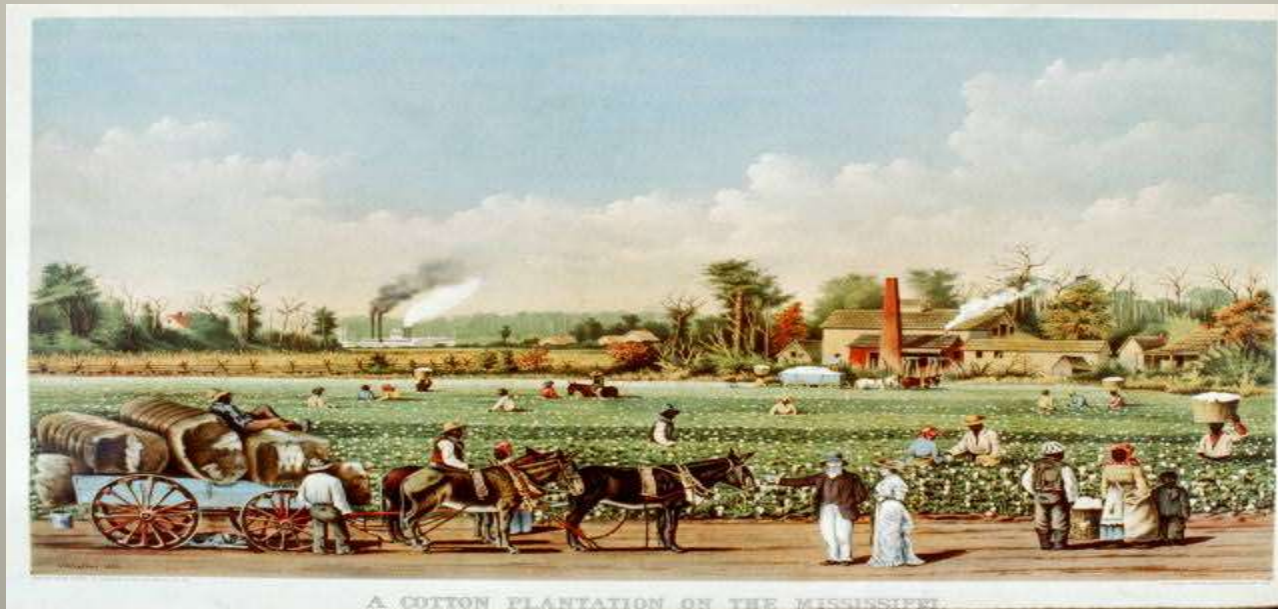


Cotton, Slavery, and the Old South

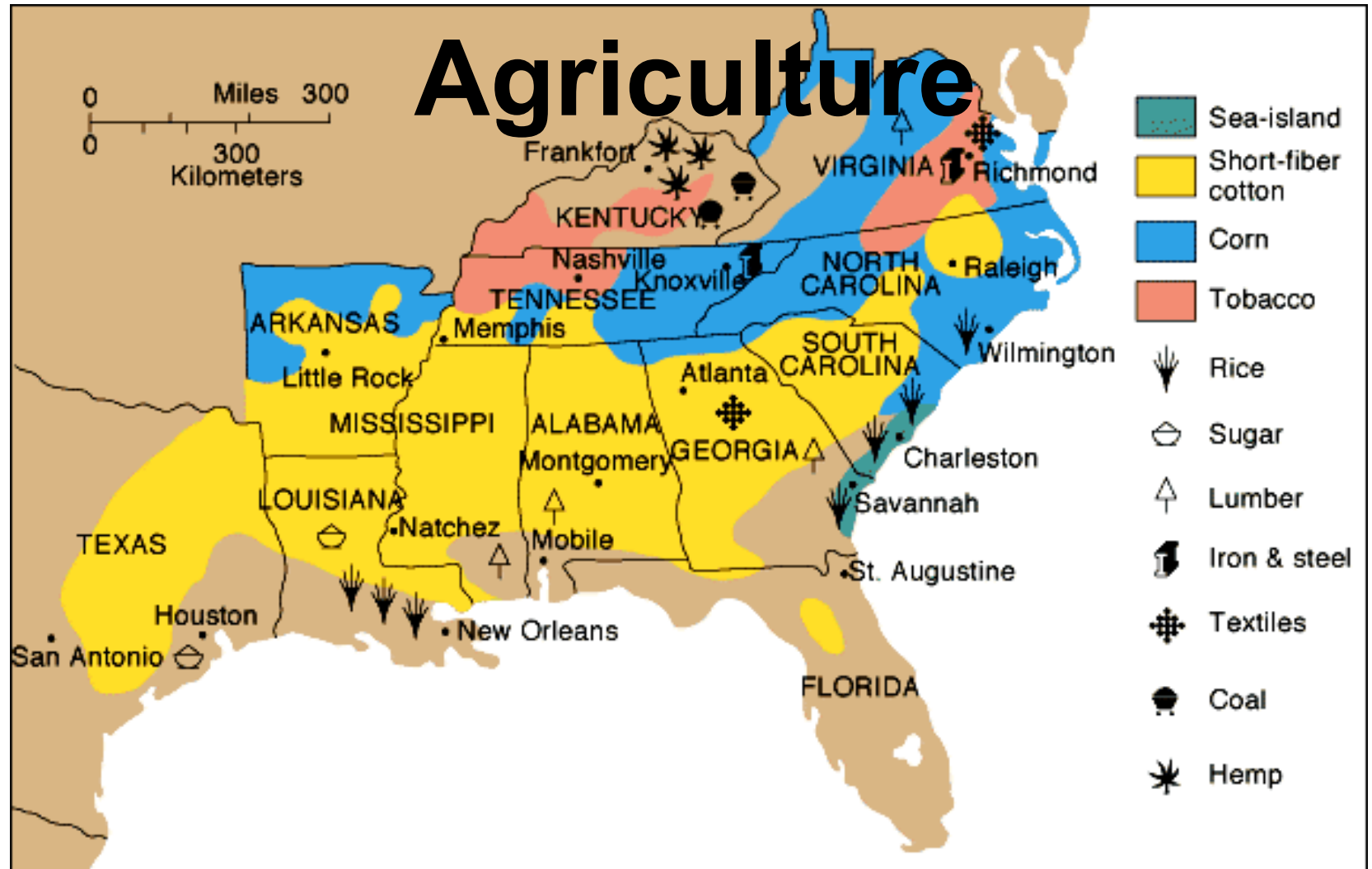


A COTTON PLANTATION ON THE MISSISSIPPI

The Rise of King Cotton

