Civil War Timeline Assignment

**Intro**

The Civil War didn’t just begin without decades of tensions, decisions and squirmishes . Your task is to choose the most significant events you think ultimately lead to the Civil War. You will also be choosing events that occurred during the Civil War that defined the War.

**Your Task**

* Create a timeline that includes 15 events. Ten of the events should be events that lead to the Civil War and five should be defining moments from the war. Use the dates I have given you for your events. For each event there should be:
  + A brief description of the event. (2 points each)
  + The significance of the event. (Why it’s important) (5 points each)
  + A color illustration representing the event. (3 points each)
* You must also integrate the following facts into your timeline somehow.
  + Jefferson Davis was the President of the Confederacy.
  + What did the Dred Scott decision do?
  + What was Abraham Lincoln’s main goal in fighting the Civil War?
  + Why were the North and South really fighting? Not over slavery.
  + What exactly did the emancipation proclamation do?
* This is a total of **150 points**! It will be due by the end of the period on Friday, September 13th.

**Civil War Timeline**

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| 1861 | July 2, President Lincoln issues his suspension of habeas corpus in certain cases. |
| 1861 | July 22, U.S. Congress passes resolution declaring that the war is being fought to  "preserve the Union," not to destroy slavery. |
| 1861 | November 1, Lincoln declares George McClellan General-in-Chief of the Union army. |
| 1862 | April 25, Union soldiers capture New Orleans. |
| 1862 | May 20, Lincoln signs the Homestead Act into law. |
| 1862 | July, Congress passes the militia act, authorizing Lincoln to use black soldiers ­ blacks are used  only as scouts, laborers, spies, kitchen workers, and nurses until after the Emancipation  Proclamation. Until 1864, black soldiers are paid only half of what white soldiers are paid. |
| 1862 | August 22, Lincoln issues the "Greeley Letter" in response to Horace Greeley’s editorial,  "A Prayer of Twenty Millions." |
| 1862 | September 17, The Battle of Antietam, Maryland ­ the bloodiest battle of the Civil War. Lee’s  invasion of the North is halted, and rebels retreat to Virginia. Though the battle is essentially  a draw, the battle revives flagging Northern hopes. |
| 1862 | September 23, Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation is published, to take effect on January 1,  1863. |
| 1863 | January 1, The Emancipation Proclamation takes effect. |
| 1863 | March 3, The Conscription Act (Enrollment Act) is passed, demanding enrollment of males ages  20-45 in the Union Army. Payments of $300 may be used for an exemption. |
| 1863 | June 20, Union West Virginia is admitted as the 35th state - its constitution mandates the  gradual emancipation of slaves. |
| 1863 | July 3, Battle of Gettysburg - major Union victory. Over 50,000 casualties total; halts the  Southern advance into Union territory and leads to the retreat of Lee’s army. |
| 1863 | July 4, Siege of Vicksburg, Mississippi ends - 29,000 rebel troops surrender with the city, giving  the Union control of the Mississippi river and splitting the Confederacy in two. |
| 1863 | July 13, New York Draft Riots begin - four days of Irish-American mob action. |
| 1863 | November 19, Lincoln delivers the Gettysburg Address. |
| 1863 | December 8, Lincoln issues the Proclamation of Amnesty and Reconstruction, offering pardons to  Confederates who take a loyalty oath. |
| 1864 | July 4, Lincoln pocket-vetoes the Wade-Davis bill. |
| 1864 | September 2, Sherman burns Atlanta and continues his march to the sea. |
| 1864 | November 8, Lincoln defeats Democrat George McClellan in the election of 1864. |
| 1864 | December 22, Sherman enters Savannah, completing his march to the sea. |
| 1865 | February 1, Congress proposes the 13th Amendment, outlawing slavery and involuntary servitude everywhere in the United States. |
| 1865 | March 3, Freedmen’s Bureau is founded to aid former slaves |
| 1865 | March 4, Lincoln is inaugurated for his second term with Andrew Johnson as vice-president, pledging "malice toward none, and charity for all." |
| 1865 | April 8, Lee surrenders to Grant at Appomattox, Virginia. |
| 1865 | April 14, Lincoln is assassinated at Fordís Theater by John Wilkes Booth. |