Conditions of Southern States in 1865

After four years of war, over 260,000 men were killed and thousands more were wounded… The South surrendered…The South was the loser.

The South had no money since Confederate money was worthless.
The Seceded States had no food. Crops taken for troops or burned
Their homes were burned, bombed or confiscated.
Their livestock was taken or killed.
The Railroads had been destroyed.
The few Factories were destroyed.
Stores were looted or destroyed.
No Slaves to help rebuild. The 4 million on the 1860 census were "free"
It was like starting over to build a society, communities and governments.

The Federal Government decided that the Seceded States would be Re-Constructed their way and for the next 12 years we had: political power struggles, the Freedmen Bureau, Carpetbaggers, Scalawags, the Klu Klux Klan, the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments to the US Constitution and Federal Laws that forced the losing states to do what they were told. In the midst of all this, Douglass County was formed and Atlanta became our 5th Capital of Georgia. In short…a lot happened.