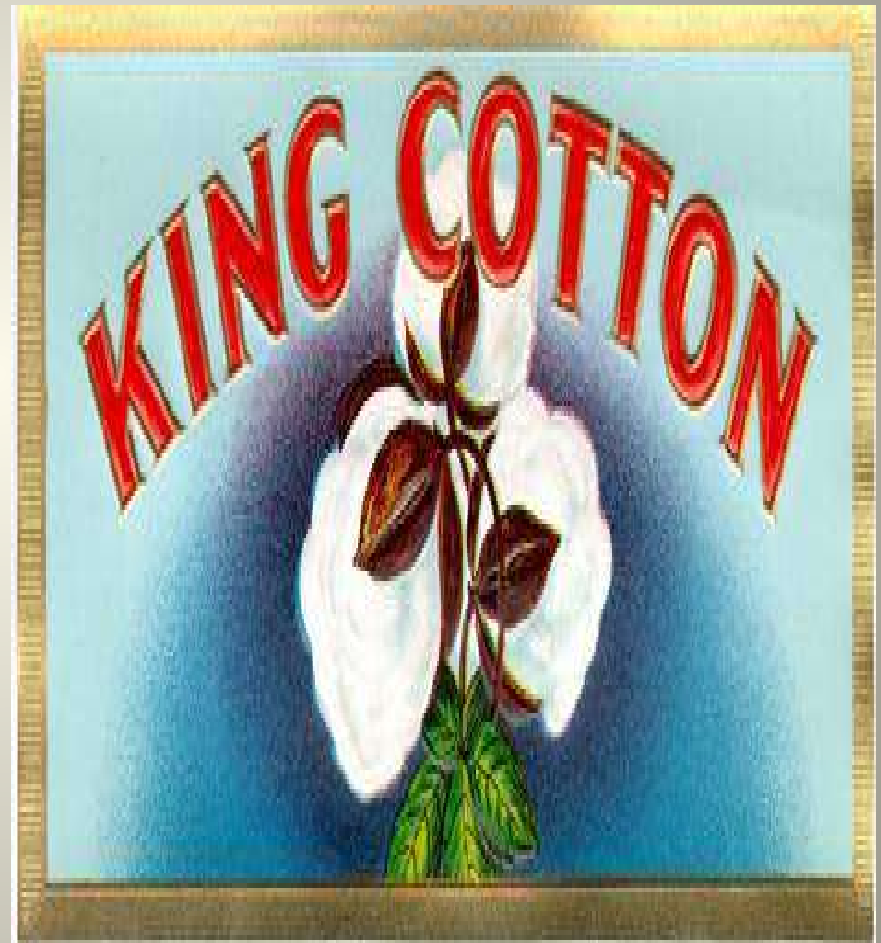
- Economic power moved from the Upper South to the Lower South
 - Tobacco on the decline
 - Too much competition in sugar
 - Rice could only be grown on the coast

