

Antebellum Revivalism & Reform

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1. The Second Great Awakening

"Spiritual Reform From Within"
[Religious Revivalism]

Social Reforms & Redefining the
Ideal of Equality

Temperance

Asylum &
Penal Reform

Abolitionism

Women's
Rights

Education

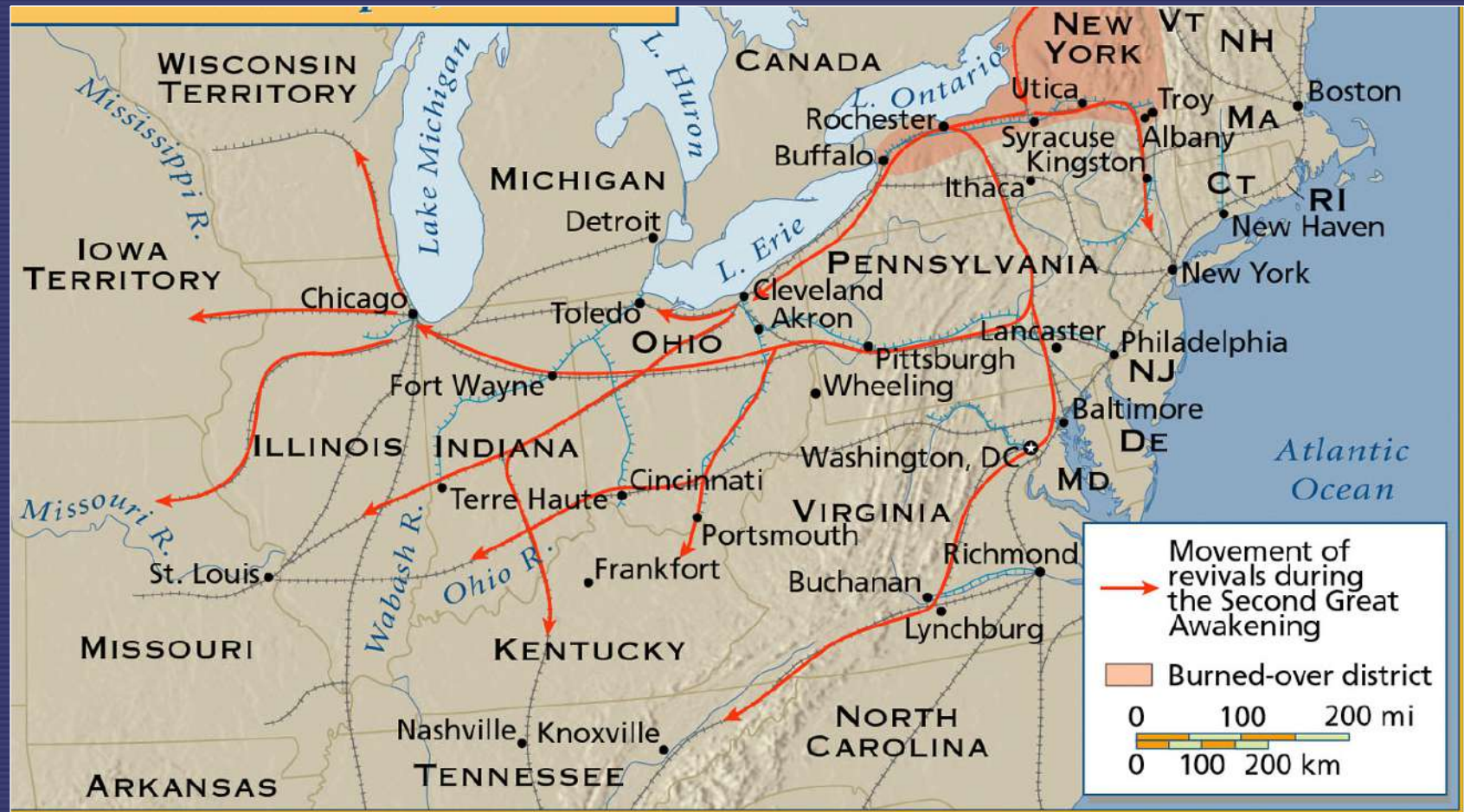
The Rise of Popular Religion

In France, I had almost always seen the spirit of religion and the spirit of freedom pursuing courses diametrically opposed to each other; but in America, I found that they were intimately united, and that they reigned in common over the same country... Religion was the foremost of the political institutions of the United States.

