

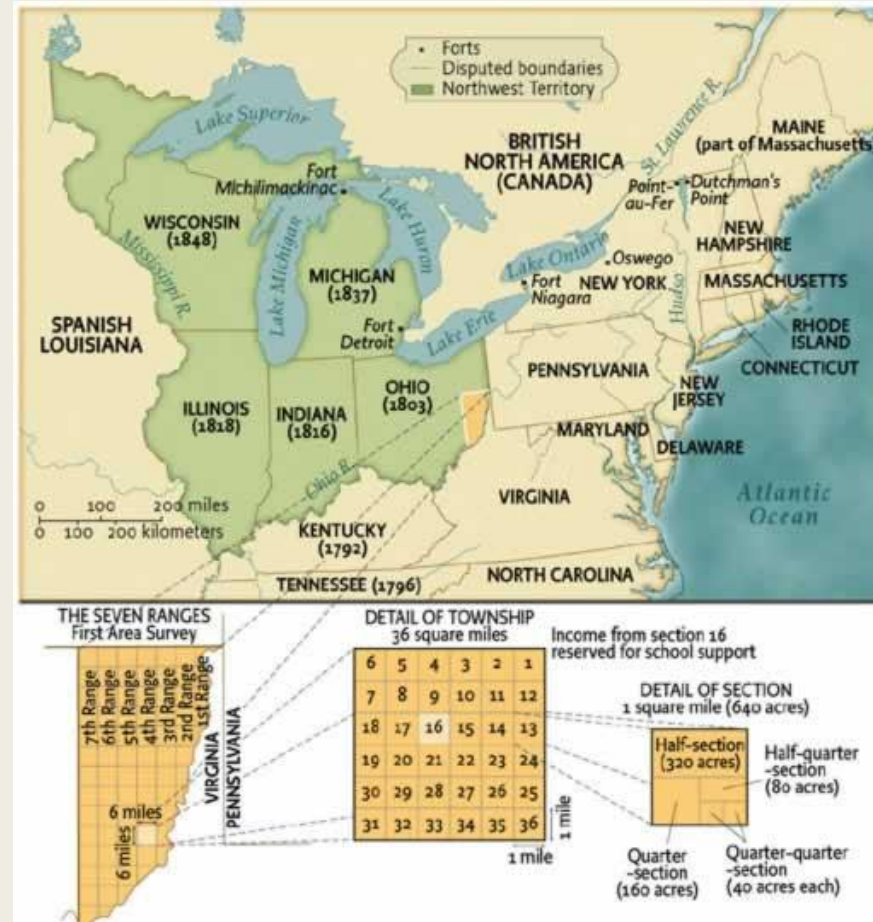
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WESTWARD EXPANSION & THE POLITICS OF SLAVERY

- **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 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?**



