

COMPARING ADVANTAGES & DISADVANTAGES

THE CIVIL WAR

1. DIVIDED PUBLIC OPINION AT HOME

- This side had a very divided public opinion at home.
- Not everyone supported the war. In fact many people were content to let the United States be divided into two countries.



2. SOLDIERS WERE DEFENDING OWN HOMES AND FAMILIES



- The soldiers for this side were fighting on familiar turf.
- Most of the war would be fought here, so soldiers were defending their own homes and families when they fought.

3. SMALL POPULATION

- This side had a much smaller population than the other.
- In fact it was less than half the total size: 22 million to just 9 million people.



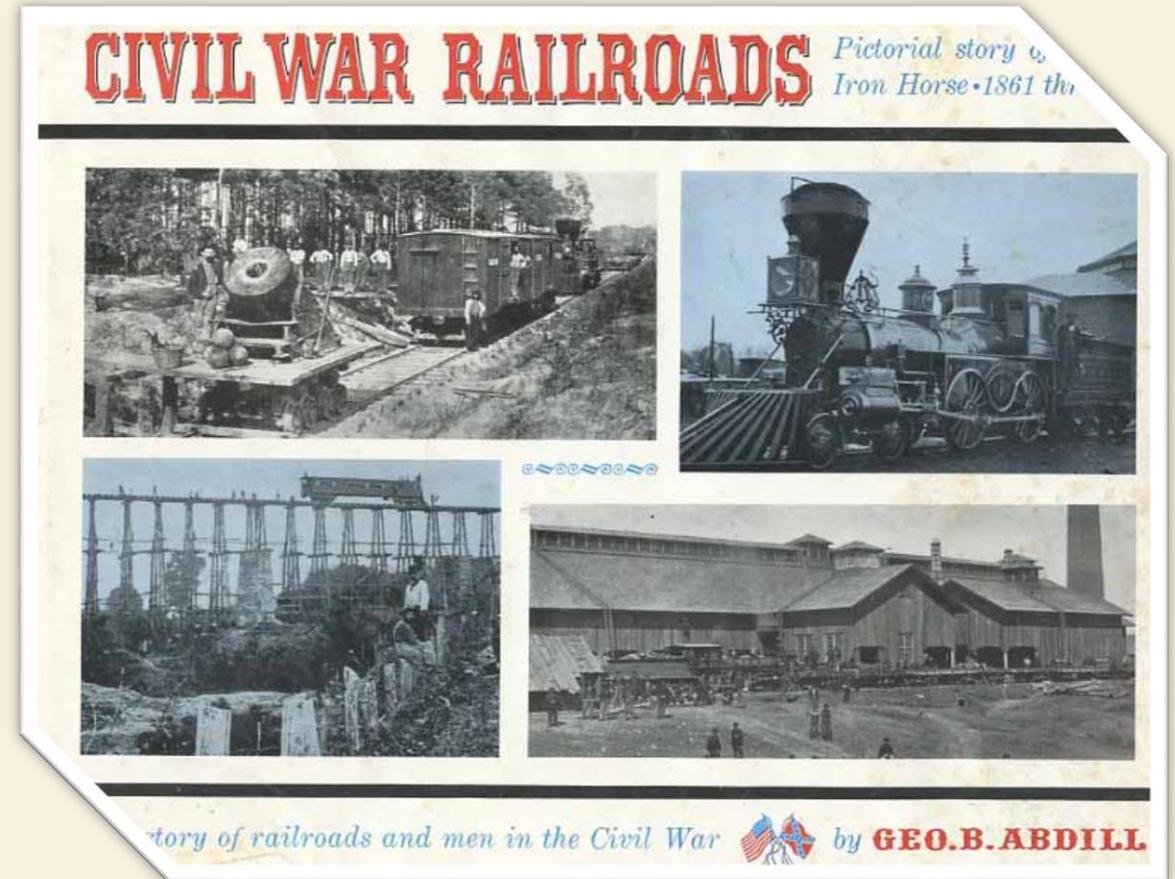
4. VERY SKILLED, EFFECTIVE COMMANDERS



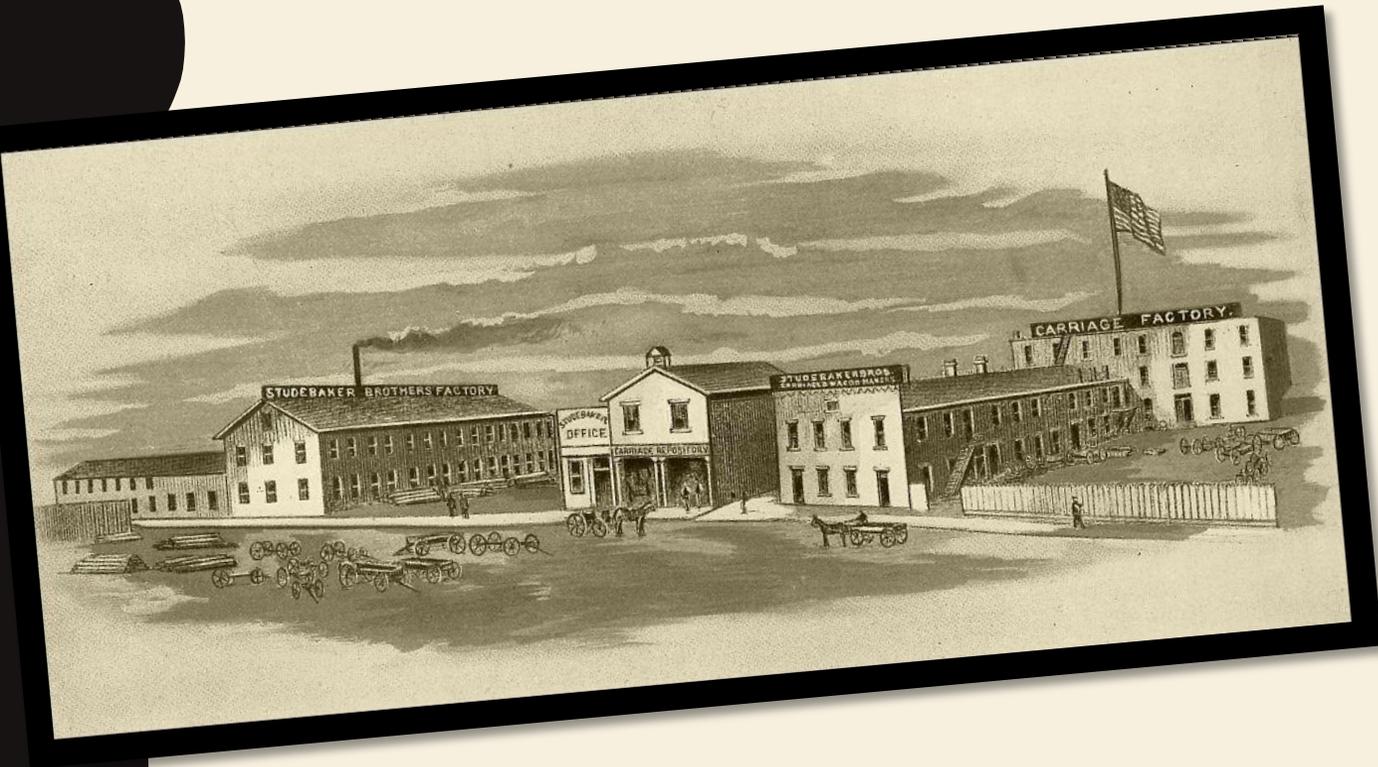
- The generals from this side were some of the most brilliant military minds America has ever produced.
- They knew how to inspire their men and make do with what resources they had.

5. 13,000 MILES OF RAILROAD TRACKS

- This side in the Civil War had thousands more miles of railroad track than the other.
- Over 13,000 miles of rail crisscrossed this side which could bring resources quickly where they were needed.



