Tensions Prior to the Civil War: 1820-1860

Was the Civil War inevitable?

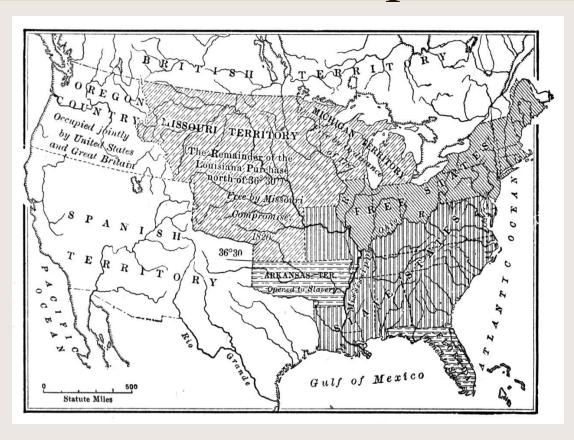
Vocabulary:

- Inevitable—incapable of being avoided or prevented
- Secede—to break away
- Union—an alliance
- Sectionalism—extreme allegiance to one's own local interests
- Fugitives—people who escaped slavery and ran away from the law
- Antebellum—time period prior to the Civil War (1820-1860)

Missouri Compromise, 1820

- What to do with new Louisiana territory?
 - Slave or free?
 - Missouri applied for statehood
- Short term:
 - Missouri slave
 - Maine free
- Long term:
 - 36⁰30' to determine which newly admitted states would be free and which would be slave
 - Above: free
 - Below: slave

Henry Clay, "The Great Compromiser"



Nat Turner's Rebellion 1831



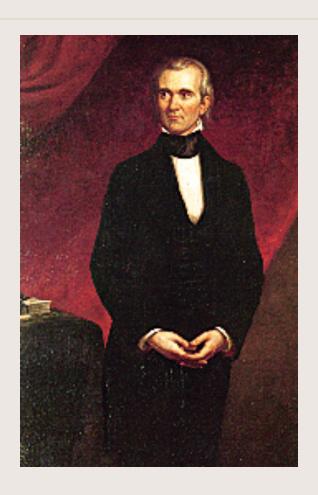
- Led an insurrection on August 22, 1831
- Killed 55 white people
- First idea: abolish slavery
- Afterwards—NO!
- Took away their rights

Doctrine of Nullification

- Response to a tariff on imported goods
 - These goods were sent in from other states and those states that received them, were then taxed
 - This drove the prices of the goods higher
- This tariff was passed by Andrew Jackson in 1828 and was nicknamed "The Tariff of Abominations"
- South Carolina takes a stand—"Null and Void"
- SC threatened to secede
- Henry Clay as the "Great Compromiser" once again

Mexican-American War

- 1846-1848
- Fought over land
- James Polk— Expansionist President
- Result:
 - US wins
 - Gains California,Oregon, New Mexico



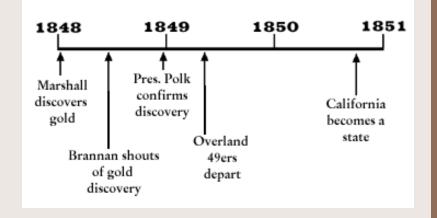
Main Problem:

Would the newly acquired territories be free or slave?

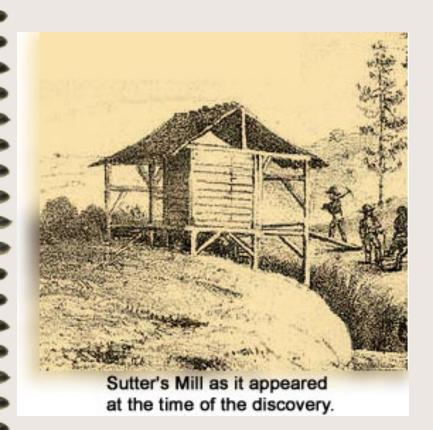
- Louisiana Purchase Territory→Missouri Compromise
- Mexican-American War
 Territory→Compromise of 1850

California: The Gold Rush

- This "Gold Rush" was different
- The Discovery!
 - -1848
 - John Marshall on Sutter's Mill
 - American River
- The Rush across the country
- "49ers"
- The Legacy of the Gold Rush



Result of Gold Rush



- Success stories:
 - Levi Strauss
 - Henry Wells and William Fargo
- Collision of Cultures
 - Foreign Miners Tax,1850
- Gold rush shapes the "idea" of California and "the west"

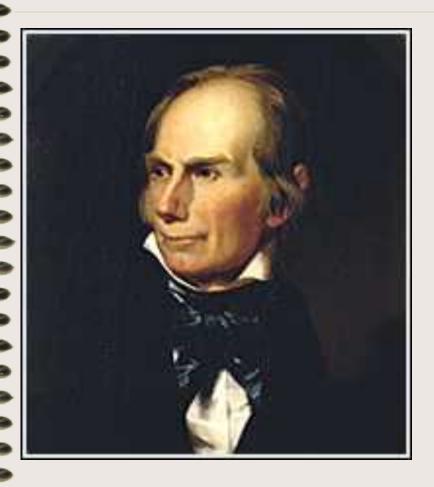
California's stance on slavery

- Many people began to come to California in the hopes of finding gold
- People need goods → jobs available → people do not want to compete with free labor slavery brings

Problem!