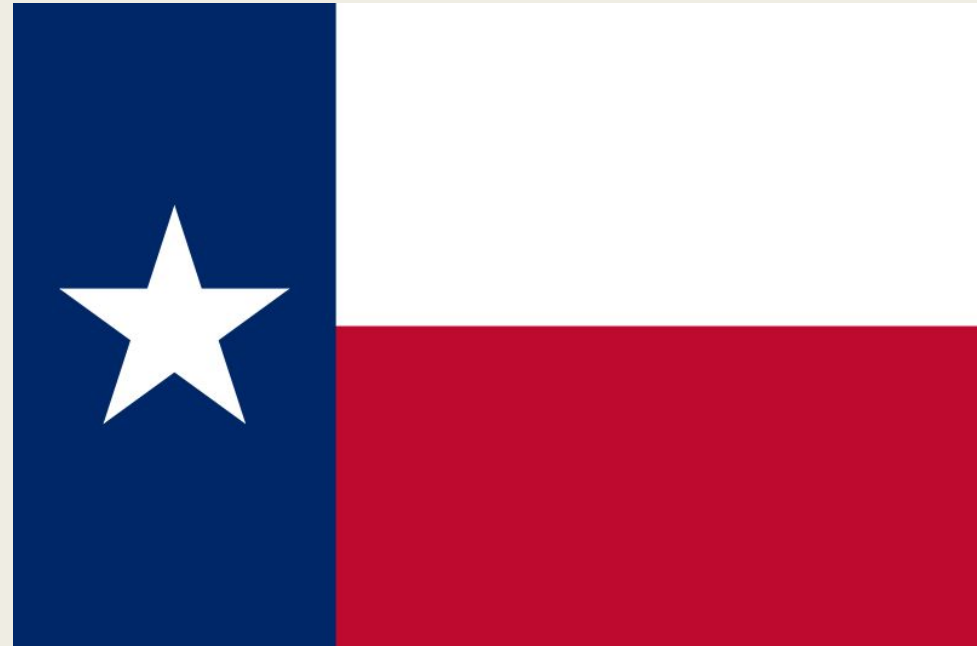
The Missouri Compromise of 1820

- 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**

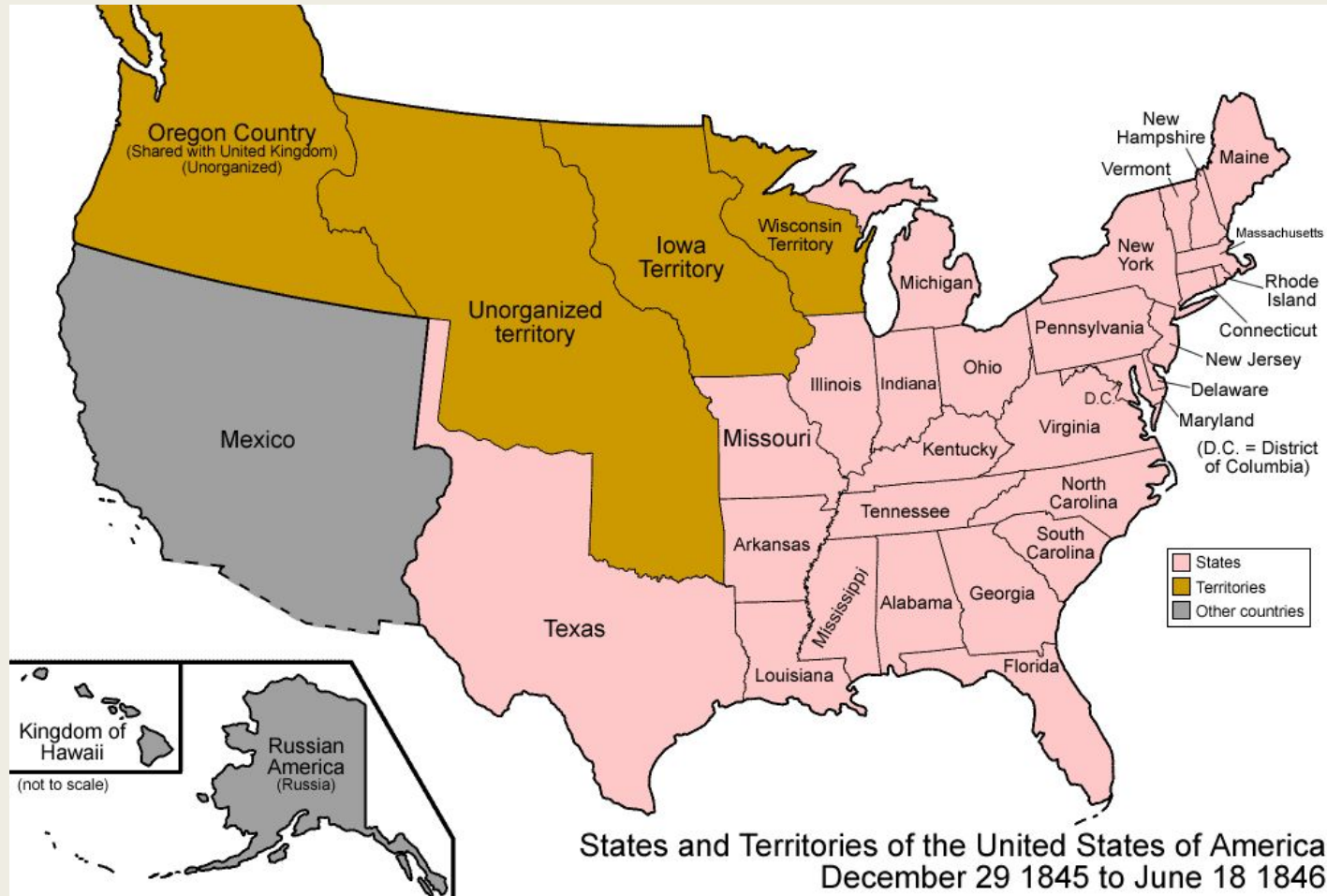


Onto War...With Mexico

