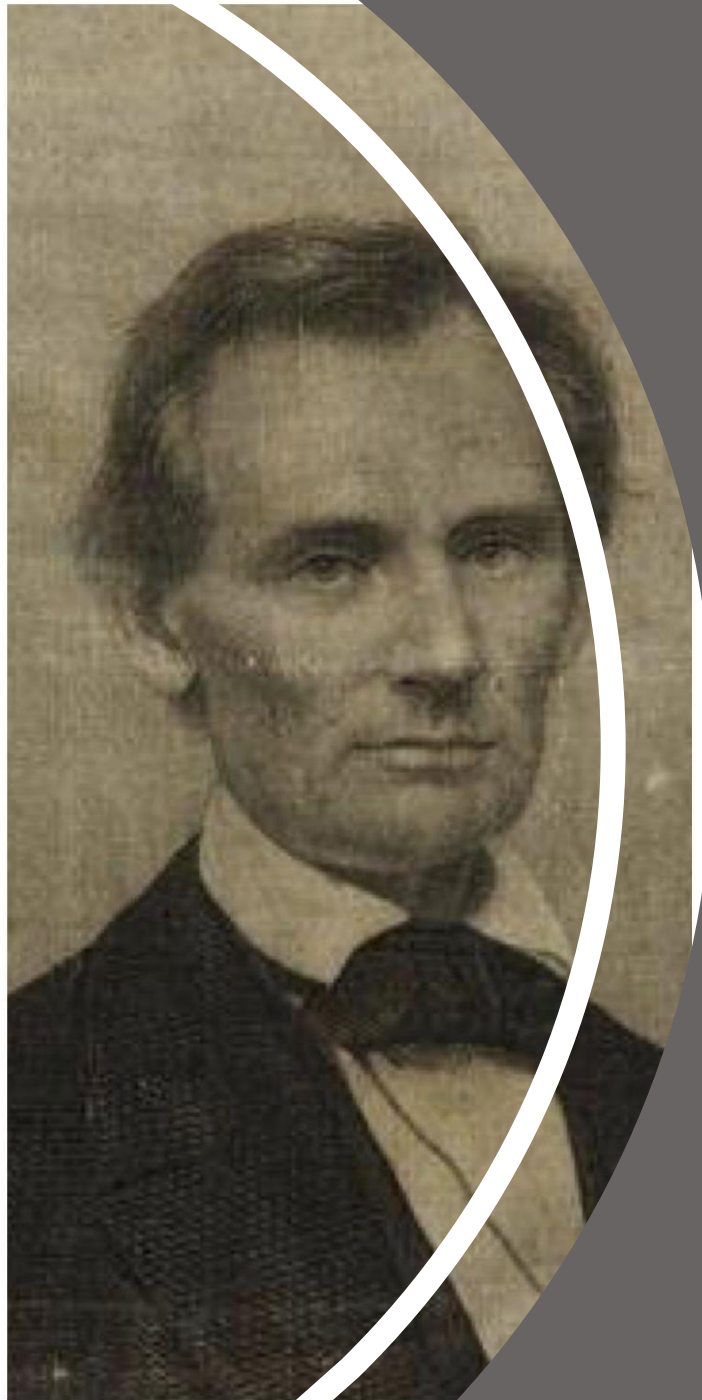
## OPPOSING SIDES: MILITARY TRADITION

- The North and South had distinct military traditions and advantages, with the recruitment of officers and soldiers playing a crucial role in shaping the course of the war.



# **OPPOSING SIDES: ECONOMIC FACTORS**

Economic disparities between the North and South influenced their respective war strategies and ability to sustain prolonged conflict.



