

■ Essential Question:

- Why did the sectional dispute between the North & South intensify from 1856 to 1860?

■ Reading Quiz 15A (p. 492-504)



The Nation Divided

(1856-1860)

Dred Scott
decision in 1857

The Leecompton
Controversy in 1857

Lincoln-Douglas
debates in 1858

John Brown's raid on
Harper's Ferry in 1859

Impending Crisis
in 1859

Lincoln's election
in 1860

Texas & Oregon
in 1845 & 1846

The Mexican
Cession in 1848

The Compromise
of 1850

Popular sovereignty &
the Kansas-Nebraska
Act in 1854

James Buchanan (1801-1868)

Lincoln said to Beecher Stowe in 1861,
*“So you're the little woman who wrote
the book that made this great war!”*

of slavery became
the best selling book
of the 19th century:

— *Uncle Tom's Cabin*

depicted the harsh
reality of slavery

— The book became
a vital antislavery
tool among abolitionists



“Bleeding Kansas” (1854-1858)

■ The Kansas-Nebraska Act (1854)

Pro-slavery residents created Kansas' first territorial legislature & wrote laws protecting slavery

Free soilers created a rival territorial gov't that was not recognized by President Pierce

fighting by using “Bleeding Kansas” propaganda to support their anti-slave cause

This incident became known as "Bleeding Kansas"

OREGON

NEBRASKA TERRITORY

KANSAS TERRITORY

NEW MEXICO TERRITORY

INDIAN TERRITORY



Topeka

Pottawatomie

May 24, 1856

Marais des Cygnes
May 19, 1858

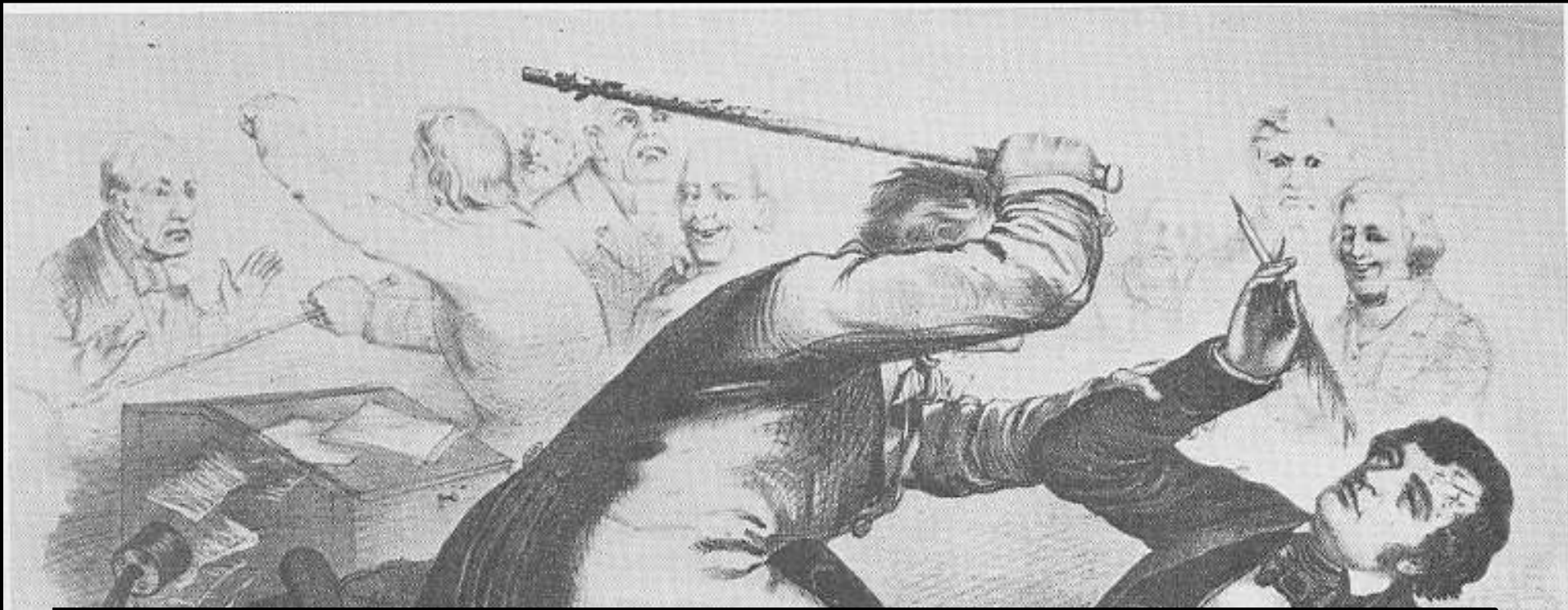
- ★ free-state forces
- ★ Attacks by proslavery forces
- ▨ Present-day Kansas