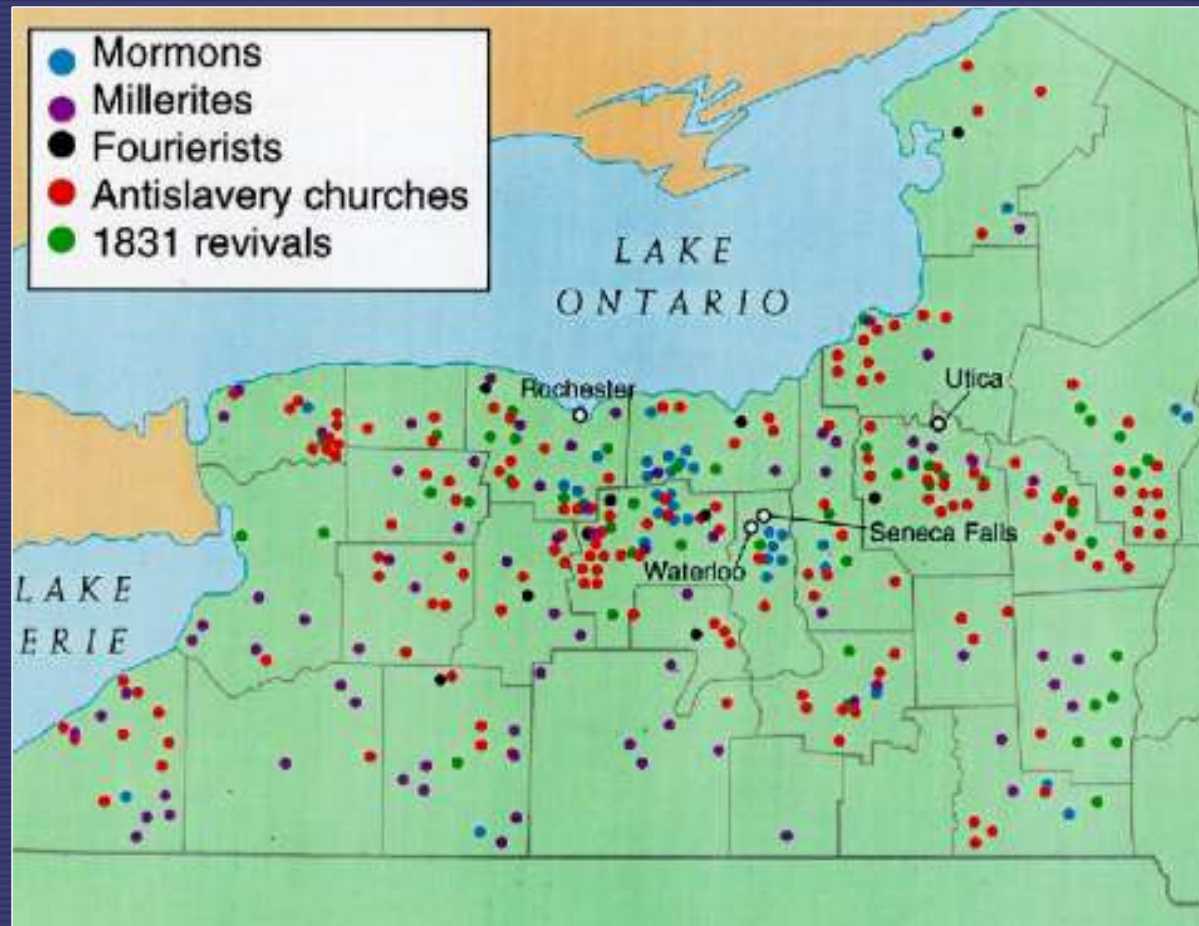
-- Alexis de Tocqueville, 1832

**“The Pursuit
of Perfection”**
In
Antebellum America

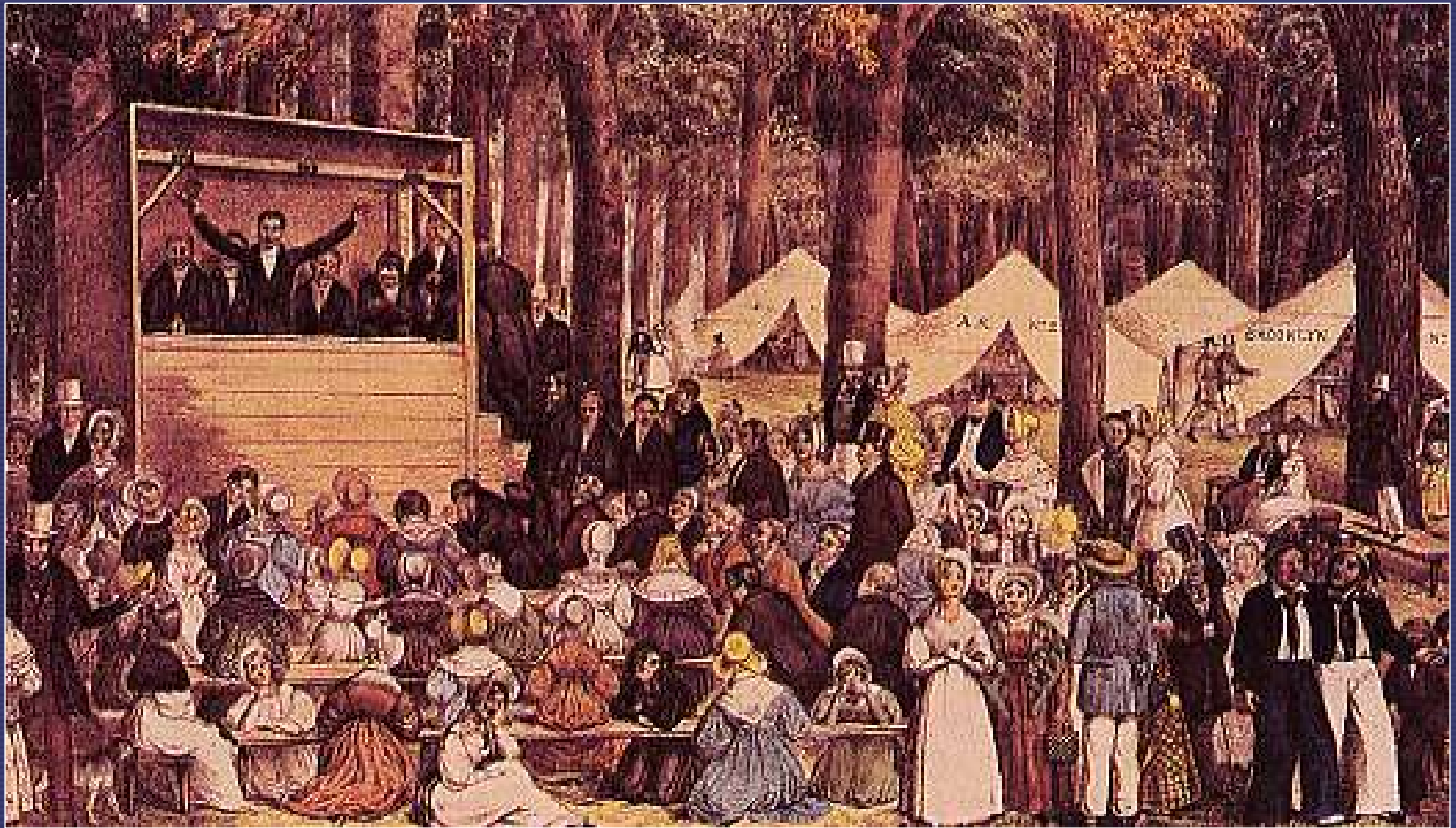
“The Benevolent Empire”: 1825 - 1846



The “Burned-Over” District in Upstate New York



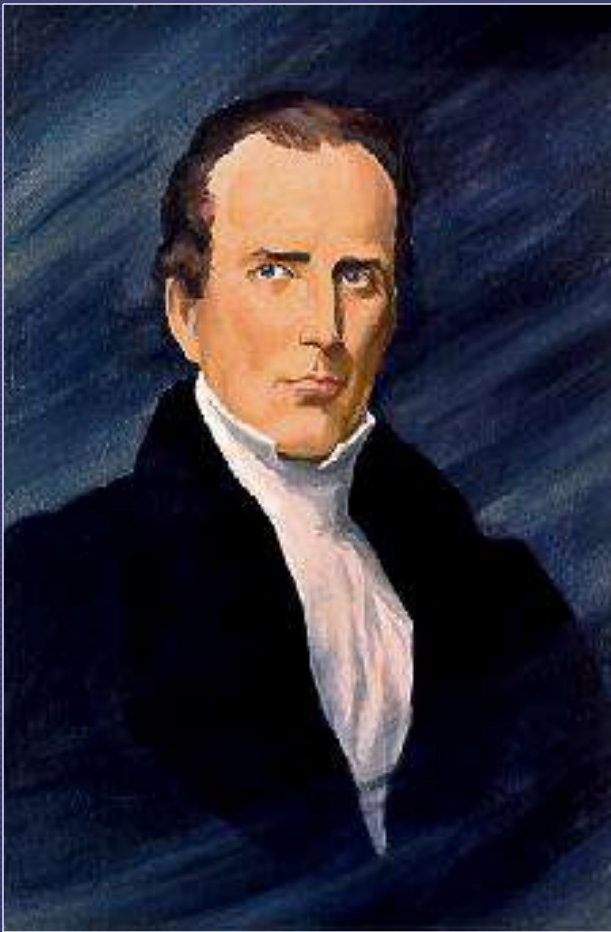
Second Great Awakening Revival Meeting



Charles G. Finney

(1792 – 1895)

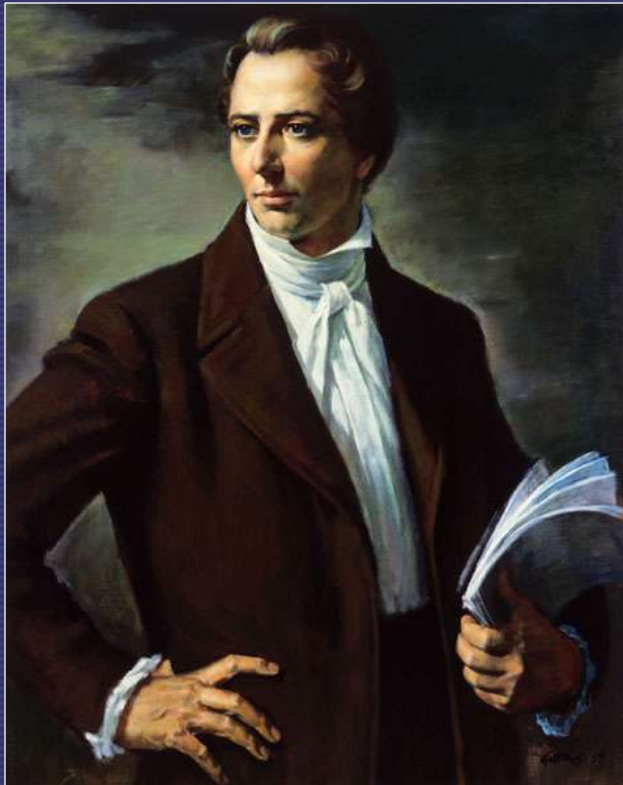
The ranges of tents, the fires, reflecting light...; the candles and lamps illuminating the encampment; hundreds moving to and fro...; the preaching, praying, singing, and shouting, ... like the sound of many waters, was enough to swallow up all the powers of contemplation.



