

Test Date -

Test Format - 40 Multiple Choice.

Define the following -

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) Mo. Comp. of 1850 - Author, Main Pts. | 21) Robert E. Lee |
| 2) Harriet Beecher Stowe | 22) Election of 1860 - Main Characters, Results |
| 3) Kansas - Nebraska Act | 23) Secession |
| 4) Stephen Douglas | 24) Republican Party |
| 5) Jefferson Davis | 25) Emancipation |
| 6) Millard Fillmore | 26) American Colonization Society |
| 7) Franklin Pierce | 27) "Bleeding Kansas" |
| 8) James Buchanan | 28) Alexander Stephens |
| 9) Abraham Lincoln | 29) Hannibal Hamlin |
| 10) William Lloyd Garrison | 30) <u>The Liberator</u> |
| 11) Underground Railroad - def., code words | 31) <u>The North Star</u> |
| 12) Dred Scott | 32) American Anti-slavery Society |
| 13) Sectionalism | 33) Frederick Douglass |
| 14) Popular Sovereignty | 34) Sojourner Truth |
| 15) Fort Sumter (Attack on...) | 35) "Free Soiler" |
| 16) Nat Turner | 36) Abolitionist |
| 17) Eli Whitney | 37) Wilmot Proviso |
| 18) Roger Taney | 38) Charles Sumner |
| 19) Harriet Tubman | 39) The Pottawatomie Massacre |
| 20) John Brown | 40) Sheriff Samuel Jones (Attack on Lawrence, Kansas) |

★ Chapter 14 ★

NORTH VERSUS SOUTH

By the mid-nineteenth century, the U.S. stretched from the East Coast to the West Coast. As states continued to apply for statehood, the debate over abolition went on.

The WILMOT PROVISIO

Representative David Wilmot of Pennsylvania had proposed the **WILMOT PROVISIO**, suggesting that slavery be banned in any territory acquired through the Mexican Cession.

It passed in the House, but Southerners prevented its passage in the Senate.

The ELECTION of 1848

When the Wilmot Proviso failed, a new political party formed: the **FREE-SOIL PARTY**. They wanted to keep new territories and states free of slavery. They nominated former President Martin Van Buren against the Whig candidate

PROVISIO
a part of a law that
restricts something

ZACHARY TAYLOR and Democrat Lewis Cass (a senator from Michigan). Taylor won the election. The Free-Soil candidates won some seats in Congress.

COMPROMISE of 1850

PROPOSED
THE MISSOURI
COMPROMISE, TOO

When California applied to the Union as a free state, some Southern states threatened to secede. Henry Clay had a compromise:

California would be admitted as a free state.

Texas would give up some of its land and the government would help pay off its war debts.

Popular sovereignty would decide positions on slavery in territories and new states, which meant that settlers would decide the issue.

DON'T FORGET—THIS
MEANS AUTHORITY
OF THE PEOPLE

The slave trade (but not slavery itself) would be banned in Washington, D.C.

Congress would pass stronger laws to return runaway slaves.

After President Taylor died suddenly and his vice president, MILLARD FILLMORE, took his place, the Compromise of 1850 was passed into law.

2

Slavery in the Territories

VOCABULARY

popular sovereignty control by the people

Free-Soil party a new political party formed by antislavery members of both political parties

SUMMARY

In the early to mid-1800s, fierce debates about slavery arose in the United States. Missouri asked to join the Union as a slave state. If Missouri were to be accepted as a slave state, there would be more slave states than free states. In 1820, Senator Henry Clay helped Congress work out the **Missouri Compromise**. Missouri joined as a slave state, and Maine joined as a free state.

Then, in the 1840s, the issue of slavery arose again. One problem was whether to allow slavery in the lands won from Mexico. Supporters of slavery, mostly southerners, wanted to allow it in every new territory and state of the West.

Opponents of slavery, mostly northerners, wanted to make it illegal in the West.

Again, northerners were afraid of losing power to southerners. In 1846, the House passed the **Wilmot Proviso**. It banned slavery in western territories. The Senate, however, defeated the Wilmot Proviso, and a solution to slavery was not reached. Some members of Congress supported the idea of **popular sovereignty**. This meant that voters in a new territory would decide for themselves whether to allow slavery.

