

Growing Tensions Between North and South

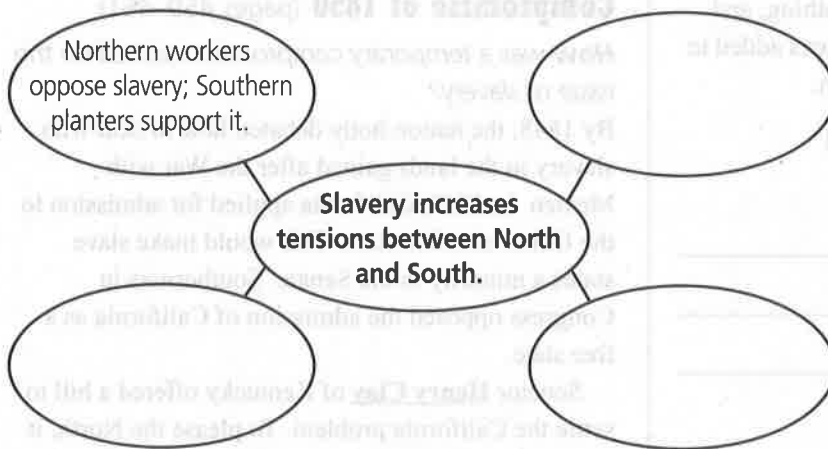
BEFORE YOU READ

In the last chapter, you read about the movement to abolish slavery.

In this section, you will learn how differences between the North and the South threatened to tear the nation apart.

AS YOU READ

Use this diagram to take notes on how the issue of slavery contributed to the growing tensions between the North and the South.



Northern workers oppose slavery; Southern planters support it.

Slavery increases tensions between North and South.

TERMS & NAMES

Wilmot Proviso A bill that proposed to ban slavery in many territories

Free-Soil Party A political party dedicated to stopping the expansion of slavery

Henry Clay U.S. senator from Kentucky who proposed the Compromise of 1850

Daniel Webster U.S. senator from Massachusetts who supported the Compromise of 1850

Stephen A. Douglas U.S. senator from Illinois who worked to pass the Compromise of 1850

Compromise of 1850 Effort by Congress to settle the issue of slavery in the territories that arose when California was admitted as a free state

North and South Take Different Paths

(pages 457–458)

How were the economies of the North and the South different?

The economies of the North and the South developed differently in the early 1800s. Farming was important in both regions. But the North began to develop more industry and trade than the South. The South continued to depend on plantation farming.

The growth of industry in the North led to the rapid growth of Northern cities. Much of this population growth came from immigration. Many immigrants and Easterners moved west. They built farms in the new states formed from the Northwest Territory. Roads and canals linked the Eastern and Midwestern states.

A few wealthy planters controlled Southern society. Their profits came from slave labor. Most slaves worked in the fields to grow crops. The most

important crop was cotton. Much Southern wealth came from the export of cotton. Planters invested in slaves instead of industry. As a result, the South developed little industry.

Most Southern whites were poor farmers who owned no slaves. Poor whites accepted slavery because it kept them off the bottom of society.

1. Why did the South develop little industry?

Antislavery and Racism

(pages 458–459)

How did the antislavery movement grow?

The issue of slavery caused tensions between the North and the South. The antislavery movement was

gaining in strength in the North in the 1830s. Many Northern workers and immigrants opposed slavery. They feared that slaves, who did not work for pay, would take jobs away from them.

Although they opposed slavery, most Northerners were *racist* by today's standards. Many whites refused to go to school with, work with, or live near African Americans. In most states, African Americans could not vote.

White Southerners defended slavery by claiming that white people were superior to blacks. Slaveholders claimed that slaves benefited by being introduced to Christianity. They also argued that slaves benefited by having their food, clothing, and shelter provided for them. These differences added to tensions between the North and the South.

2. Why did Northern workers and immigrants oppose slavery?

The Wilmot Proviso (page 459)

What was the Wilmot Proviso?

The North and the South disagreed whether slavery should be allowed in territories that were not yet states. In 1846, Congress debated the **Wilmot Proviso**. This bill proposed to ban slavery in any territory that the United States acquired from the War with Mexico. Slaveholders argued that slaves were property protected by the Constitution.

Congress divided along regional lines over the Wilmot Proviso. Northerners supported it. Southerners opposed it. Although it passed the House of Representatives, the Wilmot Proviso never passed the Senate. Southerners had more power in the Senate than in the House.

The Wilmot Proviso led to the formation of the **Free-Soil Party**. This party wanted to stop the expansion of slavery. It made slavery a key issue in national politics.

