

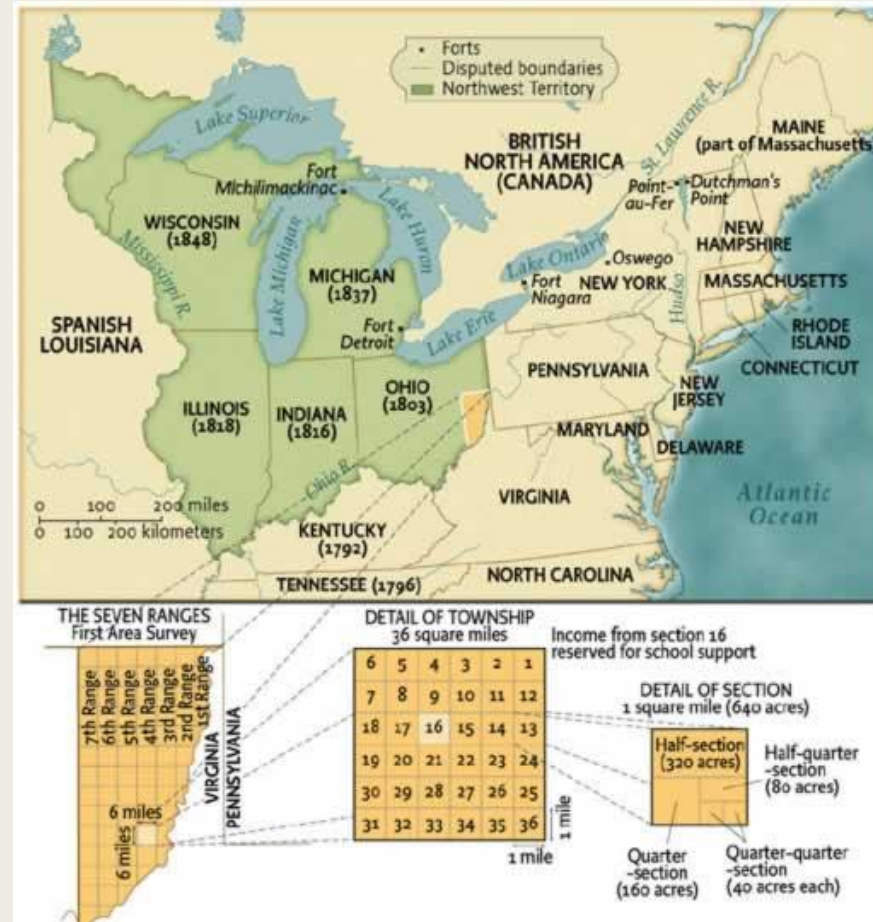


**WESTWARD
EXPANSION
& THE POLITICS
OF SLAVERY**

- **As America fulfills Manifest Destiny and expands from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean, will the newly acquired land be slave or free?**
- **This question will result in the development of "sectionalism."**

The Road to the Missouri Compromise

- Northwest territories – land acquired from the British after their defeat in the American Revolutionary War.
- Northwest Ordinance of 1787 strictly forbade slavery in these territories



