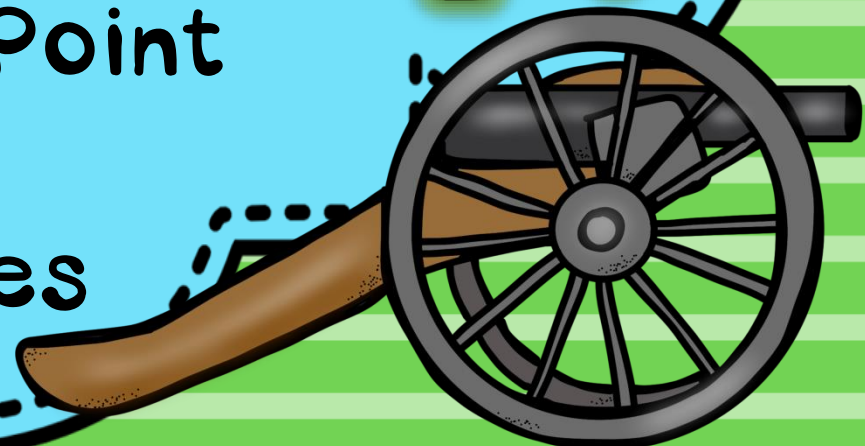


CAUSES
of the

CIVIL WAR

PowerPoint
&
Notes



Jersey Girl
Gone South

Antislavery Movement

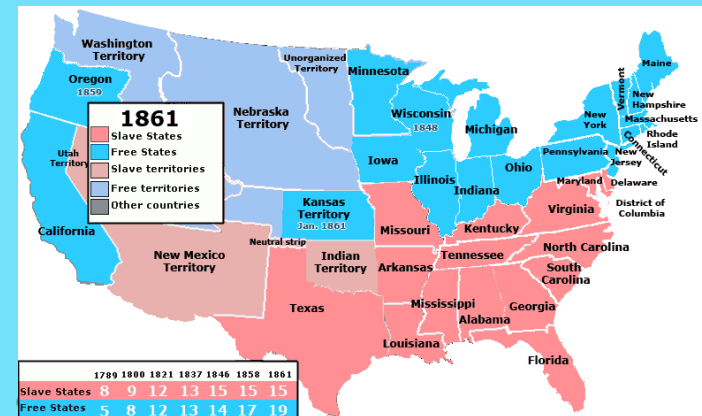
- People disagreed about the issue of slavery.
- Some felt that slaves were needed to grow cash crops and some felt that it was wrong to enslave people.
- People who joined the movement to abolish, or end, slavery were called abolitionists.
- Abolitionists were white, free blacks, men and women.
- The abolitionist movement grew quickly in the 1830s and 1840s.

The Underground Railroad

- Some abolitionists worked together to help slaves escape to freedom.
- They formed a system known as the Underground Railroad.
- The Underground Railroad was a series of escape routes and hiding places for slaves to travel through.
- Attempting to escape slavery took great courage.
- Runaways who were caught were punished and returned to slavery.

Slave State vs Free State

- As the United States grew, Congress had to decide whether to allow slavery in each territory.
- **Slave state** – permitted slavery
- **Free state** – did not permit slavery
- Congress tried to keep an equal number of free and slave states.

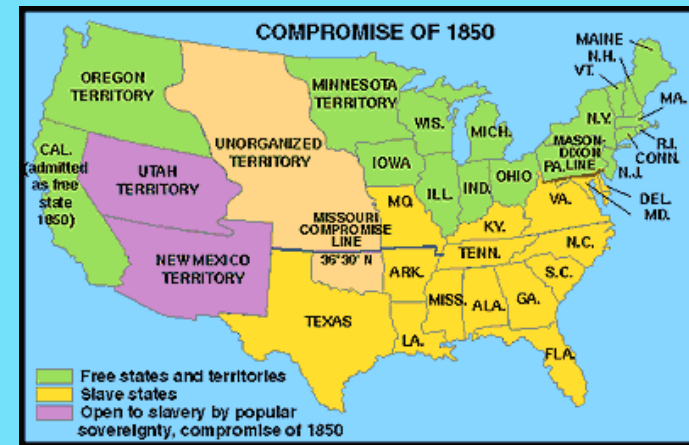


Compromise & Conflict

- Congress argued over which territories would have slavery.
- Northerners wanted to have a lot of representatives in Congress, so they could pass laws against slavery.
- Southerners wanted more slave states.
- Missouri Compromise – Missouri could be a slave state and Maine would be a free state. Congress created an invisible line across the rest of the territories. Territories south of the line would allow slavery.

Popular Sovereignty

- In the Compromise of 1850, Congress allowed settlers to make the decision about slavery for themselves.
- The right of people to make political decisions for themselves is called **popular sovereignty**.



Fugitive Slave Law

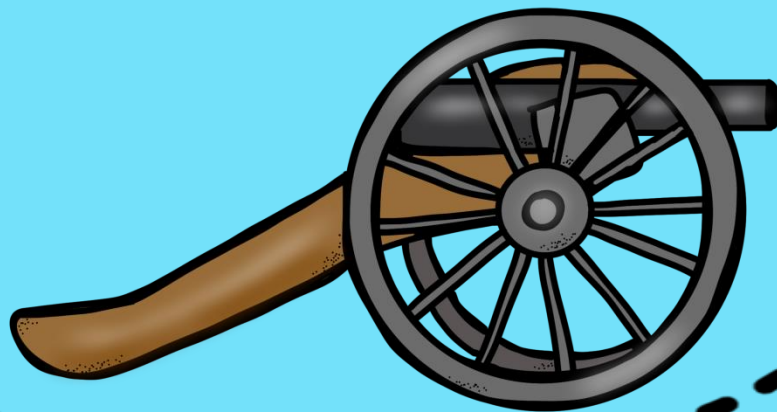
- As part of the Compromise of 1850, Congress passed the Fugitive Slave Law.
- A fugitive is a person who is running away.
- This law said that slaves who escaped slavery had to be returned to slavery.
- This law also required citizens to help catch fugitives.
- This law upset northerners and many refused to obey the law.

Kansas-Nebraska Act

- The Kansas-Nebraska Act was passed in 1854.
- This law gave popular sovereignty to the Nebraska and Kansas territories.
- This law upset abolitionists because it gave territories north of the line created in the Missouri Compromise the right to have slaves.

Why It Matters...

- By 1860, the North and South were very divided.
- As time went on, it became much harder for Americans to compromise over slavery.
- This conflict started to split the nation.





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