

Chapter 13

The Union In Peril, 1848-1861

Presidents Taylor and Fillmore, 1849-1852

Zachary Taylor's presidency

Almost immediately he had to deal with the admission of California into the union as a free state. California's population expanded rapidly due to the discovery of gold in 1848.

Taylor, a slave owner, took an anti-slavery stance when he encouraged California to come into the Union knowing they would be a free state.

Several Southern states threatened to secede (leave) from the U.S. over the admission of another free state.

President Taylor held a conference with southern leaders who threatened secession. He told them if it was necessary to enforce the laws, he personally would lead the Army and hang anyone who rebelled against the Union.

He died suddenly on July 9 1850 after serving only 16 months in office. Vice President Millard Fillmore became president.

Free Soil Party, new anti-slavery party. Party slogan: “Free soil, free speech, free labour, and free men.

Founded in 1848, at Buffalo, New York by members of the Whig Party and the Liberty Party.

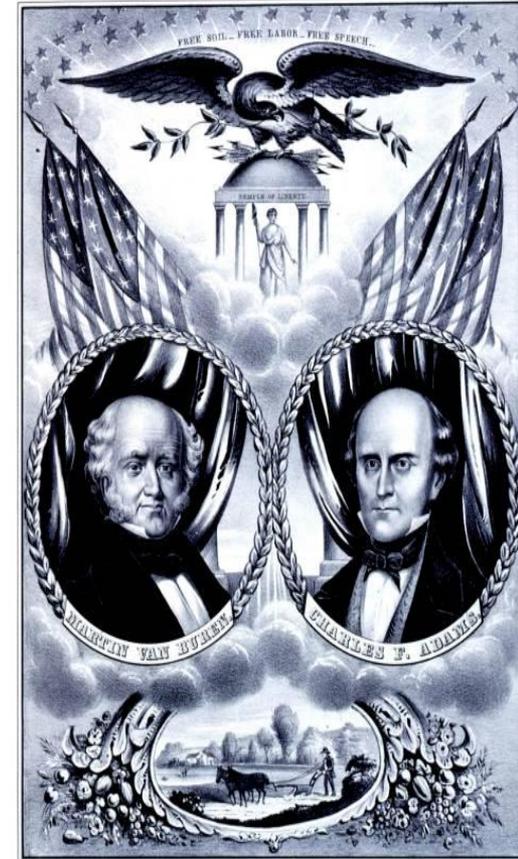
Opposed the extension of slavery into new western territories.

One of the first elections a third party affected the outcome. Van Buren received 10% of the vote, which split traditional Democratic support and enabled the Whig candidate, Zachary Taylor, to win.

By 1852, the Free-Soil Party had 12 congressmen.

By 1854, remaining members joined the Republican Party.

The party scared southerners who saw it as a threat to their culture and way of life.



The Compromise of 1850 revolved around the issue of allowing California into the Union as a free state which would upset the balance between free and slave states.

State	year admitted	total slave states	total free states
Ohio	1803		9
Louisiana	1812	9	
Indiana	1816		10
Mississippi	1817	10	
Illinois	1818		11
Alabama	1819	11	
Maine	1820		12
Missouri	1821	12	
Arkansas	1836	13	
Michigan	1837		13
Florida	1845	14	
Texas	1845	15	
Iowa	1846		14
Wisconsin	1848		15
California	1850		16

The Compromise of 1850 had five sections



Old Senate chambers where debate took place

- 1. The territories of New Mexico, Nevada, Arizona, and Utah would be organized without mention of slavery. The decision would be made when they applied for statehood.**
- 2. California would be admitted as a free state.**
- 3. Texas would relinquish the land in dispute but, in compensation, given \$10 million to pay its debt to Mexico.**
- 4. The slave trade would be abolished in Washington D.C., although slavery would still be permitted.**
- 5. Fugitive Slave Law.**

Kansas Nebraska Act 1854

The issue of slavery was avoided by both parties as it was considered too dangerous to discuss openly.

Franklin Pierce was the Democrat candidate and Winfield Scott the Whig candidate.

The campaign was noted for personal attacks and mudslinging, with few real issues discussed.

Pierce won the election mainly for his backing of the both Compromise of 1850 and Fugitive Slave Law.

