

UNION IN PERIL

1850-1860

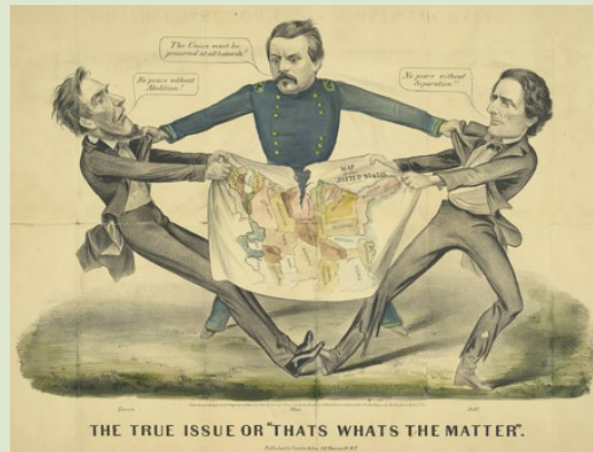
ESSENTIAL QUESTION

Was the Civil War inevitable?

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN NORTH & SOUTH

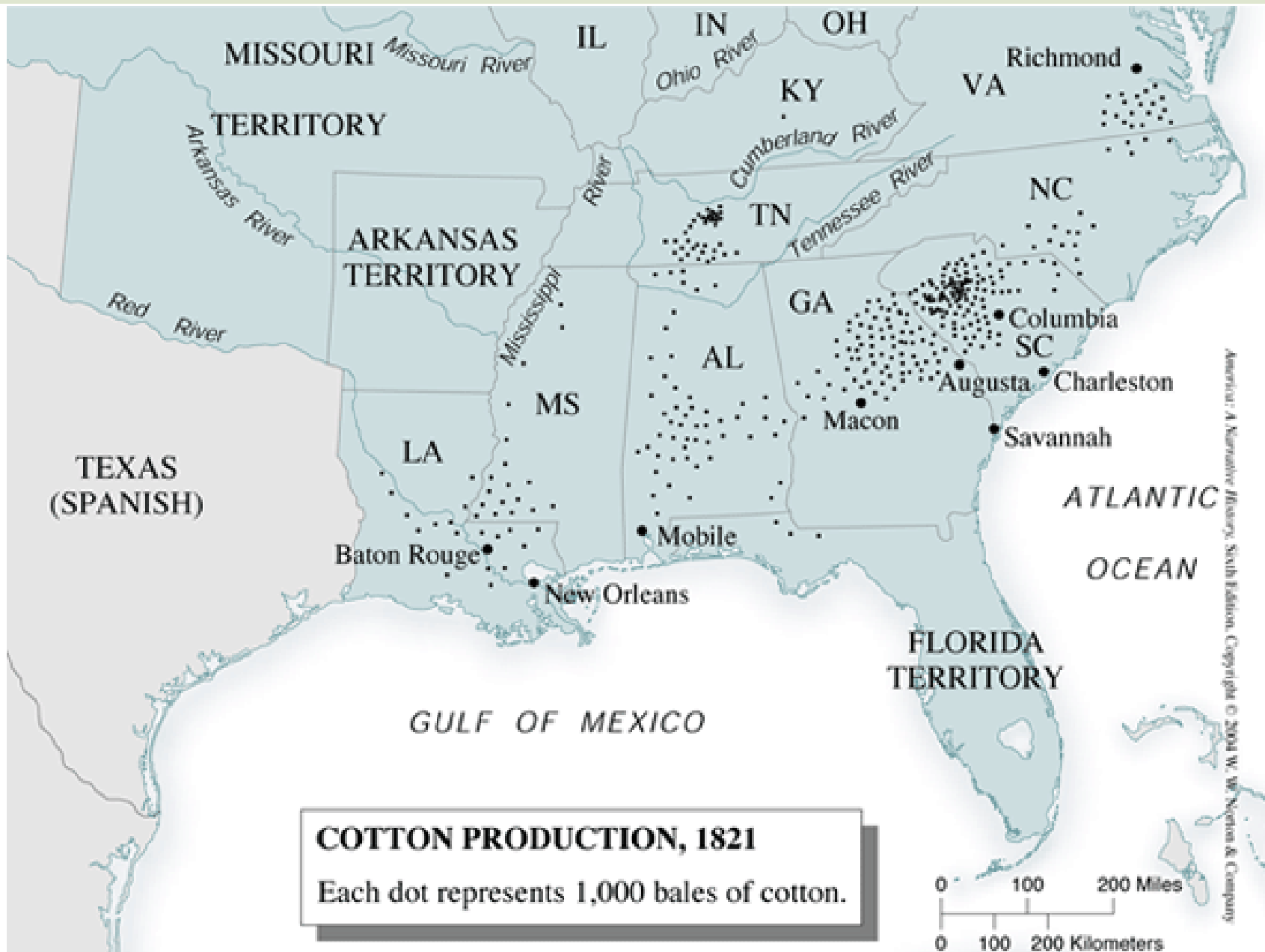
■ North (1850's)

- Factories
- Railroads
 - carried raw materials eastward and manufactured goods and settlers westward
- Communication Networks
 - telegraph wires, morse code
- Growing Population
 - a lot of European immigration



■ South (1850's)