**“soul-shaking”
conversion**

The Mormons

(The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints)



Joseph Smith
(1805-1844)

- 1823 → Golden Tablets
- 1830 → *Book of Mormon*
- 1844 → Murdered in Carthage, IL



Violence Against Mormons



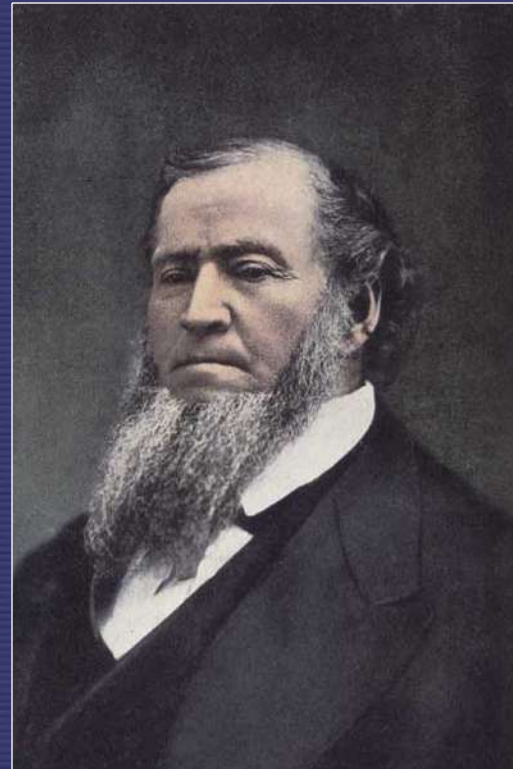
The Mormon "Trek"



The Mormons

(The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints)

- Deseret community.
- Salt Lake City, Utah



Brigham Young
(1801-1877)

Mother Ann Lee (1736-1784)

The

Shakers

- *If you will take up your crosses against the works of generations, and follow Christ in the regeneration, God will cleanse you from all unrighteousness.*
- *Remember the cries of those who are in need and trouble, that when you are in trouble, God may hear your cries.*
- *If you improve in one talent, God will give you more.*

Shaker Meeting



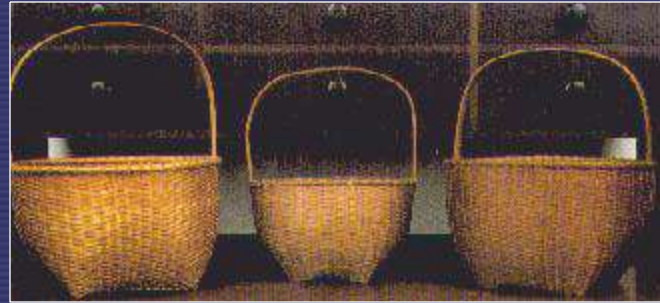


Shaker Hymn

*'Tis the gift to be simple, 'Tis the gift to be free,
'Tis the gift to come down where you ought to be,
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,
'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.*

*When true simplicity is gained
To bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed,
To turn, turn will be our delight,
'Till by turning, turning we come round right.*

Shaker Simplicity & Utility







2. Transcendentalism (European Romanticism)

- e Liberation from **understanding** and the cultivation of **reasoning**."
- e "Transcend" the limits of intellect and allow the emotions, the SOUL, to create an original relationship with the Universe.

Transcendentalist Thinking

- Man must acknowledge a body of moral truths that were intuitive and must TRANSCEND more sensational proof:
 1. The infinite benevolence of God.
 2. The infinite benevolence of nature.
 3. The divinity of man.
- They instinctively rejected all secular authority and the authority of organized churches and the Scriptures, of law, or of conventions

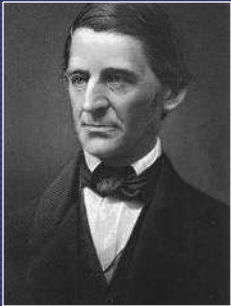
Transcendentalism

(European Romanticism)

- Therefore, if man was divine, it would be wicked that he should be held in slavery, or his soul corrupted by superstition, or his mind clouded by ignorance!!
- Thus, the role of the reformer was to restore man to that divinity which God had endowed them.

Transcendentalist Intellectuals/Writers

Concord, MA



Ralph Waldo
Emerson

Nature
(1832)

Self-Reliance
(1841)

*"The American
Scholar"* (1837)



Henry David
Thoreau

Walden
(1854)

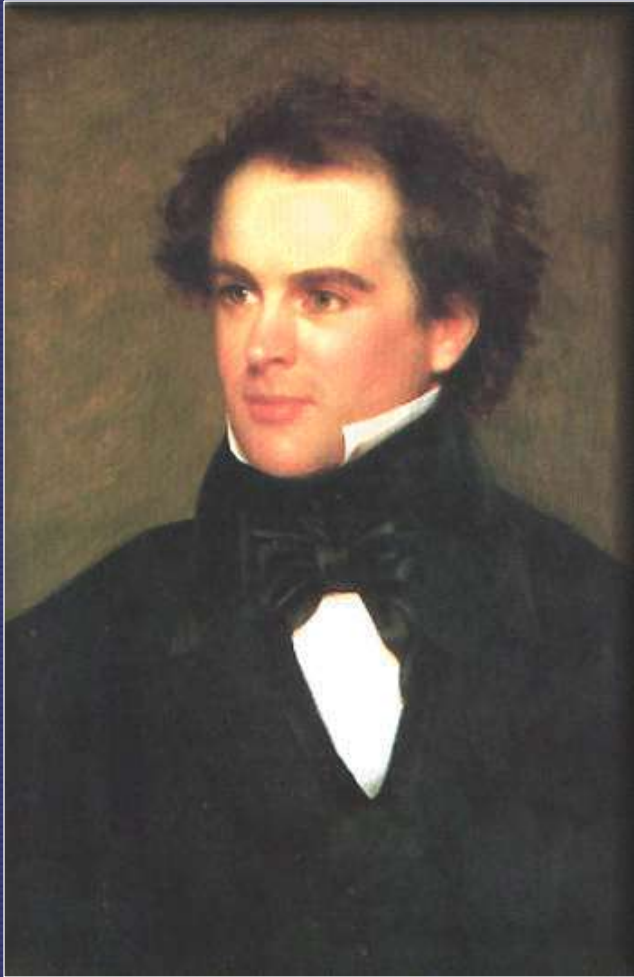
*Resistance to Civil
Disobedience*
(1849)

The Transcendentalist Agenda

- Give freedom to the slave.
- Give well-being to the poor and the miserable.
- Give learning to the ignorant.
- Give health to the sick.
- Give peace and justice to society.