The debate over slavery led to a new political party, the **Free-Soil party**. Its main goal was to keep slavery out of the western territories. It ran Martin Van Buren, a former President, as a candidate for President in 1848. Van Buren lost, but he showed that slavery had become a national issue.

MISSOURI COMPROMISE OF 1820

- Missouri joins the Union as a slave state.
- Maine joins the Union as a free state.
- Congress draws an imaginary line across the southern border of Missouri. Except for Missouri, all territories above the line are to be free of slavery. Slavery is permitted south of the line.

The Compromise of 1850

VOCABULARY

secede to withdraw from an organization, country or political party

civil war a war between people of the same country

fugitive runaway

SUMMARY

The issue of slavery became important again in 1850. At that time, California requested to join the Union as a free state. If California were accepted, the North would gain control of the Senate. Southerners threatened to **secede** from the Union. Henry Clay, known as "the Great Compromiser," tried to avoid **civil war** and save the Union again. His **Compromise of 1850** helped the two sides reach agreement—but only for a short time. (See chart.)

One key part of the Compromise of 1850 was the **Fugitive Slave Act**. This law required every American citizen to help catch **fugitive** slaves. This law pleased southerners but upset antislavery

northerners. Northerners who believed that slavery was wrong did not like being forced to help slave owners. As a result, tensions over slavery remained high.

In 1852, Harriet Beecher Stowe wrote a book called *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Stowe told the story of Tom, a kind and religious slave who is treated cruelly. Many northerners read this powerful book. It persuaded more people that slavery was wrong and must be ended. Within a short time, the book sold millions of copies and was translated into many languages. But, despite its popularity, most southerners objected to *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. They said it did not give an accurate picture of slave life.

THE COMPROMISE OF 1850

- California joins the Union as a free state.
- New Mexico and Utah use popular sovereignty to decide the question of slavery.
- Slave trading is banned in the nation's capital, Washington, D.C.
- The Fugitive Slave Law is passed.
- The border between Texas and New Mexico is set.

The Crisis Deepens

VOCABULARY

guerrilla warfare the use of hit-and-run tactics

lawsuit a legal case brought to settle a dispute between persons or groups

SUMMARY

In 1854, the issue of slavery in the western territories arose again. Two new states—Kansas and Nebraska—were created by the **Kansas-Nebraska Act**. In each state, the issue of slavery would be decided by popular sovereignty. Both proslavery and antislavery settlers moved to Kansas. Proslavery bands from the state of Missouri flooded Kansas. Known as “Border Ruffians,” members of the bands used violence and voted illegally. As a result, the proslavery group won control of the legislature. It soon passed laws in support of slavery. The antislavery settlers refused to accept these laws. People on each side engaged in **guerrilla warfare**. More than 200 people were killed in what became known as “Bleeding Kansas.”

Violence even spilled onto the floor of the Senate. During one session, an abolitionist senator from Massachusetts, Charles Sumner, denounced the proslavery legislature of Kansas and criticized one of its supporters, Andrew Butler, an elderly

southern senator. A few days later, Butler’s nephew stormed into the Senate chamber and viciously beat Sumner with a cane. It took Sumner three years to recover from the beating.

During this time, people hoped that the Supreme Court could settle the issue of slavery. In 1857, however, the Court ruled on a **lawsuit** that divided the nation even further. Dred Scott, a slave whose owner had died, asked the courts for his freedom. He claimed he should be free because he had lived for a time in a free state and free territory. The Supreme Court decided against Scott. It went on to say that Congress did not have the power to outlaw slavery in any territory. The Court’s ruling on **Dred Scott v. Sandford**—that slaves were considered property, not people, and that Congress could not outlaw slavery anywhere in the United States—pleased slave owners but outraged opponents of slavery. (See chart.)

THE DRED SCOTT DECISION

WHO	Dred Scott, a slave, asked for freedom because he had lived temporarily in a free state.
WHEN	1857
RESULT	Supreme Court ruled that a slave was property, not a citizen, and could not file requests in court. It also ruled that Congress could not outlaw slavery in any of the territories.