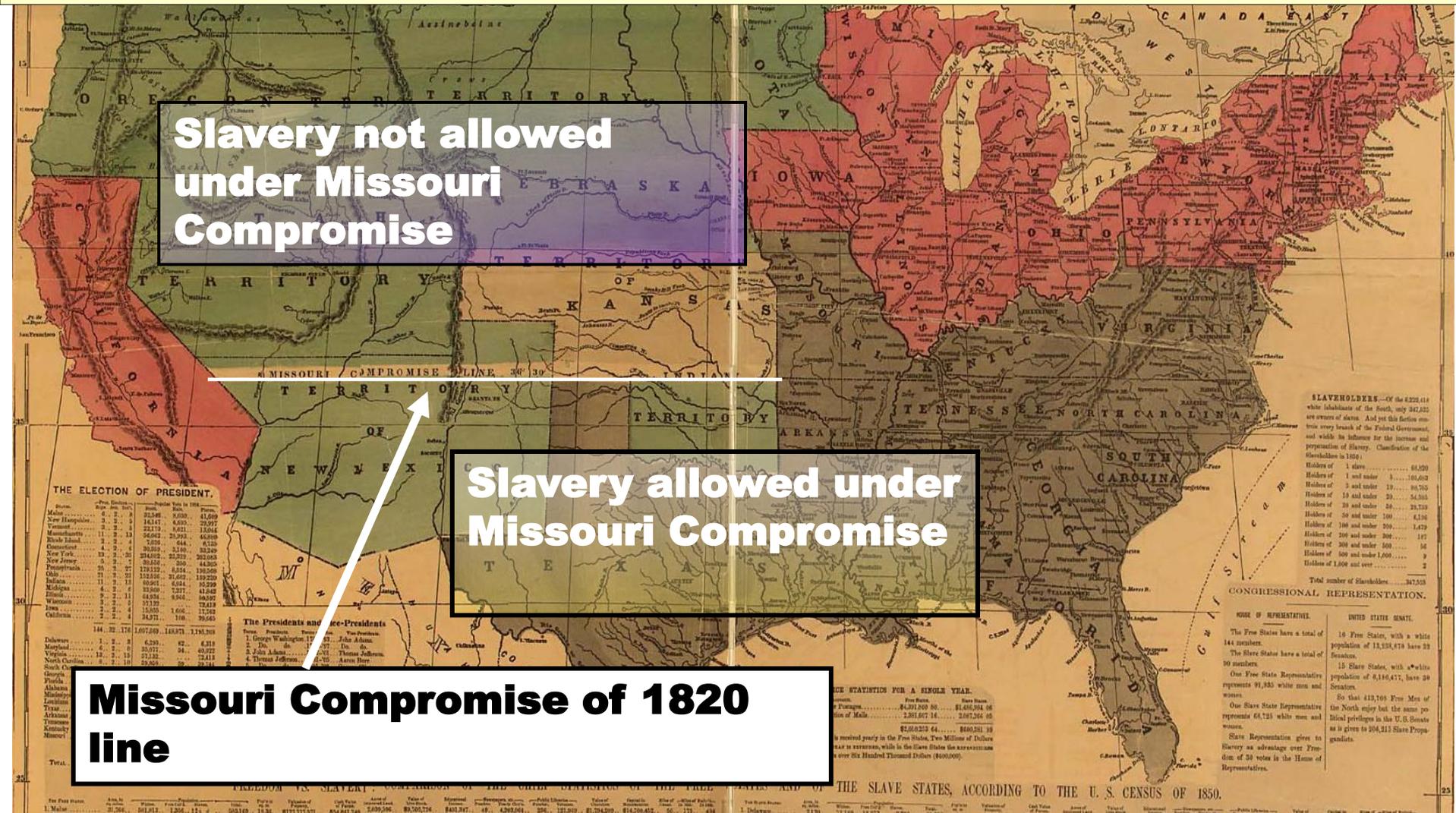
- 1. The Kansas-Nebraska Act divided the land west of Missouri into two territories, Kansas and Nebraska.**
- 2. To deal with the slavery issue Douglas included the concept of popular sovereignty which would allow the settlers of the new territories to decide if slavery would be legal. He did this to garner southern support for the his bill.**
- 3. Douglas miscalculated thinking that by leaving the issue of slavery up to the citizens of the new territories it would remove slavery from the national debate.**
- 4. Essentially the Kansas-Nebraska Act repealed the Missouri Compromise of 1820 making slavery legal where it would have been outlawed. This enraged anti-slavery citizens.**
- 5. After months of debate, the Kansas-Nebraska Act passed on May 30, 1854 signed into law by President Franklin Pierce.**