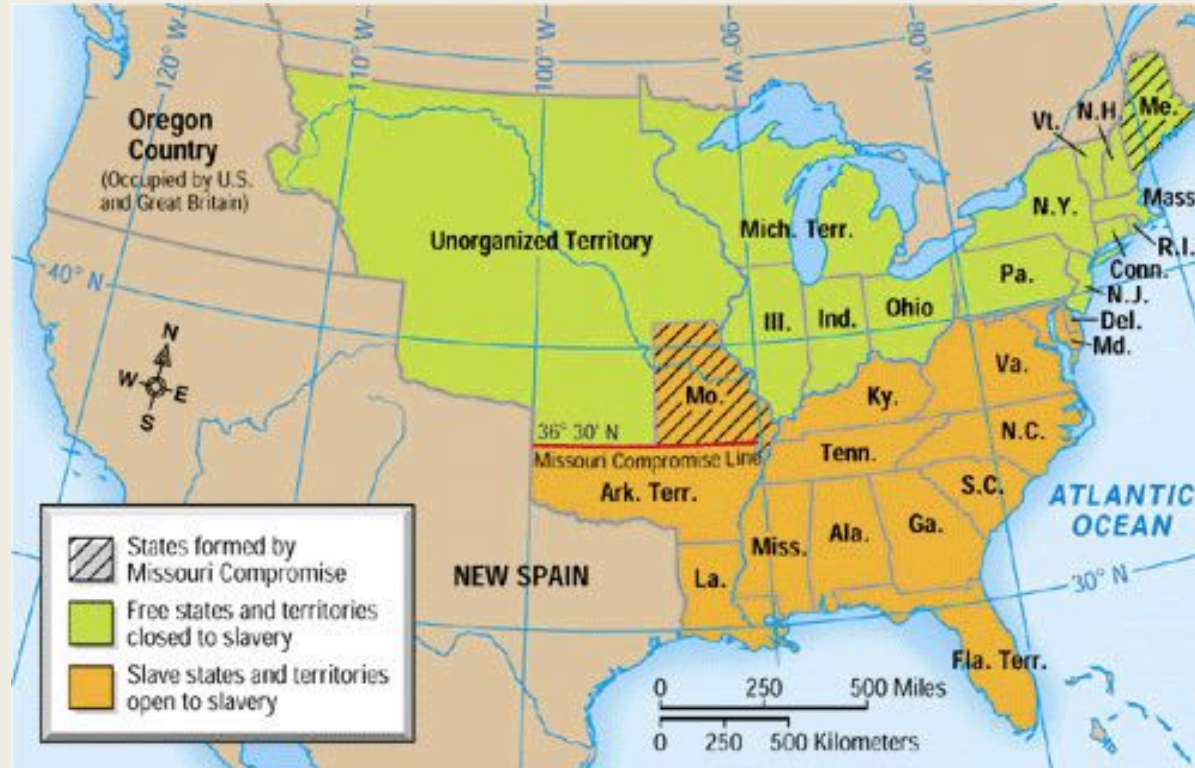
The Road to the Missouri Compromise

- **Louisiana Purchase (1803) – vast amount of land purchased from France; doubled the size of the United States**
- **The question after acquisition of this land: Will it be free or slave?**



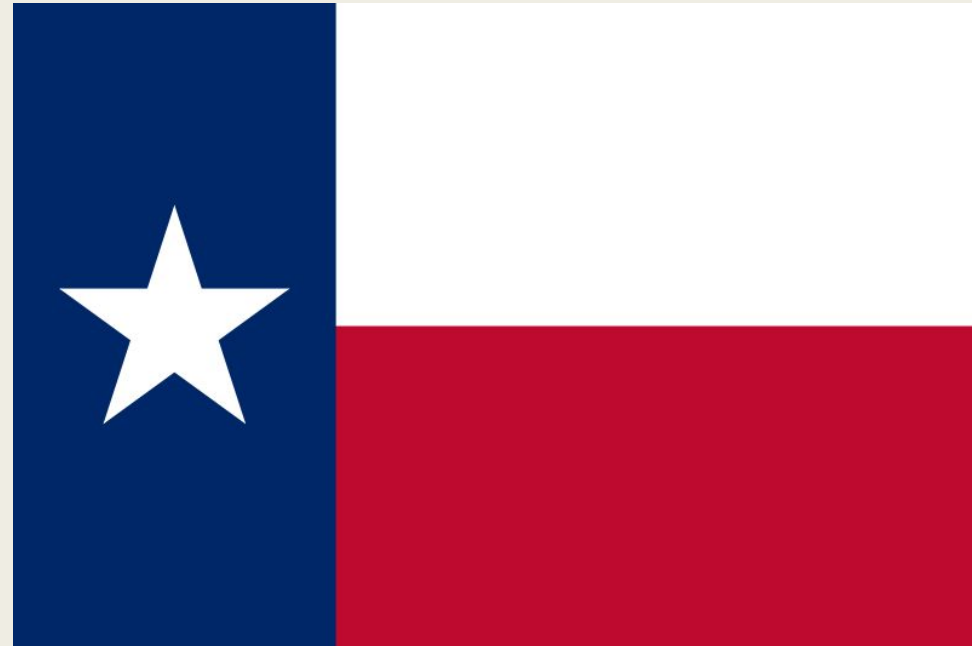
The Missouri Compromise of 1820

- To keep the balance of slave state and free states in Congress, the Missouri Compromise was passed in 1820.
- Missouri entered as slave state.
- Maine entered as free state.
- Slavery outlawed in Louisiana Purchase land north of the 36/30 line of latitude