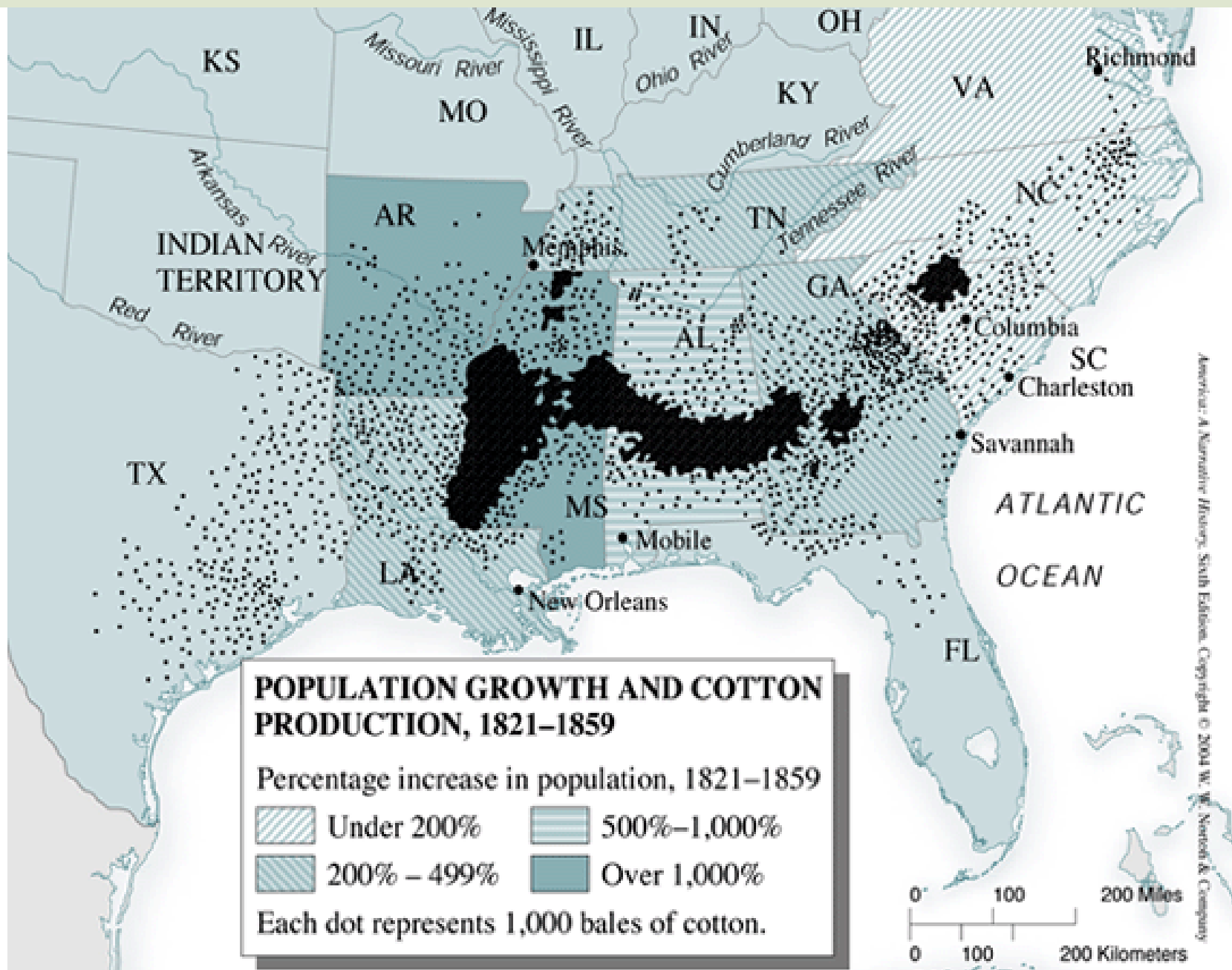
- Agriculture
 - "King Cotton"
- Very few cities and towns
- Transportation Networks
 - Rivers (not railroads) are used to import/export goods
- Communication
 - Limited
- Slavery
- Population
 - few immigrants

