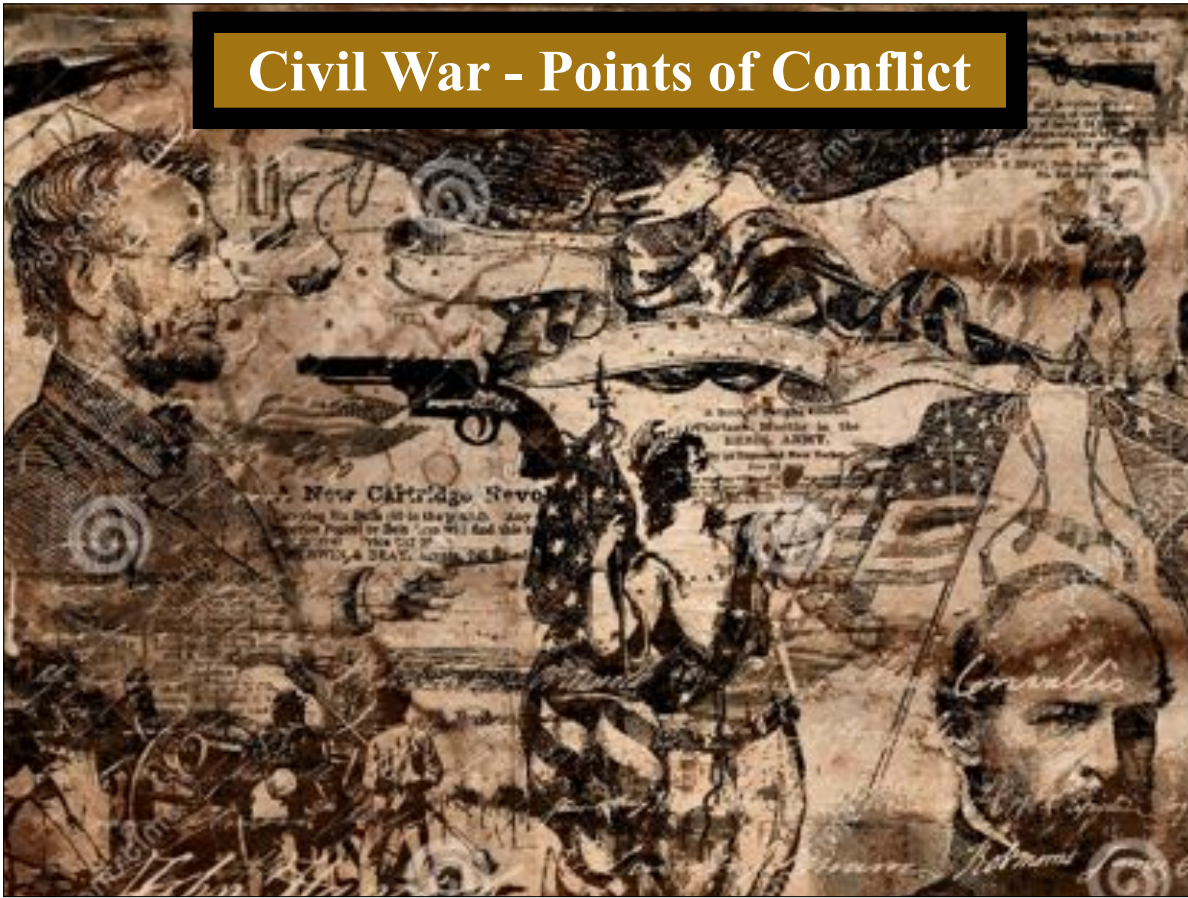


Civil War - Points of Conflict



Missouri (Maine) Compromise (1820)

in the early 1800s, tensions began to rise between proslavery and anti-slavery groups across the country
 by 1819 there were 11 free states and 11 slave states in the U.S. Congress
Missouri requested admission to the country as a slave state
 this threatened to upset the delicate balance between slave and free states

Congress created a compromise:

