Problem

The Union trying to stop the Confederate States from succeeding from the Union.
Secondary problem - The Union was trying to end the spread of slavery into the western states and territories.

Solution

A long and bloody war on American soil, especially in the South.
The Emancipation Proclamation and Amendments to the Constitution freeing slaves and giving men the right to vote.

Effect

The growth of the power of the President and Federal Government. The South's economy and land was destroyed. Reconstruction and Jim Crow took most of the rights the freed slaves had gained away. Technological advances made during the war helped bring in the Industrial Revolution, with interchangeable parts and mass production.