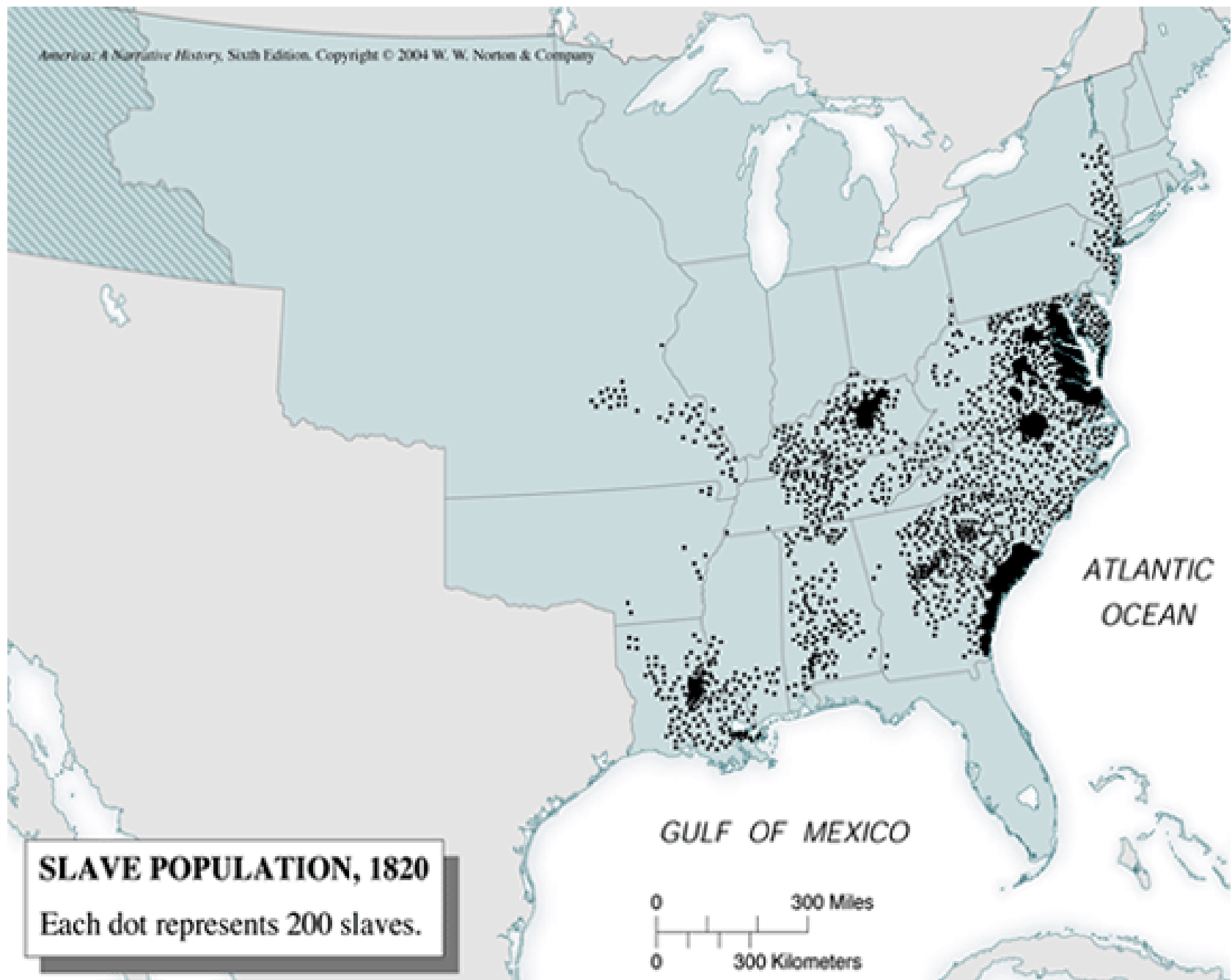


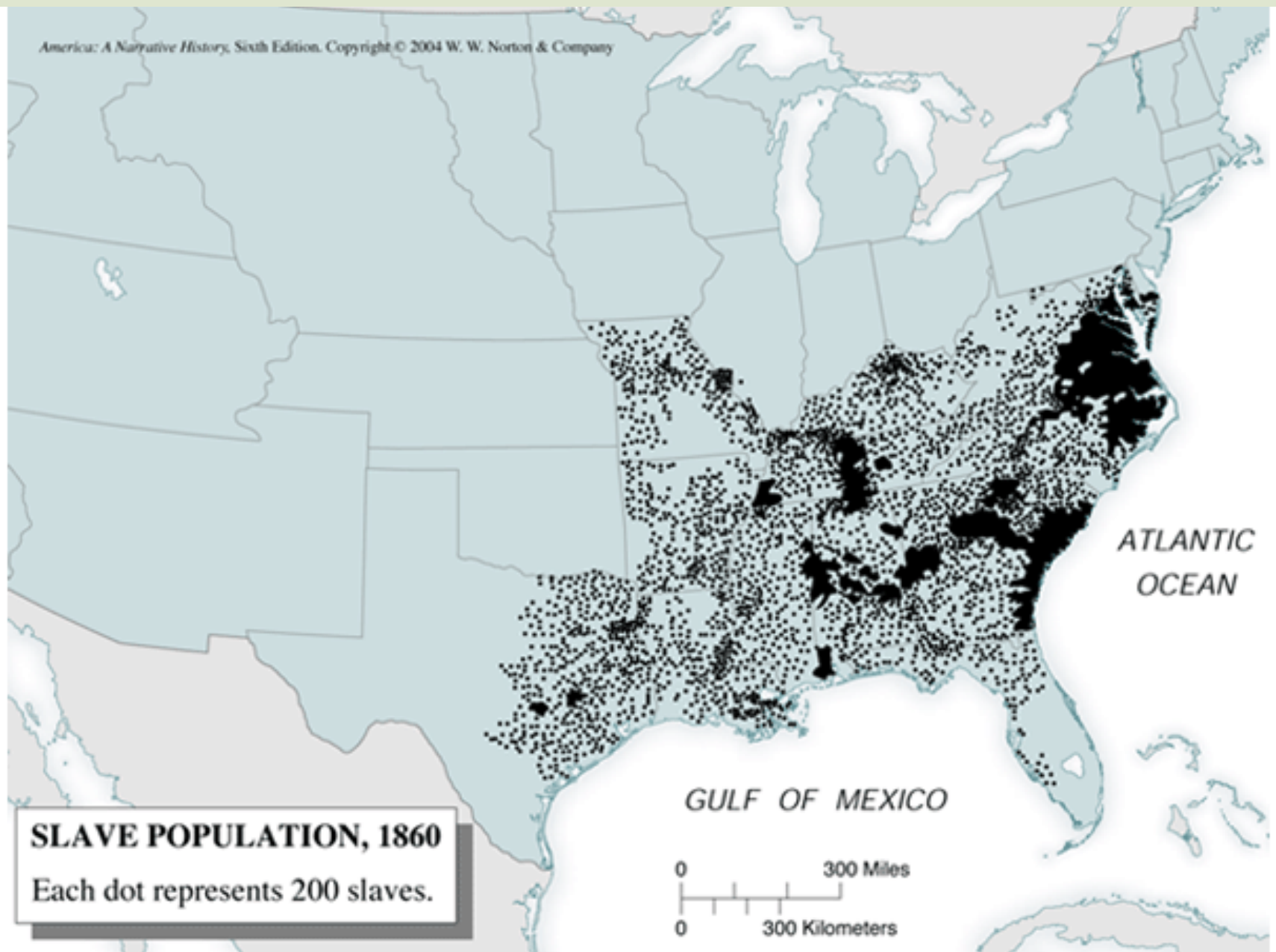
COTTON PRODUCTION, 1821
 Each dot represents 1,000 bales of cotton.