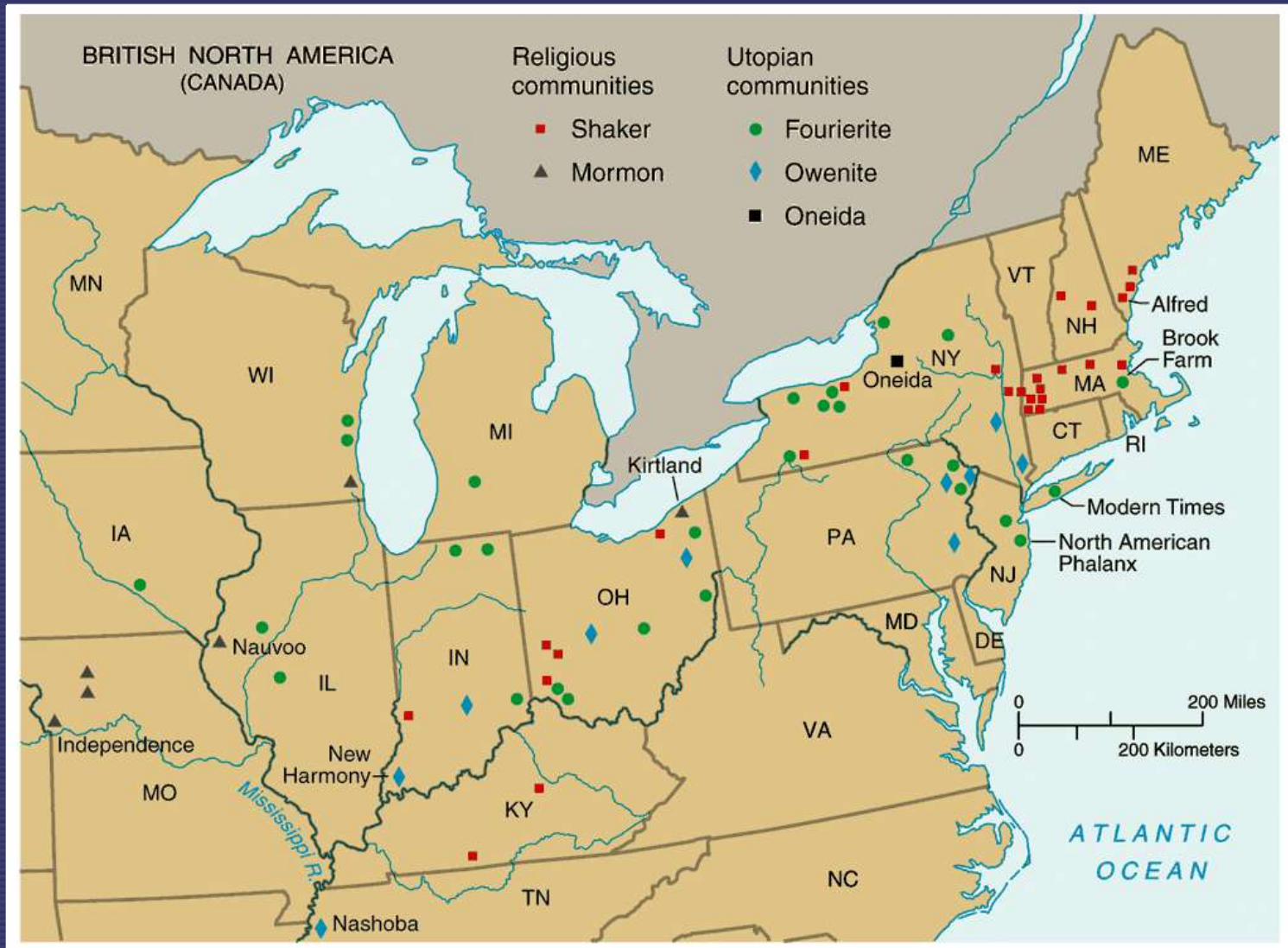
A Transcendentalist Critic:

Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804-1864)



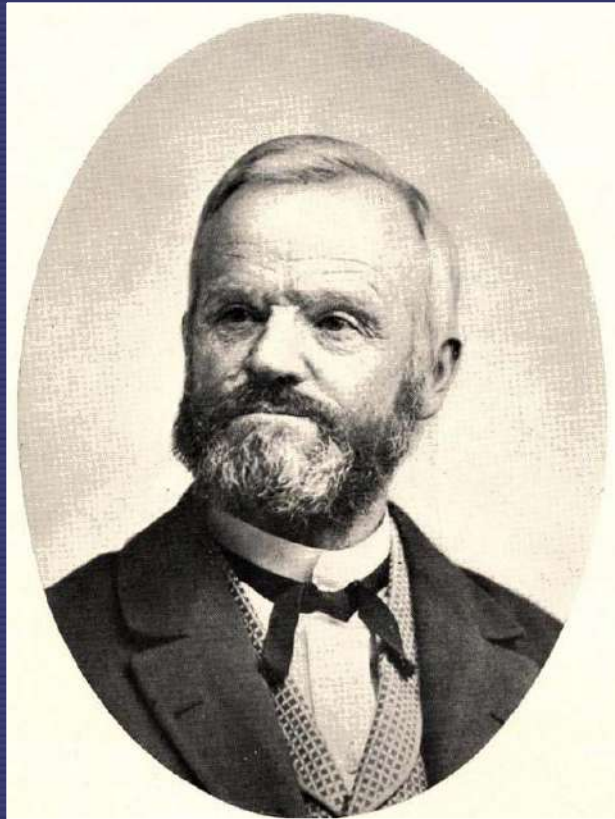
- e Their pursuit of the ideal led to a distorted view of human nature and possibilities:
 - * *The Blithedale Romance*
- e One should accept the world as an imperfect place:
 - * *Scarlet Letter*
 - * *House of the Seven Gables*

3. Utopian Communities



The Oneida Community

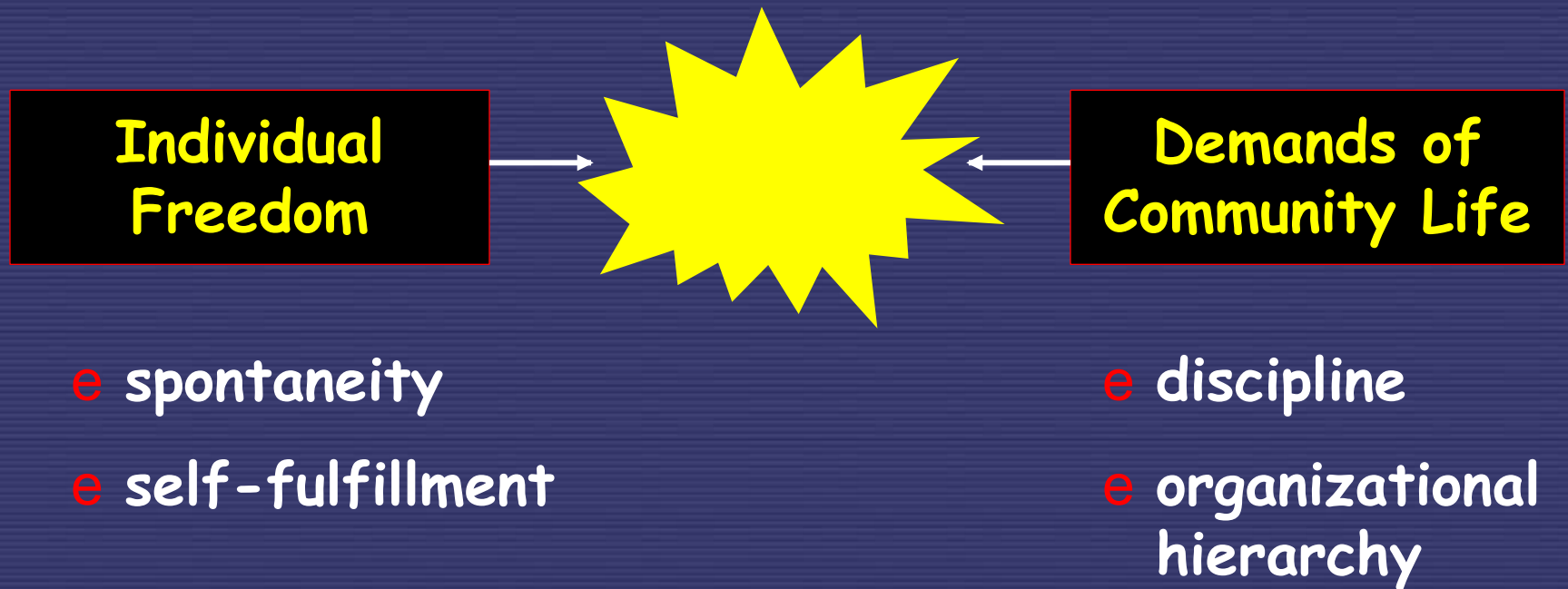
New York, 1848



John Humphrey Noyes
(1811-1886)

- e **Millenarianism** --> the 2nd coming of Christ had already occurred.
- e Humans were no longer obliged to follow the moral rules of the past.
 - all residents married to each other.
 - carefully regulated "free love."

Secular Utopian Communities



George Ripley (1802-1880)



Brook Farm
West Roxbury, MA

Robert Owen (1771-1858)



Utopian Socialist

"Village of Cooperation"

Original Plans for New Harmony, IN



New Harmony in 1832

New Harmony, IN



David Lenz House, with Bake Oven
(photo by Ruth Reichmann)



Labyrinth
(Historic New Harmony photo)



New Harmony Inn
(photo by Ruth Reichmann)

4. Penitentiary Reform



Dorothea Dix
(1802-1887)

1821 → first
penitentiary founded
in Auburn, NY

Dorothea Dix Asylum - 1849



5. Temperance Movement

1826 - American Temperance Society
"Demon Rum"!