Southern Agriculture

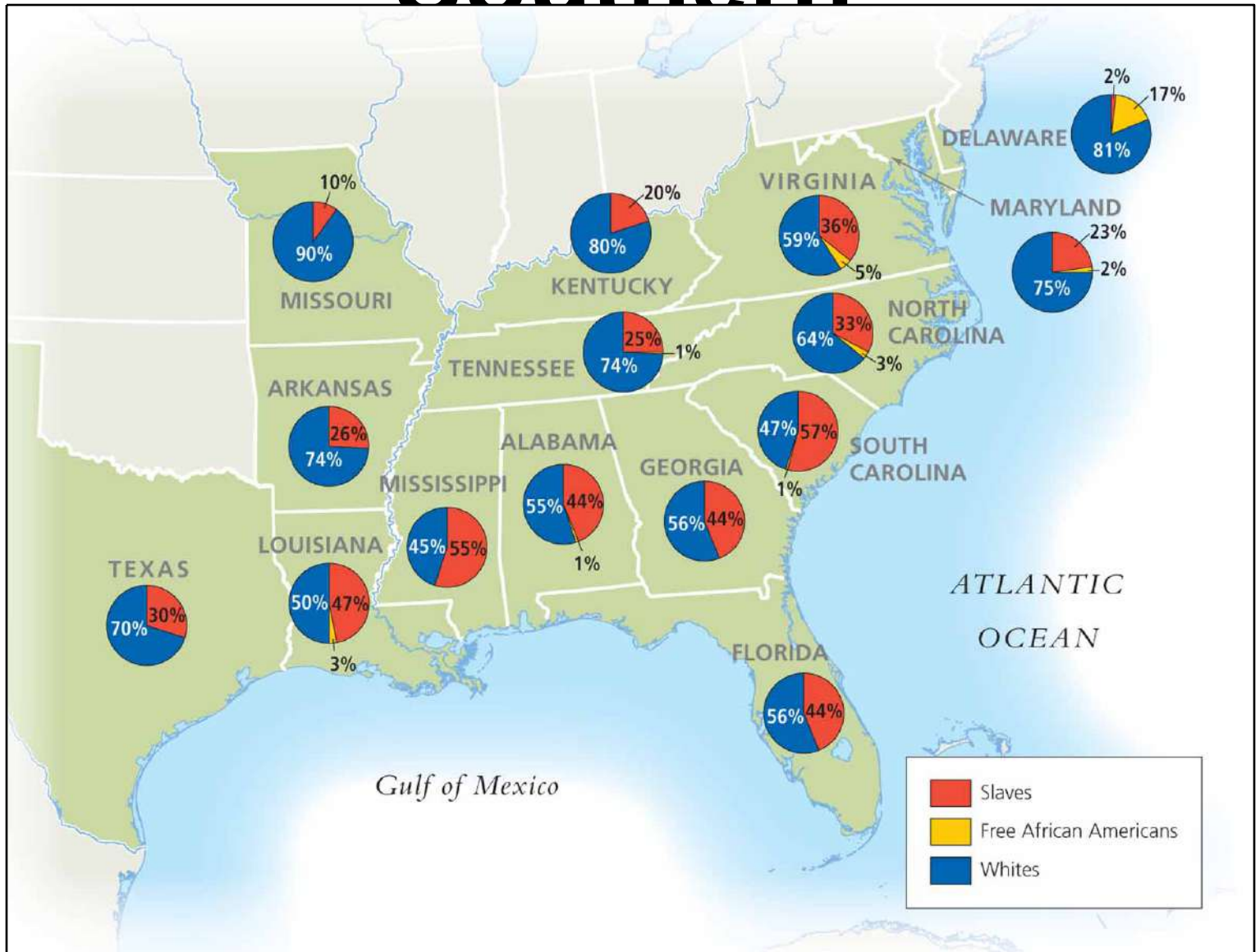


The Rise of King Cotton

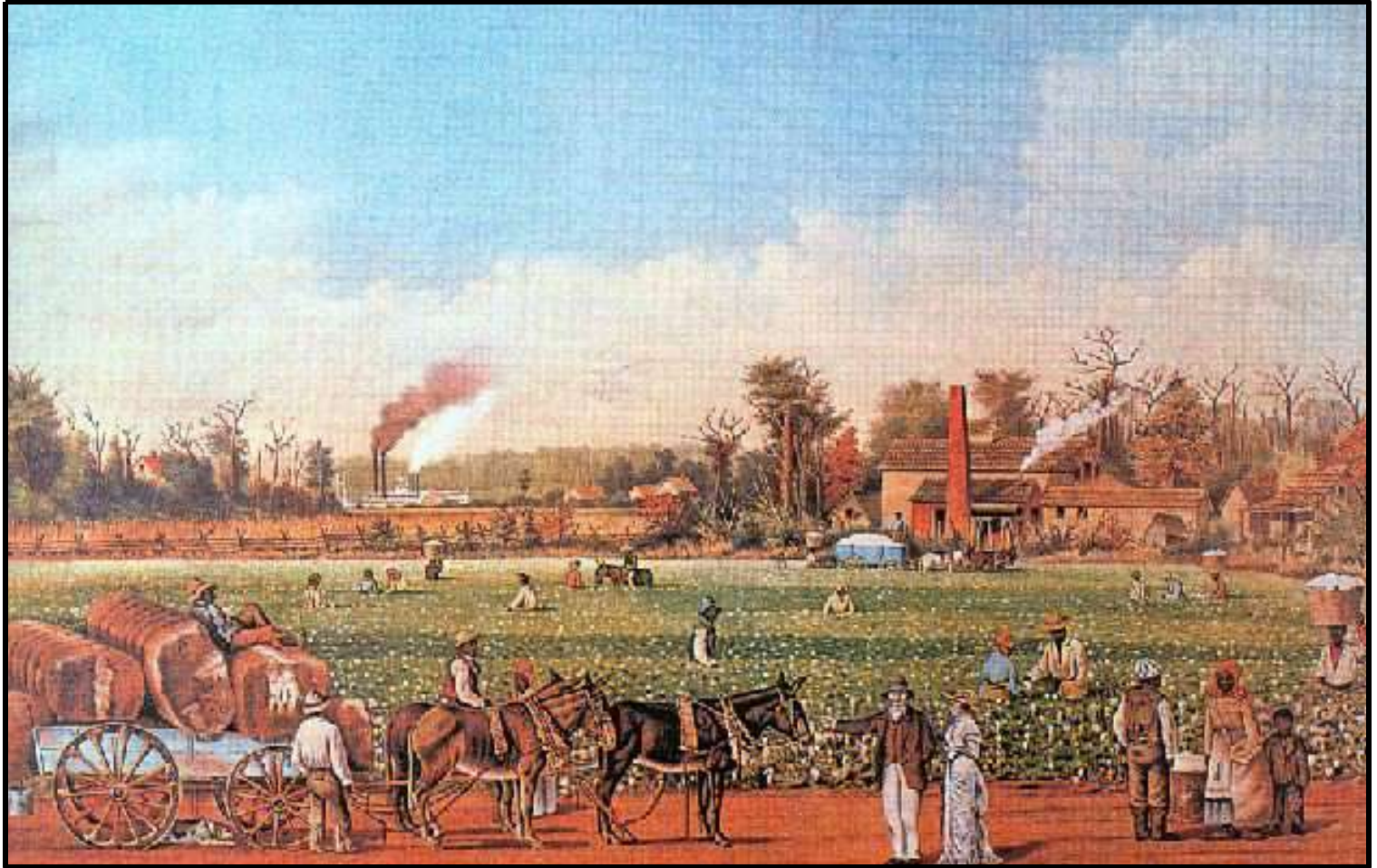
- Demand for cotton was growing
 - Cotton production spread rapidly
 - Deep South became known as a “Cotton Kingdom”
 - Slave population increased, the sale of slaves also became an important economic activity
- Other types of industries and agriculture were slow to grow in the south
 - Lack of an effective transportation system