0 100 200 Miles
 0 100 200 Kilometers

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SLAVE POPULATION, 1860
Each dot represents 200 slaves.

0 300 Miles
0 300 Kilometers

LIFE UNDER SLAVERY

- 1810-1830: 1.2 million slaves → 2 million
 - Slave owners encouraged slaves to marry & have kids
 - Plantation owner to get “free slaves”
 - Majority of slaves born in America
 - Most slaves worked on large plantations → owners = absolute authority
- Three types of slaves:
 - House Slave: cooking, cleaning, better treatment
 - Field Slave: worked outside picking cotton, doing hard labor
 - City Slave: rented out – skilled craftsmen & factory workers



COURTESY, MUSEUM OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK
The first African American carpenter for his skill as a craftsman. Faded, wooden boxes back of every great enterprise have been assembled in Southern Nigeria. Turkey wool among in chief among West African crafts.



“A city slave is almost a free man, compared with a slave on a plantation. He is much better fed and clothed, and enjoys privileges altogether unknown to the slave on the plantation.”

– Frederick Douglass

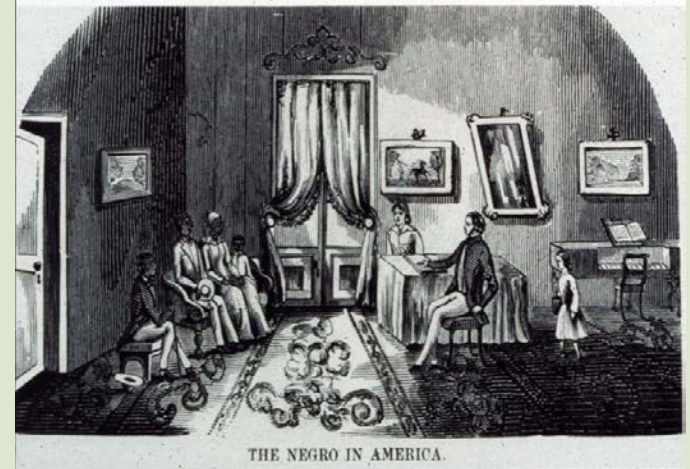
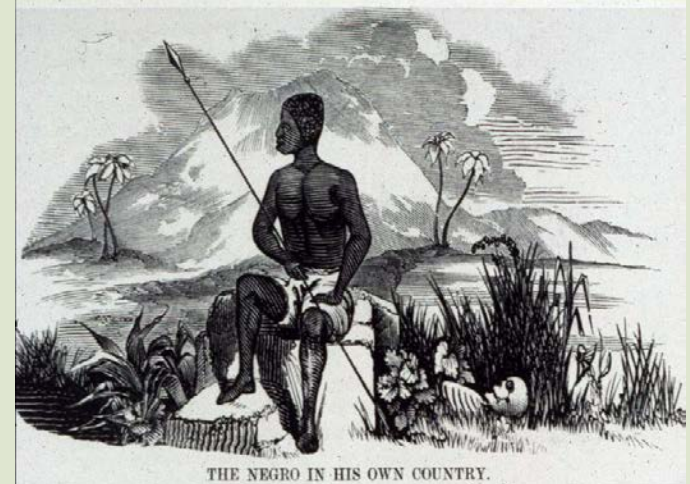
BLACK CODES

- **Black Codes**
 - Slave owners restricting slaves
 - Pushed state legislatures to tighten controls on African Americans
 - Under most state laws African Americans denied basic freedoms (Constitution = 3/5 rule)
 - Free blacks also had black codes passed against them
 - Prohibited from owning guns, buying alcohol, gathering in public, testifying in court



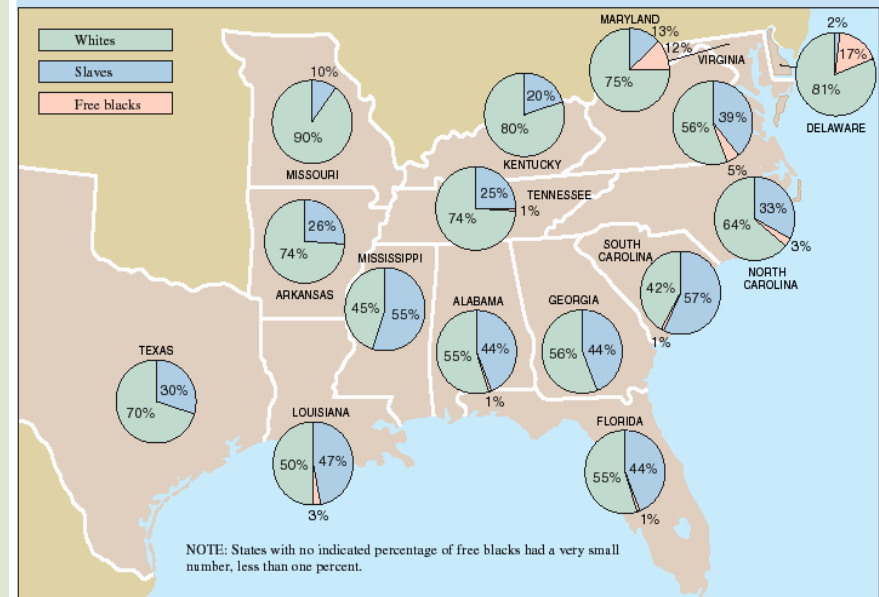
JUSTIFICATION FOR SLAVERY

- Slavery is good!
 - Bible tells people to “obey”
 - Slaves benefit:
 - Become part of a civilized society
 - Removal from “wild Africa” was a good thing
 - Conversion to Christianity
 - How would slaves go to heaven if it weren’t for conversion?!
- “Happy Slave” Myth



TENSION OVER SLAVERY

- Immigrants
 - Opposed slavery because competing with them for jobs
- Western Territories: population 60,000 → state
 - Slave vs. Free State
 - Wilmot Proviso (ban slavery in new land) REJECTED
- CA = free state
 - BUT majority of land South of MO Comp Line (36' 30')
- North wants end of slavery in DC
- South accuse North not enforcing Fugitive Slave Act of 1793
 - local govt seize/return escaped slaves to owners & penalize anyone who helped
- South threatens to secede!