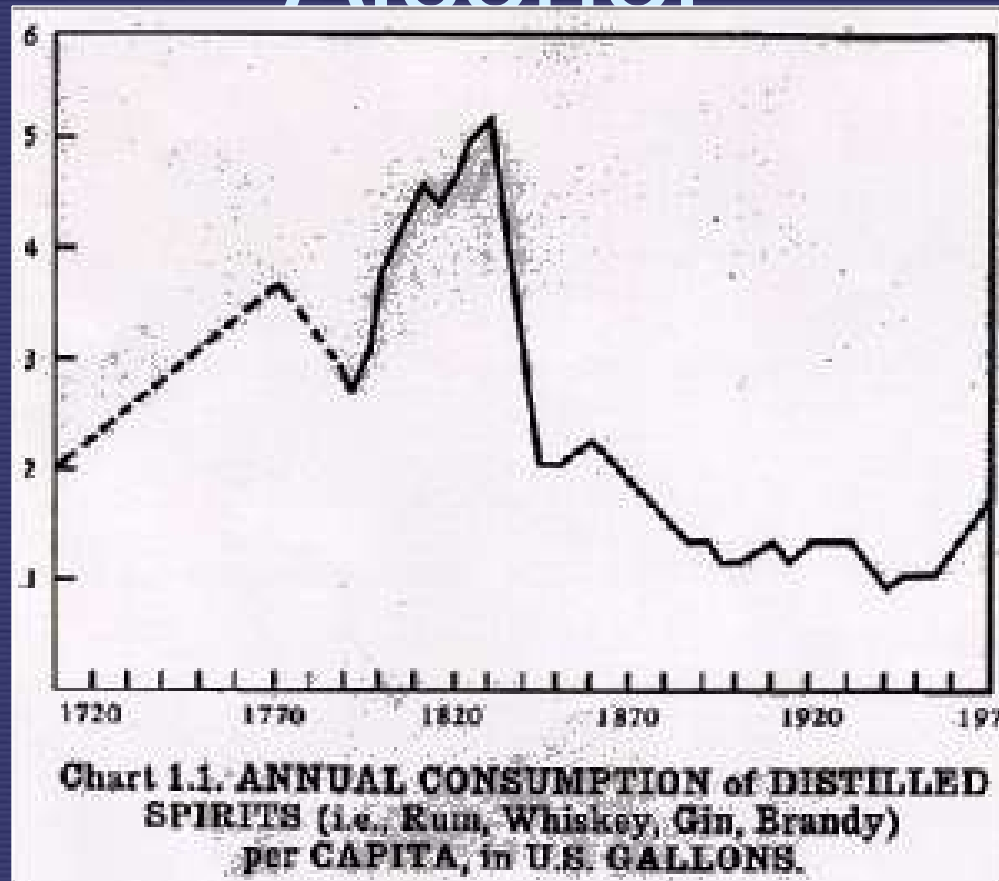


Frances Willard



The Beecher Family

Annual Consumption of Alcohol



“The Drunkard’s Progress”



From the first glass to the grave, 1846

6. Social Reform → Prostitution The “Fallen Woman” **Sarah Ingraham** (1802–1887)

- e 1835 → *Advocate of Moral Reform*
- e **Female Moral Reform Society** focused on the “Johns” & pimps, not the girls.

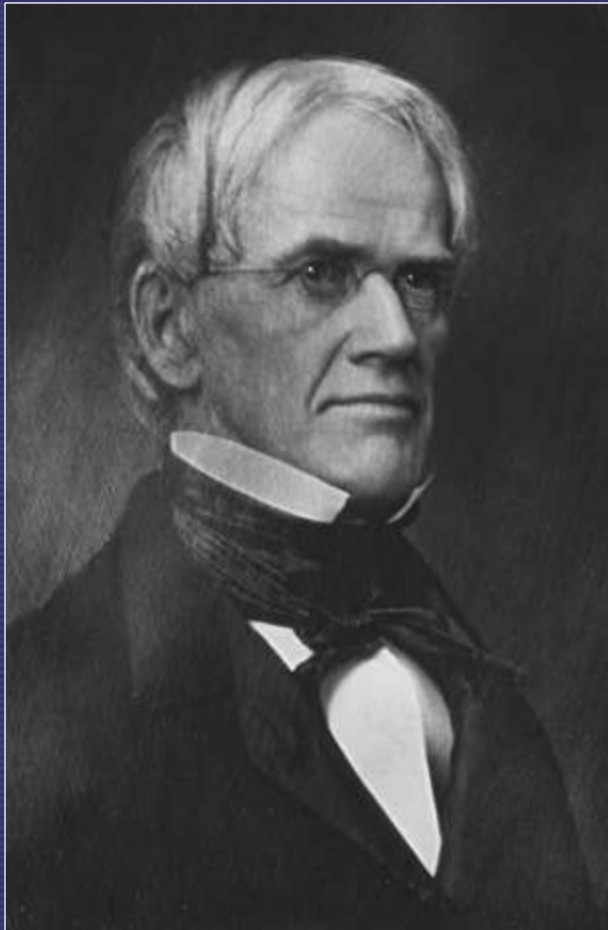
7. Educational Reform

Religious Training → Secular Education

- e MA → always on the forefront of public educational reform
 - * 1st state to establish tax support for local public schools.
- e By 1860 every state offered free public education to whites.
 - * US had one of the highest literacy rates.

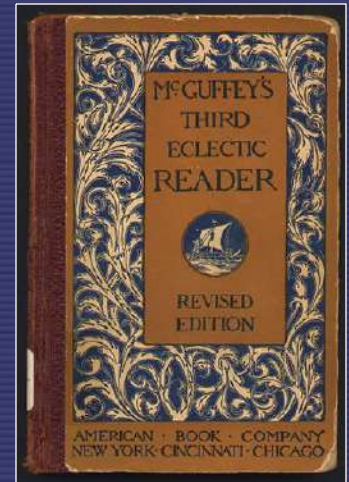
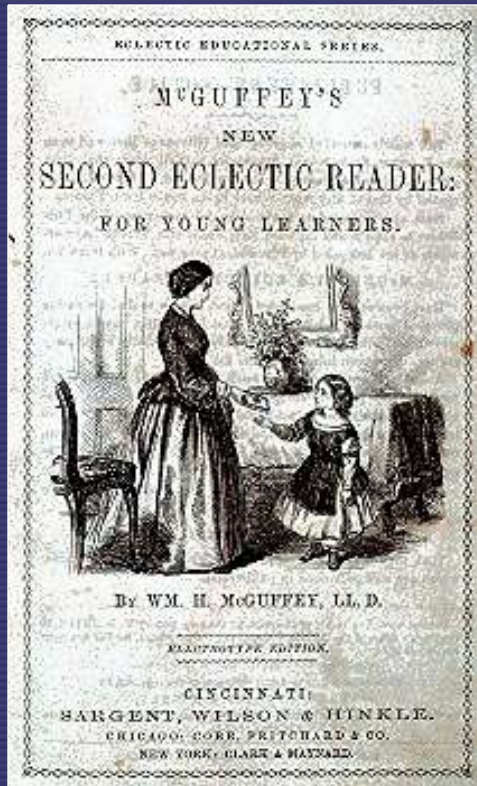
Horace Mann (1796-1859)

"Father of American Education"



- e children were clay in the hands of teachers and school officials
- e children should be "molded" into a state of perfection
- e discouraged corporal punishment
- e established state teacher-training programs

The McGuffey Eclectic Readers



- e Used religious parables to teach "American values."
- e Teach middle class morality and respect for order.
- e Teach "3 Rs" + "Protestant ethic" (frugality, hard work, sobriety)

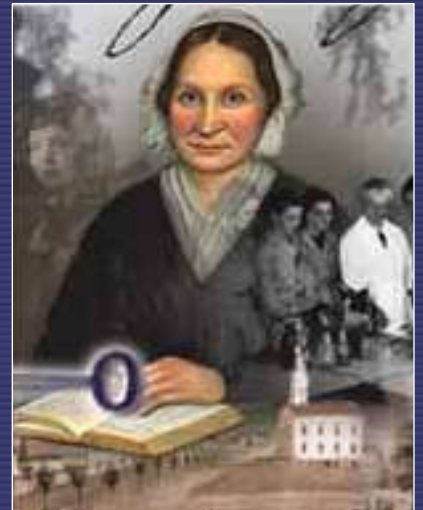
Women Educators



Emma Willard
(1787-1870)

- e **Troy, NY Female Seminary**
- e curriculum: math, physics, history, geography.
- e train female teachers

- e 1837 → she established **Mt. Holyoke** [So. Hadley, MA] as the first college for women.



