

The Civil War

Part Two



Part One

Part Two

Part Three

Thematic Icons



Economics



Geography



Historical concepts



Government

Icons



Flash activity (these activities are not editable)



Teacher notes included in the Notes page

For more instructions, see the *User Guide*.



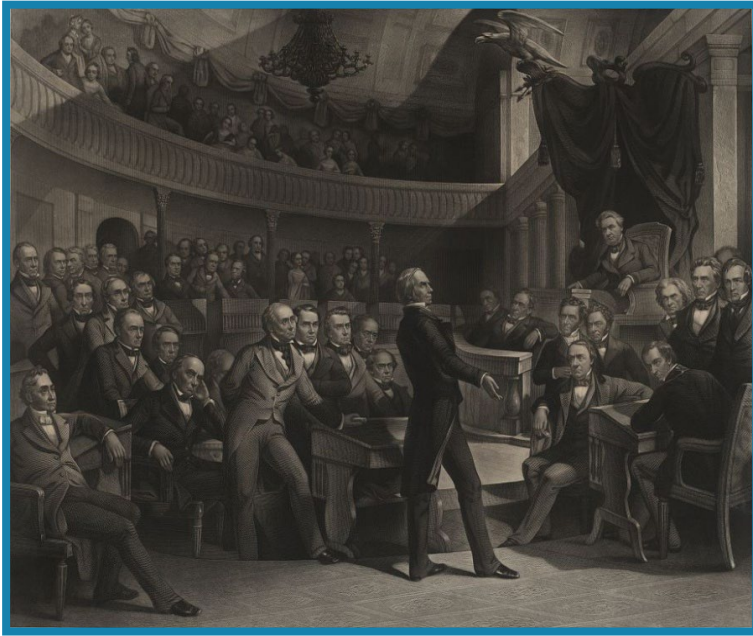


The slave debate intensifies



In 1850, California applied for statehood as a free state.

Much of California was south of the 36° 30' line. Southern senators saw the admission of California as a free state as an attack on their power in Congress.



Henry Clay attempted to persuade both sides to accept the **Compromise of 1850**.

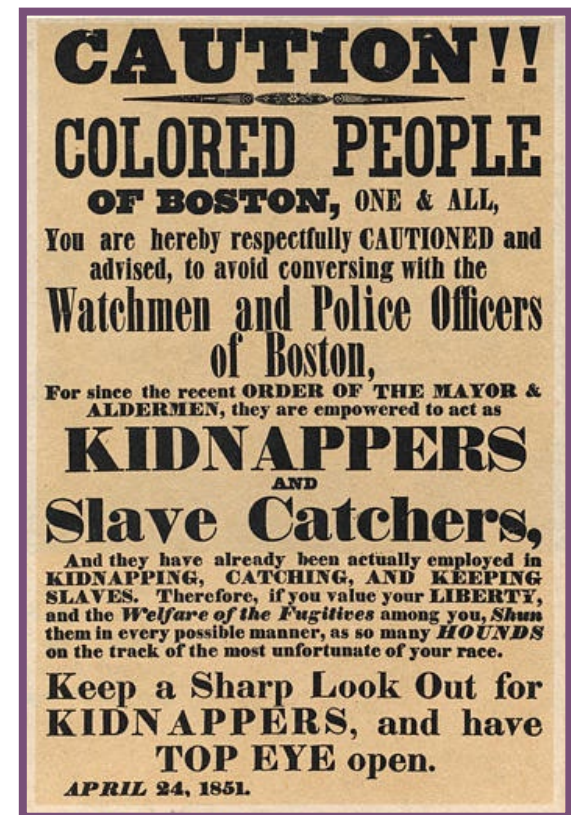
The Compromise did not pass until Senator **Stephen Douglas** broke it into sections and forced Congress to vote on each part separately.





The final Compromise:

- admitted California as a free state
- prohibited the slave trade in Washington D.C.
- created **popular sovereignty**, allowing new states to vote on whether they would be open to slavery
- paid \$10 million to Texas to give up its claim to New Mexico
- created the **Fugitive Slave Act**, where runaway slaves were to be returned to slave states.