The Republican Party Emerges

VOCABULARY

Republican party the new political party formed by Free-Soilers, northern Democrats, and antislavery Whigs

arsenal a place for storing weapons

treason an act against one's country

martyr one who gives up one's life for one's beliefs

SUMMARY

In 1854, the **Republican party** came into being. The party was formed because the Whig party and the Democratic party would not take a strong stand against slavery. Antislavery members of the Whigs and the Democrats, along with the Free-Soilers, formed the Republican party.

In 1858, Abraham Lincoln ran for the Senate in Illinois as a Republican. He and his opponent, Senator Stephen Douglas, held a series of famous debates. (See chart.) The main issue in these debates was slavery. Lincoln believed that slavery was a "moral, social, and political wrong." Lincoln lost the election but became nationally known during the campaign.

John Brown, an abolitionist who had fought in Kansas, wanted to start an armed revolt against slavery. In 1859, Brown led a raid on an **arsenal** in Harpers Ferry, Virginia. He hoped to get guns from the arsenal. Brown planned to give the guns to enslaved African Americans and lead them in a revolt. Brown was caught and sentenced to death for **treason**. Southerners thought he deserved his sentence. Northerners were impressed by the dignity he showed at his trial. On the day of his death, church bells rang in the North. In the South, people were outraged that a man who tried to lead a slave revolt could be considered a **martyr** and a hero in the North.

LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATES

Abraham Lincoln	Stephen Douglas
believed slavery to be morally wrong	disliked slavery
opposed slavery in the western territories	would allow popular sovereignty to decide slavery issue in the western territories
would not interfere with slavery in the South	would not interfere with slavery in the South

The FUGITIVE SLAVE ACT

Maybe the most controversial part of the Compromise of 1850 was the **FUGITIVE SLAVE ACT**, which required Northern citizens to cooperate with and assist slave-catchers, and denied runaway slaves a fair trial (they were tried in a separate court). Many free blacks fled to Canada, and some Northern whites practiced **CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE**, refusing to follow the new law. In Massachusetts, abolitionist **HARRIET BEECHER STOWE** was inspired to write **UNCLE TOM'S CABIN** (1852), a story about the harsh realities of slavery. It became one of the most influential novels of the nineteenth century. The Fugitive Slave Act further divided the nation. The North hated it. The South felt vindicated. The North also passed Personal Liberty Laws, which basically negated the Fugitive Slave Act and proved to the South that the North was not enforcing the law.

"CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE" was an essay written by Henry David Thoreau on the idea that people should refuse to follow the laws or commands of a government when they seem unjust.

The KANSAS-NEBRASKA ACT

In the presidential election of 1852, little-known Democratic candidate **FRANKLIN PIERCE** of New Hampshire defeated the Whig nominee, war hero Winfield Scott. At this time, some western land, including Kansas and Nebraska, was not yet organized, and Illinois senator **STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS** wanted to build a railroad that ran through it from Chicago

to the Pacific. He initially proposed making **KANSAS** and **NEBRASKA**

DOCTRINE
a theory or position
on an issue

U.S. territories that, under the terms of the Missouri Compromise, would be free. However, Douglas also knew that Southerners would object to this idea. Backed by President Pierce, he proposed the **KANSAS-NEBRASKA ACT**, which would invoke the **DOCTRINE** of popular sovereignty and allow the people there to determine the slavery issue. The act passed, and the Missouri Compromise was made obsolete.

BLEEDING KANSAS



During the March 1855 territorial elections in Kansas, thousands of so-called **BORDER RUFFIANS** crossed the border to vote from the slave state of Missouri. In fact, about four times more people voted in Kansas than lived there. A pro-slavery local government took control. Antislavery settlers started their own government, creating two governments for one state.