Southern



Slaves Picking Cotton on a Mississippi Plantation



The Rise of King Cotton

- Manufacturing in the Northeast had contributed to the importance of cotton in the South
 - No diversified economy
- Failure to create commercial or industrial economies also meant that urban growth was slow
 - Liked to think of themselves as basing life on traditional values of chivalry

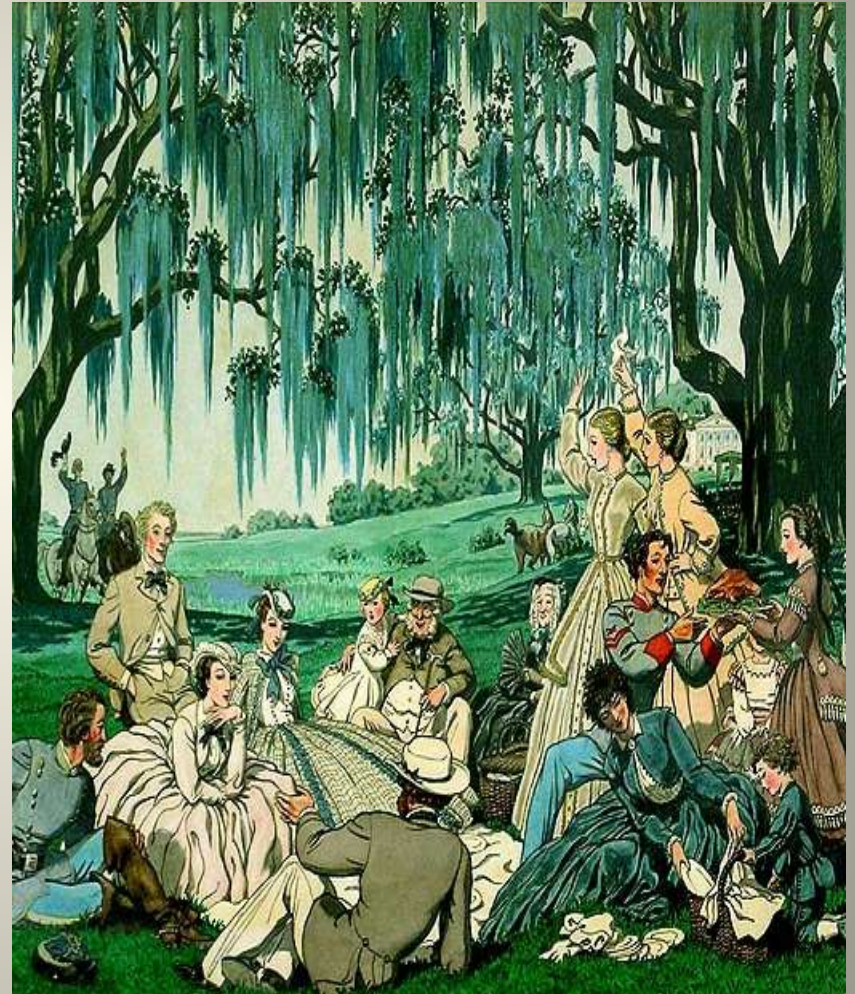
White Society in the South

- The Planter Class
 - Only a small number of southerners owned slaves, about $\frac{1}{4}$ of the total population and a smaller proportion of that owning a large number of slaves
 - The planter aristocracy controlled society, politically, economically and socially