6. MANUFACTURED 9 TIMES MORE GOODS



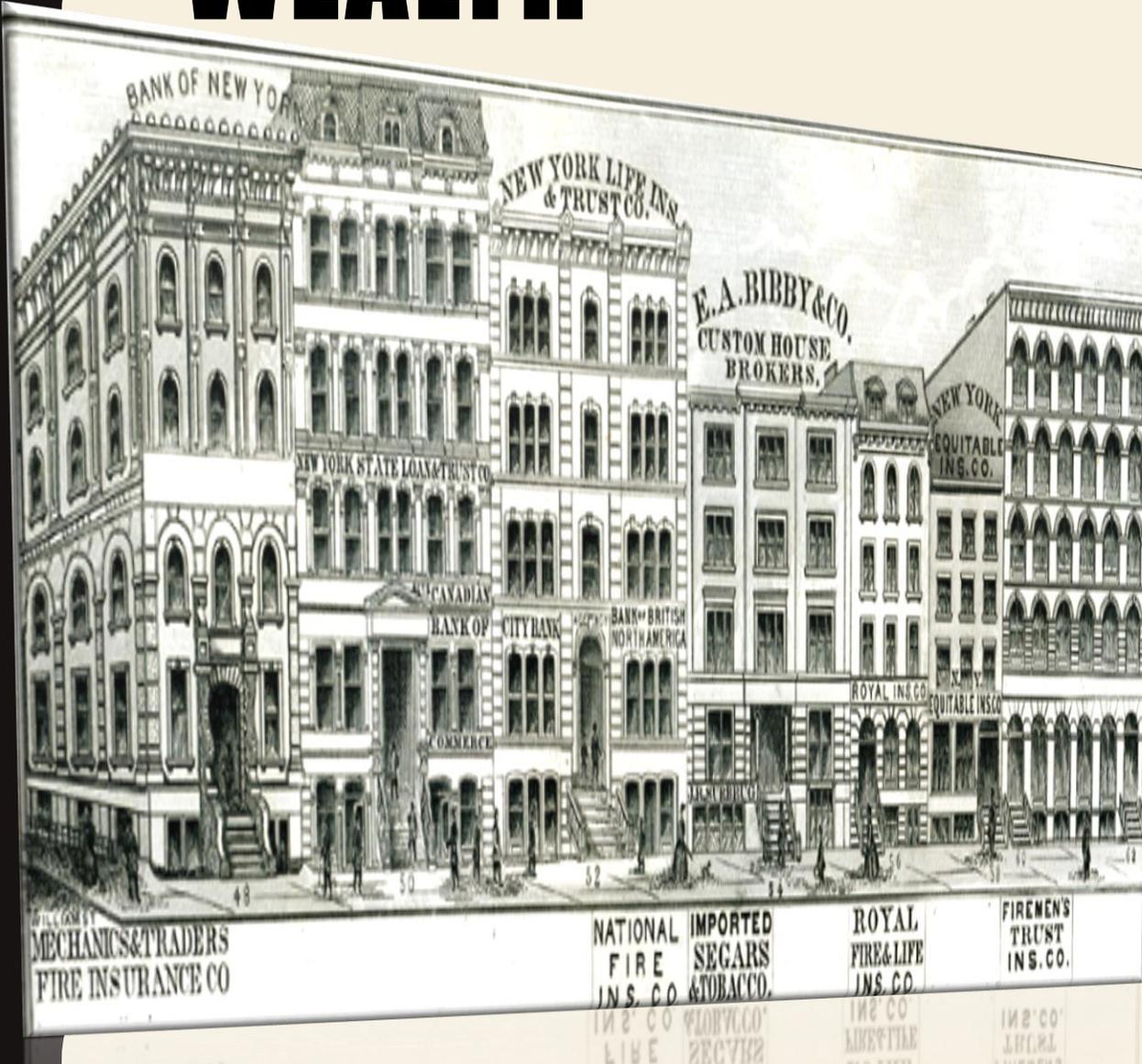
- This side held a massive advantage when it came to industrial output.
- The factories in this region manufactured 9 times as much goods as the other.
- These factory-made goods included weapons of war as well as non-military goods for the civilian population.

7. WEAK COMMANDERS AT FIRST

- When the war began, this side was led by military commanders who were afraid to use many soldiers and were often hesitant in battle.
- They thought the other side did not stand a chance and would easily surrender.
- As a result, they hesitated to use many troops because they did not want to risk their men's lives.



8. CONTROLLED MOST OF THE WEALTH



- This side of the Civil War controlled most all of the nation's wealth.
- Most of America's banking and manufacturing industries were located in this regions.
- As a result, this side had much more money at its disposal.

