

The Civil War

**How Did We Get There:
The Movements and Politics Before and Through
the Civil War**

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Why is the Civil War so important?

Class Outline

Political Movements Prior to 1846

Politics and Events 1846 to Secession

1861 – 1862

1863 – 1864

1865 and the War's Consequence

States Rights

History

Popular Sovereignty – Summary View of the
Rights of British America –1774 - Jefferson

Articles of Confederation

The Constitution

Article 4 States Rights

Amendment X (added at the request of Jefferson)

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

The Constitution

All power belongs to the States except those powers granted to the Federal Government by the Constitution

Federalism

The Bill of Rights did not apply to the states, only the federal government

Nation or Union?

The Articles of Confederation stated the Union's perpetuity; the Constitution states a "more perfect union."

The term sovereignty was applied to the states not the United States.

Loyalty was to your native state over the United States.
Jefferson referred to Virginia as a nation.

These United States are a republic

Economic Union

Section. 8.

The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence...;

To borrow Money on the credit of the United States;

To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;

To establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization, and uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States;

To coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and fix the Standard of Weights and Measures;

To provide for the Punishment of counterfeiting the Securities and current Coin of the United States;

To establish Post Offices and post Roads;

To promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries;

We became a nation

Before the Civil War, even with the Declaration of Independence, we were 13 states that each had more power than the United States under the Articles of Confederation or the replacement US Constitution. Nowhere in the Constitution is Nation (as it referred to the United States) or National mentioned. Each state was separate with its own culture. Even in George Washington's farewell address, "national" was mentioned only once.

Secessionism

...it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and ...requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

Declaration of Independence

When in the Course of human events, *it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and* to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind *requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.*

Thomas Jefferson

“[Our situation] illustrates the ... idea that governments rest on the consent of the governed, and that it is the right of the people to alter or abolish them whenever they become destructive of the ends for which they were established.”

Jefferson Davis

Secessionist tradition is older than America

With the discovery of America - The Pilgrims were the first self proclaimed secessionists

Roger Williams founding of Rhode Island was a secessionism from Massachusetts Bay

Thomas Hooker to Connecticut

William Penn provided refuge to Quakers

After the Constitution

East vs. West over taxes in the Whiskey Rebellion –
with a military encounter in July 1794.
Washington responded in force.

The Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions of 1798 that
proposed states could nullify acts of Congress.
(Jefferson and Monroe secretly authored this).
Clay voiced the same position in 1820.

The War of 1812, again, tested secessionism. New England wanted out of Mr. Madison's war. New England talked about a separate peace with Great Britain. They were also fed up with the Louisiana Purchase.

Between 1830 and 1833 South Carolina demanded nullification of federal tariff duties and wanted regional self-government. Andrew Jackson responded in force.

Slavery

Was the Civil War About Slavery?

When Davis recommended that slaves be able to join the Confederate Army and receive their freedom, the president pro tem of the Confederate Senate, Robert M. T. Hunter, asked skeptically: "What did we go to war for, if not to protect our property?"

Bible – Old and New Testaments

Islands vs. 13 colonies

Slavery in North America

North v. South

1619 a Dutch Ship brought the first slaves to Virginia – North America, the same year that Virginians organized their representative assemble (first in North America) in a sense slavery and self government arrived simultaneously.

The Peculiar Institution

The War for Independence made the concept of slavery difficult to support. British against the revolution declared hypocrisy. Many slave holders said to foreign citizens and governments that slavery would be eliminated, but did nothing internally.

Jefferson despised slavery, cursed – under his breath – resolved in the Declaration of Independence to remove slavery

Among the grievances that Jefferson cited against King George III was for creating and sustaining the slave trade, describing it as "a cruel war against human nature."

Both the north and south objected and it was removed.

Slavery – The US Constitution

*Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective Numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole Number of free Persons, including those bound to Service for a Term of Years, and excluding Indians not taxed, **three fifths of all other Persons***

Importation

SECTION. 9.

The Migration or Importation of such Persons as any of the States now existing shall think proper to admit, shall not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the Year one thousand eight hundred and eight, but a Tax or duty may be imposed on such Importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each Person.

Returning Slaves

Article 4

No Person held to Service or Labour in one State, under the Laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in Consequence of any Law or Regulation therein, be discharged from such Service or Labour, but shall be delivered up on Claim of the Party to whom such Service or Labour may be Due.

Cotton

American Upland Cotton

Cotton Gin (Engine)

Eli Whitney did something very important for
Northern commerce

Northwest Territories Ordinance 1787

Northwest Ordinance of 1789



Fugitive Slave Acts

No Person held to Service or Labour in one State, under the Laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in Consequence of any Law or Regulation therein, be discharged from such Service or Labour, but shall be delivered up on Claim of the Party to whom such Service or Labour may be Due.

Article 4

This clause was added as an after thought. It was never a deal breaker.