RUFFIAN
a tough, lawless
person; a bully

**Sheriff Samuel Jones led the attack on Lawrence, KS,*

SACK
to pillage and
plunder

In May 1856, the pro-slavery government sent a group to Lawrence, Kansas, to arrest the rival government, but they had fled. The pro-slavery group ransacked the city in the **SACK OF LAWRENCE**. In response, the passionate abolitionist **JOHN BROWN** led his group in the **POTTAWATOMIE CREEK MASSACRE** of pro-slavery

Kansans. Over the summer, hundreds of people were killed in "BLEEDING KANSAS" before federal troops restored order.

BLEEDING SUMNER

Violence also broke out in Congress after Senator CHARLES SUMNER of Massachusetts criticized people who were pro-slavery, specifically Andrew Butler of South Carolina. Butler's ^{Assistant} ~~cousin~~, Representative PRESTON BROOKS, beat Sumner over the head with a cane in the Senate chambers. Sumner was badly injured.

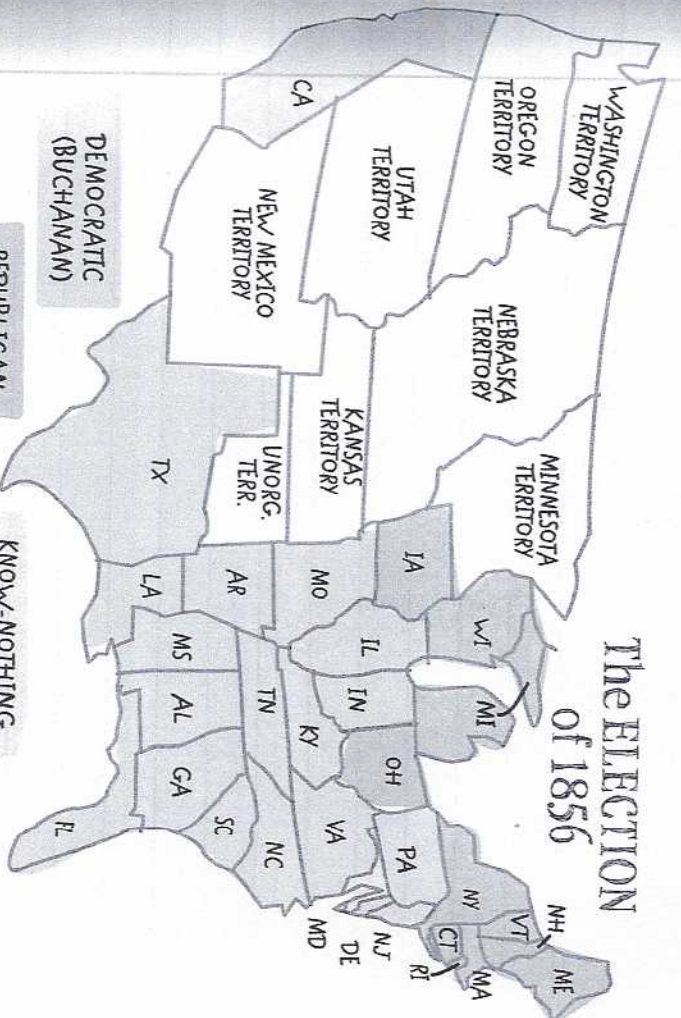
The REPUBLICAN PARTY and the ELECTION of 1856

Both the Democratic and Whig parties were splitting on sectional lines. The antislavery Whigs decided to join the Northern Democrats and Free-Soilers to create the REPUBLICAN PARTY.

Though some names have stayed the same, modern political parties are not the same as their roots.

The Republican Party nominated John C. Frémont of California for president, and the Democratic Party nominated JAMES BUCHANAN, a Pennsylvanian who favored compromise. The Know-Nothing Party nominated former president Millard Fillmore. Buchanan won the South and won the election.

Frémont's campaign slogan was "Free Soil, Free Men and Frémont."



DRED SCOTT

In 1857, a Supreme Court case about an enslaved man named DRED SCOTT fueled the abolitionist cause. Scott was a slave to an army doctor in Missouri, John Emerson, who brought him along on travels to Illinois, where slavery was illegal. After Emerson passed away in 1843, Scott petitioned his widow for freedom, but she refused. Scott continued living in slavery, but a few years later, with the help of lawyers from the North, he sued for his freedom, making the argument that he was free after having lived in a free place.