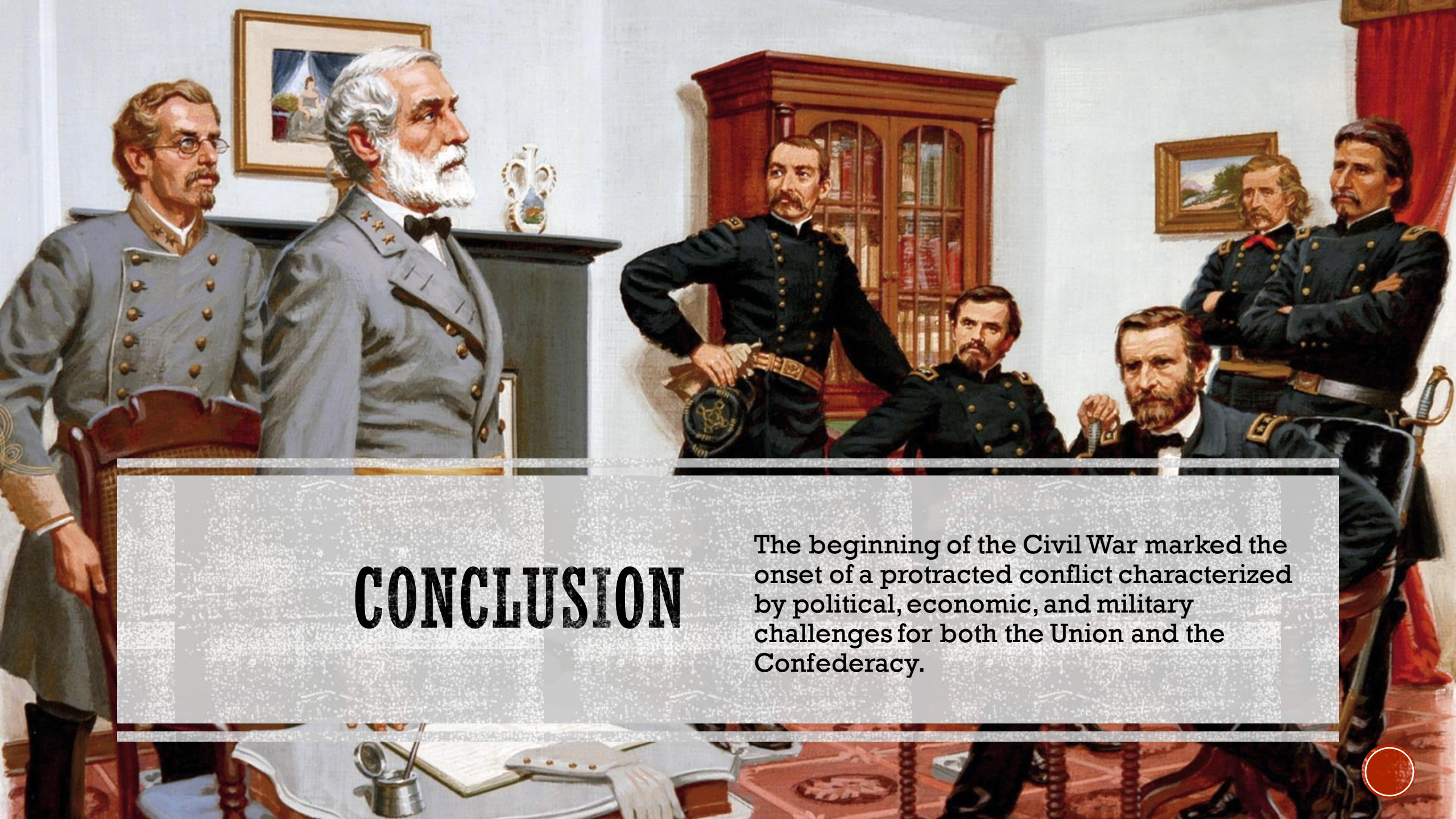
# POLITICAL CHALLENGES

Political challenges, including opposition to conscription and the suspension of habeas corpus, tested the leadership of both President Lincoln and Confederate President Jefferson Davis.

# INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT

The Civil War had significant implications for international relations, with European powers closely monitoring developments and weighing their own interests.





# CONCLUSION

The beginning of the Civil War marked the onset of a protracted conflict characterized by political, economic, and military challenges for both the Union and the Confederacy.