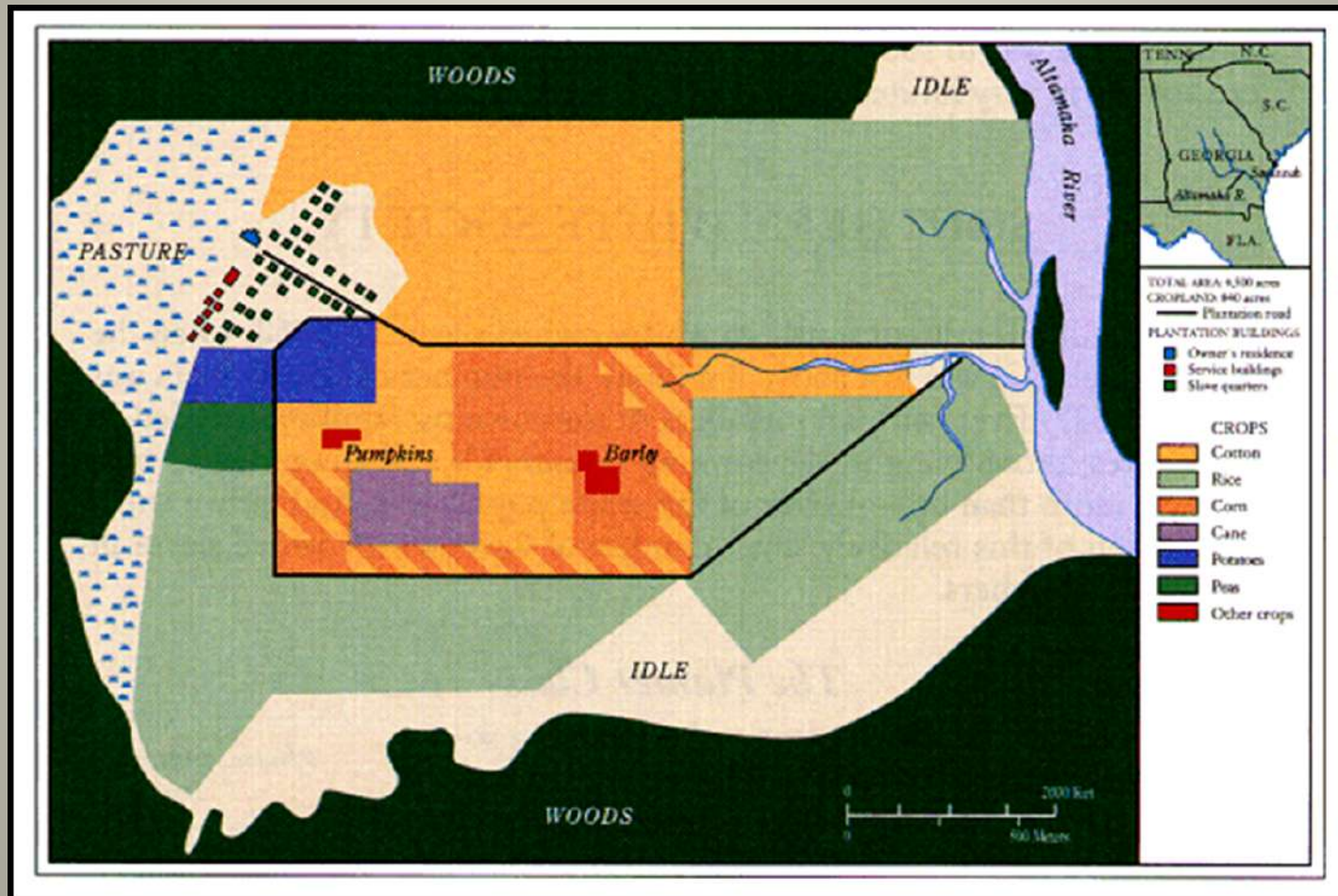


White Society in the South

- The wealthiest planters lived in huge homes on sprawling acres with many black slaves
 - They also maintained homes in cities and spent many months there and engaged in society
 - Many travelled widely
 - Children were educated in Europe and by private tutors
 - Liked to compare themselves to European aristocracy



Southern Plantation



White Society in the South

- Many affluent planters lived modestly
 - Money tied to the land and slaves
 - Wealthy southern whites saw occupations in industry and those that did not become planters gravitated toward the military

White Southern Society

- “Honor”
 - White males adopted a code of “honor”
 - Placed high value in forms of courtesy and dealing with others
 - Importance to the “defense” of women
- The “Southern Lady”
 - Many responsibilities mirrored that of middle class women in the North
 - Responsible for the home
 - Isolated
 - Less access to education



White Southern Society

- “Plain Folk”
 - Most southerners were modest yeoman farmers
 - 3/4th's of southerners did not own slaves
 - Most knew that they had little chance to be socially mobile
 - Lack of an education system
 - There were many universities both public and private but only the wealthy had access to them
 - There were fewer and inferior elementary and secondary schools



White Southern Society

- Why did they accept the system of the South?
 - Small farmers depended on the plantation aristocracy
 - Access to cotton gins
 - Markets for their crops
 - Livestock
 - Credit
 - For white men the south was more democratic than the north
 - Yeoman farmers were committed to the traditional male dominated society