COMPROMISE OF 1850

- Senator Henry Clay creates a series of resolutions in an attempt to seek a compromise and avert a crisis between North and South.

NORTH GETS...	SOUTH GETS...
<p>Popular sovereignty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ UT & NM will get to choose slave/free = power NOT guaranteed for South 	<p>Popular sovereignty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ UT & NM will get to choose slave/free = No slavery restrictions!
<p>Slave trade prohibited in D.C.</p>	<p>Slaveholding permitted in D.C.</p>
<p>Texas loses boundary dispute with New Mexico (Slavery contained in TX)</p>	<p>Texas gets \$10 million</p>
<p>California admitted as a free state</p>	<p>Fugitive Slave Law</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ No trial by jury, testimony of slave holder to convict ■ Judge get \$10 to return slave to slavery, \$5 to declare runaway free ■ Aiding a runaway slave/failing to report info = \$1,000 fine and/or jail

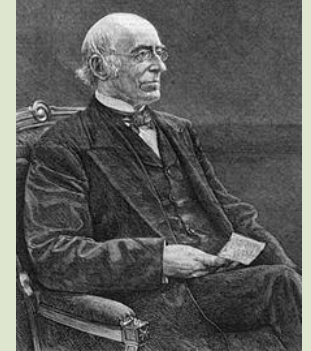
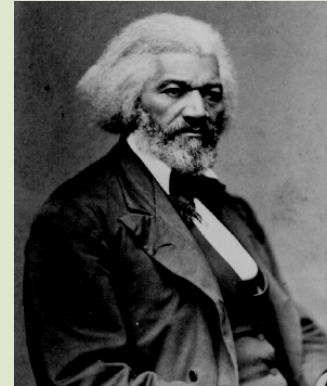
Compromise of 1850



PROTESTING SLAVERY

■ Abolitionists want to end to slavery

- Varying opinions
 - Gradual and peaceful end
 - Violent overthrow of slavery
 - Resettlement
 - Sending all blacks back to Africa
 - Liberia (1847) established by US citizens as a colony for former African-American slaves



■ Nat Turner's Rebellion

- 1831: Turner (a slave) led 80 slaves in an attack of 4 plantations and killed 60 white inhabitants
- Stopped by federal troops
- Nat Turner was tried and hanged.
- 200 slaves were accused taking part and were hanged- MOST WERE INNOCENT.
 - Message: slaves who rebelled would be killed



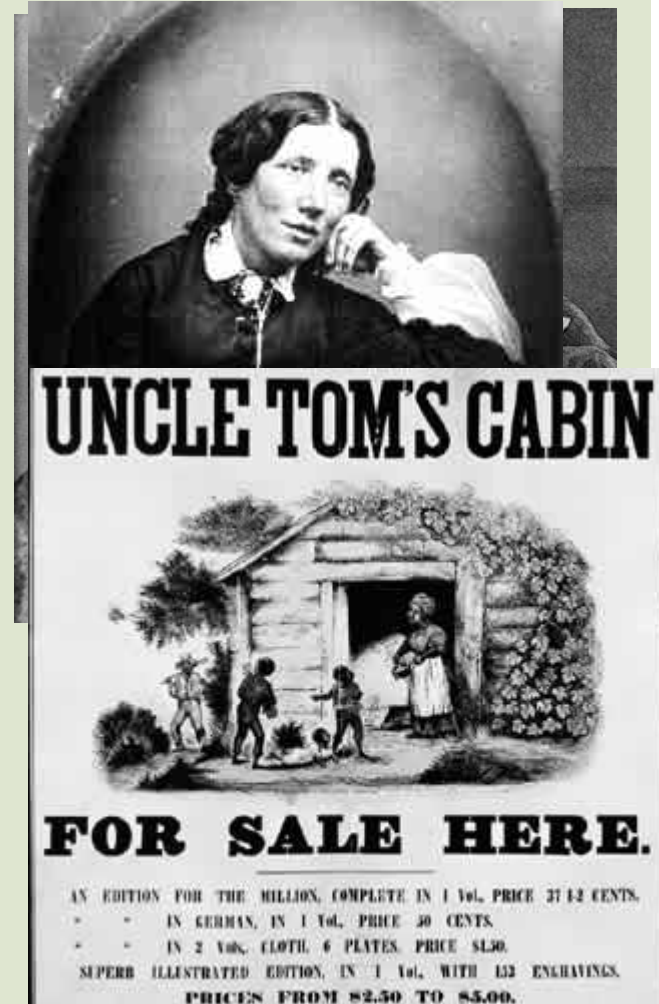
PROTESTING SLAVERY

- Fugitive Slave Law of 1850
 - Heavy penalties for runaway slaves & their allies
- Northern Response:
 - Active involvement in helping slaves escape
 - Underground Railroad
 - Secret network of people who would aid fugitives in their escape from slavery