3. Why did slaveholders oppose the Wilmot Proviso?

Controversy over Territories; The Compromise of 1850 (pages 459–461)

How was a temporary compromise reached on the issue of slavery?

By 1848, the nation hotly debated how to deal with slavery in the lands gained after the War with Mexico. In 1850, California applied for admission to the Union as a free state. This would make slave states a minority in the Senate. Southerners in Congress opposed the admission of California as a free state.

Senator **Henry Clay** of Kentucky offered a bill to settle the California problem. To please the North, it proposed to admit California as a free state. For the South, it included a strong law to help slaveholders recapture runaway slaves. The law would also let some territories decide for themselves about slavery.

Daniel Webster, senator from Massachusetts, supported the compromise. Senator **Stephen A. Douglas** of Illinois worked to pass the plan. In September, the plan became law. The plan is now known as the **Compromise of 1850**.

4. What were two features of the Compromise of 1850?

Chapter **15** Section 2 (pages 462–465)

The Crisis Deepens

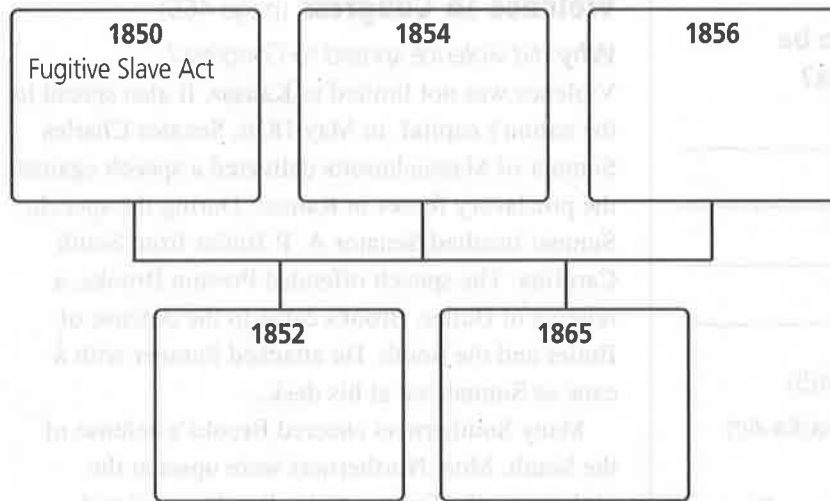
BEFORE YOU READ

In the last section, you read how differences between the North and the South threatened to tear the nation apart.

In this section, you will learn how conflicts over slavery led to violence.

AS YOU READ

Use the time line below to take notes on the events that led to increasing tensions over the slavery issue.



TERMS & NAMES

Harriet Beecher Stowe Author of the antislavery novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin*

Uncle Tom's Cabin Antislavery novel written by Harriet Beecher Stowe

Fugitive Slave Act Law that helped slaveholders recapture runaway slaves

popular sovereignty A system where residents vote to decide an issue

Kansas–Nebraska Act Law that split the Nebraska Territory into Kansas and Nebraska and allowed people to vote on slavery in these territories

John Brown An extreme abolitionist

The Fugitive Slave Act; *Uncle Tom's Cabin* (pages 462–463)

What was the Fugitive Slave Act?

The 1850 law that helped slaveholders recapture runaway slaves was called the **Fugitive Slave Act**. People accused of being *fugitives* could be arrested without a warrant.

Fugitives had no right to a jury trial. Instead, a federal official heard the case. The official was paid five dollars for releasing the fugitive. He was paid ten dollars if he turned the fugitive over to a slaveholder.

The law also required that Northerners return runaway slaves to their masters. It placed fines on people who helped runaway slaves escape.

Southern slave catchers traveled through the North. Sometimes they captured free African Americans.

The Fugitive Slave Act upset many Northerners. Northerners could no longer ignore that by supporting the Fugitive Slave Act, they played a role in supporting slavery.

In 1852, **Harriet Beecher Stowe** published the novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. The novel dealt with the moral issues of slavery. It described slavery as cruel and immoral. The book was popular in the North. But white Southerners believed it falsely criticized the South and slavery.

1. What did the Fugitive Slave Act call for?

The Kansas–Nebraska Act (pages 463–464)

Who proposed the Kansas–Nebraska Act?

In 1854, Senator Stephen A. Douglas proposed a bill that would divide the Nebraska Territory into two territories—Nebraska and Kansas. He suggested that the decision to allow slavery in these territories should be decided by **popular sovereignty**. This is a system where the *residents* vote to decide an issue.

Popular sovereignty would allow slavery in areas where it had been banned by the Missouri Compromise. Southerners supported the bill for this reason. But the bill angered opponents of slavery. Even so, the bill passed. The bill became known as the **Kansas–Nebraska Act**.