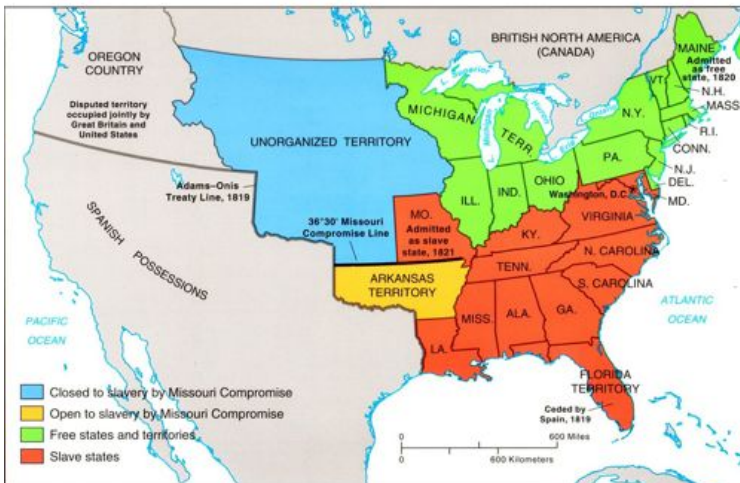
Missouri entered the country as a slave state

Maine entered the country as a free state

the 36° 30' line of latitude across the former Louisiana Territory became a boundary

any future states created above that line would be free

any states below that line would be slave



Mexican Session

(lands gained from the Mexican War - should they be free or slave?)

Wilmot Proviso (1846)

suggested outlawing slavery in any territory acquired the Mexican-American War (named for Congressman David Wilmot, a Democrat from Pennsylvania - it didn't pass)

"Provided, That, as an express and fundamental condition to the acquisition of any territory from the Republic of Mexico by the United States, by virtue of any treaty which may be negotiated between them, and to the use by the Executive of the moneys herein appropriated, neither slavery nor involuntary servitude shall ever exist in any part of said territory, except for crime, whereof the party shall first be duly convicted."

Compromise of 1850

CA admitted as a free state

other territory split (UT & NM) = popular sovereignty
let the voters of a territory decide whether they are to be free or slave



slave trade (not slavery itself)
outlawed in DC

new, stronger Fugitive Slave Law
required citizens to assist in the recovery of fugitive slaves

denied a fugitive's right to a jury trial
cases handled by commissioners

were paid \$ 5 if an alleged fugitive were released
\$ 10 if they were sent "back" to slavery

Kansas-Nebraska Act

(1854)



Sen. Stephen Douglas of IL wanted to
wanting to ensure a northern
transcontinental railroad route
that would allow his Illinois voters to profit
from railroad terminals throughout the area
southern senators objected
(wanted a southern route)

to get the southern Congressmen to vote for it, he introduced a bill to organize the Nebraska Territory into 2 sections (Kansas and Nebraska) and that would be open to
popular sovereignty

assumed that the northern area would oppose slavery and the southern one would permit it
basically repealed the Missouri Compromise.

Bleeding Kansas

(1856)

a sequence of violent events involving anti-slavery and pro-slavery elements
several abolitionist organizations from the North organized and funded the settlement of several
thousand people in Kansas so they could vote to make it a free state

Minister Henry Ward Beecher armed settlers with “ Beecher’s Bibles ”

thousands of armed Southerners (nicknamed “ border ruffians ”)

arrived to vote **for** slavery
(few of them actually owned slaves; they were too poor!)

pro-slavery forces won the election

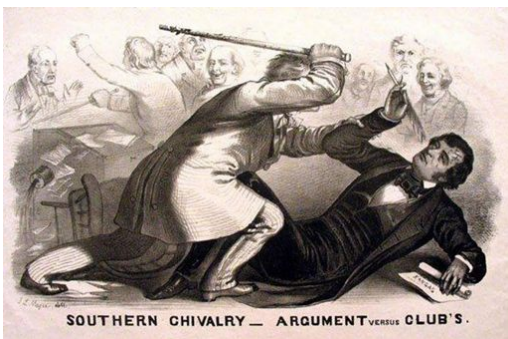
President Franklin Pierce continued to recognize the proslavery legislature



a pro-slavery group of men traveled north to an
antislavery settlement
burned a hotel, destroyed printing presses, and
ransacked homes & stores
abolitionist John Brown led an attack on
a proslavery settlement at
Pottawatomie Creek
dragged five proslavery men from their homes and
hacked them to death
in all, approximately 55 people died
Kansas entered the Union as a free state in 1861

