

The United States experienced and overcame various events that shaped how the country evolved historically, politically, and culturally. The Civil War historically shaped the United States as we know it today. The Civil War was a battle between the northern and southern states. Southern states left the union between 1860 and 1861, and formed their own country “Confederate States of America” to protect the tradition of slavery. Abraham Lincoln was the president of the United States; while Jefferson Davis was the president of the Confederate States of America. The South was threatened by the Northern “abolitionists” and felt they had no power to end slavery. The north had 22 million people in their society at the time, and the south had 9 million but 4 million of them were slaves. The confederate states had less food, less money, and less transportation, but they proved to be more skilled than their counterparts. Shortly after the civil war ended, Abraham Lincoln passed the 13th amendment that abolished slavery. 620,000 people lost their lives during the Civil War, Americans then began to realize there are other ways to solve many of their issues and disputes (Cummings and Carbaugh 2017, 32).

Due to the lack of vitamin C, many confederate soldiers were susceptible to diseases, during the Civil War. Scurvy was a huge problem for southern soldiers because they lacked vitamin C in their diets, and that led to a low immune systems. Due to their low immune systems they caught camp diseases such as smallpox, measles and typhoid fever. Those diseases killed around 250,000 union soldiers, doubling the amount of those who died in combat. As a result, culturally, vitamin c is commonly used as a food additive, and prominently used in medicine to help Americans stay healthy (Jackson 2011, vii).

Edwards et al., in the section titled “Medicine and Nursing,” discusses how the U.S. Sanitary Commission politically provided soldiers with clothing, food and medical services during the civil war. Many people from rural communities volunteered to work and help out the

local auxiliaries. Many of the rural people caught viruses and diseases. In 1864, the congress authorized the U.S ambulance corps to evacuate soldiers from the war. Consequently, the government still plays a vital role in nursing from cures, healthcare, and the budget of medicine. (Edwards et al., 444). In conclusion, the Civil War changed how the United States solved their differences. A lot of people died during the Civil War due to a disease called scurvy, which is a lack of vitamin c; but now vitamin c is commonly used as a food additive. Nursing also changed drastically from a profession in which any willing person could sign up to be a nurse, but now applicants need the certification and an advanced education.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Cummings, Judy Dodge, and Samuel Carbaugh. *The Civil War : The Struggle That Divided America*. Inquire & Investigate. White River Junction, VT: Nomad Press, 2017.

Edwards, Rebecca, Eric Hinderaker, James A. Henretta, and Robert O. Self. *America's History*. 9th ed. Boston: Bedford/St. Martins, 2018.

Jackson, Christina M. *Vitamin C : Nutrition, Side Effects, and Supplements*. Nutrition and Diet Research Progress. Hauppauge, N.Y.: Nova Science Publishers, Inc. 2011.