After a decade of appeals, the Supreme Court took on the issue in the case of *DRED SCOTT v. SANFORD* (also called the **DRED SCOTT DECISION**). Chief Justice Roger Taney wrote the 7-2 decision that ruled against Scott because:

1. Scott didn't have the right to sue because he was only a piece of property, not a citizen.
2. The government can't seize private property (Scott) from a citizen (Emerson) without due process of law.
3. Congress can't ban slavery in the territories, because that would violate the property rights of people bringing slaves there.
4. Therefore, the Missouri Compromise and other popular sovereignty decisions were unconstitutional.

The nation's highest court had ruled that abolishing slavery was unconstitutional.

THE LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATES

In the senatorial election of 1858, Senator Stephen A. Douglas of Illinois faced a new young challenger, **ABRAHAM LINCOLN**, a Republican lawyer who had served one term in the House of Representatives and eight years in the state legislature. Since Lincoln wasn't very well known, he challenged Douglas

to a series of debates, the **LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATES**. They were both against slavery, but they met seven times in cities and towns throughout Illinois to debate what to do about it.

Douglas was afraid that Lincoln believed in equality of the races. Lincoln said that blacks were entitled to the rights listed in the Declaration of Independence but also stated that they weren't equal to whites in every way. Lincoln gave his famous "House Divided" speech, while Douglas argued the **FREEPORT DOCTRINE**—a belief that territories could exclude slavery through local legislation. Douglas won the election, but Lincoln got national name recognition out of it.

THE RAID ON HARPERS FERRY

John Brown led another raid, this time in **HARPERS FERRY, VIRGINIA**. On October 16, 1859, his abolitionists raided an arsenal so they could arm slaves for an uprising. Local slaves feared joining his rebellion, and Brown and others were captured. John Brown was hanged for treason and murder, a **MARTYR** for Northern abolitionists.

The raid had a huge impact on the South, which feared armed rebellion by slaves.

MARTYR
someone who dies for his or her beliefs

THE ELECTION of 1860

Northern Democrats nominated Stephen Douglas, who supported popular sovereignty. Southern Democrats chose **JOHN BRECKINRIDGE** from Kentucky, who supported

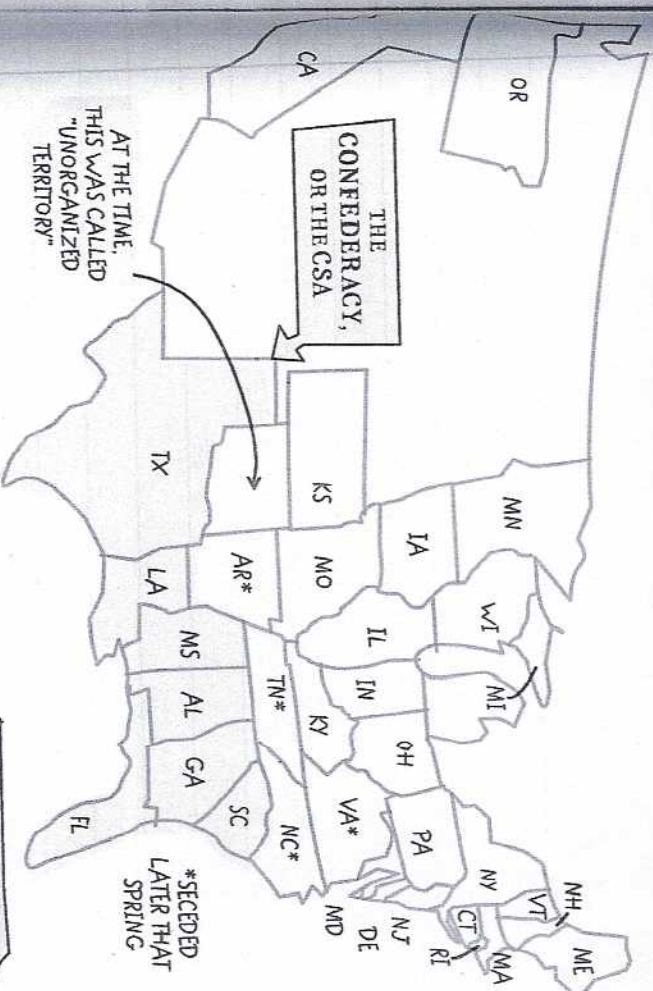
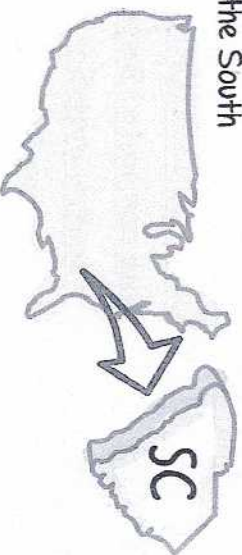
slavery. A new party, the **CONSTITUTIONAL UNION PARTY** (compromise and union at any cost), nominated **JOHN BELL** of Tennessee. Abraham Lincoln, who believed slavery should be banned in the territories, received the nomination from the Republican Party. Lincoln received only 40 percent of the popular vote and did not carry a single Southern state. However, he swept the North, along with California and Oregon, and became the sixteenth president of the U.S.

