AMH2020 Notes

Chapter 15 – Reconstruction and the New South

- Readmission of South after Civil War?
- Struggle between the President and Congress?
- Fate of the Freedmen?

Defeated South

- South is devastated
- Economy in shambles
- Transportation systems destroyed
- Plantations gone

1863 – Lincoln’s Reconstruction

- 10% Plan
  - Oath of allegiance to Union
- Radical Republicans feared it was too lenient on the South
- Assassinated while in office

1864 – Wade-Davis Bill

- 50% of voters swear oath of allegiance (Lincoln vetoed)
- 2 pathways emerging
  - One moderate, the other radical
- Deep differences
- Radicals supported the bill
- Slavery abolished with readmission, but civil rights left up to the states

Republicans

- Moderates: “southern states never seceded” = easy transition
- Radicals: “Southern states committed ‘state suicide’ so they must be punished”
- Assisted Freedmen (and received their votes)

Johnson’s Reconstruction

- Adopted Lincoln’s 10% Plan