- 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

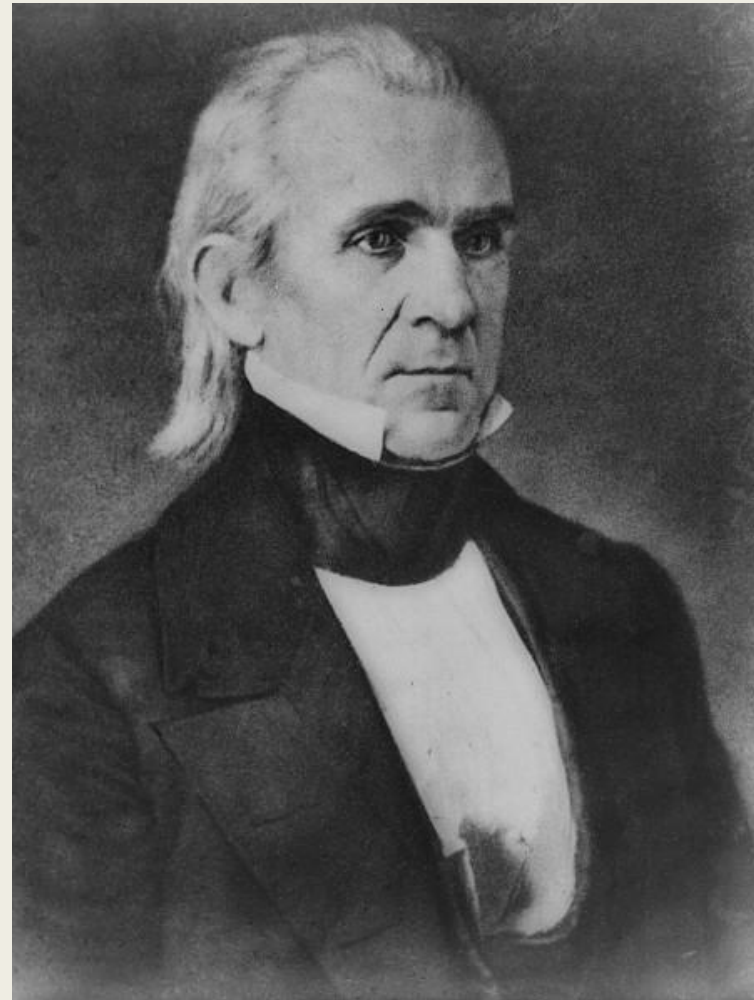


Map of the United States (1846)



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.



