

Wade Hampton, Confederate Warrior, Conservative Statesman, Walter Brian Cisco.

Around 1830s The issue was protective tariffs. High federal tariffs on imported goods forced Southern to buy from Northern manufacturers. Consumers in South Carolina were paying inflated prices so that Northern manufacturers might grow and prosper. Duties were the government's primary source of income and Congress had the constitutional authority to regulate commerce. (Farming equipment was cheaper overseas without the high tax)

Congress also passed the infamous "Tariff of Abominations" raising import duties to 50 percent. South Carolinians were indignant.

Also, North wanted to buy cotton cheaper for the northern textile mills and put huge tariffs on cotton that was sold overseas.

Did sovereignty ultimate political power—reside with the people of the United States or the people of the individual states? The issue remained unresolved.

Slavery

Southerners knew the institution had existed since the dawn of time, that "the glory that was Greece and the grandeur that was Rome" had been built by slave labor. Slavery was regulated in Old Testaments days, and tolerated by the New Testament church, defended by philosophers, and practiced by America's Founding Fathers. Both North and South had been slave owning during the colonial period. Slaves purchased from Africa by African owners, were transported to the New World by New England slave traders. Slavery was gradually ended in the North only when it became unimportant economically.

Whether or not slavery was essential to the South, it was essential to the South to have the power to maintain slavery. If the North could control the one, she could control all. This was the issue, the tragedy, that slavery had become the proving found of the South's fight to maintain her rights as a minority within the Union.

Wade Hampton to Confederate veterans in Savannah

If we were wrong in our contest, then the Declaration of Independence of 1776 was a grave mistake, and the revolution to which it led was a crime...It Washington was a patriot, Lee cannot have been a rebel; if the enunciation of the grand truths in the Declaration of Independence made Jefferson immortal, the observance of them could not have made Davis a traitor.

It is false doctrine which tells you that because of the failure of our cause there was no truth or justice in it. Any human undertaking, however, just it may be, may fail, but the everlasting principle of right and justice can never be blotted out. A great truth, like the

God-head whence it emanates, is eternal, and it will live “till the last syllable of recorded time.”

One cavalry veteran asked Hampton how many Yankees he had personally dispatched in hand-to-hand combat during the war. The old man remembered eleven, “two with my sword and nine with my pistol” “How about the tow at Trevilian Station?” he replied, trying to job the general’s memory. “Oh, well, I did not count them, they were running.”