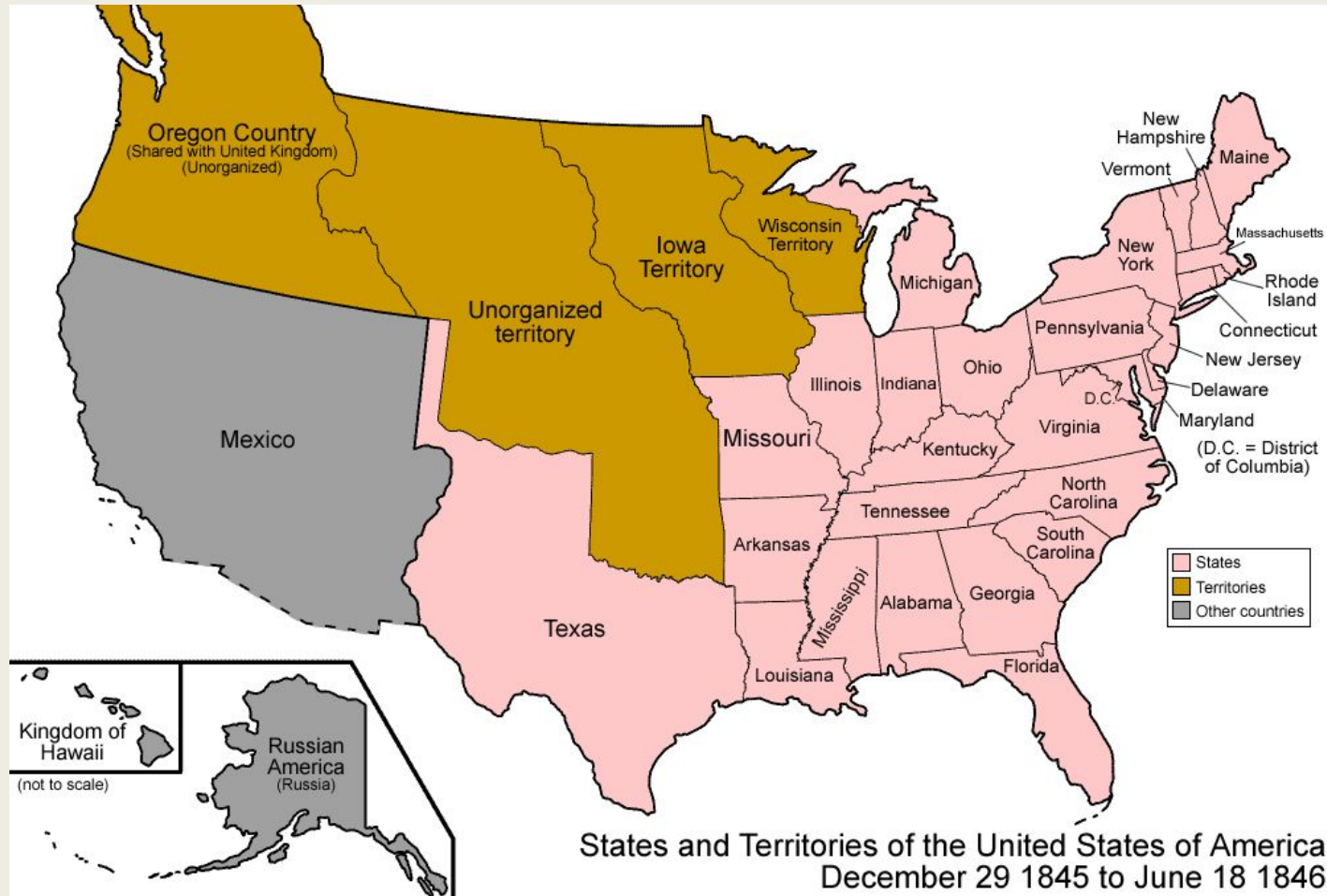


Onto War...With Mexico

- **The addition of Texas to the Union was a big issue during the 1830s-40s.**
- **Mexico wanted to acquire Texas, but Texas wanted to remain its own country**
- **Mexico invaded Texas in 1836; defeated Texan forces at the Battle of the Alamo**
- **“Remember the Alamo” became a rallying cry around the US**
- **Texas would enter the Union as a slave state in 1845**