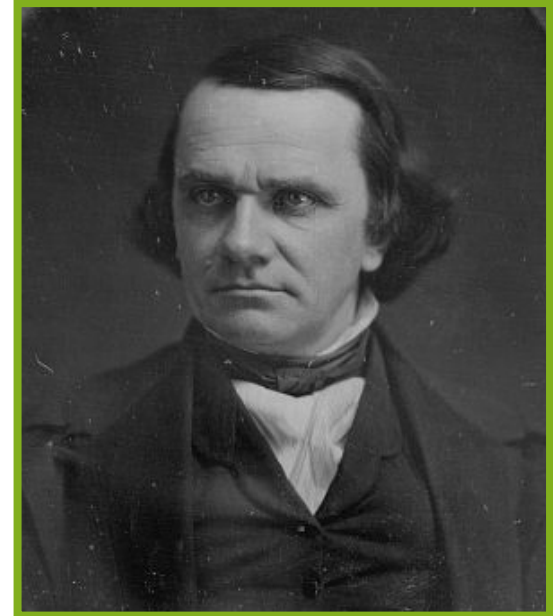
Why do you think many Northerners were outraged by the Fugitive Slave Act?



Kansas-Nebraska Act

Stephen Douglas proposed the **Kansas-Nebraska Act** in 1854.

Douglas wanted to organize the land west of the Mississippi in order to construct a transcontinental railroad.



He suggested that the region be split into the Kansas and Nebraska territories. Settlers could then vote on whether the territories would be slave or free.

Slaves could now potentially be owned in the North, which caused outrage in the Northern public.



The slavery issue moves west



Settlers from the North and South flooded the new Kansas territory, hoping to claim it for their side of the slavery debate.



In 1855, illegal voters from the slave state of Missouri crossed the border to elect a proslavery government at LeCompton. Antislavery settlers ignored the election, and set up a rival government in Topeka.

Violence erupted across Kansas, resulting in approximately 200 deaths. As a result, the Kansas territory earned the nickname **Bleeding Kansas**.



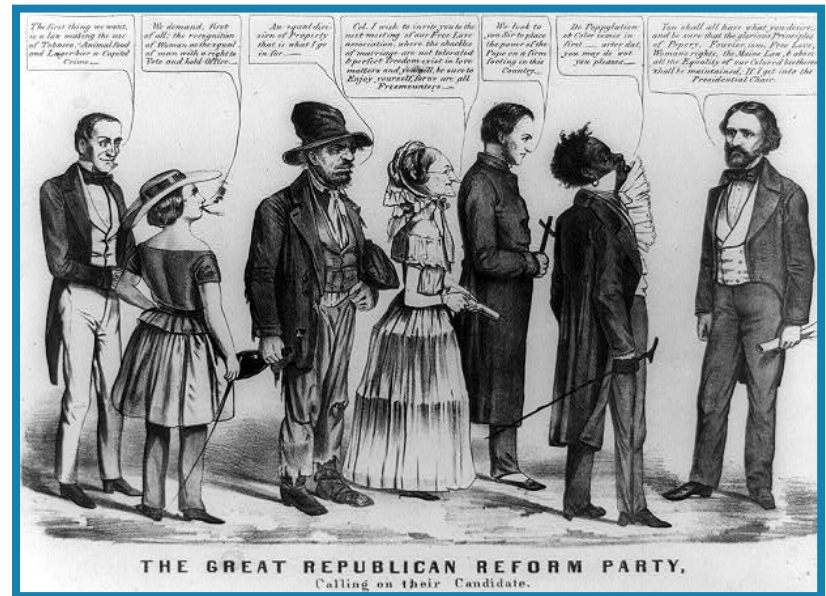


The Republican Party



The Kansas-Nebraska Act split the major political parties along regional lines. Northern Congressmen found themselves in search of a new party that would better represent their beliefs.

The answer was the **Republican Party**. Composed of Northern Whigs, Northern Democrats and members of the **Free Soil Party**, the Republicans were antislavery.



Republicans favored tariffs on foreign goods and believed in using federal aid for internal improvements.



The abolitionist movement



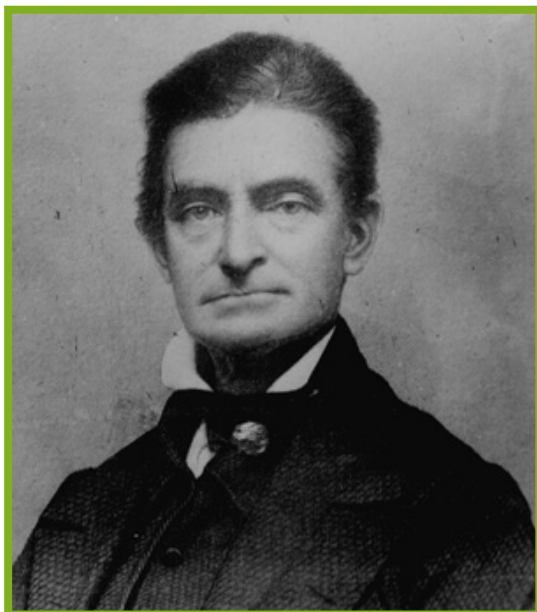
Uncle Tom's Cabin



The Dred Scott decision



John Brown was a radical abolitionist who believed that God wanted him to free slaves.



