Redeeming White Supremacy

I. Racial and Political Violence
II. “Redeeming” the South
III. Fighting and “Concentrating” Indigenous Peoples
IV. Sam Hose and Mary Turner
V. Lynching Normalized
Ku Klux Klan

Knights of White Camellia

White Brotherhood

White League
Thaddeus Stevens
Enforcement Act (1870)
Ku Klux Klan Act (1871)

Empowered the federal government to protect individual voting rights.
Slaughterhouse Cases (1873)

National citizenship: travel between states and navigate nation’s waterways.

States controlled other aspects of regulating citizenship rights.
**U.S. v. Cruikshank (1876)**
The federal government could only prohibit violations of voting rights by state governments, not by individuals.

**U.S. v. Reese (1876)**
The Fifteenth Amendment did not prohibit all restrictions on voting rights, just restrictions based explicitly on race.
Federal troops demobilized and sent out west to fight Indigenous peoples. Only 4,000 stationed in the South by 1874.

Amnesty Act (1872) Only about 500 former Confederates still barred from political participation.
Great Railroad Strike (1877)
Republicans, Democrats, and historians turned to race to explain Reconstruction’s demise and failure.
U.S. Policies against Indigenous Peoples

Before the 1850s: Westward expulsion.

1850s-1880s: “Concentration” onto isolated reservations.
Sitting Bull (Lakota)       George Custer

Battle of the Little Bighorn (1876)
The Nez Perce

1855: Treaty with the United States for 7.7 million acres.

1863: New treaty with a small faction that reduced their land to about 10% of 1855.
Wounded Knee Massacre (1890)
Lynching

**1889-1918**

About 3,000 African American victims (159 women).

**1890s**

About 200 per year.
This is the barbecue we had last night. My picture is to the left with a cross over it. Yours, Joe.
Warning.

The answer of the Anglo-Saxon race to black brutes who would attack the manpower of the South.
Lynching, Legal Segregation, Political Disfranchisement (1890s)

- Defined and unified the white community.
- Perpetuated patriarchy by representing white men as protectors and white women as pure and feminine (in need of protection).
- Repressed black struggles.
Black Resistance
Indigenous Resistance

In response, new legal and extralegal forms of white supremacy.