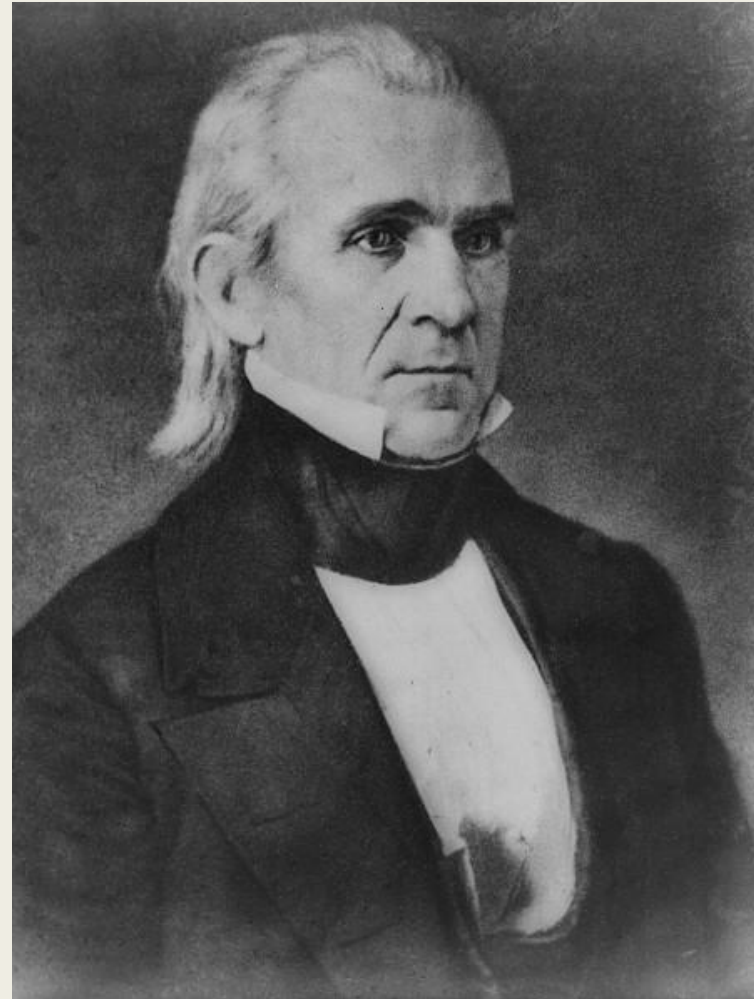


Map of the United States (1846)



Onto War...With Mexico

- **President James K. Polk (right) wanted to expand the United States to the Pacific Ocean**
- **Planned to buy California from Mexico but Mexico would not sell**
- **Mexico was still upset over Texas and a boundary dispute over the Rio Grande**
- **Polk sent General Zachary Taylor to Mexico to *basically start a fight***
- **What resulted was the Mexican-American War**



The “Manifest Destiny” President

- James K. Polk is the president most closely associated with **Manifest Destiny**
- In addition to playing a role in the start of the **Mexican–American War**, he threatened to go to war with the British over a border dispute with the Oregon Territory
- “**Fifty–Four Forty or Fight!**” was Polk’s campaign slogan in the 1844 election. This meant that the US wanted to take over the land all the way to the 54–40 line (see map at right) or the US would fight a war with England!
- He defeated Whig candidate, Henry Clay (“The Great Compromiser”), in 1844 making this threat of war.



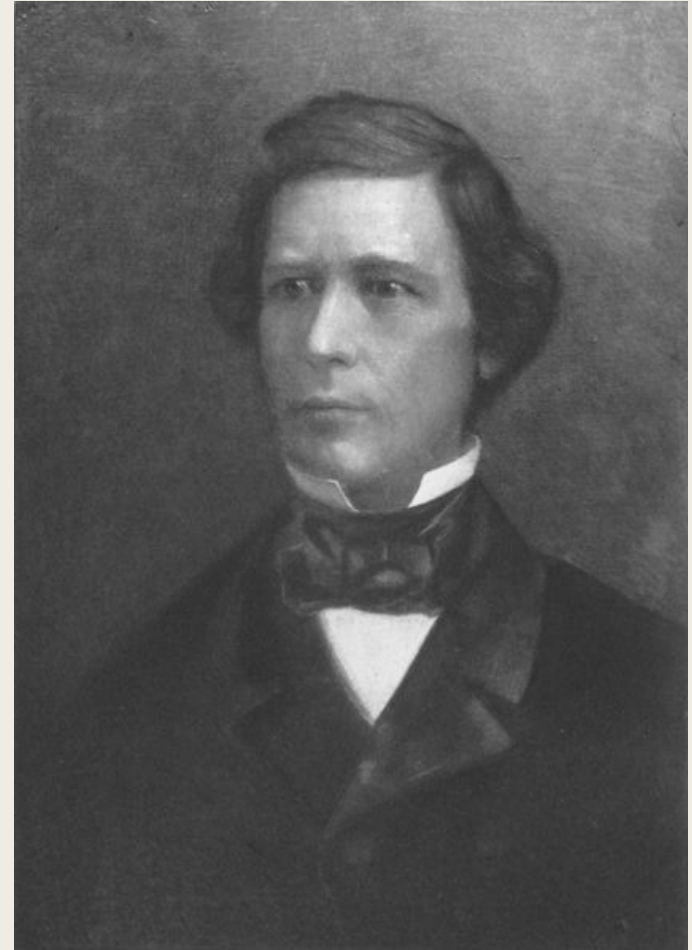
Territorial Gains of US After Mexican War