White Southern Society

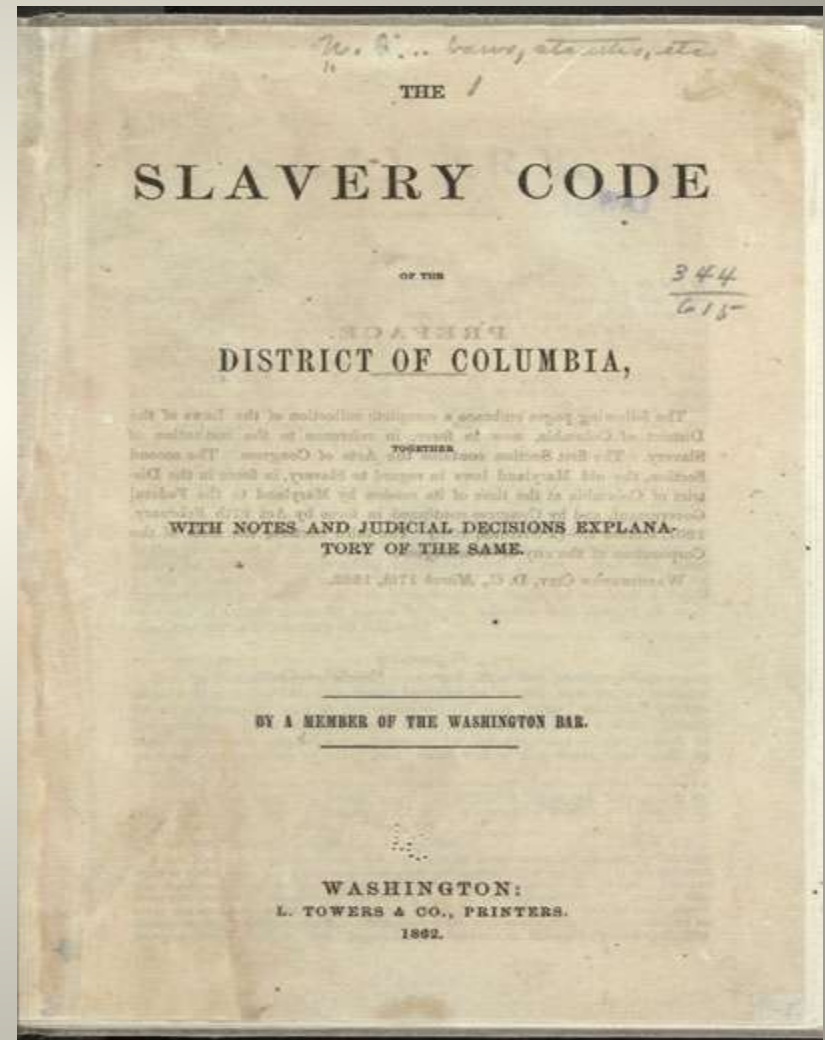
- Limited Class Conflict
 - There was no real opposition to the system of slavery
 - Many white southerners lived in abject poverty
 - They did not own land or owned land that nothing could grow on
 - Relied on hunting and gathering, sometimes eating clay

Slavery: The Peculiar Institution

- Only place that slavery existed in the western hemisphere outside of Brazil and Puerto Rico
 - Divided blacks and whites
 - African Americans did begin to develop society and culture that was separate from white society
 - 2 spheres in the south that were dependent on one another

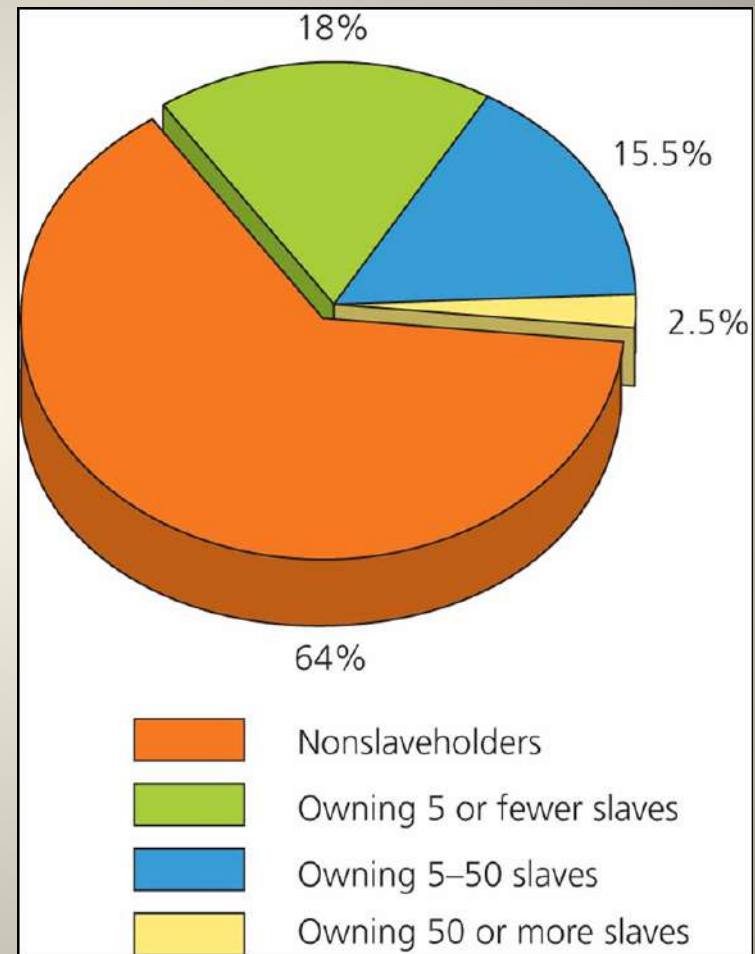
Slavery: The Peculiar Institution

- Slave Codes
 - Could not own property, leave master's premise without permission, could not be out after dark, to congregate with other slaves, carry firearms
 - Prohibited whites from teaching slaves to read and write



