

Events in Europe and the Rest of the World in the 1860s

In the United States

- Lincoln is elected President
- South Carolina secedes from the Union
- The US Secret Service is created
- The Pony Express begins its overland message delivery service
- Olympia Brown becomes the first female theology student in the US
- In Boston Elizabeth Peabody establishes the first English-language kindergarten
- Louis Agassiz rejects Darwin's theory of evolution, citing missing links
- Alvan Clarks discovers that Sirius is a double star
- Croquet becomes a popular pastime

- Abraham Lincoln is inaugurated President
- The Confederate States of America is created
- Fort Sumter is fired on, beginning the Civil War
- Lincoln orders a blockade of Southern ports
- The South defeats the North in the First Battle of Bull Run
- Kansas is admitted to the Union
- Matthew Brady begins his photographic chronicling of the Civil War
- Elisha Otis patents a steam-powered elevator
- The transcontinental telegraph line makes the Pony Express obsolete
- Eberhard Faber opens a pencil factory in New York
- Vassar College – first women's college fully equal to a men's college – is founded
- The US Postal Service begins carrying merchandise in addition to letters
- First federal income tax enacted

- Grant takes Forts Henry and Donelson in Tennessee
- The ironclads *Monitor* and *Merrimack* fight to a draw
- Grant wins the Battle of Shiloh
- The bloodiest battle in American

In Europe and the Rest of the World

- 1860**
- Garibaldi conquers Sicily and Naples
 - George Eliot (Mary Ann Evans) publishes *A Mill on the Floss*
 - Frenchman Jean J. Lenoir builds the first gas-burning engine
 - Florence Nightingale founds the world's first nursing school
 - The first British Open Golf Championship is held

- 1861**
- Unification of Italy
 - Czar Alexander II abolishes serfdom in Russia
 - Prince Albert, consort of Queen Victoria, dies – leading the queen into 3 years of mourning
 - The principalities of Moldavia and Wallachia unite to form Romania
 - According to some, Edouard Manet's *Spanish Singer* marks the beginning of Impressionism
 - Charles Dickens publishes *Great Expectations*
 - George Eliot publishes *Silas Marner*
 - Gustave Doré illustrates Dante's *Inferno*
 - The Royal Academy of Music is founded in London
 - The first horse-drawn trams begin operation in London

- 1862**
- Otto von Bismarck advocates the unification of Germany under Prussian leadership
 - Nicaragua, Honduras and San Salvador make an unsuccessful attempt to form a Central American

- history – Antietam – is fought
 - Morrill Land Grant Act passed
 - Congress authorizes the printing of “greenbacks” – the first national currency
 - Gail Borden patent a process for concentrating fruit juice
 - Julia Ward Howe writes “The Battle Hymn of the Republic”
 - Abraham Jacobi opens the first pediatric clinic in America
 - Richard J. Gatling invents the Gatling gun
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- Emancipation Proclamation issued
 - West Virginia admitted to the Union
 - Lee wins the Battle of Chancellorsburg
 - Union forces win the Battle of Gettysburg
 - Lincoln delivers the Gettysburg Address
 - Homestead Act passed
 - New York draft riots
 - Stephen Collins Foster composes “Beautiful Dreamer”
 - Samuel Langhorne Clemens adopts the penname Mark Twain
 - Ralph Waldo Emerson praises the Emancipation Proclamation in his “Boston Hymn”
 - Thomas Bishop writes the lyrics for “When Johnny Comes Marching Home Again”
 - The National Academy of Sciences is founded in Washington, DC
 - Ebenezer Butterick invents the first paper dress patterns sold in the US
 - James L. Plimpton introduces roller skating to Americans
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- Lincoln makes Grant general-in-chief of the Union Armies
 - Sherman takes Atlanta and makes his destructive March to the Sea
 - Admiral David Farragut defeats the Confederate Navy at Mobile
 - Nevada admitted to the Union
 - Lincoln wins re-election
 - Thomas Doughty invents the periscope
 - George Pullman builds the first railroad sleeping car (the Pullman Car)
 - “In God We Trust” appears on a US coin for the first time – the two-cent piece
 - The fraternal organization The Knights of Pythias is formed in Washington, DC
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- union
 - Foucault measures the speed of light
 - France begins to occupy Indo-China
 - Victor Hugo publishes *Les Misérables*
 - Jean J. Lenoir builds the first automobile with an internal combustion engine
 - Swiss philanthropist Jean Henri Dunant proposes the creation of the Red Cross
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- 1863
 - Danish Prince George is selected to be King of Greece (after the English poet Lord Byron turns down the position)
 - French troops occupy Mexico City – Maximilian of Austria declared Emperor of Mexico
 - Civil war breaks out in Uruguay
 - Ismail Pasha, the new king of Egypt, initiates modernization
 - Edouard Manet paints *Luncheon on the Grass*
 - Jules Verne publishes *Five Weeks in a Balloon*
 - Charles Kingsley publishes the children’s book *The Water-Babies*
 - William Huggins invents the stellar spectroscope and shows that stars are similar to the sun
 - Scarlet fever kills more than 30,000 in England
 - The Football (soccer) Association is founded in London
 - Speke and Grant travel down the Nile to Central Africa
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- 1864
 - Britain cedes the Ionian Islands to Greece
 - Russia crushes Polish revolts and begins “russification” of Poland
 - Austria and Prussia declare war on Denmark
 - Russia creates the zemstvo system, a form of representational limited local government
 - China suppressed the Taiping Rebellion
 - Coalition of British, French, Dutch, and American warships bombard Choshu forts to halt anti-Western movements in Japan
 - Jules Verne publishes *A Journey to*

- Jefferson Davis makes Lee general-in-chief of the Confederate Armies
 - Grant surrenders to Lee at Appomattox Court House
 - Lincoln assassinated
 - Andrew Johnson inaugurated President
 - Colorado militia suppress the Cheyenne and Arapaho Indians
 - 13th Amendment ratified
 - William Lloyd Garrison publishes the last issue of the abolitionist paper *The Liberator*
 - MIT founded (It serves 15 students.)
 - Alexander Holley produces the first American steel using the Bessemer Process
 - Tony Pastor becomes the “Father of Vaudeville”
 - Walt Whitman publishes *Drum Taps*
 - Vassar appoints Maria Mitchell the first female professor of astronomy
 - Chicago becomes the world’s greatest meat-packing center
 - New York creates the first fire department staffed by paid fire fighters
- 1865**
- *the Center of the Earth*
 - Charles Dickens publishes *Our Mutual Friend*
 - Dostoevsky publishes *Notes from Underground*
 - James Clerk Maxwell proposes the electromagnetic waves travel at the speed of light
 - Pasteur develops a method for “pasteurizing” wine (It will eventually lead to a similar process for milk.)
 - The Geneva Convention establishes the neutrality of medical and field hospitals in war
- Peru declares war on Spain
 - Joseph Lister successfully uses carbolic acid to prevent infection in a wound
 - Leo Tolstoy publishes *War and Peace*
 - Jules Verne publishes *From the Earth to the Moon*, predicting that America will launch the first flight to the moon
 - Lewis Carroll publishes *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland*
 - Gustave Doré makes his illustrations for the Bible
 - Marquis of Queensbury Rules supplant the practice of bare-knuckled boxing
 - William Booth founds an organization that will become the Salvation Army in 1878