The status of slavery in the territories before the Kansas Nebraska Act of 1854

Slavery not allowed under Missouri Compromise

Slavery allowed under Missouri Compromise

Missouri Compromise of 1820 line

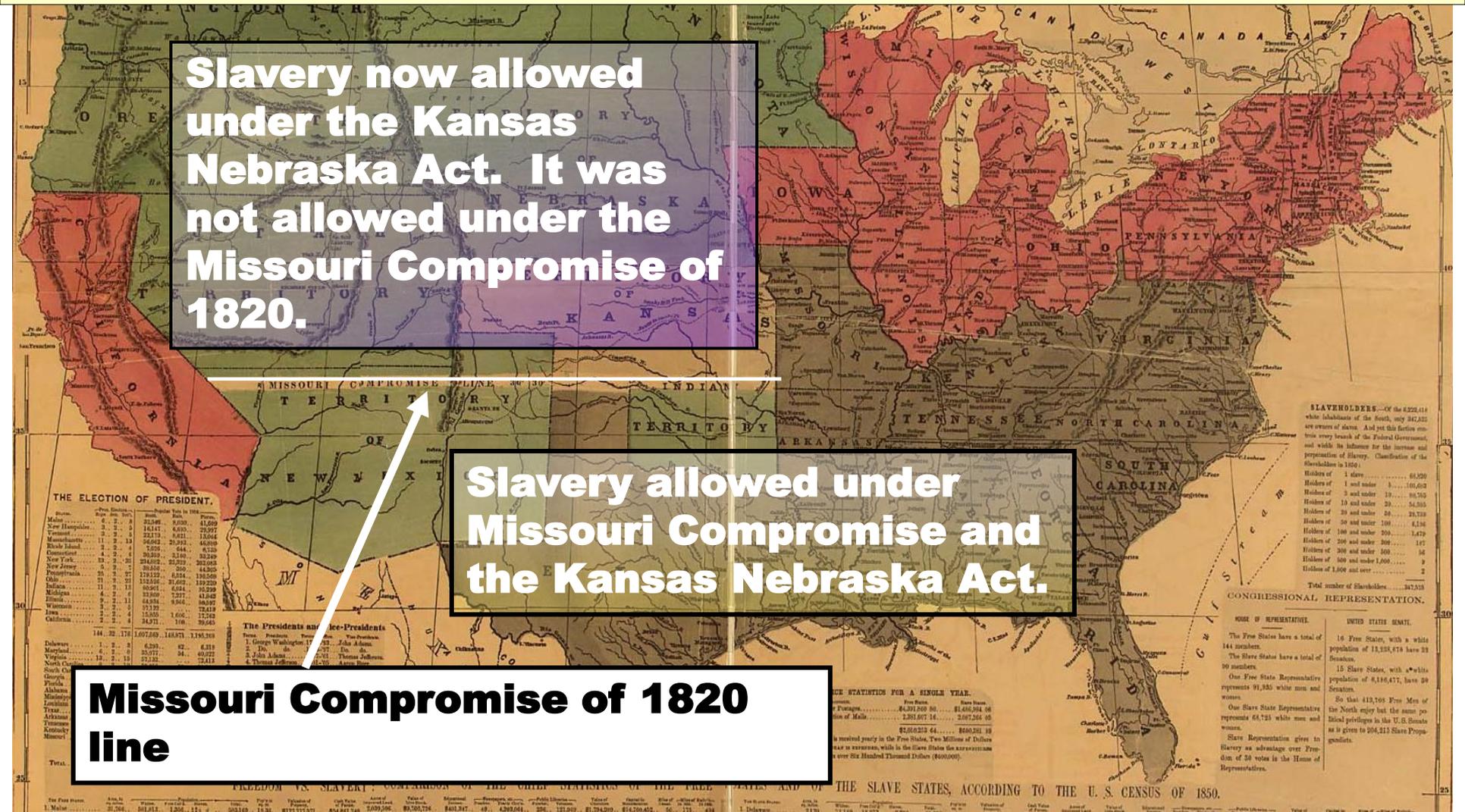


The status of slavery in the territories after the Kansas Nebraska Act of 1854

Slavery now allowed under the Kansas Nebraska Act. It was not allowed under the Missouri Compromise of 1820.

Slavery allowed under Missouri Compromise and the Kansas Nebraska Act.

Missouri Compromise of 1820 line



THE ELECTION OF PRESIDENT.

State	Free Electors	Slave Electors	Total Electors	Electors for
Alabama	4	2	6	3
Arkansas	3	2	5	3
California	11	2	13	7
Florida	3	2	5	3
Georgia	11	2	13	7
Illinois	11	2	13	7
Indiana	11	2	13	7
Iowa	11	2	13	7
Missouri	11	2	13	7
Ohio	11	2	13	7
South Carolina	11	2	13	7
Texas	11	2	13	7
Virginia	11	2	13	7
Washington Territory	3	0	3	3
Wisconsin	11	2	13	7
Wyoming	3	0	3	3

The Presidents and Vice-Presidents

Year	President	Vice-President
1789	George Washington	John Adams
1792	John Adams	Thomas Jefferson
1796	Thomas Jefferson	George Clinton
1800	James Madison	Thomas Jefferson
1804	James Madison	George Clinton
1808	James Monroe	James Madison
1812	James Monroe	James Madison
1816	James Monroe	James Madison
1820	James Monroe	James Madison
1824	James Monroe	James Madison
1828	James Monroe	James Madison
1832	James Monroe	James Madison
1836	James Monroe	James Madison
1840	James Monroe	James Madison
1844	James Monroe	James Madison
1848	James Monroe	James Madison
1852	James Monroe	James Madison

STATISTICS FOR A SINGLE YEAR.

Item	Free States	Slave States
Population	4,391,800	1,426,204
Value of Property	2,851,071	2,077,254
Value of Slaves	\$1,042,213	\$1,042,213

SLAVERY.—OF THE 6,222,114 white inhabitants of the South, only 341,232 are owners of slaves. And yet this fact remains every branch of the Federal Government, and wields its influence for the increase and perpetuation of Slavery. Classification of the Slaveholders in 1850.

Category	Number
Holders of 1 slave	61,250
Holders of 2 and under 10	105,700
Holders of 10 and under 20	54,500
Holders of 20 and under 50	23,750
Holders of 50 and under 100	12,500
Holders of 100 and under 200	1,470
Holders of 200 and under 500	197
Holders of 500 and under 1,000	34
Holders of 1,000 and over	10
Total number of Slaveholders	247,515

CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATION.

Category	Number
Free States	144
Slave States	90
Total	234

UNITED STATES SENATE.

The Free States have a total of 144 Senators. The Slave States have a total of 90 Senators. Our Free State Representatives represent 91,855 white men and women. Our Slave State Representatives represent 64,721 white men and women. Slave Representation gives to Slavery an advantage over Freedom of 26 votes in the House of Representatives.

FREEDOM VS. SLAVERY: COMPARISON OF THE GROSS STATISTICS OF THE FREE STATES AND OF THE SLAVE STATES, ACCORDING TO THE U. S. CENSUS OF 1850.

Item	Free States	Slave States
Population	4,391,800	1,426,204
Value of Property	2,851,071	2,077,254
Value of Slaves	\$1,042,213	\$1,042,213

The Kansas-Nebraska Act had a profound impact on the course of U.S. history

The reopening of the slavery question in the territories

“Bleeding Kansas”, open warfare in the territory between pro and anti-slavery forces

Political parties realigned along sectional lines

The Democrats became a southern proslavery party

The Whig Party, which had opposed the Act disappeared in the South and was fatally wounded in the North

A new party emerged, the Republican which gathered in anti-slavery Whigs and Democrats and was seen as a mortal danger to pro-slavery forces

Native American Party (1845–1855)

American Party (1855–1860)

aka Know Nothing Party

- **The platform of the American Party called for, among other things:**
- **Severe limits on immigration, especially from Catholic countries.**
- **Restricting political office to native-born Americans of English and/or Scottish lineage and Protestant persuasion.**
- **Mandating a wait of 21 years before an immigrant could gain citizenship.**
- **Restricting public school teacher positions to Protestants.**
- **Mandating daily Bible readings in public schools.**
- **Restricting the sale of liquor.**
- **Restricting the use of languages other than English**

The Republican Party is formed

The passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854 led to the creation of the Republican Party.

It split the Democrats and the Whig party and unified abolitionist factions. Two “Anti-Nebraska” meetings were held in Ripon, Wis., on Feb. 28 and Mar. 20, 1854.