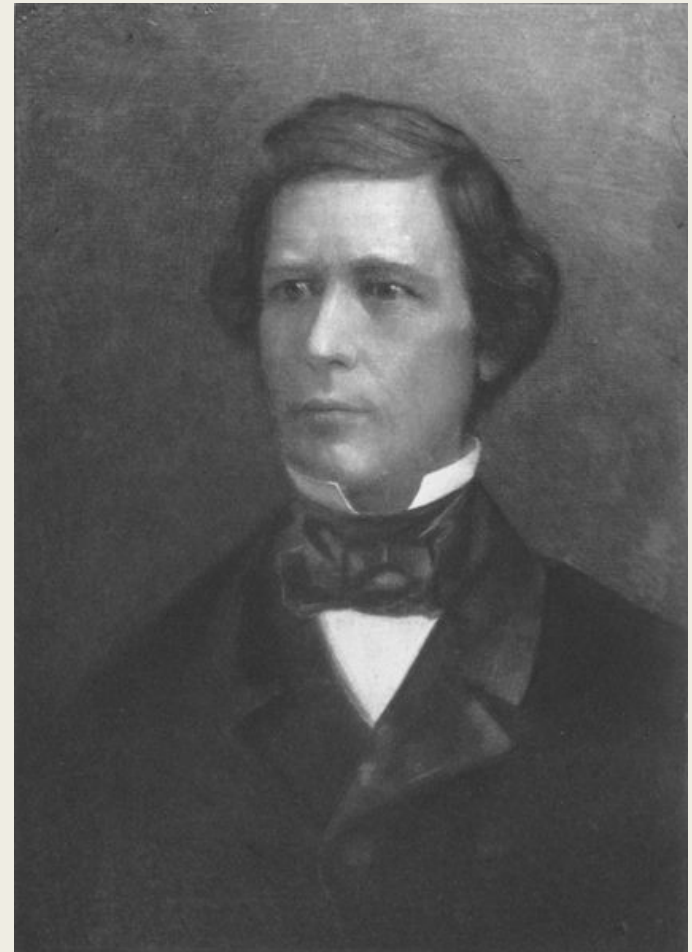
Territorial Gains of US After Mexican War

- 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*



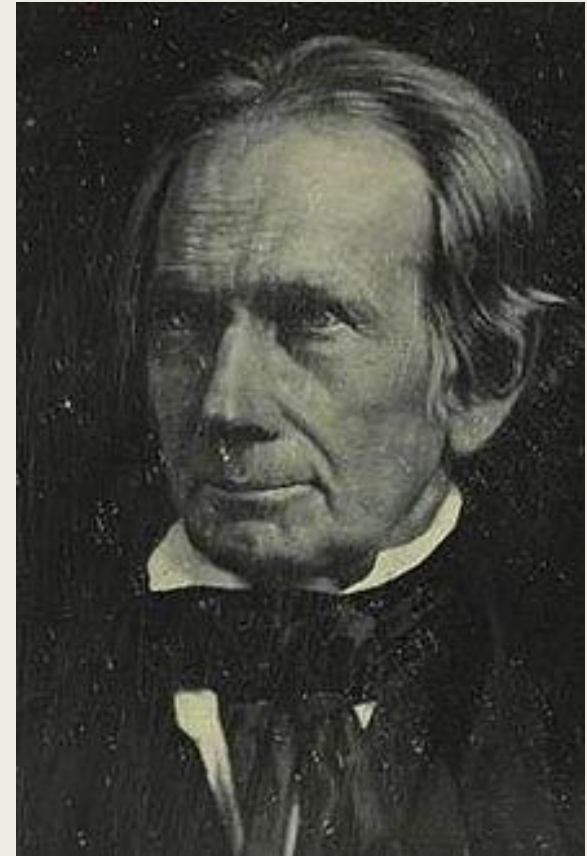
Gold Discovered in California

- 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*)