SECESSION

Although Lincoln did not favor abolishing slavery in states where it already existed, he had said that putting a stop to slavery's expansion would, sooner or later, cause the institution to fall apart. That idea made the South very worried about having him in the White House. Within days of Lincoln's victory, the South Carolina legislature met for a special session, arguing that, just as a state could choose to enter a union, it was possible for a state to choose to leave.

On December 20, 1860, South Carolina seceded from the U.S. by repealing its ratification of the Constitution. While proponents of states' rights believed that secession was a legal right, there were those who believed that South Carolina's decision was a revolt. However, the South

claimed that the government had violated its rights by not protecting slavery.



THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA

Following in South Carolina's footsteps, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, and Georgia also seceded. On February 4, 1862, these states met to establish their own government as the **CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA**. They elected **JEFFERSON DAVIS** as president.

Alexander Stephens served as Vice President of the Confederacy.

CONFEDERATE
part of an alliance
or confederacy

A Nation Divides

SUMMARY

Abraham Lincoln ran for President as a Republican in 1860. He was able to win because the Democratic party was split over slavery. Northern Democrats chose Stephen Douglas to run for President. Southern Democrats picked John Breckinridge from Kentucky. Lincoln also won because there were now many more voters in the North than in the South. He received very few southern votes.

In the South, there was a great unhappiness about Lincoln's election. Many southerners thought that they no longer had a voice in the national government. They thought that their only choice was to leave the Union. South Carolina was the first to secede in 1860. Six states followed. They formed the Confederate States of America, or the Confederacy. Jefferson Davis was named president of the Confederacy.

President Lincoln did not believe that the southern states had the right to secede. However, he wanted to avoid war. While he was deciding what to do, Confederate forces began to seize federal forts in the South. Then Confederate forces fired on Union troops in Fort Sumter in South Carolina. The firing on the fort on April 11, 1861, marked the beginning of the Civil War. (See chart.) This war would last four long years.

EVENTS LEADING TO THE CIVIL WAR, 1860-1861

Abraham Lincoln is
elected President.



South Carolina secedes.



Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana,
Mississippi, and Texas secede.



Confederate States of America
is created.



Confederate forces seize federal forts
in the South.



Confederates fire on Fort Sumter.

John Brown

1800 - 1859

John Brown was a man of action -- a man who would not be deterred from his mission of abolishing slavery. On October 16, 1859, he led 21 men on a raid of the federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry, Virginia. His plan to arm slaves with the weapons he and his men seized from the arsenal was thwarted, however, by local farmers, militiamen, and Marines led by Robert E. Lee. Within 36 hours of the attack, most of Brown's men had been killed or captured.

John Brown was born into a deeply religious family in Torrington, Connecticut, in 1800. Led by a father who was vehemently opposed to slavery, the family moved to northern Ohio when John was five, to a district that would become known for its antislavery views.