Fugitive Slave Law 1793

Congress votes to:

Invalidate State Sovereignty

Issue a vigilante license to the slaveholder's rights

Set aside normal legal process: habeas corpus, trial by jury, no self incrimination, no assurance that the suspected slave could testify on his own behalf, no statute of limitations, and nothing to discourage a slaveholder from not obtaining a certificate

The Act was an invitation for kidnapping

Constitutional Authority

Article 4

Section 2.

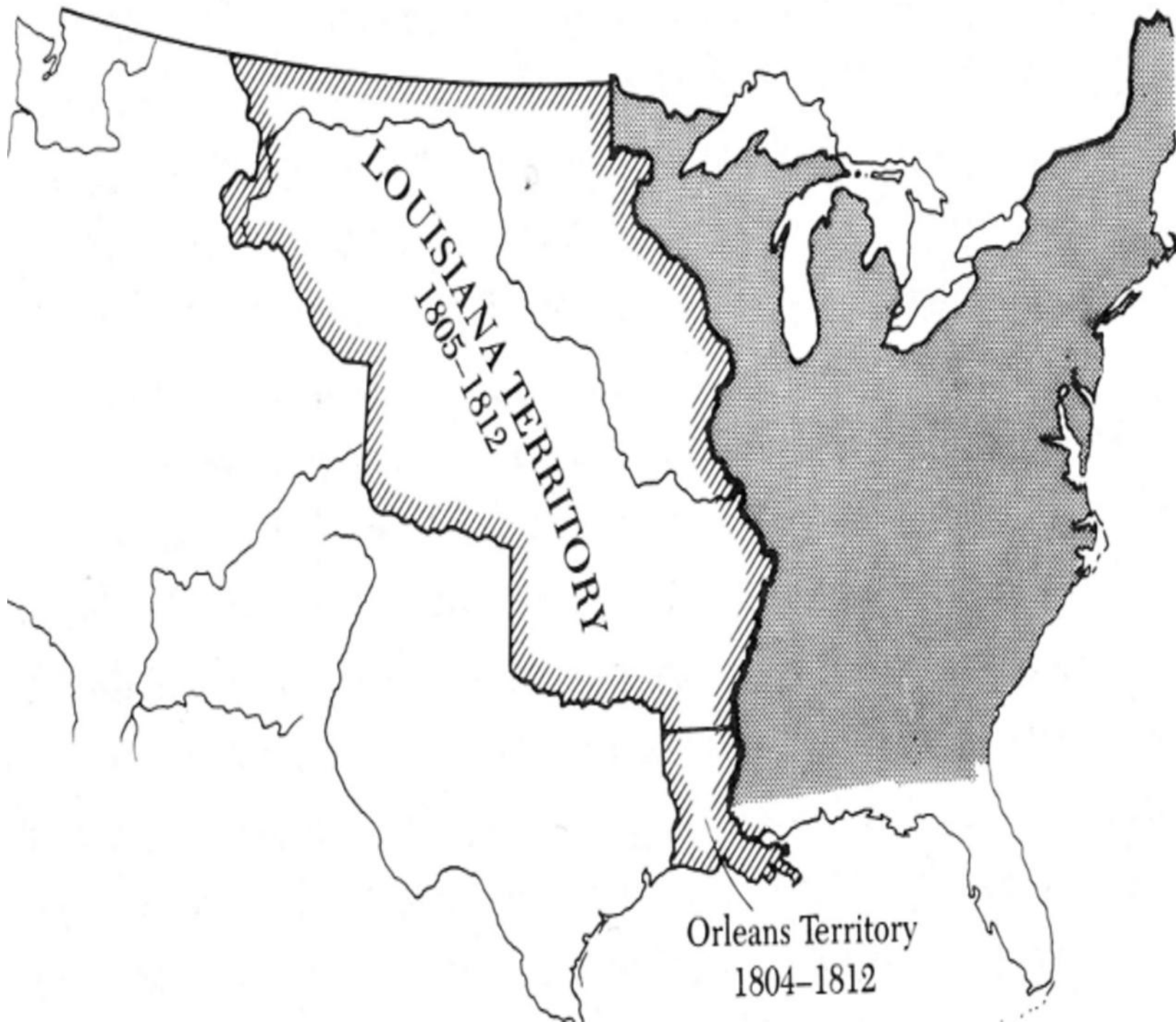
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Constitutional Authority

Article 4

SECTION. 3. New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union; but no new State shall be formed or erected within the Jurisdiction of any other State; nor any State be formed by the **Junction of two or more States, or Parts of States, without the Consent of the Legislatures of the States concerned as well as of the Congress.**

The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.



Louisiana Purchase

Jefferson who at one time was interested in keeping slavery on the eastern seaboard. Jefferson although concerned about slavery in the purchase did nothing in the antislavery cause

Multiple debates about slavery in Congress did nothing. Most striking was the failure to do nothing in the northern part of the Louisiana Purchase.