He planned to start a slave revolt by seizing the federal arsenal at **Harper's Ferry**, VA and giving the weapons to local slaves.

Brown took the arsenal on October 16, 1859. However, no slaves joined the revolt. Ten of Brown's men were killed, and he was hanged for treason on December 2.

Although Brown's raid was unsuccessful, he gave reality to the greatest Southern fear: slave revolt.

Was John Brown a vigilante or a hero?



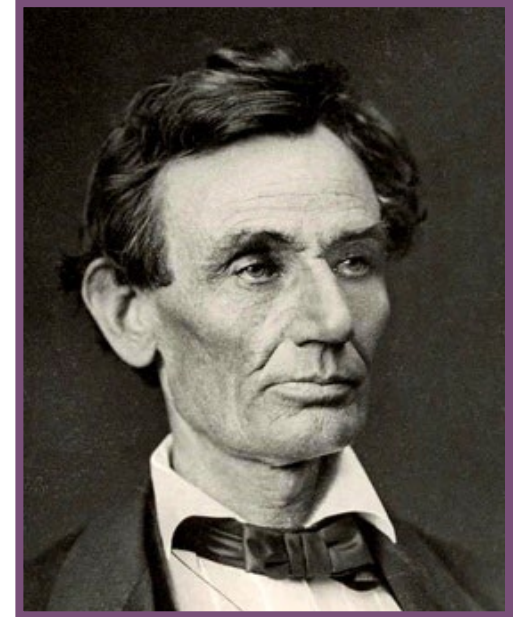
The election of 1860



By the election of 1860, many Southerners felt that a Republican victory would leave them with no choice but to **secede** (withdraw from) the United States.

The South threatened secession on the basis of the **Nullification** theory.

This theory stated that the Federal Union was a contract among individual states that had the right to withdraw from that contract at any point.

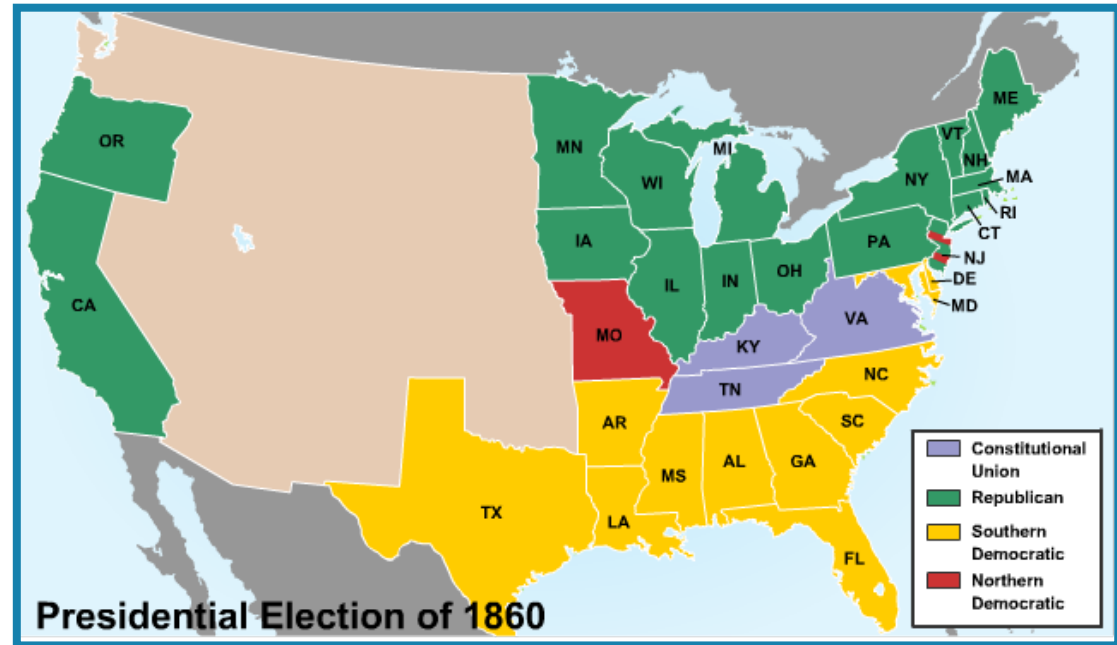


On November 6, 1860, Republican **Abraham Lincoln** was elected President with almost 60% of electoral votes.



Lincoln's victories were restricted to the North.
In ten Southern states, he did not even appear on the ballot.

On December 20,
South Carolina
became the first
state to secede
following a
unanimous vote
by its legislature.



Within three months, seven states had seceded to form the
Confederate States of America.