VOTING IN KICKAPOO.



“Bleeding Sumner”



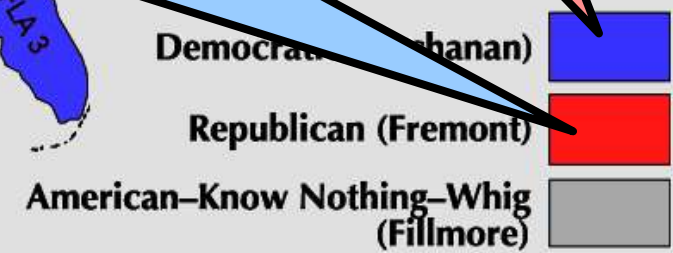
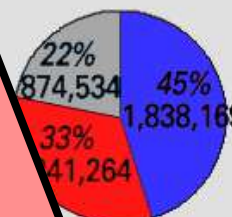
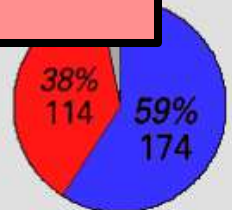
SC Senator Preston Brooks beat Senator Charles Sumner because of a speech Sumner had made criticizing President Pierce & Southerners who supported the pro-slavery violence in Kansas

Sectionalism in Election of 1856

- 1856 was the first clearly sectional presidential election in U.S. history
 - Republican John C. Frémont campaigned only in free states
 - Know-Nothing Fillmore called for sectional compromise
 - Democrat James Buchanan endorsed popular sovereignty & the Compromise of 1850
- Buchanan beat Frémont in the North & beat Fillmore in the South

Southerners were relieved by the victory but were threatened by the existence of a party devoted to ending slavery

Northerners realized that the free-states had a large majority in the Electoral College so a Republican could become president by only campaigning in the North



Dr
to

This ruling strengthened the Republican fear of a “slave power conspiracy” in all branches of the U.S. gov’t

According to the Supreme Court, Congress can not prohibit slavery because the government cannot deny citizens their right to property (slaves)

- because blacks are not citizens
- Congress had no authority to prohibit slavery in western territories so the Missouri Compromise is unconstitutional

Douglas viewed this as a perversion of popular sovereignty & opposed Southern Democrats

Republicans were enraged over President Buchanan's attempt to "force" slavery upon Kansas

A rigged election, a pro-slavery Leecompton constitution

- Buchanan tried to push Kansas' admission through despite the fraud but Congress refused
- Kansas was made a free territory, not a slave state

Douglas accused Lincoln of favoring racial equality & a radical plan to extinguish slavery that would force the U.S. into a civil war

Lincoln for the 1858 Illinois Senate
In these Lincoln-Douglas debates:



Lincoln lost the election, but the debates gained him a national reputation & reaffirmed the Republicans' uncompromising commitment to the free-soil position



“A house divided against
itself cannot stand.

I believe this government
cannot endure, permanently
half *slave* and half *free*.”