2. How was the issue of slavery to be decided in Nebraska and Kansas?

“Bleeding Kansas” (pages 464–465)

What happened after the Kansas–Nebraska Act was passed?

Proslavery and antislavery people rushed into Kansas. Each side wanted to have enough people to win the vote on slavery. Five thousand Missourians came and voted in the election illegally. The Kansas legislature was packed with proslavery representatives.

Antislavery settlers *boycotted* the official government and formed one of their own. Settlers on both sides armed themselves. In May 1855, a proslavery mob attacked the town of Lawrence, Kansas. They destroyed the offices and house of the governor of the antislavery government. This attack is known as the Sack of Lawrence.

John Brown, an extreme abolitionist, entered the scene at this point. He wanted revenge for the Sack of

Lawrence. He and seven other men came into Kansas and murdered five proslavery people. This attack became known as the Pottawatomie Massacre. As news of the violence spread, a small war broke out in Kansas. It lasted for three years. The area came to be called “Bleeding Kansas.”

3. Why did violence break out in Kansas in 1855?

Violence in Congress (page 465)

Why did violence spread to Congress?

Violence was not limited to Kansas. It also spread to the nation’s capital. In May 1856, Senator Charles Sumner of Massachusetts delivered a speech against the proslavery forces in Kansas. During the speech, Sumner insulted Senator A. P. Butler from South Carolina. The speech offended Preston Brooks, a relative of Butler. Brooks came to the defense of Butler and the South. He attacked Sumner with a cane as Sumner sat at his desk.

Many Southerners cheered Brooks’s defense of the South. Most Northerners were upset at the violence in the Senate. “Bleeding Kansas” and “Bleeding Sumner” became antislavery rallying cries. They also became slogans for the new Republican Party.

4. Why did Preston Brooks attack Sumner in the Senate in 1856?

Chapter **15** Section 3 (pages 466–470)

Slavery Dominates Politics

BEFORE YOU READ

In the last section, you read how increasing tensions over the issue of slavery led to violence.

In this section, you will learn how conflicts over slavery led to the creation of a new political party.

AS YOU READ

Use this diagram to take notes on how the slavery issue affected politics in the mid-1800s.

Political Party	Views Toward Slavery	Candidates in 1856 Presidential Election
Democrats		
Republicans		
Whigs		

TERMS & NAMES

Republican Party Antislavery political party that formed in the 1850s

John C. Frémont Republican Party candidate in the 1856 presidential election

James Buchanan 15th president

Dred Scott v. Sandford Court case that extended the rights of slaveholders and limited legal efforts to challenge slavery

Roger B. Taney Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, who wrote the lead opinion in the *Dred Scott* case

Abraham Lincoln Illinois Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate in 1858

Harpers Ferry Location of U.S. arsenal in Virginia, which was raided by John Brown

The Republican Party Forms

(pages 466–467)

Why was the Republican Party formed?

The Whig Party split over the issue of slavery. The Southern Whigs were destroyed by the split. A few Southern Whigs joined the Democratic Party. Most searched for leaders who supported slavery and the Union.

The Northern Whigs, however, joined with other slavery opponents and formed the **Republican Party**. The Republicans quickly gained support in the North. Many Northerners blamed the Democratic Party for the violence in Kansas.

In the 1856 presidential election, the Republicans nominated **John C. Frémont**. They supported him because he was in favor of admitting California and Kansas as free states. He was also a young, handsome war hero. But the Republican position on slavery was very unpopular in the South. Frémont’s name did not even appear on the ballot there.

1. Why did the Republicans nominate Frémont for the presidency in 1856?

The Election of 1856 (page 467)

Who ran for president in 1856?

The Democrats nominated **James Buchanan** for the presidency in 1856. He said little about slavery. He said his goal was to keep the Union together. Southerners supported him. Some Northerners also supported him because they were afraid that the nation would split apart if Frémont was elected.

The Know-Nothing Party nominated Millard Fillmore. He had been president following the death of President Zachary Taylor. The Know-Nothing Party had little strength because it was divided over slavery.

The 1856 election became two separate races. In the North, it was Buchanan against Frémont. In the

South, it was Buchanan against Fillmore. Buchanan won the election.

Although Frémont lost, he did win 11 Northern states. This showed that the Republican Party was an important force in the North. It also showed that the nation was sharply split over slavery.

2. Who were the candidates in the 1856 election and what parties did they represent?

The Case of Dred Scott (pages 467–468)

Who was Dred Scott?