ABOLITIONISTS SPEAK OUT

- William Lloyd Garrison
 - Radical white abolitionist, editor of anti-slavery newspaper *The Liberator*
 - Called for the immediate emancipation of slaves
- Frederick Douglass
 - Born a slave, self taught, escaped by ship
 - Publishes anti-slavery newspaper *The North Star*
- [Harriet Tubman](#)
 - Escaped [slavery](#)
 - Makes trip 20x to guide 300 slaves on Underground RR (nickname Moses)
 - \$40,000 reward for her capture
- David Walker
 - Free black citizen
 - Urged blacks to violently rebel (vs. waiting for slave owners to end slavery)
- Sojourner Truth
 - Born a slave, escaped, “Ain't I a Woman?”
- Harriet Beecher Stowe
 - Wrote *Uncle Tom's Cabin*



UNCLE TOM'S CABIN

- Stowe = “conductor” of Underground RR
 - *UTC* based on accounts told to Stowe by escaped slaves
- Plot reveals brutality of slavery
- Thousands of copies sell (*2nd leading sales behind The Bible!!*)
- Reactions to *UTC*
 - North:
 - outraged → increase # of abolitionists, abolition moral
 - For many *UTC* = first time witnessing slavery “first
 - Increased protest to Fugitive Slave Act 1850
 - South
 - Stowe = liar, *UTC* is fiction
 - North looking for an excuse to attack So

A book starts the war?!

When President Lincoln first meets Harriet Beecher Stowe, he exclaims, “so this is the little lady who helped start the big war”

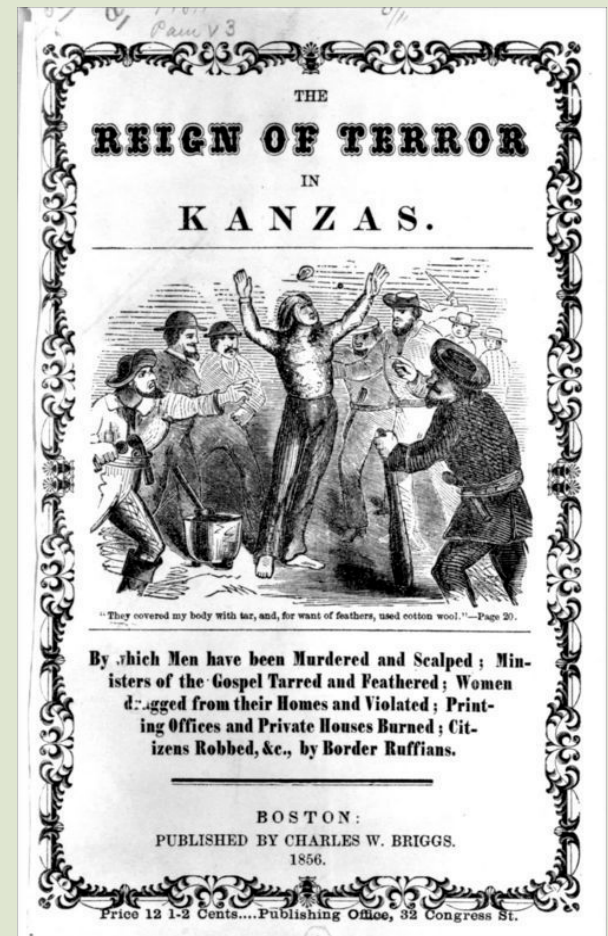
TENSION IN KANSAS-NEBRASKA

- Congress wants balance of free/slave states
 - Rep. Stephen Douglas wants popular sovereignty in territory
 - Asks Congress to repeal MO Compromise
 - South: excited b/c want to expand slavery
 - North: angry
 - Congress open to repeal b/c doubts slavery will expand
 - Land in Plains does not require a slave labor force
 - 1854: Kansas-Nebraska Act
 - Divided the land into two territories, NE and KS
 - Repealed the MO Comp Line
 - Established popular sovereignty in KS&NE



BLEEDING KANSAS

- Abolitionists & slave owners rush KS-NE land to sway vote
 - 1855: KS pop. enough to vote on territorial laws
 - Many border ruffians (*border jumpers*)
- Kansas → slave state BUT abolitionists do not comply!
 - Proslavery govt in Lecompton, KS
 - Abolitionist govt in Topeka, KS
- Tension escalates into violence
 - The Sack of Lawrence (1856)
 - 800 proslavery armed men burned down the antislavery HQ in Lawrence KS
 - Pottawatomie Creek Massacre
 - John Brown + group pull 5 men from their beds, hack off hands, & stab in retaliation for Lawrence



TENSION IN GOVERNMENT

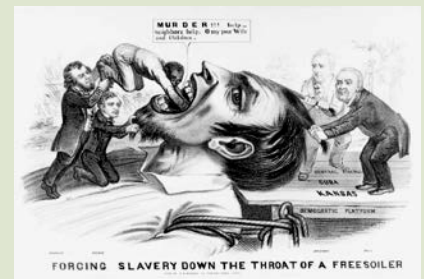
■ Sumner/Brooks incident

- MA Sen. Sumner delivers antislavery speech
- Sen. Brooks violently attacks Sumner with his cane in retaliation for speech (*strikes Sumner over the head until the cane breaks! Sumner suffers brain damage and doesn't return to the Senate for 3 years!*)
- Southerners applaud Brooks (*"HIT HIM AGAIN!"*)
- Northerners condemn Brooks -- barbaric South with no values



■ Political Parties:

- American Party – key belief: nativism
- Liberty Party – key belief: pursue the cause of abolition by passing new laws
- Free Soil Party -- key belief: stop the expansion of slavery into the new territories
 - Northerners concerned for white workers
- Democrats – pro-Southern farmers (aka pro-Slavery)
- Republican Party – Whigs + antislavery Democrats + Free-Soilers
 - Keeping slavery out of the territories