- Now what to do with the new territories!
- Free or slave?

Compromise of 1850



- Henry Clay arranged the compromise
- Terms:
 - Calif. Free state
 - Popular sovereignty for New Mexico and Utah
 - Popular Sovereignty—
 when the territories apply
 for statehood, the people
 will decide whether they
 want slavery or not
 - Abolition of slavery in territories
 - Fugitive Slave Act
 - Runaway or free slaves subject to recapture

Problem:

- Fugitive Slave Act—runaway or free slaves subject to recapture.
 - This provided the south with the concessions and stability they were seeking
 - Problem? This also gave the authorities the opportunity to arrest free blacks and this often sent them into slavery.

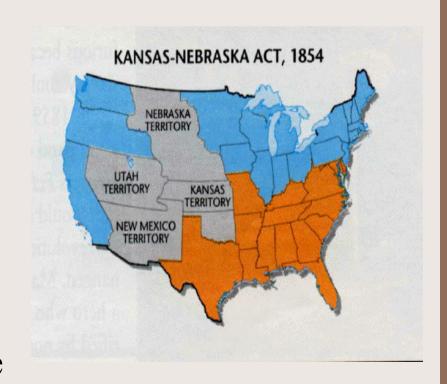
Popular Sovereignty



- Stephen Douglas, "the little Giant"
- The Railroads and the need to settle the territory
- When the territory applied for statehood, the people would decide whether they wanted to be a slave or free state

Kansas-Nebraska Act 1854

- Opened territories under popular sovereignty
- Both north of $36^{0}30'$ =no slavery, right?
- Abolished the
 Missouri Compromise
 dividing line



Implications of Kansas-Nebraska

- The north opposed the bill
 - It gave the south the opportunity to gain more slave states
 - Abraham Lincoln opposed the bill
 - Obscure Illinois lawyer at the time
- The south favored the bill
- People rushed to Kansas-Nebraska

The Race for Kansas

- People "ran" for Kansas and Nebraska
 - Competed over prime land
 - Led to bitter disputes
- "Ran" to control the territory
- "Emigrant Aid Company"

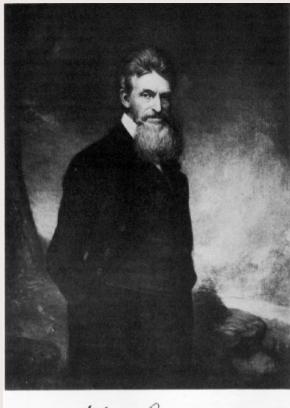


"Bleeding Kansas" 1857

- In Kansas, people on all sides of this controversial issue flooded the territory, trying to influence the vote in their favor.
- Northerners and Southerners rushed weapons and people into the territory
- "Bleeding Sumner" (1856)
 - Congressman Preston Brooks
 went into the Senate chamber and
 beat Senator Charles Sumner
 (MA) 30 times with a cane
 - Massachusetts didn't replace him and his senate seat was left open for three years to show how brutal the South was



John Brown's Raid



John Brown

- An armed proslavery group burned part of the town of Lawrence, a center of the antislavery settlers
- John Brown decided to enact revenge and killed 5 proslavery supporters
- Led a raid on the federal armory at Harper's Ferry, Virginia
- October 1859
- Goal: spark a slave rebellion
- Verdict: found guilty and hung
- Martyr or madman?

The Lincoln-Douglas Debates



- Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas vying for position as Senator of Illinois
- Held 7 separate debates throughout Illinois
- Both men's arguments regarding slavery
- A rise in slavery as a controversy

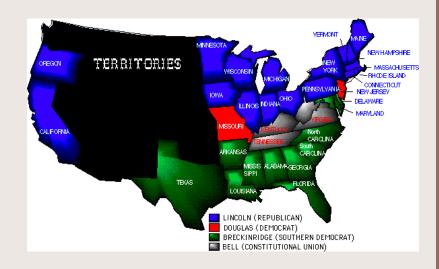
Abraham Lincoln arrives on the scene

- The Lincoln-Douglas debates pushed Lincoln onto the national scene
- Lincoln's true stance towards slavery
- Even though Lincoln lost the election, he became famous because of his speeches/debates



The Election of 1860

- 4 candidates
 - Lincoln (Repub)
 - Douglas (Democ)
 - Breckinridge (Sou. Democ)
 - Bell (Const. Union)
- Lincoln wins
- Southern votes had no effect
 - National politics out of their reach



Why the South Seceded



- No say in national politics
- North not fulfilling obligation of fugitive slave act
 - →unconstitutional
- South wants their own government to develop their own police force, etc.
- South Carolina the first state to secede
 - Dec. 1860