—Abraham Lincoln, 1858

The South's Crisis of Fear

- Two events in 1859 increased Southern fears of North:
- John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry, VA; he & 18 men planned to end slavery in the South by leading slave insurrections:
 - Brown was caught & executed, but he was perceived by many in the North to be a martyr
 - Witch-hunts, vigilante groups, & talk of secession grew in South



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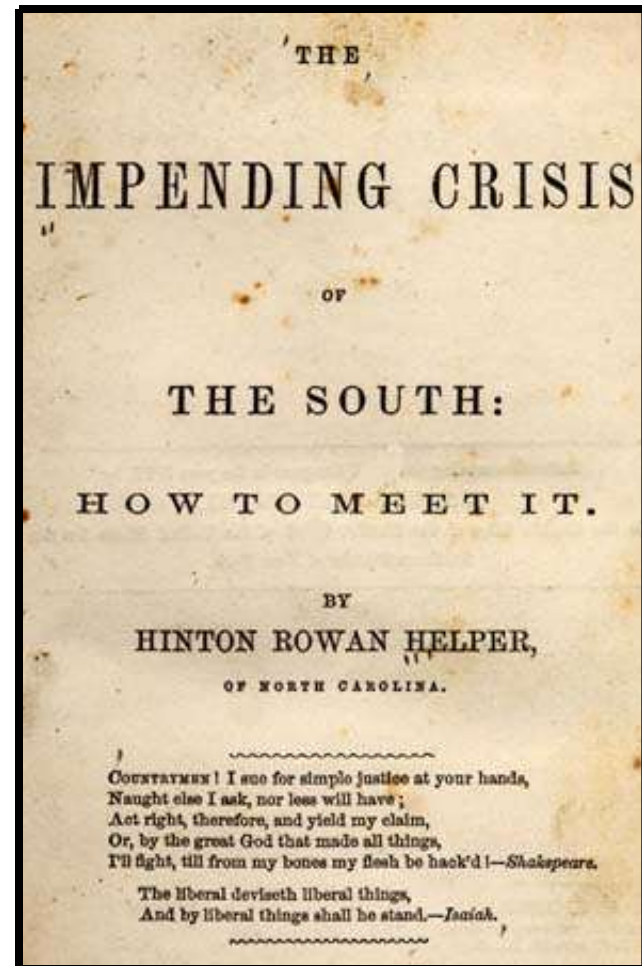
The South's Crisis of Fear

■ Hinton Helper's *Impending Crisis of the South* in 1859:

– Helper was a white southerner who argued that slavery

Southern planters' worst fear!

– Southern planters saw the book as a plot to rally yeoman against the elite & end slavery



■ Essential Question:

– Why did the sectional dispute between the North & South intensify from 1856 to 1860?

■ Reading Quiz 15B (p. 505-522)



Pierce & Buchanan Videos

The Election of 1860

- The election of 1860 was the final straw for the South
- Republicans nominated Lincoln:
 - Illinois was a crucial swing-state
 - Lincoln was seen as a self-made man who represented equality
 - His platform of high tariffs for industry, free homesteads in the West, transcontinental railroad widened the party's appeal

