ADVANTAGES OF THE NORTH AND SOUTH

THE CIVIL WAR
DO NOW

• Take out your T-Chart from last class
• Take 5 minutes to make comparisons between the rely game we played last class and the advantages and disadvantages the north and south had during the Civil War
POPULATION

• Advantage North:
  – 22 million people living in the North
    • 7/8 of all immigrants settled in the North
  – 23 states fought on the side of the union
    • Including West Virginia which broke away from Virginia in and became a state in 1863

• The South
  – 9 million people
    • 3 million of those people were slaves
  – 11 states fought for the South
Terrain

• Advantage South:
  – Almost all of the major battles were fought in the South (except Gettysburg)
  – The Confederates knew the terrain better then the Union Army
  – Civilians would often help the South with logistical support and intelligence
  – The South planned to use this to knowledge to their advantage by dragging out the war causing the Union to lose support.
Transportation

• Advantage North:
  – The North had nearly 22,000 miles of railroads
  – The South had roughly 9,000 miles
  – Northern railroads were more interconnected and allowed for easy movement from north to south and east to west
  – The southern rails were spread out causing southern troops to take longer routes on railroads
  – The North used the railroads to send in supplies and fresh troops to the front lines in a quick fashion
1860—This map shows the extent of railway development just prior to the Civil War. The decade 1850-1860 was a period of rapid railway expansion, characterized by the extension of many short, disjointed lines into important rail routes. This decade marked the beginning of railway development in the region west of the Mississippi River. By 1860, the “Iron Horse” had penetrated westward to the Missouri River and was beginning to make itself felt in Iowa, Arkansas, Texas, and California.
Navy

• Advantage North:
  – Three-fourths of the Navy’s officers came from the north.
  – US Naval yards were located in the north
  – The Union used its naval vessels to blockade the Southern coast line and attack urban areas located on major rivers like the Mississippi River.
Industry & Money

• Advantage North:
  – 80% of the United States factories were in the North
    • This included most of the gun and gun powder manufacturers (3,200 firearms for every 100 by the South)
  – Only 40% of the Northern Population was involved in agriculture, compared to 84% of the South
    • North still produced ½ of the nations corn, ¾ of its wheat, and 7/8 of its oats
Industry and Money

– The North could use the National Treasury as well as borrow money to pay for the war

• The South:
  – The south Relied on the production of cash crops and the slave trade
    • Slavery and cotton were worth more than all other industries combined
  – The south hoped to use cotton to persuade England to finance the war (they did not)
  – Inflation would cause large economic problems for the South
Military Leaders
Military Leaders

• Advantage South
  – Robert E Lee and Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson resigned from their federal government and joined the Confederacy
  – Many top West Point Graduates were from the South
  – The Southern soldiers grew were considered a better “shot”
  – Southern soldiers began the war with higher morale believing they were defending their way of life.