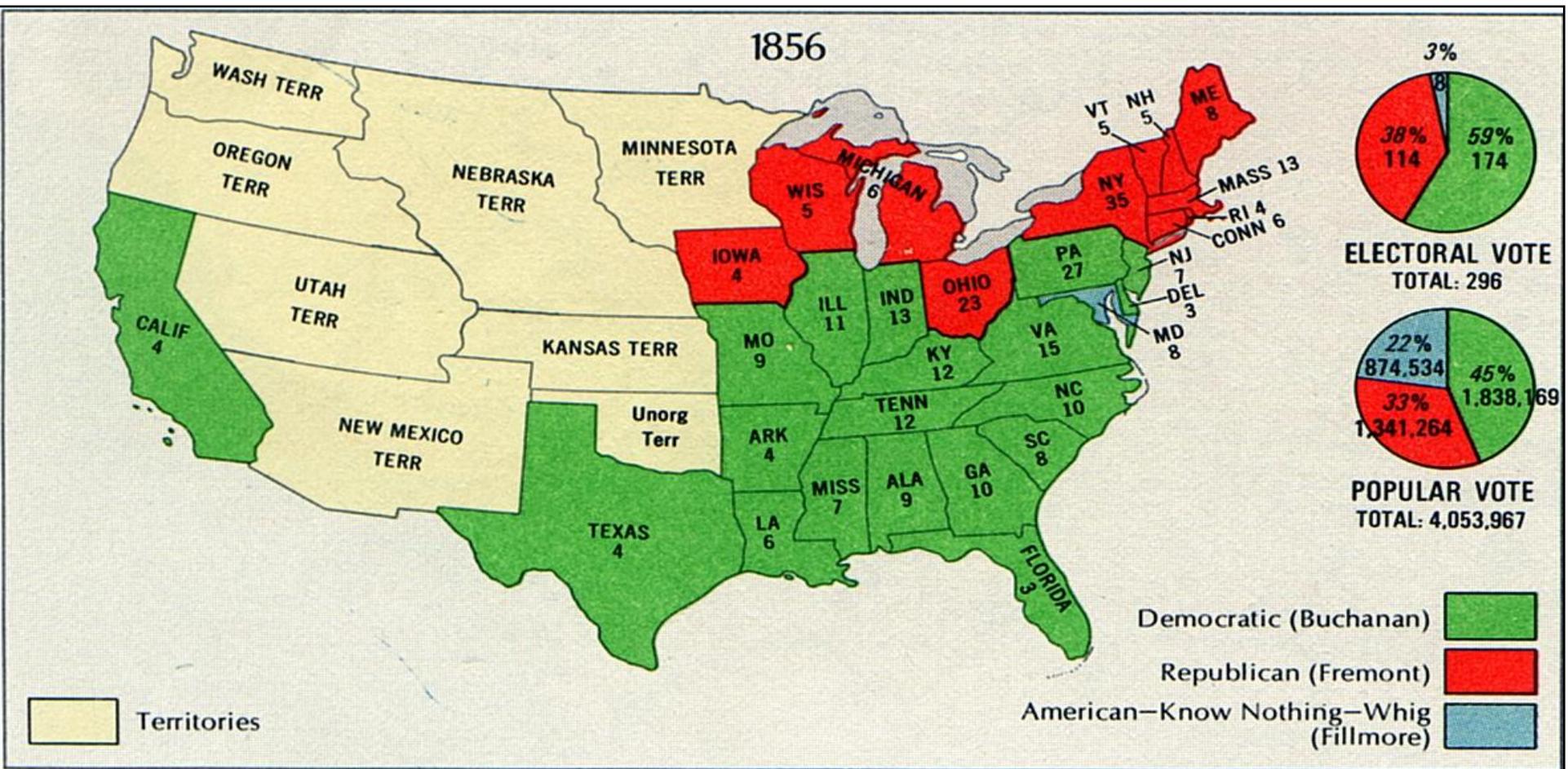
Groups of abolitionists, Free Soilers, Democrats, and Whigs formed the Republican party at these meetings.

The new party was an immediate success.

In the 1854 congressional elections, 44 Republicans were elected and several other Republicans were elected to the Senate and to various state houses.