Sumner-Brooks Incident

(1856 - occurred during Bleeding Kansas crisis)



MA Senator Charles Sumner
made an antislavery speech in Congress, insulting SC
Senator Andrew Butler

made several mocking references to
Butler’s speech impediment
(caused by a stroke)

two days later, South Carolina Representative
Preston Brooks (Butler’s nephew)
confronted Sumner as he sat writing at his desk in the
almost empty Senate chamber

“Mr. Sumner, I have read your speech twice over carefully. It is a libel on South Carolina, and
Mr. Butler, who is a relative of mine.”

Brooks beat Sumner over the head with a thick
cane with a gold head

Sumner, blinded by his own blood, staggered up the aisle and collapsed

Brooks continued to beat the motionless Sumner until his cane broke

Sumner became a martyr in the North and
Brooks a hero in the South

was symbolic of the
extreme hatred the two sides of the slavery issue had for each other



Dred Scott Decision

(1857)



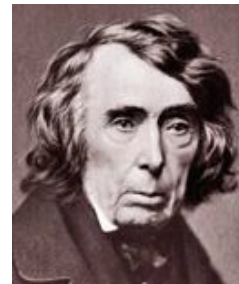
Dred Scott had been the slave
of Dr. John Emerson who died in 1843

Scott sued for his freedom because he had lived in areas where
slavery was outlawed

multiple appeals brought the case to the US Supreme Court

Chief Justice Roger B. Taney delivered the majority opinion:
slaves are property, not people, and are
protected by the 5th Amendment, which
says property cannot be taken away without “due process”
essentially made slavery legal anywhere in the country

Scott was returned to his original owners and granted his freedom
died 18 months later from tuberculosis



Lincoln-Douglas Debates

(1858)

a series of 7 political debates in Illinois

Republican candidate Abraham Lincoln

v.

incumbent Democratic Senator Stephen Douglas

the main issue discussed in all seven debates was slavery



in one of his speeches, Douglas said slavery could be prevented from any territory
by the refusal of the people living there to pass laws that supported slavery

Douglas was reelected but alienated Southern Democrats
would eventually be key to his loss in the 1860 presidential election

John Brown's Raid

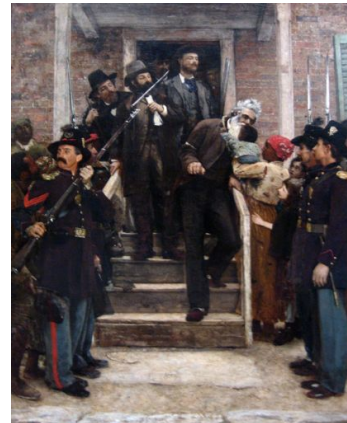
(1859)



Brown and 18 men were armed with 200 rifles supplied by northern abolitionist societies

attacked
Harpers Ferry
(armory for weapons)

plan was to arm local slaves and head south, starting a revolution



armory surrounded by US troops under the command of Lt. Col. **Robert E. Lee** (!?)

Brown and his men told they would be spared if they surrendered

Brown refused; troops stormed the building

10 of Brown's men were killed (including his 2 sons)

Brown's men killed four of the troops, wounded nine

Brown later hanged for **treason**

Election of 1860



Abraham Lincoln, Stephen Douglas, John Breckinridge, John Bell
election was noteworthy for exaggerated **sectionalism** of the vote

Lincoln not even on the ballot in nine Southern states

Lincoln captured less than 40% of the popular vote but 180 electoral votes

November 6 - **Lincoln** officially wins Presidency

December 24 - South Carolina secedes from the Union