- Treaty of Hidalgo-Guadalupe officially ended Mexican War in 1848
- US gained California and much of the Southwest and Rocky Mountains (red territory on map)
- This territory is called the Mexican Cession



The War's Aftermath: The Wilmot Proviso

- It was named for David Wilmot, Representative from Pennsylvania
- Introduced an amendment to the peace agreement with Mexico (Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo) to forbid slavery in newly acquired territory
- Southerners were enraged by the threat to the expansion of slavery
- Did not pass Senate, never became law
- *In some sense, the Mexican War was the opening shots of the Civil War*



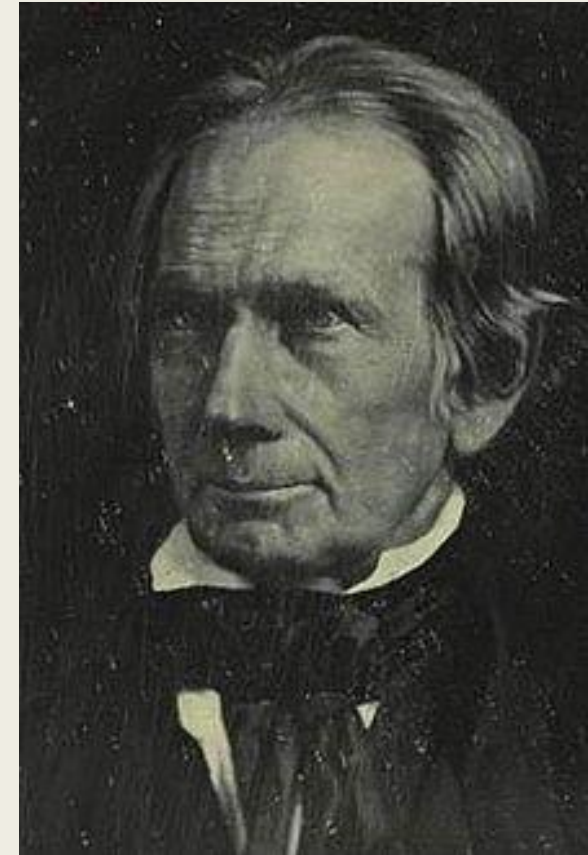
Gold Discovered in California

- Discovery of gold in CA leads many to the west West in search of riches in 1849
- These people are called "49ers"
- Residents petitioned Congress to grant statehood in 1849
- California's proposed constitution forbade slavery



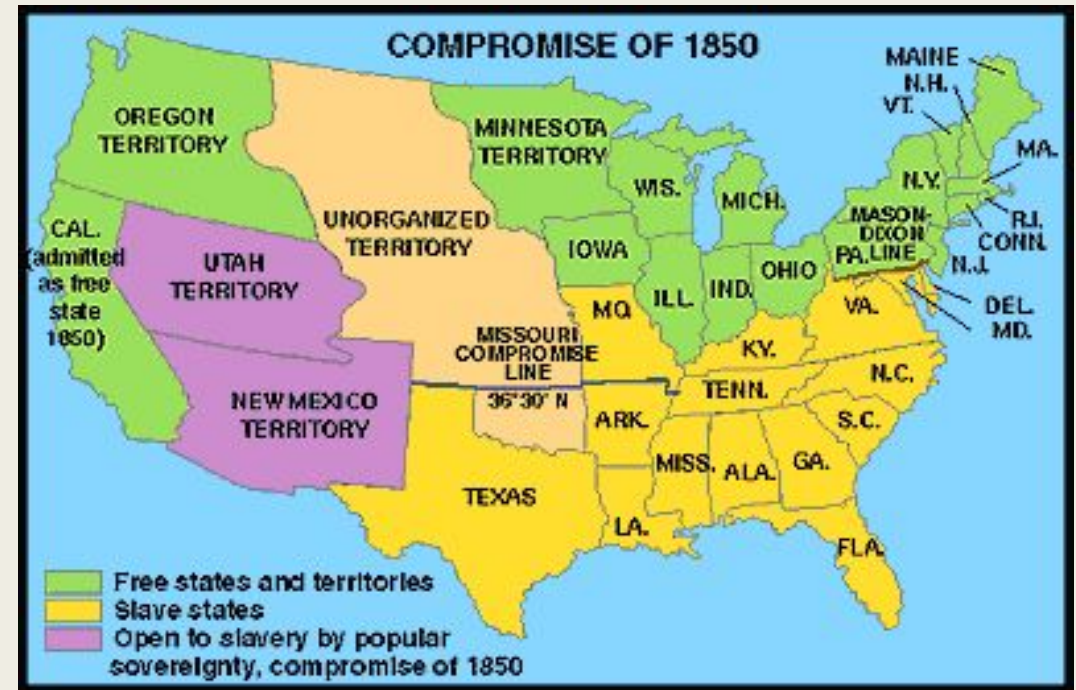
The Slavery Issue in Newly Acquired Territory