THE ELECTION OF 1856

1856 Election results. Notice which states voted for the anti-slavery Republican Party.

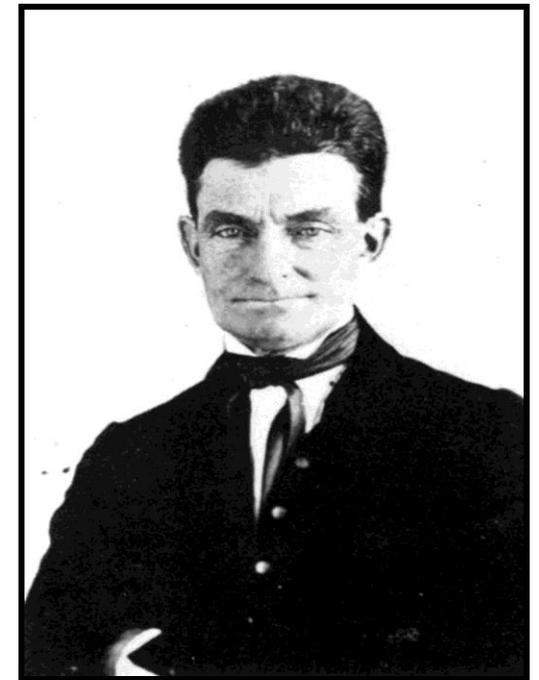


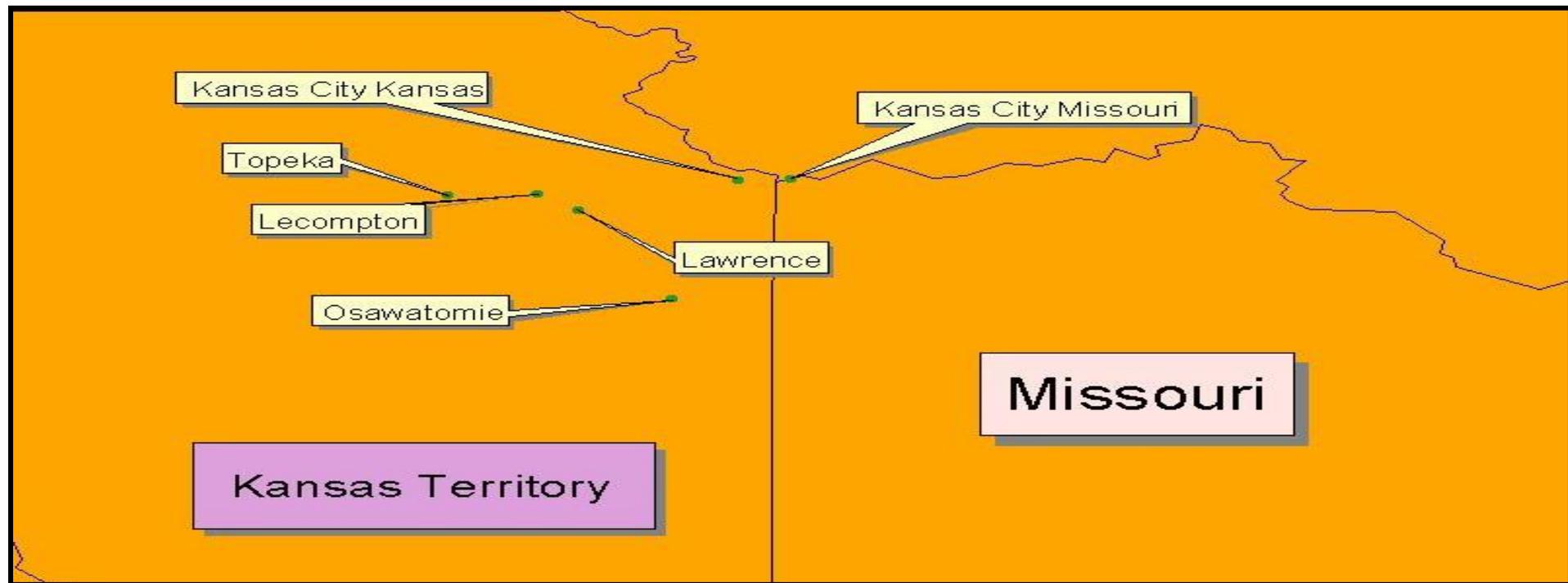
BLEEDING KANSAS

Henry Ward Beecher was involved with the New England Emigrant Aid Society. The Society furnished antislavery emigrants with rifles (“Beecher’s bibles”) to use in the struggle between proslavery and antislavery settlers in Kansas.



In October 1855, John Brown, a militant abolitionist, with five of his sons and their families moved to Kansas. In May 1856, Brown led a small force of anti-slavery men against proslavery settlements on Pottawatomie Creek-- five proslavery men were murdered and hostilities increased. Brown had played an active role in the hostilities that had plunged Kansas into bloody turmoil during the year of 1856. Brown left Kansas for a speaking tour in the east in 1857 to raise money for his next venture, a raid on Harper’s Ferry Virginia.





Kansas in the mid 1850's

Topeka-where the free state government was located

Lecompton-where the slave state government was located

Lawrence-conflict between pro and anti slavery forces

Osawatomie-conflict between pro and anti slavery forces



In 1856, Preston Brooks, a Representative from South Carolina attacked the outspoken anti-slavery Senator Charles Sumner in the Senate chamber. He beat him severely and Sumner's injuries prevented him from attending the Senate for the next three years.

Brooks resigned from Congress but was re-elected later that year and remained in office until his death in Washington on 27th January, 1857.

The attack hardened attitudes on the slavery issue and further divided the nation.

SCOTT v. SANFORD 1857

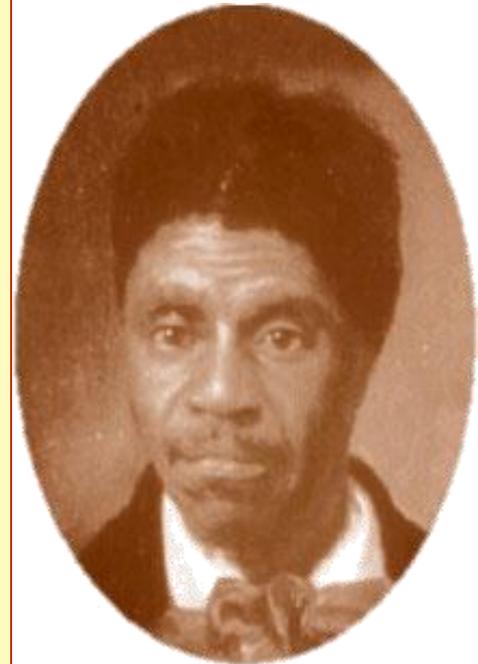
THIS SUPREME COURT DECISION STATED THAT BLACK PEOPLE, FREE OR SLAVE, COULD NOT BE CITIZENS OF THE U.S. THIS ANGERED ABOLITIONISTS, THOSE WORKING TO ABOLISH SLAVERY.