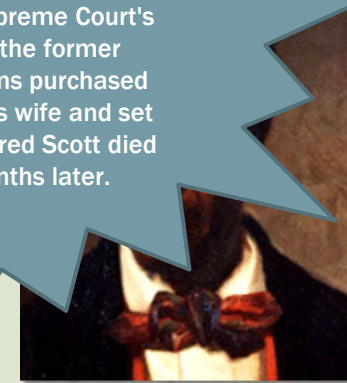


DRED SCOTT V. SANDFORD

- Dred Scott = slave from MO (slave state) who moved w/ owners north of MO Comp. Line for 4 yrs
 - Moves back to MO w/ owners
 - Owners die → Scott began lawsuit for freedom
 - Claims free b/c lived in free territory of IL & WI for several years
 - Offered to buy freedom for \$300 → denied
- 1857: Supreme Court ruled that:
 - Slaves ≠ citizens, slaves ≠ rights
 - Scott did not have the right to file a lawsuit in court
 - Scott began lawsuit in MO (slave state) → no claim freedom
 - MO Compromise = unconstitutional
 - Congress cannot forbid slavery in territory b/c interfere with own property (5th A)
- Reaction to Decision:
 - South: Approve b/c property rights supported by more potential slave territory
 - North: Outraged b/c Supreme Court paved the way for extension of slavery

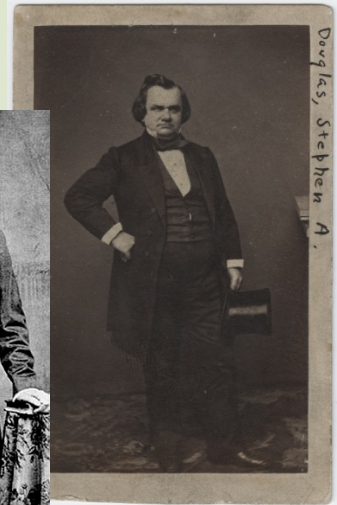


After the Supreme Court's decision, the former master's sons purchased Scott and his wife and set them free. Dred Scott died nine months later.



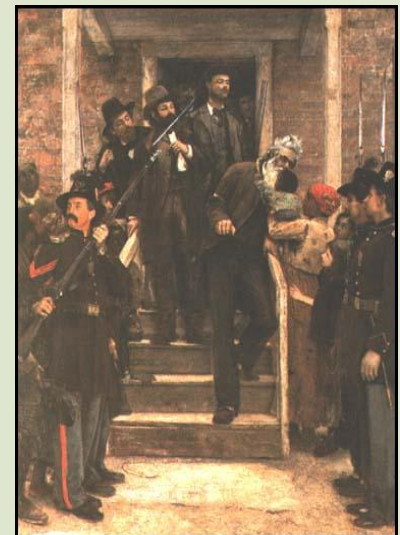
LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATES

- 1858 race for Illinois Senate = Stephen Douglas (Dem) vs. Abraham Lincoln (Rep)
 - Lincoln challenges Douglas 7 public debates, topic = slavery in the new territories
- Key Beliefs:
 - Douglas: popular sovereignty, slave labor is backward & inefficient
 - Lincoln: lawyer, slavery is immoral, outlaw it in new territories
- Debates
 - Smear campaigns between Lincoln and Douglas
- Douglas wins Senate seat!



HARPER'S FERRY

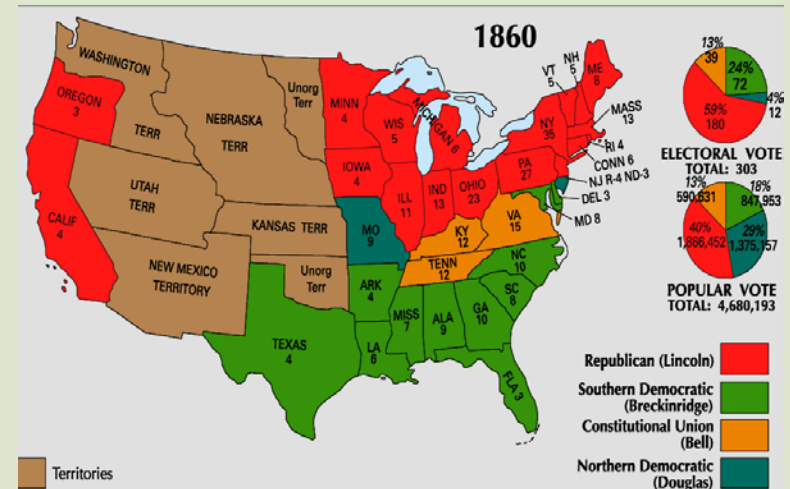
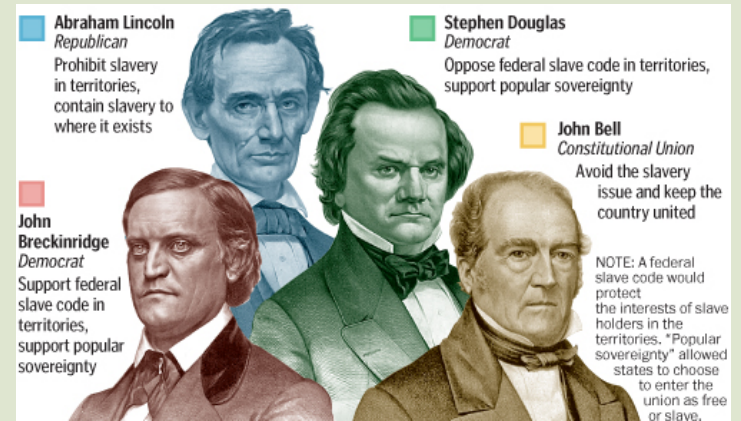
- John Brown (abolitionist/Pottawatomie Creek Massacre) plans rebellion in Harpers Ferry, VA
 - Led 21 men (black & white) to Harpers Ferry
 - Plan = seize federal arsenal & distribute weapons to slaves for a slave rebellion
 - 60 slave owners held hostage so their slaves would join (no slaves ever arrived...)
 - US Marines arrive, kill some raiders, & capture John Brown
- Brown tried & convicted for treason in VA & hanged
- Reaction to Brown's hanging:
 - North: Brown = martyr willing to die for abolition!
 - South: North is planning slave uprisings, attack suspected abolitionists, fear → push for secession