Dred Scott was a slave who had been taken by his master into free states. Scott claimed that being in free states had made him a free man. He sued for his freedom.

His case, *Dred Scott v. Sandford*, reached the Supreme Court in 1856. The Supreme Court, under Chief Justice **Roger B. Taney**, ruled that Dred Scott was not a U.S. citizen. As a result, he could not sue in U.S. courts.

The Court also ruled that slaves were property. As such, slaveholders' right to own slaves was protected by the Constitution. Southerners supported the decision. Northerners looked to the Republican Party to stop the growing power of Southern slaveholders.

3. What was the Supreme Court ruling in the Dred Scott case?

Lincoln and Douglas Debate

(pages 468–469)

What were the Lincoln–Douglas Debates?

After the *Dred Scott* decision, the Republicans

charged that the Democrats wanted to make slavery legal in all U.S. states and territories. Senator Stephen A. Douglas, a Democrat from Illinois, was one of their main targets.

In 1858, Stephen Douglas ran for reelection to the Senate. Republican **Abraham Lincoln** ran against him. Lincoln and Douglas held a series of debates about the expansion of slavery. Lincoln argued that slavery should not be expanded. Douglas argued that voters in each territory should decide the slavery issue for themselves.

Douglas won the election. But the Lincoln–Douglas debates made Lincoln a national figure.

4. What was the main issue in the Lincoln–Douglas debates?

John Brown Attacks Harpers Ferry

(pages 469–470)

What happened at Harpers Ferry?

In 1859, John Brown wanted to inspire slaves to fight for their freedom. He planned to capture the weapons in the U.S. *arsenal* at **Harpers Ferry**, Virginia. He hoped to inspire slaves to rebel against slavery.

On October 16, 1859, Brown and his followers captured the arsenal. He sent out the word to arm local slaves. But no slaves joined to fight with Brown. Brown and his followers were captured by the U.S. Marines. They were tried, convicted, and *executed*.

Brown was praised in the North for his fight against slavery. Southerners were furious at the reaction of Northerners to Brown's execution.

5. Why did John Brown attack the arsenal at Harpers Ferry?

Lincoln's Election and Southern Secession

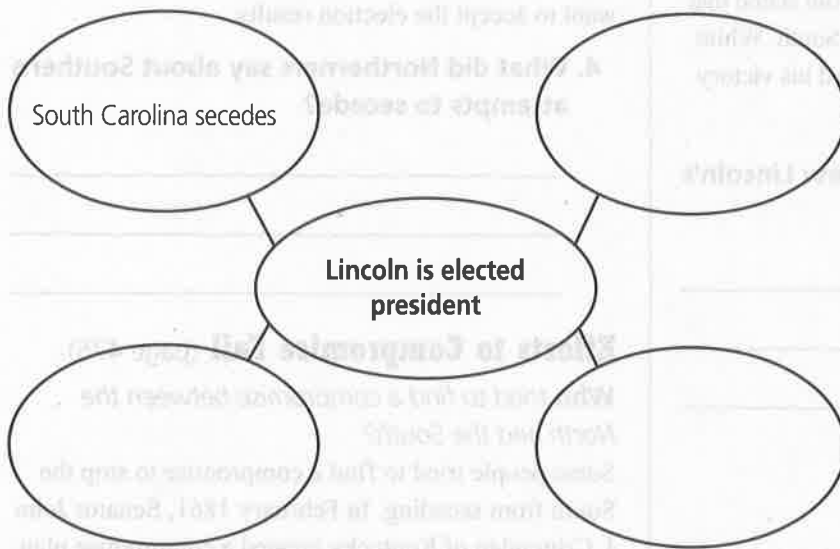
BEFORE YOU READ

In the last section, you learned how the slavery issue led to the formation of the Republican Party.

In this section, you will learn how the 1860 election led to the secession of the Southern states from the Union.

AS YOU READ

Use the diagram below to take notes on the events that occurred as a result of Lincoln's election to the presidency.



TERMS & NAMES

platform A statement of beliefs

secede To formally withdraw from the Union

Confederate States of America Confederation formed by the seceded Southern states

Jefferson Davis President of the Confederacy

Crittenden Plan Compromise plan to prevent secession

Political Parties Splinter

(pages 471–472)

Who were the presidential candidates in the 1860 election?

The Republicans nominated Abraham Lincoln for president in 1860. The Democratic party split over the issue of slavery. They disagreed about what to say about slavery in the party's **platform**, or statement of beliefs.

The Southern Democrats wanted the party to defend slavery in the platform. The Northern Democrats wanted the platform to support popular sovereignty. They believed that would be the best way to decide the issue of slavery in new territories and states.