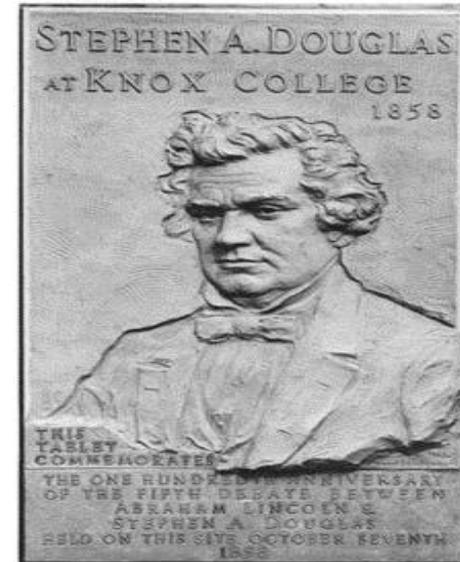
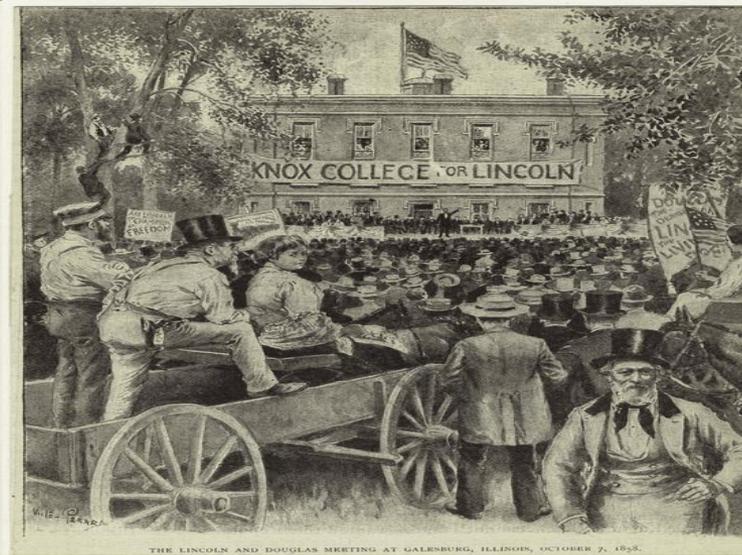
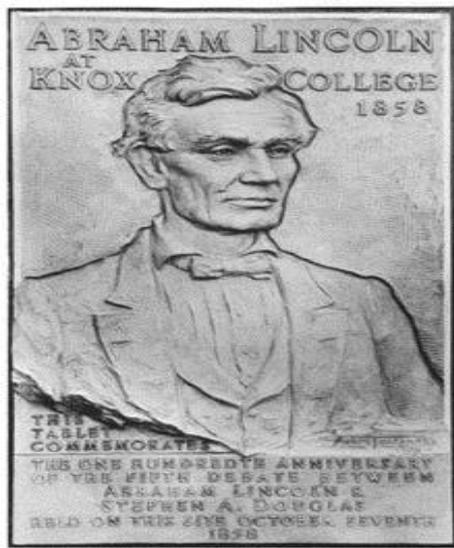
Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Roger B. Taney

DRED SCOTT, A SLAVE, HAD BEEN TAKEN BY HIS MASTER DR. EMERSON, AN ARMY SURGEON, TO A FREE STATE AND A FREE TERRITORY AND BACK TO MISSOURI, A SLAVE STATE.

SCOTT AND HIS WIFE HARRIET SUED SANFORD, THE EXECUTOR OF EMERSON'S ESTATE, FOR THEIR FREEDOM ON THE BASIS OF THEIR RESIDENCE ON FREE SOIL.



DRED SCOTT



Lincoln and Douglas debated:

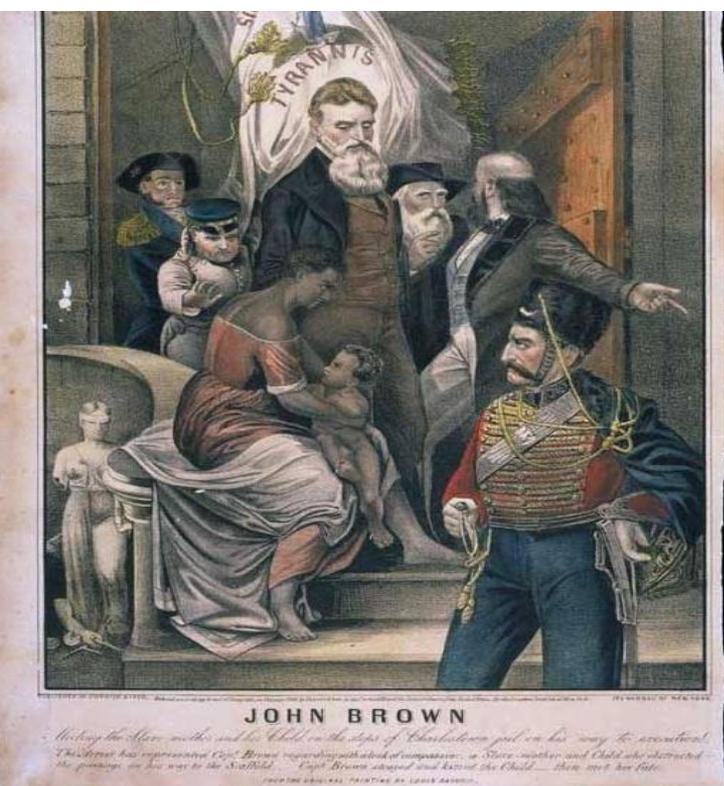
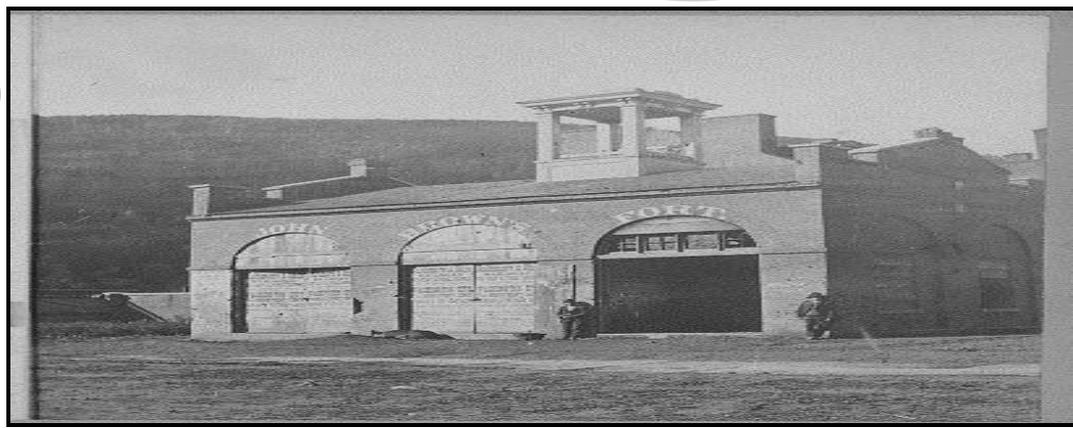
- 1) the expansion of slavery,**
- 2) the authority of states to control slavery within their own borders,**
- 3) and whether the Dred Scott decision had been correct.**

Lincoln's and Douglas's opinions on the expansion of slavery were different.