Mary Lyons
(1797-1849)

7. “Separate Spheres”

Concept

“Cult of Domesticity”

- e A woman's “sphere” was in the home (it was a refuge from the cruel world outside).
- e Her role was to “civilize” her husband and family.
- e An 1830s MA minister:
The power of woman is her dependence. A woman who gives up that dependence on man to become a reformer yields the power God has given her for her protection, and her character becomes unnatural!

Early 19c Women

1. Unable to vote.
2. Legal status of a minor.
3. Single → could own her own property.
4. Married → no control over her property or her children.
5. Could not initiate divorce.
6. Couldn't make wills, sign a contract, or bring suit in court without her husband's permission.

What It Would Be Like If Ladies Had Their Own Way!

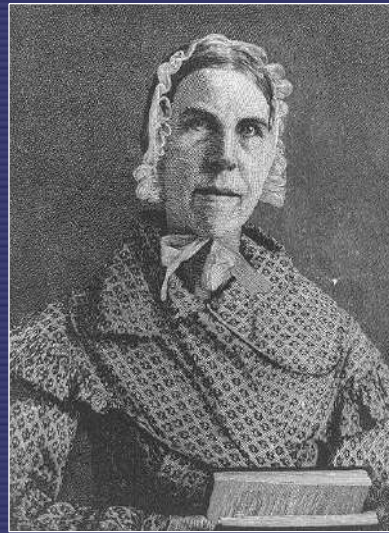


Cult of Domesticity =

The 2nd Great Awakening inspired women to improve society.

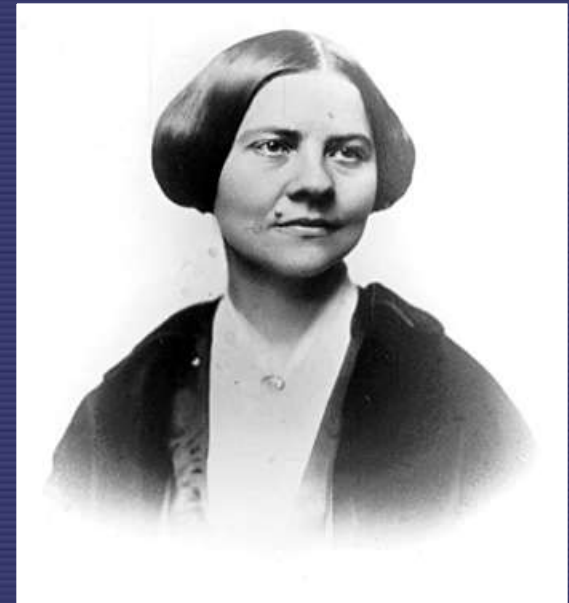


Angelina Grimké



Sarah Grimké

- e Southern Abolitionists



Lucy Stone

- e American Women's Suffrage Assoc.
- e edited *Woman's Journal*

8. Women's Rights

1840 → split in the abolitionist movement over women's role in it.

London → **World Anti-Slavery Convention**



Lucretia Mott



Elizabeth Cady Stanton

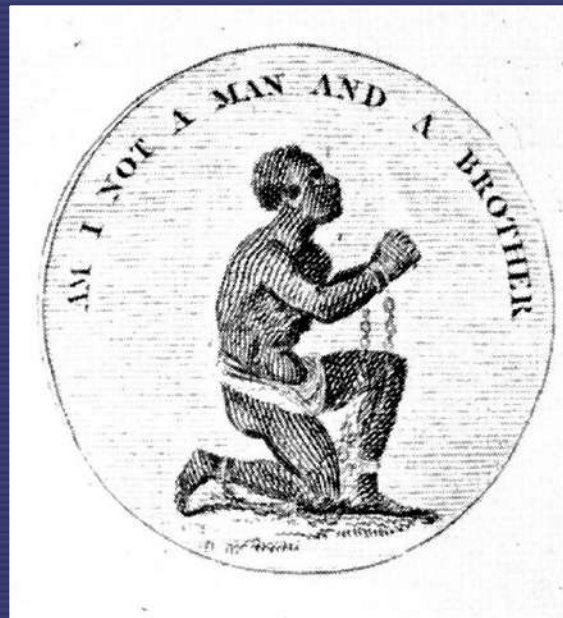
1848 → **Seneca Falls Declaration of Sentiments**

Seneca Falls Declaration



9. Abolitionist Movement

e 1816 → **American Colonization Society**
created (gradual, voluntary
emancipation.

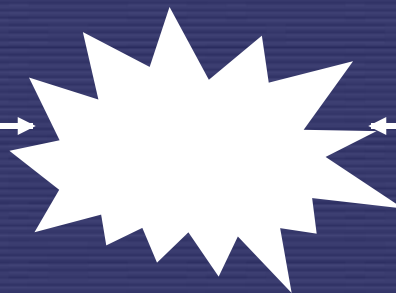


British Colonization Society symbol

Abolitionist Movement

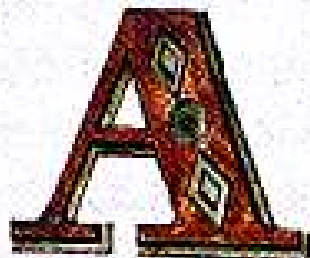
- e Create a free slave state in Liberia, West Africa.
- e No real anti-slavery sentiment in the North in the 1820s & 1830s.

Gradualists

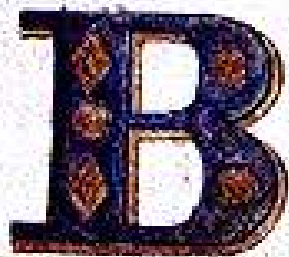


Immediatists

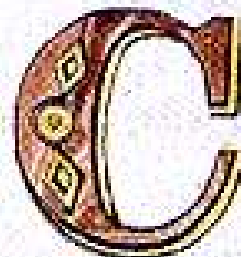
Anti-Slavery Alphabet



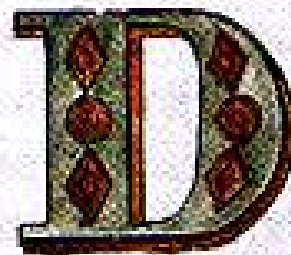
A is an Abolitionist—
A man who wants to free
The wretched slave—and give to all
An equal liberty.



B is a Brother with a skin
Of somewhat darker hue,
But in our Heavenly Father's sight,
He is as dear as you.



C is the Cotton-field, to which
This injured brother's driven,
When, as the white man's slave, he toils
From early morn till even.