- Free states were beginning to outnumber slave states.
- Southerners were afraid that slavery would be abolished.
- Territorial expansion and population growth were tearing the nation apart
- In order to appease the two sides, Henry Clay ("The Great Compromiser") proposed the Compromise of 1850.



The Compromise of 1850

- California would be admitted as free
- Utah and New Mexico Territories open to popular vote on slavery (=popular sovereignty)
- Slave trade abolished in D.C.
- Stricter enforcement of Fugitive Slave Law (this was the most divisive part of the law)

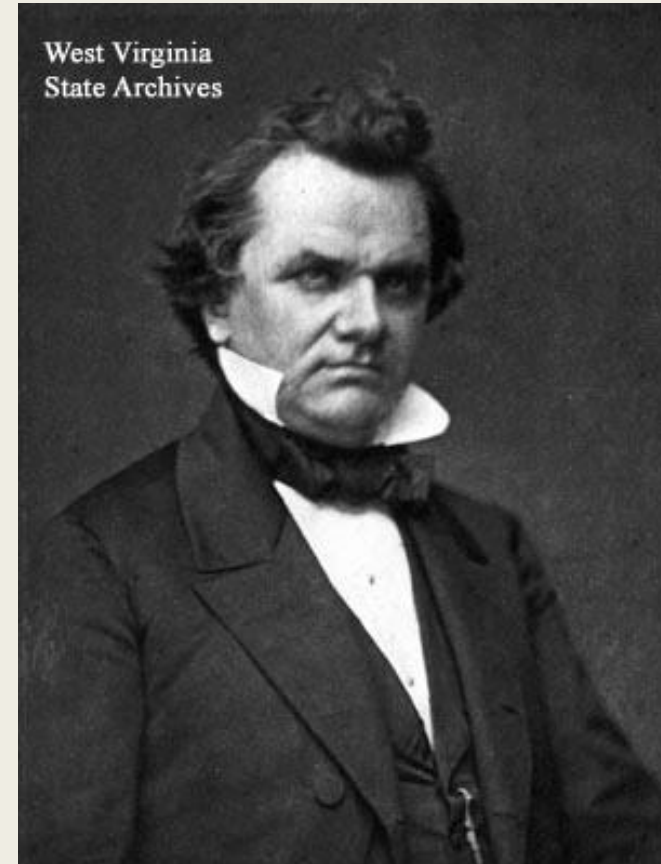


Popular Sovereignty:

***States should decide for themselves whether they wanted to be free or they wanted to allow for slavery**

Kansas-Nebraska Act

- Proposed in 1854 by Stephen A. Douglas (right)
- Said that Nebraska and Kansas would enter the Union with the principles of popular sovereignty
- This act nullified the Missouri Compromise by allowing slavery in the “forever free” territories of the Louisiana Purchase