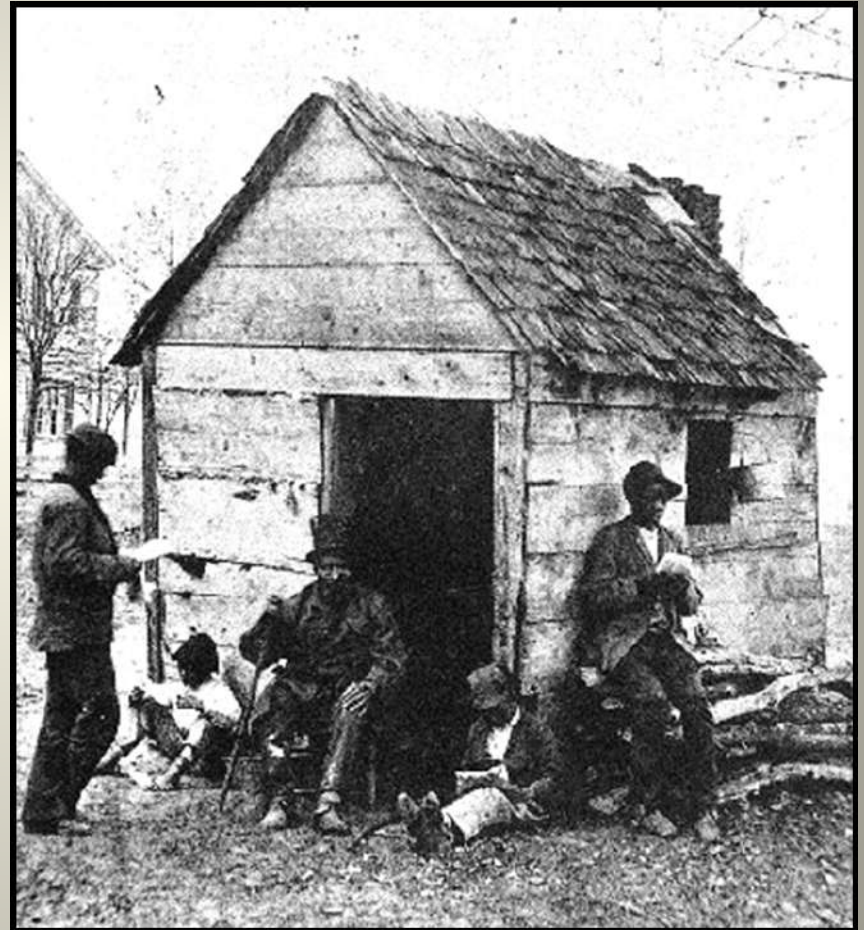
Slavery: The Peculiar Institution

- Most slave owners had few slaves and supervised/worked alongside them
 - Paternal relationship between slave and masters
- Though the majority of slave owners were small farmers the majority of slaves lived on large plantations
 - Masters often hired overseers



Slavery: The Peculiar Institution

- Life under slavery
 - Food (consisting of corn meal, salt pork, molasses), slaves cultivated their own gardens
 - Received cheap clothing and shoes
 - Lived in crude cabins called slave quarters
 - Little medical care would be provided



Slavery: The Peculiar Institution

- Female Slaves
 - Worked in the fields or domestic duties for the master all day, then carried out domestic tasks at home
 - Female slaves often functioned as single mothers with fathers/husbands living on other Plantations



Slavery: The Peculiar Institution

- Household Servants
 - Easier life compared to those slaves that worked in the fields
 - Female servants were especially vulnerable to abuse by their masters



Slavery: The Peculiar Institution

- The conditions of slavery in cities was very different that on Plantations
 - More contact with free blacks
 - Slaves would sometimes be hired out, particularly skilled workers
 - Slavery in cities declined, this lead to segregation

Slavery: The Peculiar Institution

- There were about 250,000 free blacks living in slave holding states before the Civil War
 - Earned money to buy freedom, set free by master with moral qualms about slavery
- The Slave Trade
 - Domestic slave trade
 - Foreign slave trade was prohibited in 1808

**10 LIKELY and VALUABLE
SLAVES
AT AUCTION.**

**On THURSDAY the 24th inst.
WE WILL SELL,**
*In front of our Office, without any kind of limit or reserve for cash,
AT 11 O'CLOCK,*

10 AS LIKELY NEGROES
As any ever offered in this market; among them is a man who is a superior Cook and House Servant, and a girl about 17 years old, a first rate House Servant, and an excellent seamstress.

BROOKE & HUBBARD,
Richmond Va.
Auctioneers.

Wednesday, July 23, 1823.