9. NO ARMY OR NAVY

- When the war began, this side had no organized army or navy.
- Although a fighting force was quickly assembled, they would need to catch up to the other side's larger fighting forces.



Photo # NH 60873 Crewmembers of USS Miami

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10. FEW SUPPLIES FOR WAR



- When the Civil War began, this side had very few of the military supplies needed to fight a war.
- Most of America's armories were located in the other region of the country.
- As a result, this side lacked guns, cannons, and even military uniforms.

11. AGRICULTURAL ECONOMY

- This region of the United States before the war had an economy based mostly on agriculture.
- Huge plantations produced thousands of bushels of cotton, tobacco, and other goods for export around the world.
- Many other countries actually depended on these exports for their own economies.

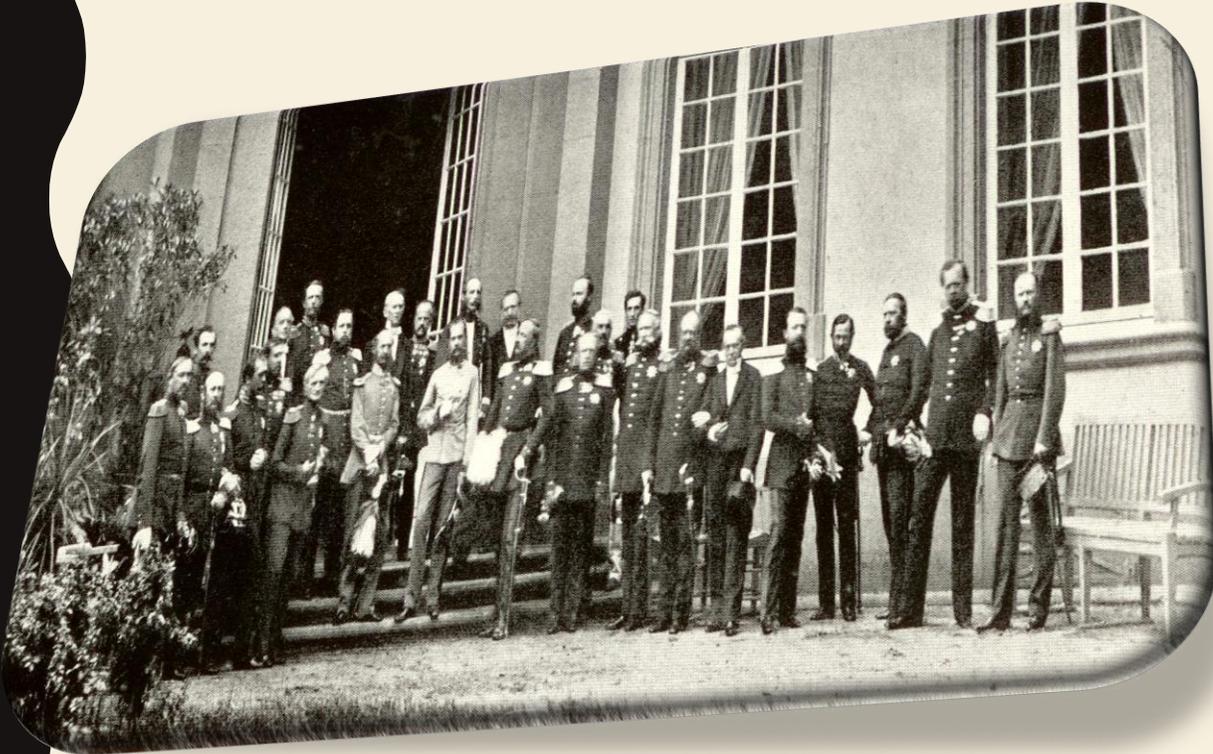


12. FIGHTING IN UNFAMILIAR TERRITORY



- This side needed to invade the other region, as a result its soldiers were fighting in unfamiliar territory.
- Most had never ventured into these parts of America and would need to learn the landscape as they pushed deeper into unfamiliar land.

13. NO NATIONAL GOVERNMENT



- When the Civil War began, this side had no formal national government.
- While each state had its government intact, there was no Executive or Legislative Branch to hold them all together and make decisions for all of the states together.