KANSAS-NEBRASKA ACT 1854



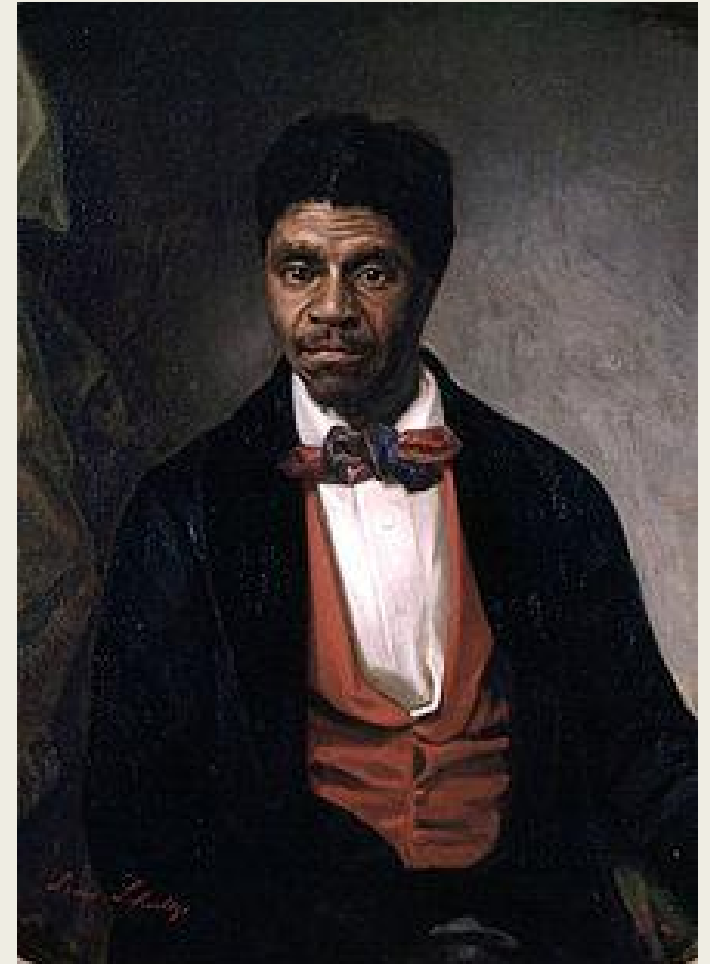
“Bleeding Kansas” (1854)

- Settlers from North and South flocked to Kansas; each side wanting to outnumber the other
- Violence erupted over the vote to determine allowing or banning slavery
- Popular sovereignty was not working!



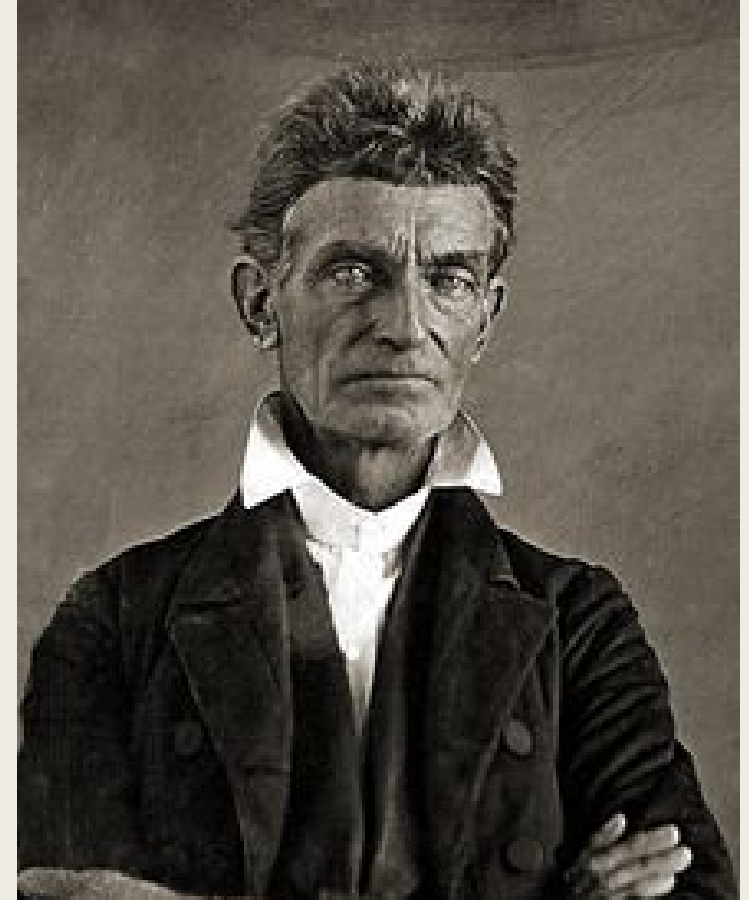
The Dred Scott Decision

- Dred Scott, a slave, sued for his freedom after being taken by his master to a free state
- The case went all the way to the Supreme Court
- In 1857, the Court ruled against Scott, claiming that slaves were property and could be taken anywhere.
- Supreme Court also ruled the Missouri Compromise of 1820 unconstitutional stating that slavery could not be prohibited in federal territories.
- The South rejoiced at the decision, while the North was appalled.