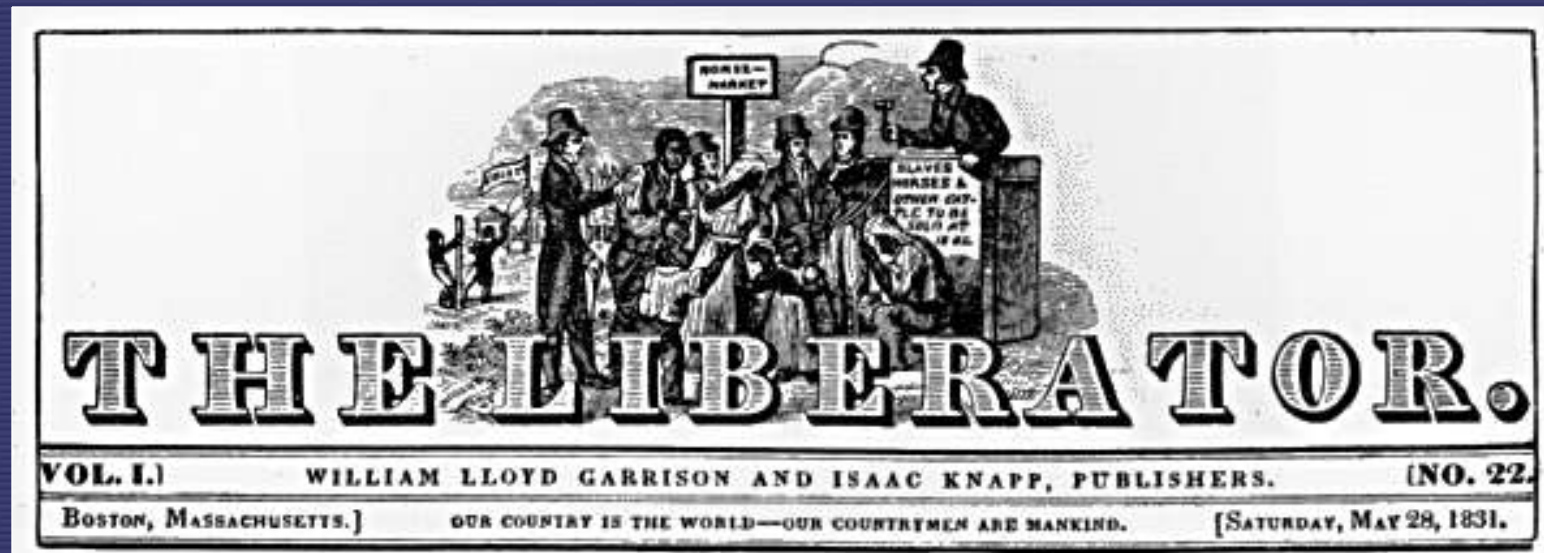
D is the Driver, cold and stern,
Who follows, whip in hand,
To punish those who dare to rest,
Or disobey command.

William Lloyd Garrison (1801-1879)



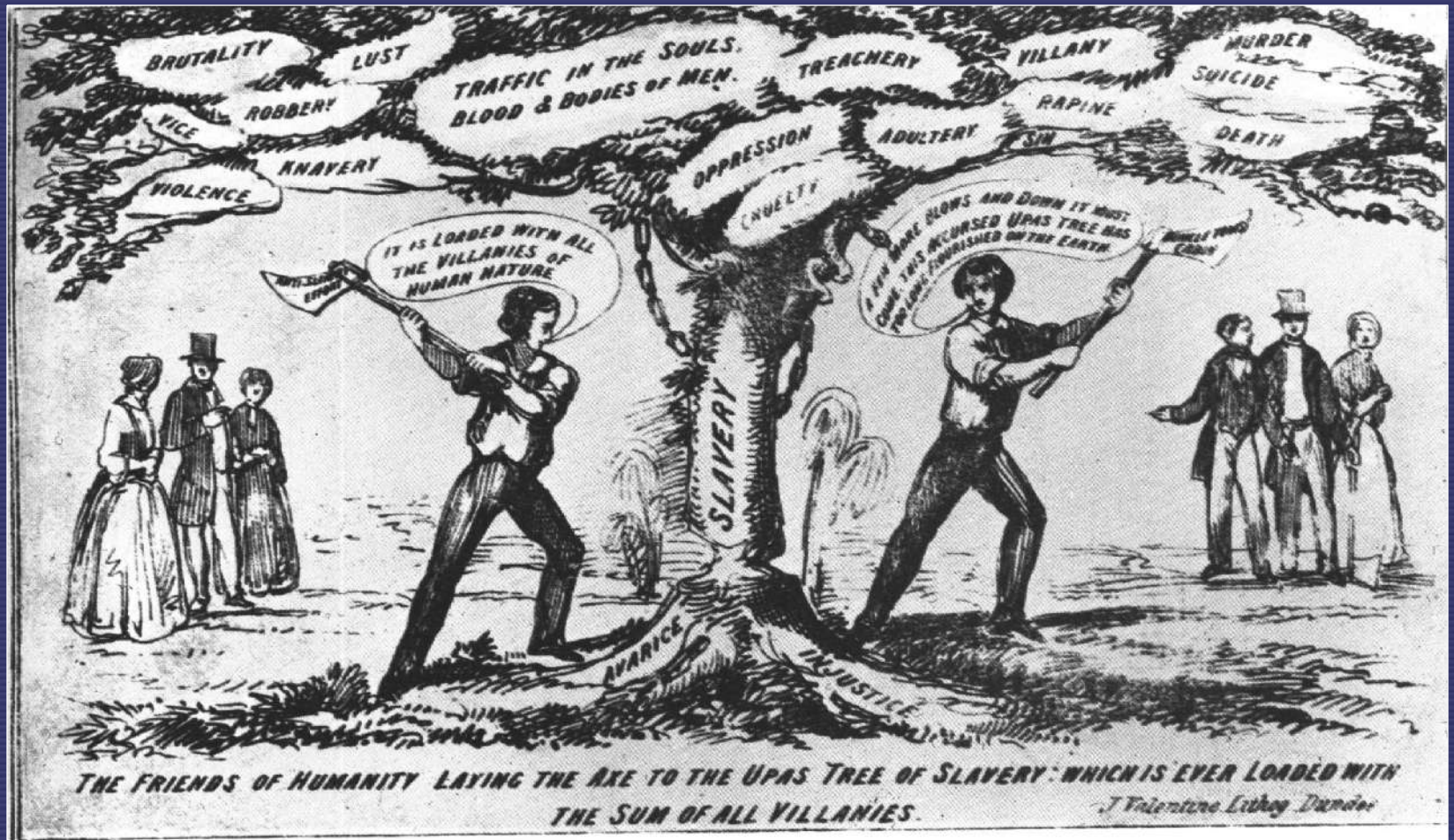
- e Slavery & Masonry undermined republican values.
- e Immediate emancipation with NO compensation.
- e Slavery was a moral, not an economic issue.

The Liberator



Premiere issue → January 1, 1831

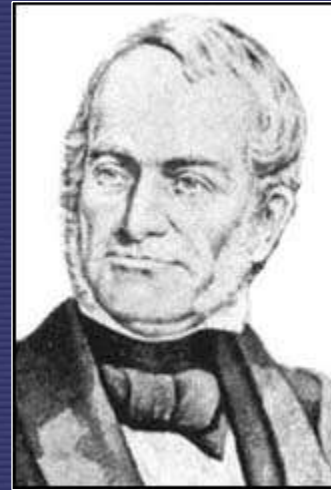
The Tree of Slavery—Loaded with the Sum of All Villanies!



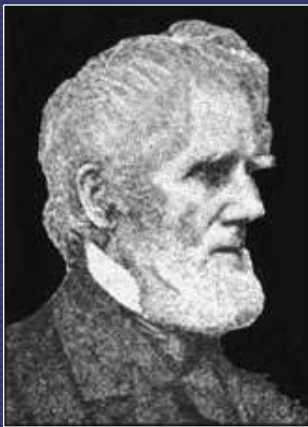
Other White Abolitionists



Lewis Tappan



James Birney



Arthur Tappan

- e Liberty Party.
- e Ran for President in 1840 & 1844.