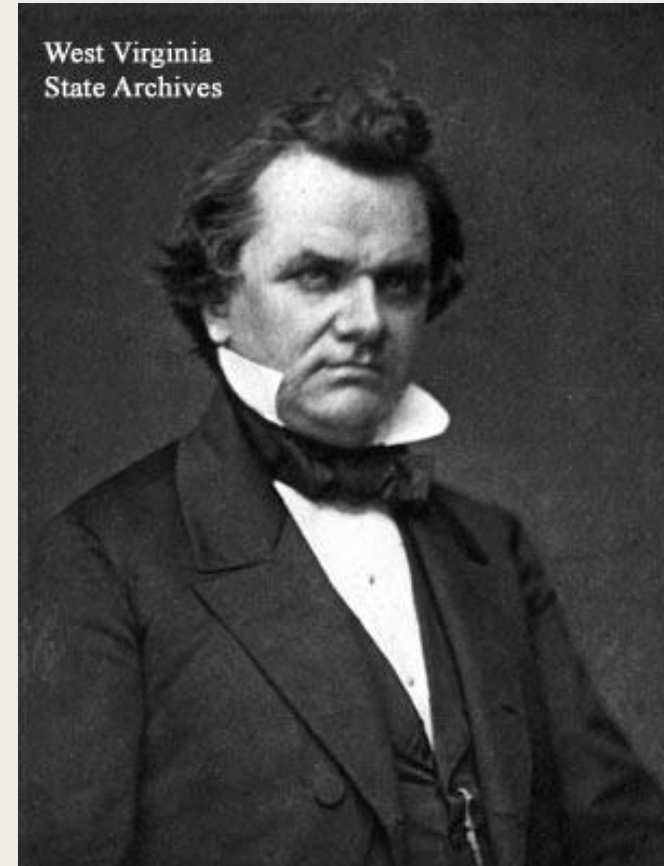


Popular Sovereignty:

***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!



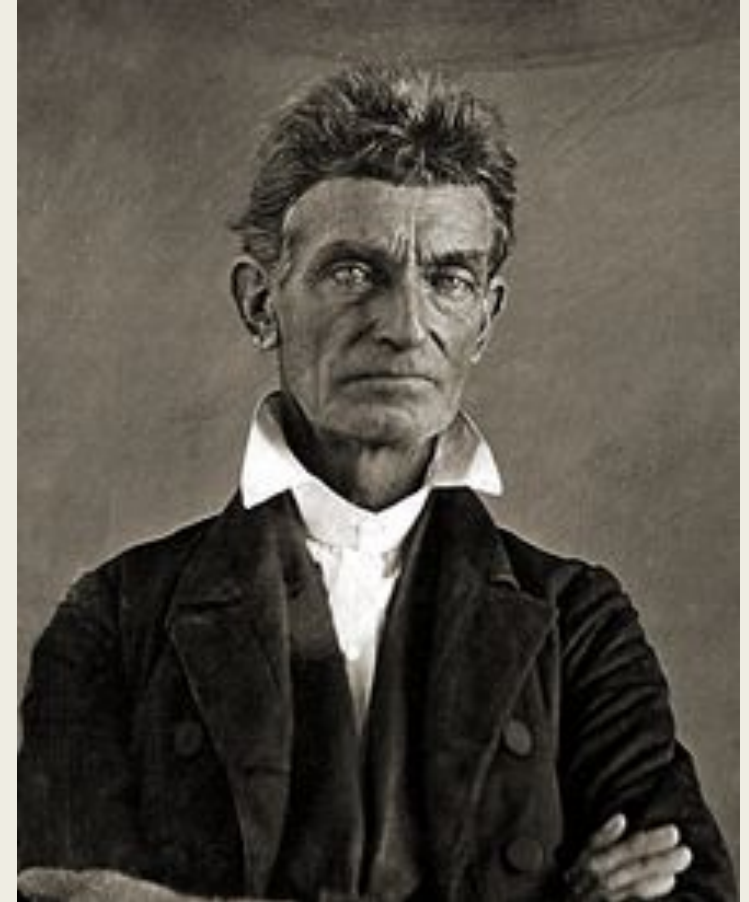
The Dred Scott Decision

- 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.