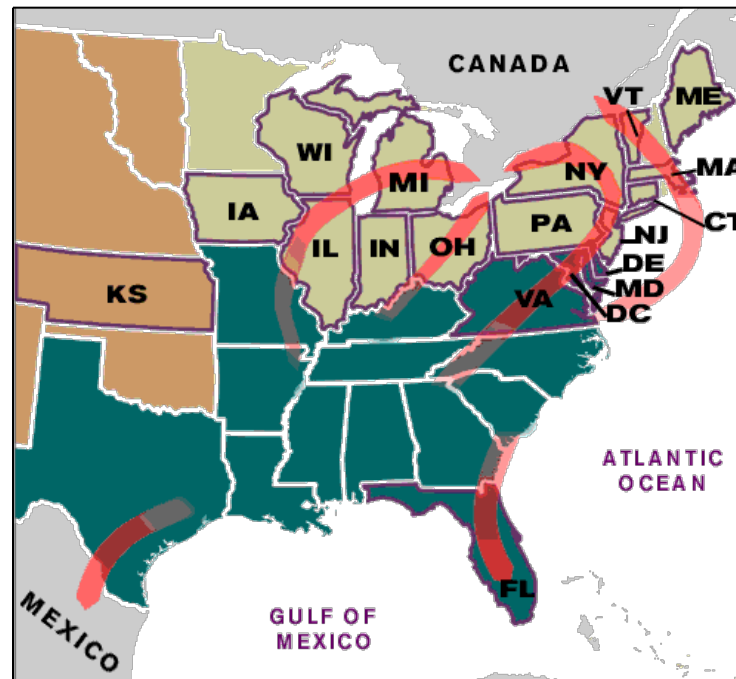
Slave Resistance

1. **"SAMBO"** pattern of behavior used as a charade in front of whites [the innocent, laughing black man caricature - bulging eyes, thick lips, big smile, etc.].



Slave Resistance

2. Refusal to work hard.
3. Isolated acts of sabotage.
4. Escape via the **Underground Railroad**.



Runaway Slave Ads



**\$1200
TO
1250 DOLLARS!
FOR NEGROES!!**

THE undersigned wishes to purchase a large lot of NEGROES for the New Orleans market. I will pay \$1200 to \$1250 for No. 1 young men, and \$850 to \$1000 for No. 1 young women. In fact I will pay more for likely

NEGROES,

Than any other trader in Kentucky. My office is adjoining the Broadway Hotel, on Broadway, Lexington, Ky., where I or my Agent can always be found.

WM. F. TALBOTT.
LEXINGTON, JULY 2, 1852.

\$100 REWARD!

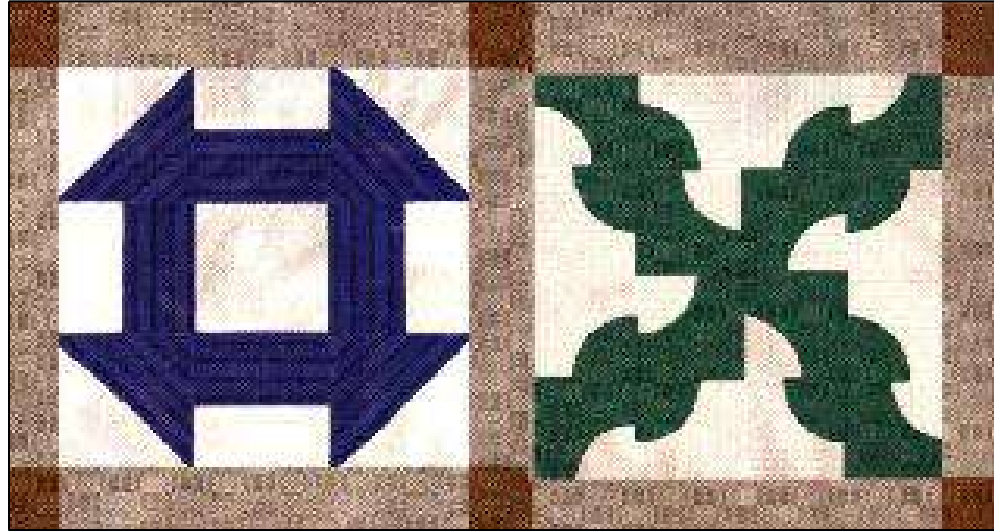
RANAWAY

From the undersigned, living on Current River, about twelve miles above Doniphan, in Ripley County, Mo., on 2nd of March, 1860, **A NEGRO MAN**, about 30 years old, weighs about 160 pounds; high forehead, with a scar on it; had on brown pants and coat very much worn, and an old black wool hat; shoes size No. 11.

The above reward will be given to any person who may apprehend this said negro out of the State, and bring him to be apprehended in the State inside of Ripley county, or \$25 if taken in Ripley county.

APOS TUCKER.

Quilt Patterns as Secret



The **Monkey Wrench** pattern, on the left, alerted escapees to gather up tools and prepare to flee; the **Drunkard Path** design, on the right, warned escapees not to follow a straight route.

Slavery: The Peculiar Institution

- Slave Resistance
 - 1822, Denmark Vessey, Charleston free black made plans for a revolt that included 9,000 African Americans
 - 1831, Nat Turner, a slave preacher, led a band African Americans who armed themselves and went from house to house in Southampton County, VA killing 60 white men, women, and children
 - Only large scale rebellion in the south prior to the Civil War

Slavery: The Peculiar Institution

- Slavery Resistance
 - Nat Turner's rebellion led to greater restrictions on both slaves and free blacks
 - Slave patrols
 - Laws were passed by states that did not allow owners to free slaves
 - Arkansas forced free blacks to leave the state

The Culture of Slavery

- Language and Music
 - Retained languages that used African and English dialect
 - Music was very important
 - Field workers used music to pass the time and later to communicate with one another
 - Religion
 - Expected to worship under the supervision of white ministers
 - Still slaves incorporated African traditions into Christianity
 - Often more emotional
 - The idea of a “promised land” had a different meaning

The Culture of Slavery

- Slave Families
 - Women tended to have children at an earlier age
 - Slave communities did not condemn pre marital child bearing
 - Lacked a nuclear family
 - Kinship networks, extended family was very important
 - Slave families were often broken up due to the institution of slavery itself

Southerners Cling to Slavery

Southern Pro-Slavery Propaganda