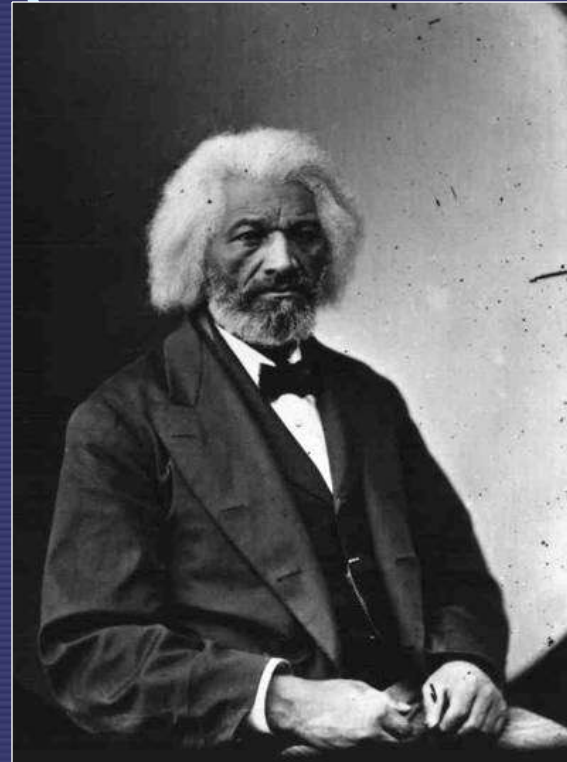
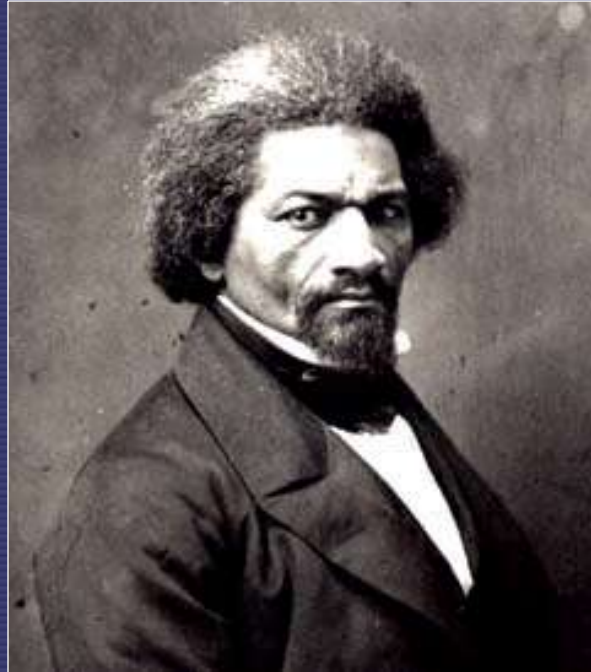
Black Abolitionists

David Walker
(1785-1830)

1829 → *Appeal to the Coloured
Citizens of the World*

Fight for freedom rather than
wait to be set free by whites.

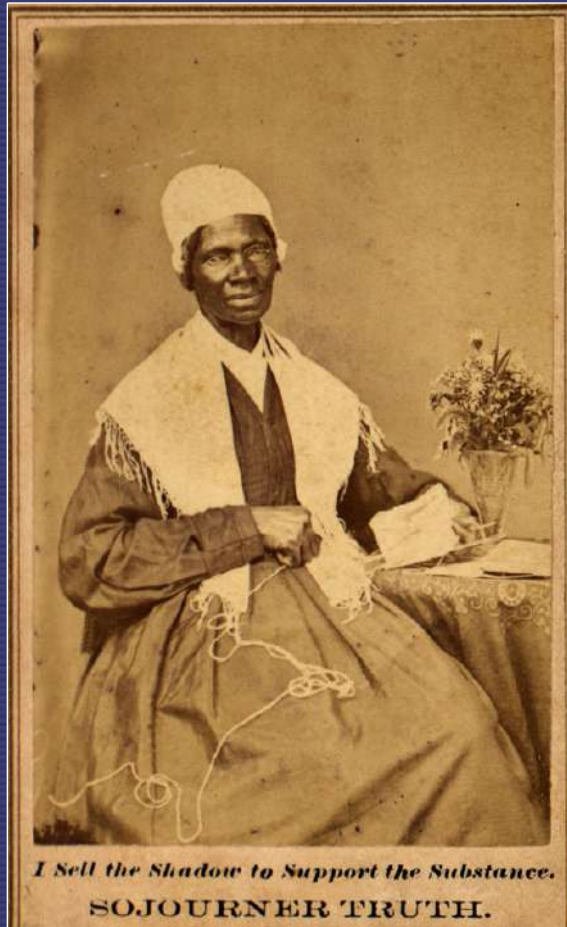
Frederick Douglass (1817-1895)



1845 → *The Narrative of the Life
Of Frederick Douglass*

1847 → "The North Star"

Sojourner Truth (1787-1883) or Isabella Baumfree



1850 → *The Narrative of Sojourner Truth*

Harriet Tubman (1820-1913)

- e Helped over 300 slaves to freedom.
- e \$40,000 bounty on her head.
- e Served as a Union spy during the Civil War.

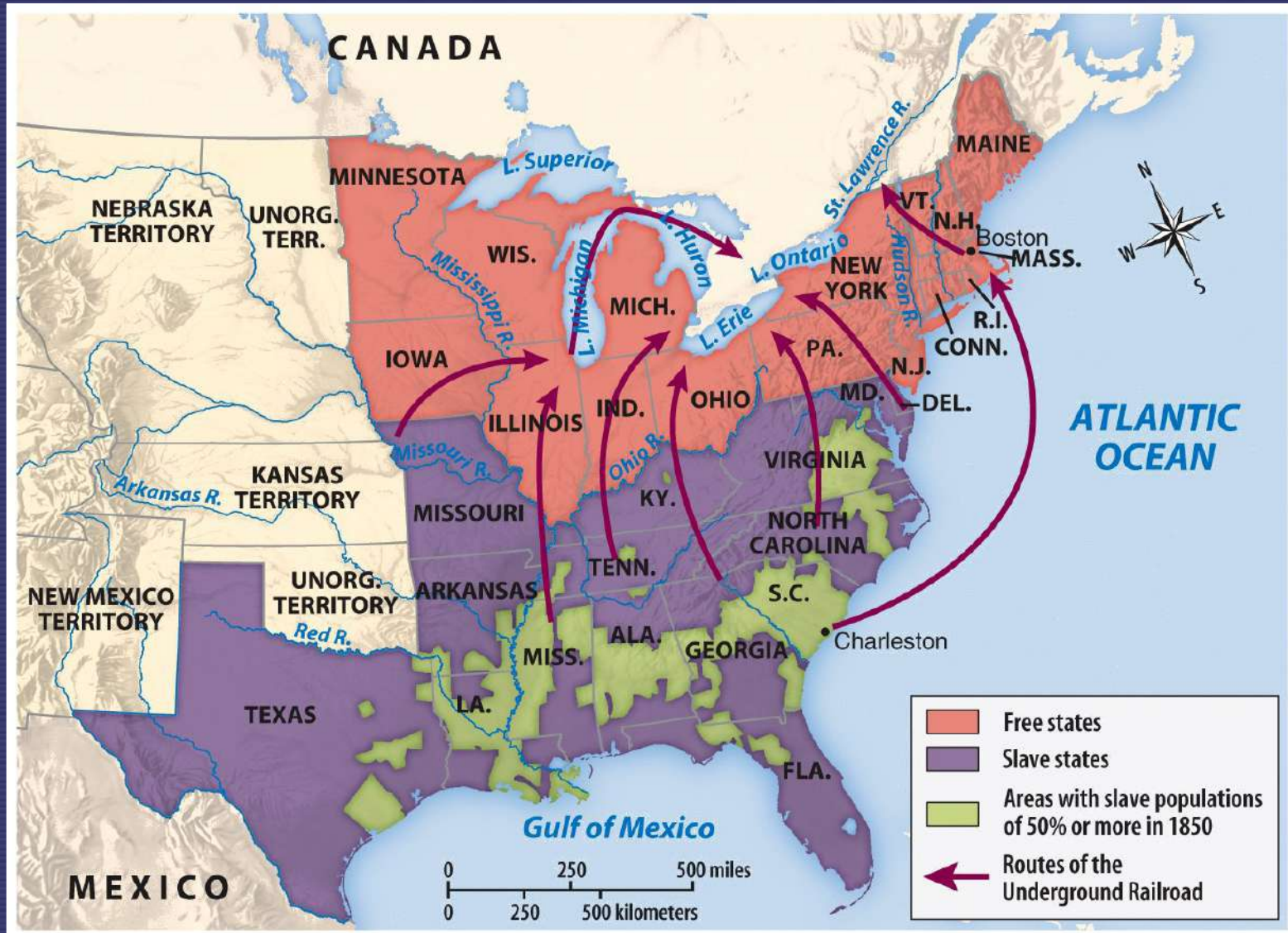


"Moses"

Leading Escaping Slaves Along the Underground Railroad



The Underground Railroad



The Underground Railroad

- e "Conductor" ==== leader of the escape
- e "Passengers" ==== escaping slaves
- e "Tracks" ==== routes
- e "Trains" ==== farm wagons transporting the escaping slaves
- e "Depots" ==== safe houses to rest/sleep