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THE CIVIL WAR: THE FIRST CLASHES

It is plain the war [the Civil War] enlisted the patriotic feelings, properly so called, of both the contending parties.—*J. C. Ropes.*



A Confederate drummer.

From a regiment called the "Louisiana Tigers."

230. The Strength of the North and the South Compared.—At the outbreak of the Civil War what was the strength of the North when compared with the strength of the South? In what respect was the outlook favorable to one section and unfavorable to the other?

In many respects the North was the stronger of the contending sections. On the side of the Union there were twenty-two States, while the Confederate States numbered only eleven. The population of the States remaining in the Union was twenty-two millions; the population of the seceded States was five and a half millions of whites and three and a half millions of blacks. The white population of the North, therefore, was about four times that of the South. In wealth and material resources the North was also far ahead of the South. The North had shops to supply its armies with the weapons of war; it had factories to make clothing for its soldiers; and it had farms to supply them with food. The South had little beside its farms. Another great advantage of the North was its control of the sea. The navy, for the most part, remained true to the Union, and nearly all the vessels of the American merchant marine—and it was very large in 1861—were owned in the North and were at the service of the Union.

In one important respect, however, the outlook was favorable