ELECTION OF 1860

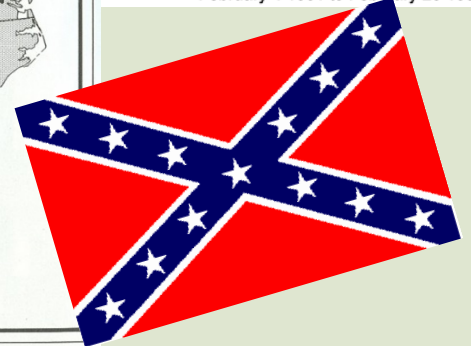
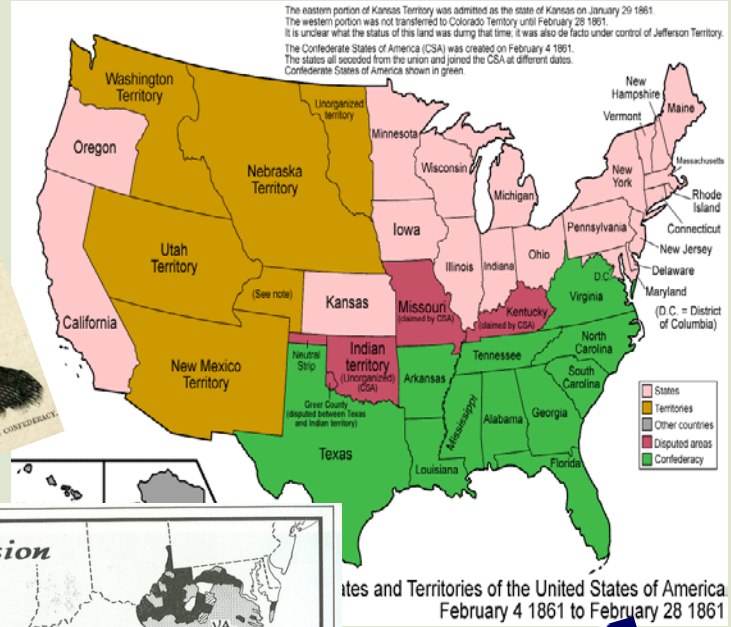
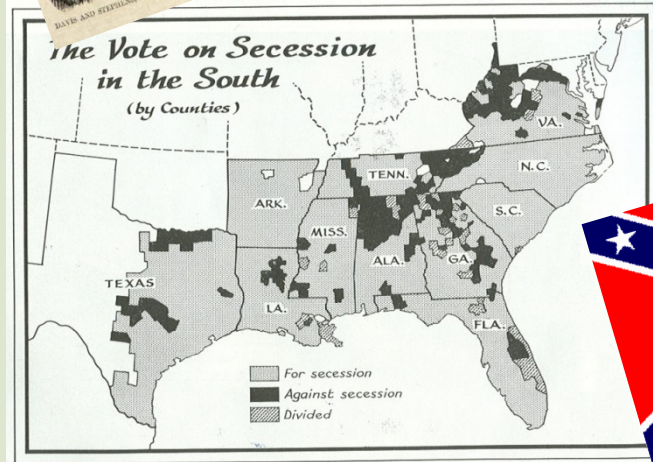
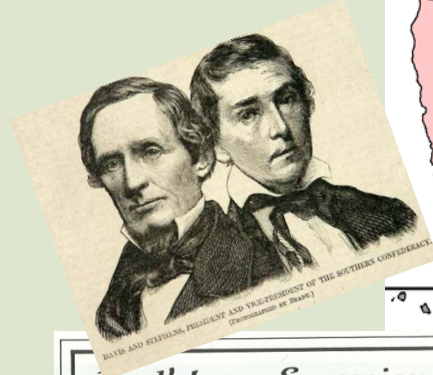
- Divided nation with multiple parties
 - Northern Democrats -- Stephen Douglas & popular sovereignty
 - Southern Democrats – want VP (Breckinridge)
 - Northern Republicans -- Abraham Lincoln b/c moderate
 - Would not end slavery but would stop it from expanding
 - South: Lincoln likes Blacks, if elected secede

- Lincoln wins!
 - Receives less than half of the popular vote
 - Receives no electoral votes from South (not even on ballot...)
 - Wins in free states



SOUTH SECEDES FROM UNION

- Lincoln's election → Divided nation
 - Convinces South they lack political voice
 - South fears slavery will become illegal
- SC, MO, FL, AL, GA, LA, TX, VA, AK, TN, NC secede from the Union & form the Confederate States of America
 - Jefferson Davis = Pres
 - Many Southern Senators & Reps resigned and left D.C



CAUSES OF THE CIVIL WAR

1. Fugitive Slave Law & Underground Railroad
2. Uncle Tom's Cabin
3. Kansas-Nebraska Act
4. Bleeding Kansas
5. Sumner/Brooks incident
6. The Dred Scott Case and Decision
7. The Lecompton Constitution
8. The Lincoln-Douglas Debates
9. Harpers Ferry
10. Lincoln's 1860 Election

■ All of these events divide the North and the South!