Lincoln opposed slavery expansion, while Douglas believed in popular sovereignty, or the ability of each state government to determine its own laws and policies.

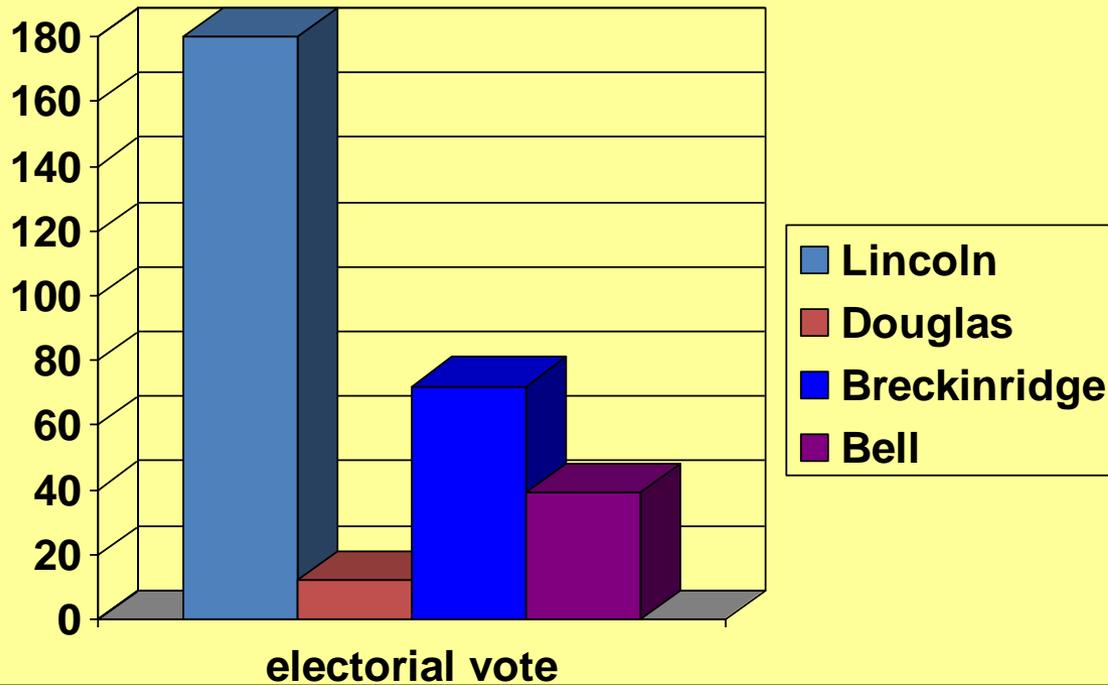
John Brown's Raid on Harper's Ferry Virginia

October 16-18, 1859



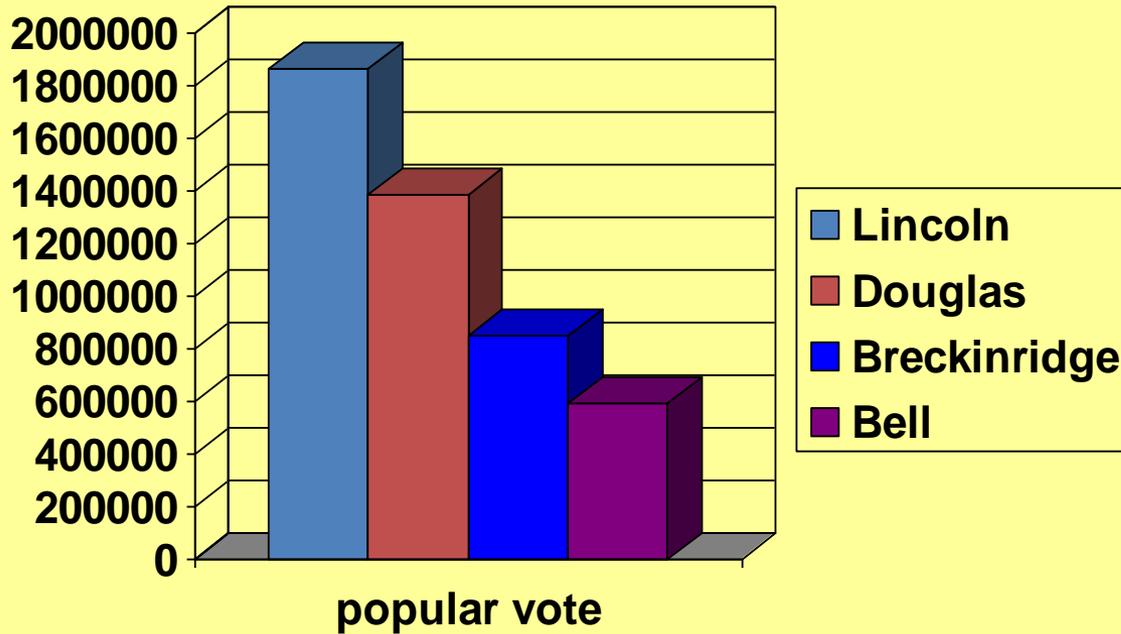
**Two views
of John
Brown
leaving the
courthouse
after being
condemned
to death**





