A House Divided Cannot Stand
The Presidential Race

Stephen Douglas
Northern Democrat
Illinois
Popular Sovereignty

John Bell
Constitutional Unionist
Tennessee
Government should protect slavery

John Breckinridge
Southern Democrat
Kentucky
Government should protect slavery
Abraham Lincoln

- Republican
- Illinois
- No Slavery in Western Territories

“I believe that every individual is naturally entitled to do as he pleases with himself and the fruits of his labor, so far as it in no way interferes with any other men’s rights” – Abraham Lincoln
Abraham Lincoln wins the Presidential Election with 180 Electoral Votes, but only 40% of popular vote.
South Carolina Secedes

- Southerners angry Lincoln won without winning a single Southern State
- South Carolina Secedes from the Union in December 1860
The Confederate States

- SC and 6 other states form the Confederacy Feb 1861
  - Elect Jefferson Davis as President
The War Begins

- Fort Sumter
  Charleston, South Carolina
  April 12, 1861
  Confederate troops surrounded and attacked Union fort in Charleston Harbor
  - Fort forced to surrender
The First to Volunteer

- Minnesota Governor Alexander Ramsey was first Governor to volunteer troops to help Union
Choosing Sides

• Many government officials had to decide if their loyalty was to their home state or the nation
• Union: North
• Confederacy: South
Early War Predictions

- Both sides predict a short war and an easy victory
- Both sides quickly called up volunteers to fight