

FORMER SLAVE FROM MISSISSIPPI

You are a former slave from the state of Mississippi. You were born in the United States and were a slave from birth until the end of the Civil War. You were freed by your master when the Union army seized his plantation just before the end of the war. Once free, you had few prospects. With no money, land, or education, you are worried about what the future holds. Your first concern is finding your parents; you were separated from them after being sold to another owner. You hope that Mississippi will soon be re-admitted to the United States and that the national government will provide you with some aid and assistance in creating a new life.



PLANTATION OWNER FROM VIRGINIA

You are the owner of what was, before the war, one of the largest plantations in the South. At one time, you owned more than 200 slaves that represented thousands of dollars of investments. You were generating great wealth growing and exporting cotton from your massive plantation in Southern Virginia. Now that the war is over, your future is very uncertain. Upon being re-admitted to the country, you will have to honor the 13th Amendment which outlaws slavery, and you realize that this reality is inevitable. Above all, though, you hope to maintain your high social and economic status despite the changes to Southern life that may occur following the war.



POOR WHITE FARMER FROM GEORGIA

You have returned to your home – a small farm – after three years of serving in the Army of Northern Virginia. You fought under the command of the great Robert E. Lee, hoping that you could preserve the Confederacy. Now that the war is over, you find that the livestock on your farm was slaughtered by the Union army while passing through on Sherman's March – the campaign where the Union army, destroyed everything in its path. You have very little money and resources to make a good living now. You are competing for the few economic resources in the South with other poor farmers and thousands of former slaves who now have their freedom. You are concerned that if former slaves are given the right to vote, they might push for change in traditional Southern society.



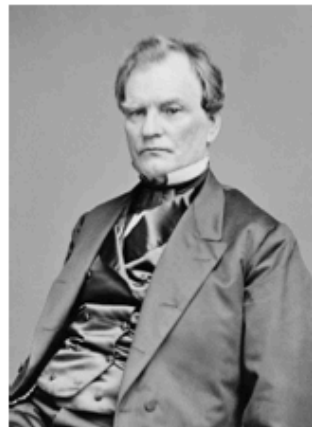
FEMALE TEACHER FROM MASSACHUSETTS

You are a 55 year old school teacher from Massachusetts. You have been a teacher your entire adult life. During your career, you have educated both white and African American children. Before the war, you were very involved in reform movements. You attended the Seneca Falls Convention where Elizabeth Cady Stanton delivered the first speech demanding women's rights (*The Declaration of Sentiments*). Later, you became very involved in the abolitionist movement and even contributed writing to William Lloyd Garrison's anti-slavery newspaper – *The Liberator*. Now that the war is over, you are primarily concerned with the treatment of former slaves in the South. You are concerned for the welfare of former slaves and hope the national government will take an active role in protecting former slaves and helping them adjust to a new life.



BADICAL REPUBLICAN CONGRESSMAN

You are a Congressman representing the Union state of Ohio. You were a supporter of Abraham Lincoln but believed his plan for Reconstruction was too lenient towards the South. You believe that the South must meet many requirements before being allowed to send their representatives to Congress and rejoin the country. You are primarily concerned with protecting the rights of newly freed slaves and punishing those Confederates who were officers in the army, leading the rebellion against the United States. Also, you believe Congress should have control over creating a plan for Reconstruction, while the President merely sees to it that the plan is carried out.



FORMER GENERAL IN THE CONFEDERATE ARMY

As a former officer in the Confederate Army, you are very concerned about your fate. You are unsure of how the national government will treat you once your state is re-admitted to the Union. Will you regain full citizenship despite leading a war against your own country? When you returned to your home in the South, your large plantation was no more. Your home had been burned by the Union Army and your slaves – while free – were still living on the plantation with no other prospects. At the very least, you hope your state will quickly be allowed to create a new government, rejoin the country, and once again be able to determine its own affairs. You are concerned that if former slaves are given the right to vote, they might push for change in traditional Southern society.