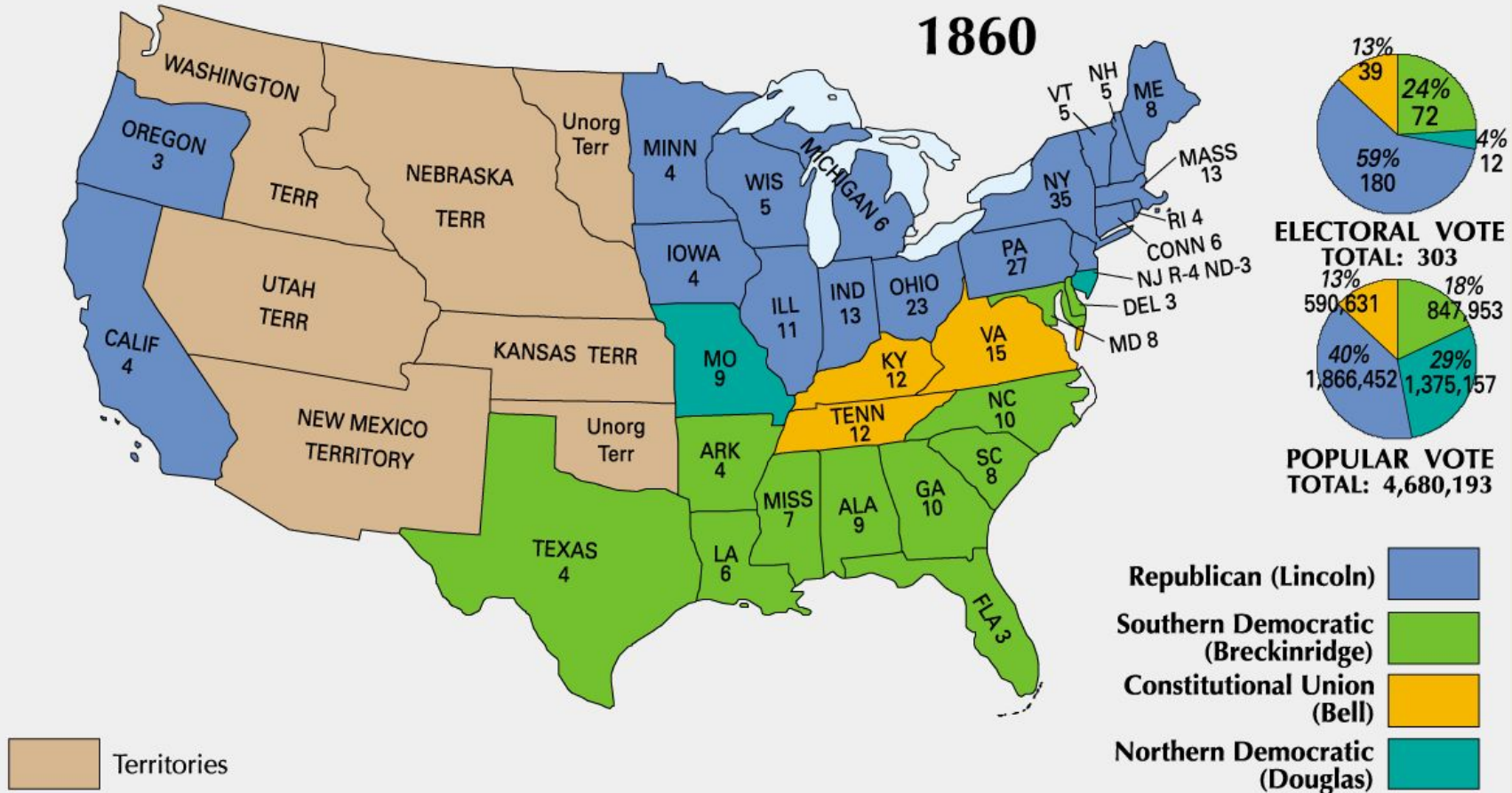


John Brown's Raid

- 1859 – John Brown of Kansas (right) decided to help start a slave uprising to end slavery once and for all.
- He planned to seize weapons at an armory in Harper's Ferry, VA and give weapons to slaves.
- His plan failed. He was captured and executed.
- North saw him as a martyr; South saw him as a terrorist
- This event pushed the divided nation even further apart.
- The Civil war was just around the corner...



Election of 1860



South Carolina Secedes

- Upon hearing of the news of Lincoln's election, South Carolina secedes from (leaves) the Union.
- 10 other states would follow and secede.
- These states would make up the new Confederate States of America.