**Lincoln
scored a
decisive
victory in
electoral
votes**

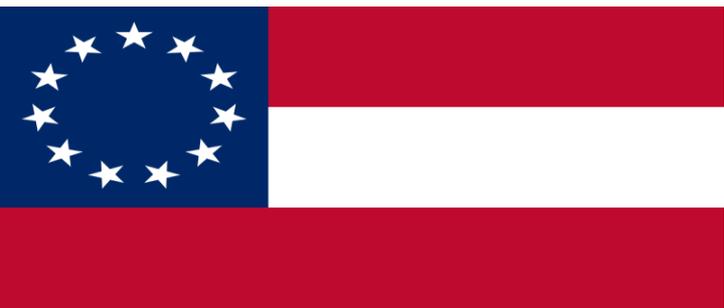
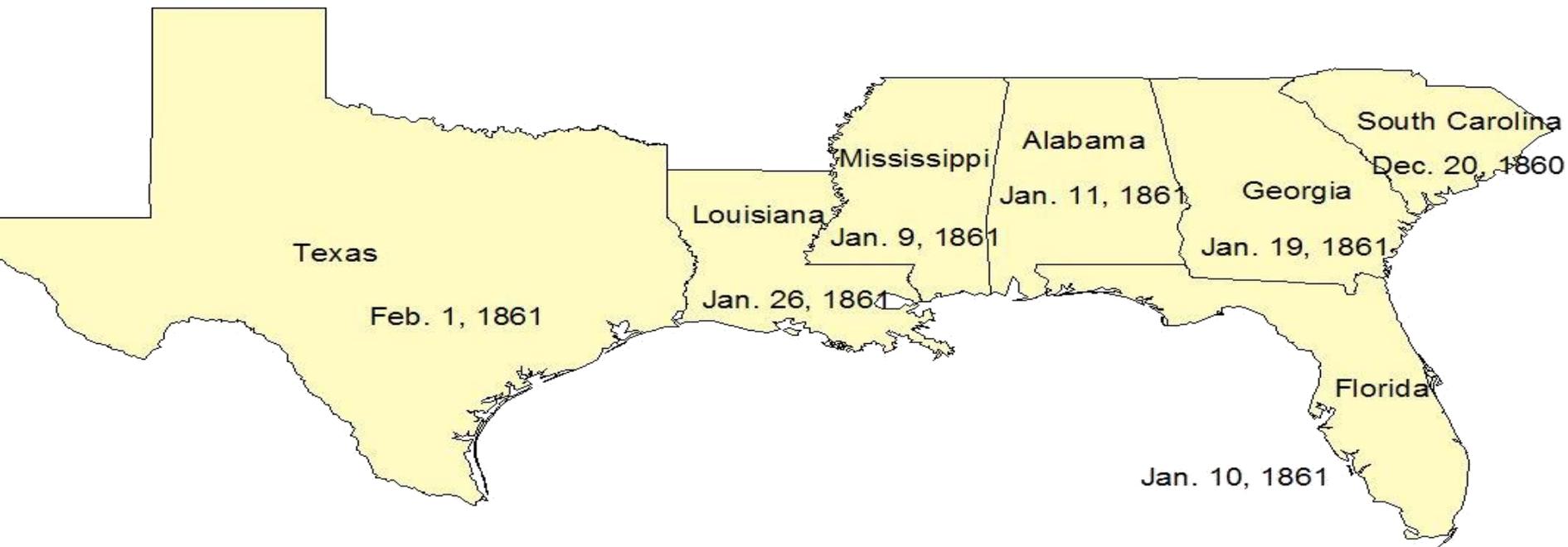
BUT



**he received
less than
40% of the
popular vote**

SECESSION

Southern state delegates met in Montgomery, Alabama. Wrote constitution to protect the rights of slave owners and elected Jefferson Davis first CSA president



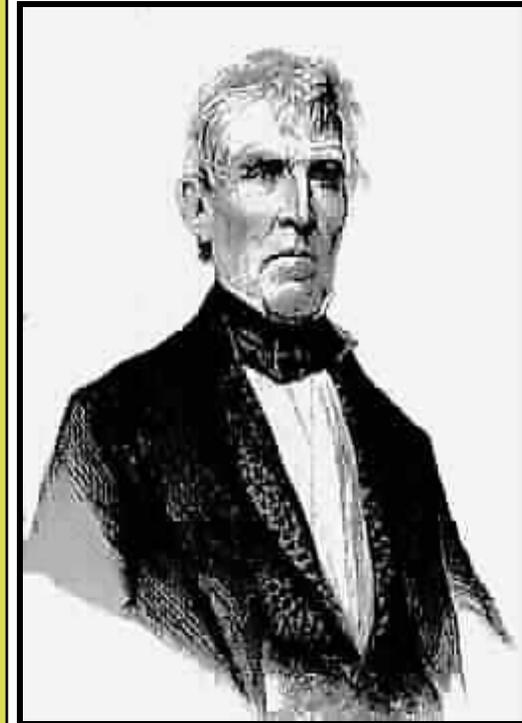
The Crittenden Compromise

In an attempt to stop states from seceding, a Senate plan authored mainly by John J. Crittenden of Kentucky proposed a compromise plan.

It consisted of a series of proposed constitutional amendments, which protected slavery in all territories south of the Missouri Compromise line of 36° 30' "now held, or hereafter acquired," while prohibiting it north of the line; prohibited Congress from abolishing slavery in the District of Columbia, or in national jurisdictions within slave states; forbade federal interference with interstate slave trade; and indemnified owners prevented by "local opposition" from recovering fugitive slaves. These amendments would have been perpetually binding, non amendable and could not be repealed "for all time".

Republicans in Congress opposed the Compromise, seeing it as an utter repudiation of their platform. They were able to kill it in committee on December 28, 1860, and on the Senate floor on January 16, 1861.

Attempt to prevent a war between the states



Senator John J. Crittenden