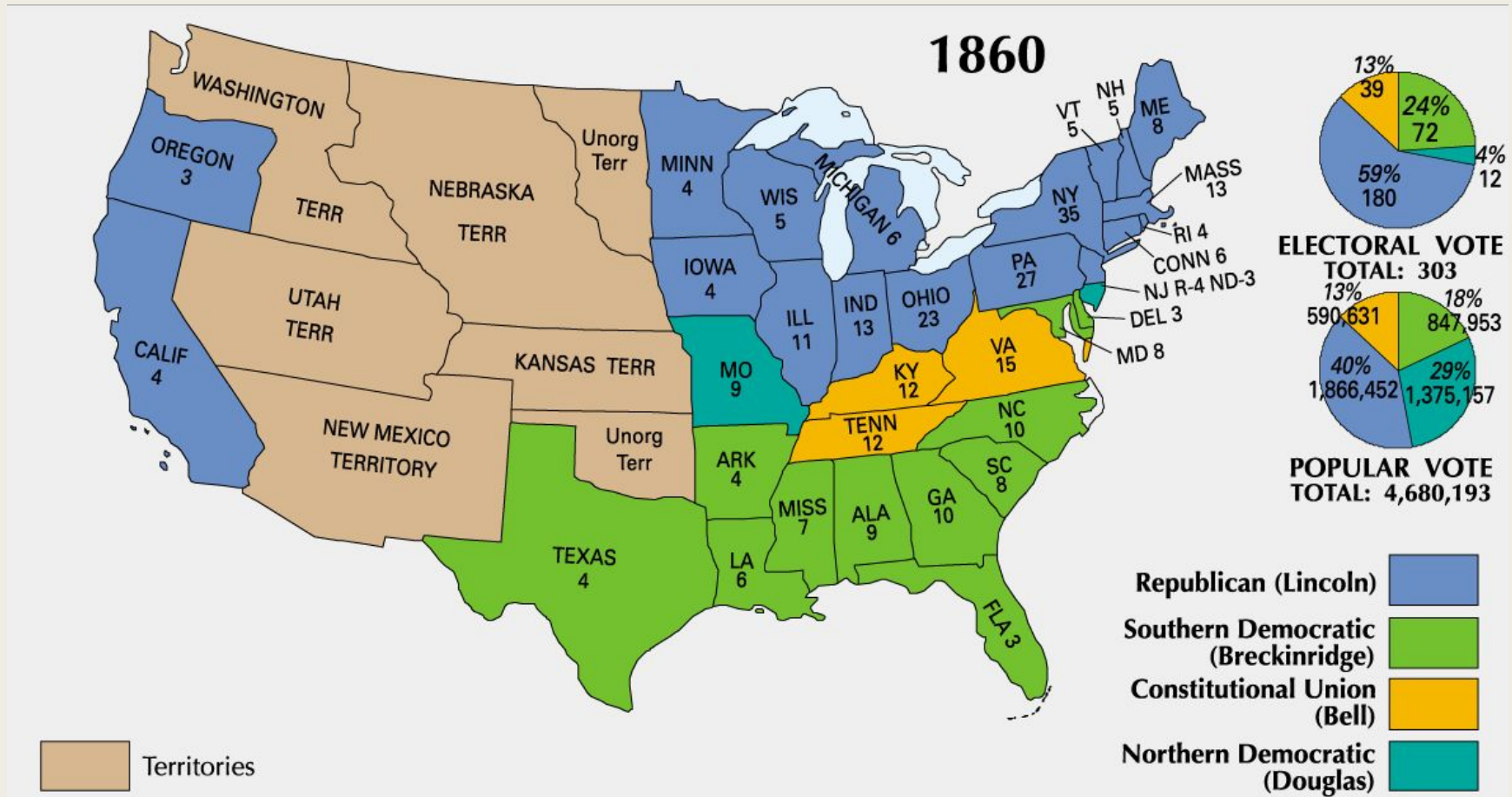


John Brown's Raid

- 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.