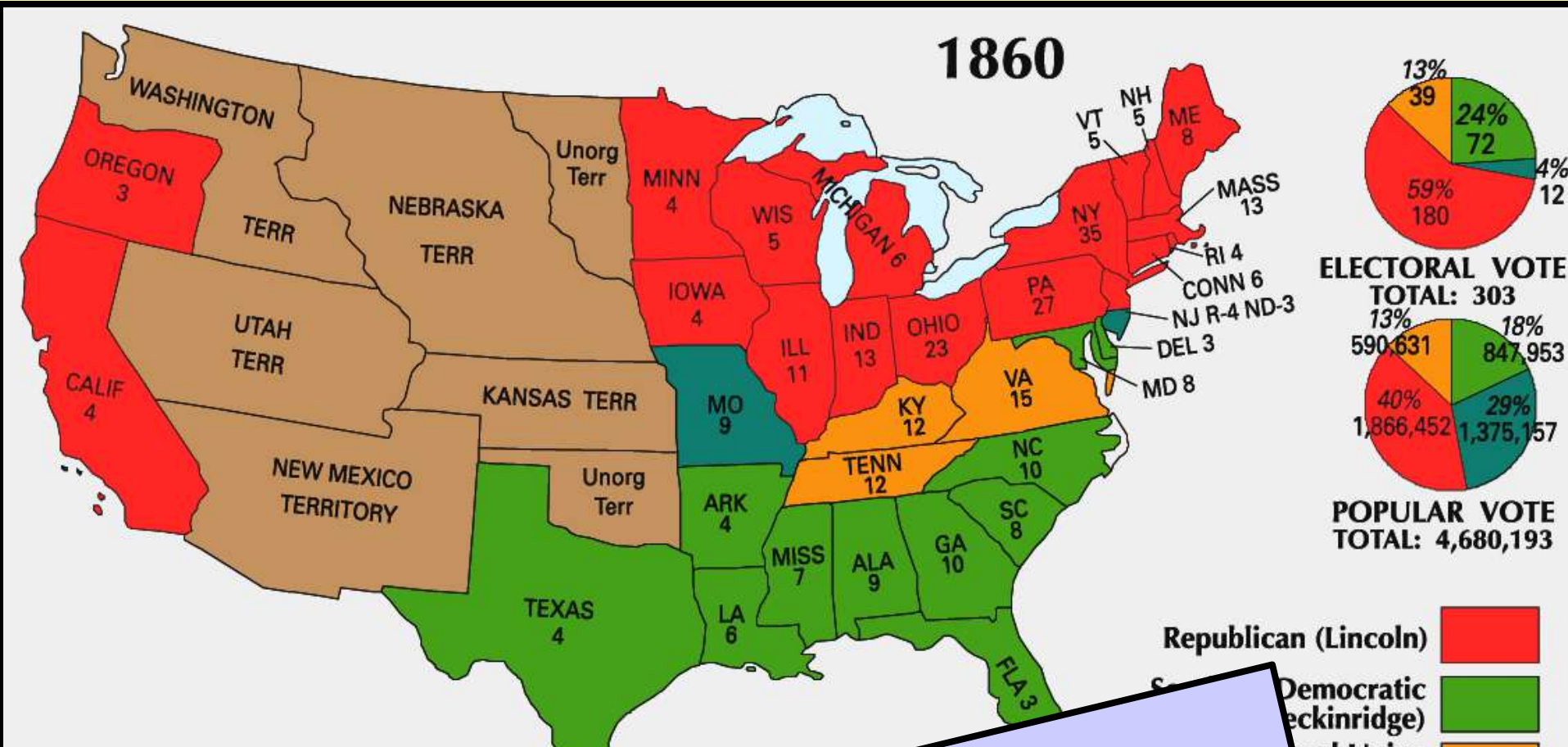
The Election of 1860

- Democrats were fatally split:
 - Northern Democrats nominated Stephen Douglas who ran on a platform of popular sovereignty
 - Southern Democrats nominated John Breckenridge who swore to protect slavery in the West
- Ex-Whigs & Know-Nothings formed the Constitutional Union Party & ran John Bell on a compromise platform

The 1860 Election: A Nation Coming Apart



The Election of 1860



Lincoln won & the South immediately launched a campaign for secession from the Union



Conclusions: Explaining the Crisis

Explaining the Crisis

- The most significant underlying cause of the Civil War was slavery; slavery (more so than economic differences) divided the U.S. into 2 irreconcilable factions
- The North & South argued for two very different ideals of liberty & independence but by the 1850s, the sectional ideologies made any form of compromise impossible

The Path to War Activity (1820-1860)

- In groups of three, complete the “Path to War” chart by explaining:
 - What each event was
 - How and why it angered the North and/or the South; Emphasize which region was impacted more
- When finished, rank order the events (1 to 13) in terms of their significance in causing the Civil War



Class Discussion:



Create a class consensus
of the most important causes
of the Civil War

Class Discussion:

At what point from 1820 to 1860 did the United States reach the “point of no return” regarding sectional tensions between North & South?