During his first fifty years, Brown moved about the country, settling in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and New York, and taking along his ever-growing family. (He would father twenty children.) Working at various times as a farmer, wool merchant, tanner, and land speculator, he never was financially successful -- he even filed for bankruptcy when in his forties. His lack of funds, however, did not keep him from supporting causes he believed in. He helped finance the publication of David Walker's Appeal and Henry Highland's "Call to

Rebellion" speech. He gave land to fugitive slaves. He and his wife agreed to raise a black youth as one of their own. He also participated in the Underground Railroad and, in 1851, helped establish the League of Gileadites, an organization that worked to protect escaped slaves from slave catchers.

In 1847 Frederick Douglass met Brown for the first time in Springfield, Massachusetts. Of the meeting Douglass stated that, "though a white gentleman, [Brown] is in sympathy a black man, and as deeply interested in our cause, as though his own soul had been pierced with the iron of slavery." It was at this meeting that Brown first outlined his plan to Douglass to lead a war to free slaves.

Brown moved to the black community of North Elba, New York, in 1849. The community had been established thanks to the philanthropy of Gerrit Smith, who donated tracts of at least 50 acres to black families willing to clear and farm the land. Brown, knowing that many of the families were finding life in this isolated area difficult, offered to establish his own farm there as well, in order to lead the blacks by his example and to act as a "kind father to them."

Despite his contributions to the antislavery cause, Brown did not emerge as a figure of major significance until 1855 after he followed five of his sons to the Kansas territory. There, he became the leader of antislavery guerillas and fought a proslavery attack against the antislavery town of Lawrence. The following year, in retribution for another attack, Brown went to a proslavery town and brutally killed five of its settlers. Brown and his sons would continue to fight in the territory and in Missouri for the rest of the year.

Brown returned to the east and began to think more seriously about his plan for a war in Virginia against slavery. He sought money to fund an "army" he would lead. On October 16, 1859, he set his plan to action when he and 21 other men -- 5 blacks and 16 whites -- raided the federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry.

Brown was wounded and quickly captured, and moved to Charlestown, Virginia, where he was tried and convicted of treason. Before hearing his sentence, Brown was allowed make an address to the court.

. . . I believe to have interfered as I have done, . . . in behalf of His despised poor, was not wrong, but right. Now, if it be deemed necessary that I should forfeit my life for the furtherance of the ends of justice, and mingle my blood further with the blood of my children, and with the blood of millions in this slave country whose rights are disregarded by wicked, cruel, and unjust enactments, I submit: so let it be done."

Although initially shocked by Brown's exploits, many Northerners began to speak favorably of the militant abolitionist. "He did not recognize unjust human laws, but resisted them as he was bid. . . .," said Henry David Thoreau in an address to the citizens of Concord, Massachusetts. "No man in America has ever stood up so persistently and effectively for the dignity of human nature. . . ."

John Brown was hanged on December 2, 1859.

THE STATES CHOOSE SIDES

On March 4th, 1861, Abraham Lincoln went to the Capitol to become the sixteenth President of the United States.

Inside the Senate Chamber, Hannibal Hamlin, the new Vice-President, was sworn in. The presidential party then moved to the steps of the Capitol where Chief Justice Roger B. Taney swore in Lincoln as President of the United States.

The Southern states which had seceded from the Union believed that they already had a president.

On February 18, 1861, Jefferson Davis had been sworn in as the first President of the Confederate States of America. Alexander Stephens was his Vice President. These two men took office in Montgomery, Alabama. Davis and Stephens were elected by the Confederate Convention meeting in Montgomery to serve as provisional officers until elections could be held. Both Davis and Stephens had strong reservations about the step they were taking, but both men felt that their loyalty to the South demanded this course of action.

Abraham Lincoln must have been a lonely man in an uncomfortable place as he faced the crowd to give his inaugural address.

"I therefore consider that, in the view of the Constitution and the laws, the Union is unbroken, and, to the extent of my ability, ... the laws of the Union (will) be faithfully executed in all the States."