The Northern Democrats nominated Stephen A. Douglas for president. He was a supporter of popular

sovereignty. The Southern Democrats refused to support Douglas. They nominated John Breckinridge of Kentucky, a supporter of slavery. A fourth party, called the Constitutional Union Party, nominated John Bell of Tennessee. This party had one aim—to preserve the Union.

1. What parties nominated presidential candidates in 1860?

The Election of 1860 (pages 472–473)

What were the results of the election of 1860?

The election turned into two different races for _____

president. Lincoln and Douglas had support in the North. Breckinridge and Bell had support in the South.

Lincoln and Breckinridge were believed to have the most extreme views on slavery. Lincoln was against expanding slavery in the territories. Breckinridge wanted the federal government to protect slavery in any territory.

Douglas and Bell were considered to be moderates. They did not want the government to pass any new laws on slavery.

The election made it clear that the nation was tired of compromise. Lincoln carried the North. Breckinridge won in the South. The North had the most people, so Lincoln won the election. Lincoln stated that he would do nothing about slavery in the South. White Southerners did not trust him. They viewed his victory as a threat to slavery and their way of life.

2. How did white Southerners view Lincoln's election as president?

Southern States Secede

(pages 473–474)

How did the Southern states react to the election of President Lincoln?

Many Southerners warned that if Lincoln was elected, the Southern states would **secede**, or withdraw from the Union. They believed that the states had voluntarily joined the Union. As a result, they believed the states had the right to leave the Union.

In December 1860, South Carolina became the first state to secede. By February 1861, six more states seceded. They formed the **Confederate States of America**. They named **Jefferson Davis** president of the Confederacy.

3. What was the Confederacy?

The Union Responds to Secession

(pages 474–475)

How did the Union respond to secession?

Northerners believed that secession of the Southern states was unconstitutional. President James Buchanan argued against secession. He believed that the states did not have the right to leave the Union. He said the federal government, not the state governments, was *sovereign*.

Secession also brought up the issue of majority rule. Southerners claimed that the Northerners wanted to use their majority to abolish slavery. Northerners claimed that the Southerners did not want to accept the election results.

4. What did Northerners say about Southern attempts to secede?

Efforts to Compromise Fail (page 475)

Who tried to find a compromise between the North and the South?

Some people tried to find a compromise to stop the South from seceding. In February 1861, Senator John J. Crittenden of Kentucky created a compromise plan. His plan, called the **Crittenden Plan**, did not pass.

In his inaugural address, President Lincoln assured the South that he would not abolish slavery there. But he spoke strongly against secession.

Lincoln did not want to press the South. He did not want to force the South to stay in the Union. Several forts in the South were still under Union control. These included Fort Sumter in South Carolina. These forts needed to be resupplied. The whole nation waited to see what would happen to the fort.

5. What issues did President Lincoln speak to in his inaugural address?

Glossary/After You Read**arsenal** A place where weapons are stored**racist** Having prejudice based on race**boycot** To refuse to be a part of**resident** Person who lives in a particular place**execute** To put to death**sovereign** Having supreme authority**fugitive** Person who is running away**Terms & Names**

A. If the statement is true, write "true" on the line. If it is false, change the underlined word or words to make it true.

_____ 1. The Wilmot Proviso called for a ban on slavery in any territory that the United States acquired from the War with Mexico.

_____ 2. The Compromise of 1850 called for popular sovereignty to decide the slavery issue in the Nebraska Territory.

_____ 3. The Democratic Party was formed by former Whigs and other opponents of slavery.

_____ 4. The Confederate States of America were formed by the seceded Southern states.

_____ 5. John Brown became the first President of the Confederate States of America.

B. Write the letter of the name or term next to the description that explains it best.

a. Harriet Beecher Stowe

d. Roger B. Taney

b. Stephen A. Douglas

e. Abraham Lincoln

c. John Brown

f. Jefferson Davis

_____ 1. The Republican who won the presidency in 1860

_____ 2. President of the Confederate States of America

_____ 3. Supported popular sovereignty as a way to settle the issue of slavery

_____ 4. Author of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*

_____ 5. The Chief Justice who declared in the *Dred Scott* decision that African Americans were not citizens

Main Ideas

1. What major political party was formed as a result of the Wilmot Proviso?

2. How did *Uncle Tom's Cabin* address slavery?

3. How did Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas differ in their views on slavery?

4. What major event led to the secession of the Southern states from the Union?

5. How did Northerners and Southerners view the secession of the Southern states?

Thinking Critically

Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper.

1. What were the differences between the views of Northerners and Southerners on slavery?
2. Suppose your state wanted to secede. What arguments would you make against it?