

# *The War Between the States: America's Uncivil War*

## Chapter 13 – Border States (1861/II)

### **Summary:**

The War of 1861-65 was a massive conflict that involved millions of people, who participated in it for many different reasons. Nowhere was the action more bitter, confusing, and complex than in the nine Border States (which, beginning in 1863, included West Virginia, which itself seceded from Virginia). These states comprised a belt along the nation's mid-section, where the hotly-contested issues of the day—states' rights and the nature and size of the American government, slavery, economics, religion, social customs, and worldview—were most intermingled and contested. The Border States included the southern section of the Northern, or Federal, states, as well as the northern section of the Southern, or Confederate, states. The tumult that swept these states is largely forgotten today, but evident in how slavery remained legal until after the War in the *Northern* Border States that sided with the Union. Also, in the extreme measures to which the Lincoln Administration had to resort with its armed forces to retain some of these states within in the Union. True civil wars, at least in localized or regional bases, featuring battles sometimes fought in towns and cities, roiled in such states as Missouri, Kentucky, and Maryland. The Lincoln Administration ordered most of one state's legislature imprisoned to prevent a possible secession from the Union. Another state had two separate governments throughout the War. Lincoln declared regarding yet another, that to lose it to the Confederacy would likely cost the U.S. the war. The Federal capital was surrounded by two Border States,

In the meantime, conflict raged between the executive and judicial branches of the Federal government; slavery—and slave auctions—continued in Confederate and some Federal states; and a vigorous field of war exploded out west, fueled partly by the ancient enmity of American Indian tribes stemming from their brutal treatment and removal by the U.S. government. Indeed, men from Oregon to Texas answered the call to arms in the west as the war exploded into a Continent-wide conflagration.

### **Identification:**

1. Roger B. Taney
2. James Henley Thornwell
3. John Reagan

### Completion:

1. The Border States which ultimately sided with the Federals were:  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The Border States which ultimately sided with the Confederacy were:  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and  
\_\_\_\_\_.
3. Emblematic of the intense conflict in some of the Border States regarding secession was the violent imprisoning of many legislators in the still-Union state of \_\_\_\_\_. Those imprisoned included the grandson of famed American composer and hymnist \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Another such example of civil conflict in a Border State regarding secession occurred when intruding Federal soldiers and angry local civilians engaged in a bloody battle on the streets of the major city of \_\_\_\_\_.
5. In the famous Supreme Court decision \_\_\_\_\_, Chief Justice \_\_\_\_\_ ordered the Lincoln administration to release a man it had jailed without charges, after which the President ordered the justice arrested.
6. James Thornwell, while generally applauding America's Founding Fathers, criticized them for accepting a partial rather than a \_\_\_\_\_ statement of the truth. He said they saw clearly the \_\_\_\_\_ side of government, but failed to apprehend the \_\_\_\_\_ side.
7. The majority of the largely-Christianized, so-called "Five Civilized" tribes of the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, Creeks, and \_\_\_\_\_ whom the U.S. government moved to modern-day Oklahoma in the 1830s, sided with the Confederacy.
8. The \_\_\_\_\_ Indian nation issued an eloquent declaration of its decision to support the Confederacy.
9. War action in the Far West campaign centered around the \_\_\_\_\_ Territory, whose population was split in its loyalty between the United States and the Confederacy.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ were two prominent American Indian military commanders during the war.

**Thought Questions:**

1. Discuss the conflict between Roger Taney and Abraham Lincoln, and the various Constitutional implications of it.
2. Describe in a paragraph the slave auction about which *London Times* reporter William H. Russell.
3. Discuss the implications of a Constitution such as the one James Thornwell urged for the Confederacy, and how the distinctives it offered from the American Constitution might have influenced the United States or the Confederate States.