



## “Money, Money, Money!” —19<sup>th</sup> Century Currency— Education Plan

### Overview:

Just as the Revolutionary War prompted the Continental Congress to issue paper currency, the financing of the Civil War provided the catalyst for the continuing evolution of U.S. currency. In 1861, the U.S. Treasury issued its first paper currency since the Continentals--Demand notes. They were printed in \$5, \$10, and \$20 denominations, redeemable in coin on demand.

Between 1861 and 1865, the Confederacy issued currency backed by cotton to millions of southerners, gambling that a Confederate victory would ensure the currency's value. Meanwhile, enterprising Northerners printed Confederate money and circulated it in the South. This led to one of the greatest inflationary periods in America, particularly in the South.

**Grades:** 3-12

**Time:** 30 minutes to an hour

### Learning Objectives

1. Students will be able to describe the basic monetary system in use in America during the time of the Civil War.
2. Students will further be able to solve simple arithmetical problems using this system.
3. Students will gain another element of understanding, another piece of the puzzle, about the lives of soldiers during the Civil War.

### Educational Standards

From the South Carolina Curriculum and Standards available online at

<http://ed.sc.gov/agency/offices/cso/standards/ss/> & <http://ed.sc.gov/agency/offices/cso/standards/math/>

Social Studies

3-4.5, 3-4.6, 4-6.6, 8-3.6, USHC- 4.3

Math- Numbers and Operations

2-2.5, 2-2.7, 3-2.3, 3-2.7, 3-2.8, 3-2.9, 4-2.3, 6-2.5, 7-2.5, 7-2.9, 8-2.7

### Materials

- photocopies of worksheet
- pencils
- scrap paper for calculations