Lincoln sought to tell the North and the South that he was the President of all the United States. His words were a gentle invitation to the secessionist states to return to the Union. In fact, he told them they had never left it. The Confederate States believed his words were veiled threats of violence.

The U.S. mail was still operating in the Confederate states, and the United States military forces still held the forts in the South. The Confederacy had demanded that these forts had to be surrendered to their forces.

Then it happened! Fort Sumter stood in the harbor of Charleston, South Carolina. Major

Robert Anderson had eighty-four soldiers in his command. Low on supplies, he had been refused help by the people of Charleston. President Lincoln sent word to the governor of South Carolina that unarmed supply ships would be sent to the aid of the fort. The guns of the city drove the ships off. General Beauregard, the Confederate Commander, demanded that the fort be surrendered. Major Anderson refused, and the Southerners opened fire on the fort. Three days later the Stars and Stripes was brought down in surrender. It was April 14th, 1861—the Civil War had begun!

The word spread throughout the Union and the Confederacy. Lincoln called for volunteers to join the army. The time had come to choose sides.

Virginia, Arkansas, North Carolina, and Tennessee seceded and joined the Confederacy. Delaware, Maryland, and Kentucky remained loyal to the Union. In Missouri, sentiment was so evenly divided that a small civil war was fought in the state. Two rival state governments were set up. One seceded and one remained loyal. In the end, Missouri remained in the Union.

In 1863, Union loyalists in western Virginia left the state. Later they established the free state of West Virginia.

The war tore apart families and friendships, as Southerners found themselves going north to defend the Union, and Northerners journeyed south to join the Confederate army. In the battles which would follow, brother would face brother, friend would fight friend. For the first time in history, Americans would fight Americans.

THINK FOR YOURSELF: Answer these questions fully on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Why would the secessionist states have to consider Lincoln's words as a threat?
2. Why would Northerners choose to fight for the Confederacy and Southerners choose to fight for the Union?
3. Why was the Ft. Sumter battle a "point of no return"?

Causes of the Civil War

By the time Lincoln was elected president in November 1860, the Civil War was so close to beginning that it was unlikely that anyone could have prevented it. Before he even officially became president in March 1861, seven states had seceded from the Union, and Jefferson Davis had already been elected President of the Confederate States of America.

What caused the Civil War? The disagreement about slavery was probably the major cause. Although there were many differences between the Southern and Northern states, slavery was the only institution not shared by both areas.

Besides the disagreement between the North and South about the legality and morality of slavery, there were other causes.

The Expansion of Slavery:

Northerners wanted to end the expansion of slavery. Slave owners wanted to extend slavery to all new states.

States' Rights:

Southerners believed individual states should have more control over laws than the federal government. Northerners felt the federal government should have more power than any individual state.

The Union:

Northerners believed the United States must remain one country to remain strong. Southerners claimed that the United States was an organization of independent states. Since they chose to join it, they could also choose to leave it and form their own country.

Tariffs: (taxes on goods brought in from another country)

Southern farmers and plantation owners wanted to sell their cotton and tobacco to other countries and buy manufactured goods as cheaply as possible because the South had few factories. They did not want to pay tariffs.

Northern factory owners wanted high tariffs on imported goods so they could sell their own products in the United States. They wanted to keep out competition by making foreign goods more expensive.



A Nation Divides

© Pearson Education, Inc., publishing as Prentice Hall. All rights reserved.

I. The Election of 1860

A. Candidates and political parties

1. Stephen Douglas, Northern Democratic party
2. John Breckinridge, Southern Democratic party
3. John Bell, Constitutional Union party
4. Abraham Lincoln, Republican party

B. Results of the election

1. Lincoln carries the North and wins
2. Southern votes do not affect the outcome

II. The South Reacts

A. Secession

1. Last efforts in Senate to save the Union fail
2. South Carolina is first to secede

B. The Confederacy

1. Seven states form the Confederate States of America
2. Jefferson Davis elected President

III. The Civil War Begins

A. Lincoln's difficult decision

B. Bombardment of Fort Sumter

1. Lincoln decides to send food supplies to Fort Sumter
2. Confederates open fire and Civil War begins