John Quincy Adams

Northern Anti-Slavery men

Missouri Compromise

Part of the deal to allow Maine to Separate from Massachusetts and become a state

Slavery in Missouri and below the 36⁰30' Latitude

Many believed that slavery was right

You cannot make soldiers of slaves, or slaves of soldiers. The day you make a soldier of them is the beginning of the end of the Revolution. And if slaves seem good soldiers, then our whole theory of slavery is wrong.

Radical Abolitionism – William Lloyd
Garrison

Negro uprisings in Santo Domingo – 1819 –
Henry Clay predicted this

Gag rule on discussion of slavery 1836

1842 Prigg V Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania Law provides protection to slaves

Justice Story argues that slaves are property invalidating the Penn. Anti-kidnapping law

BUT - States did not have to offer aid in the hunting or recapture of slaves. This greatly weaken the law of 1793.

The Leaders attempting Compromise

Henry Clay – Kentucky

Known as the “Great Compromiser” - he crafted the Missouri Compromise and the Compromise of 1850

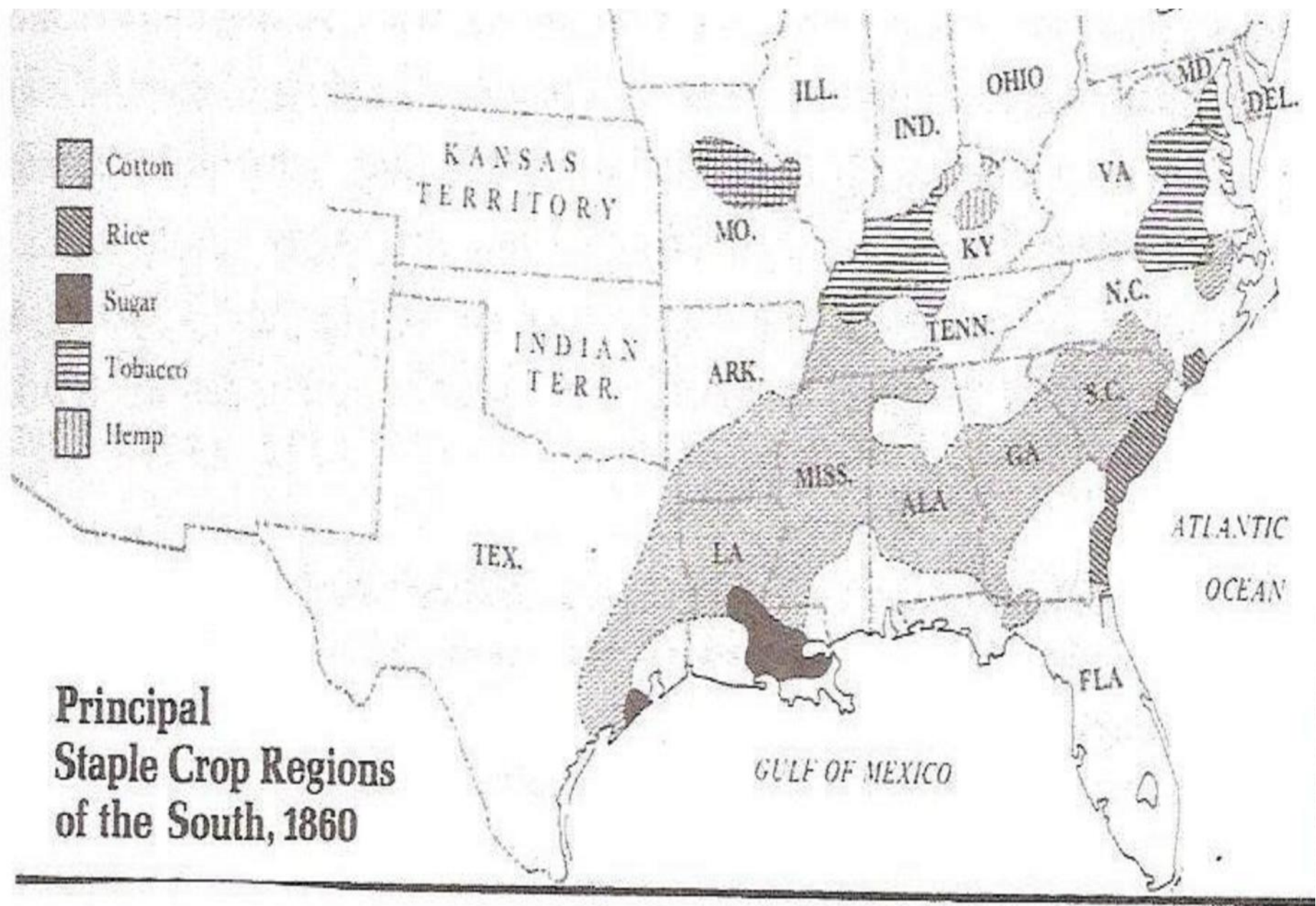
John Calhoun – South Carolina

Strong national government - after 1830 he switched to limited government and states rights, and defense of slavery.

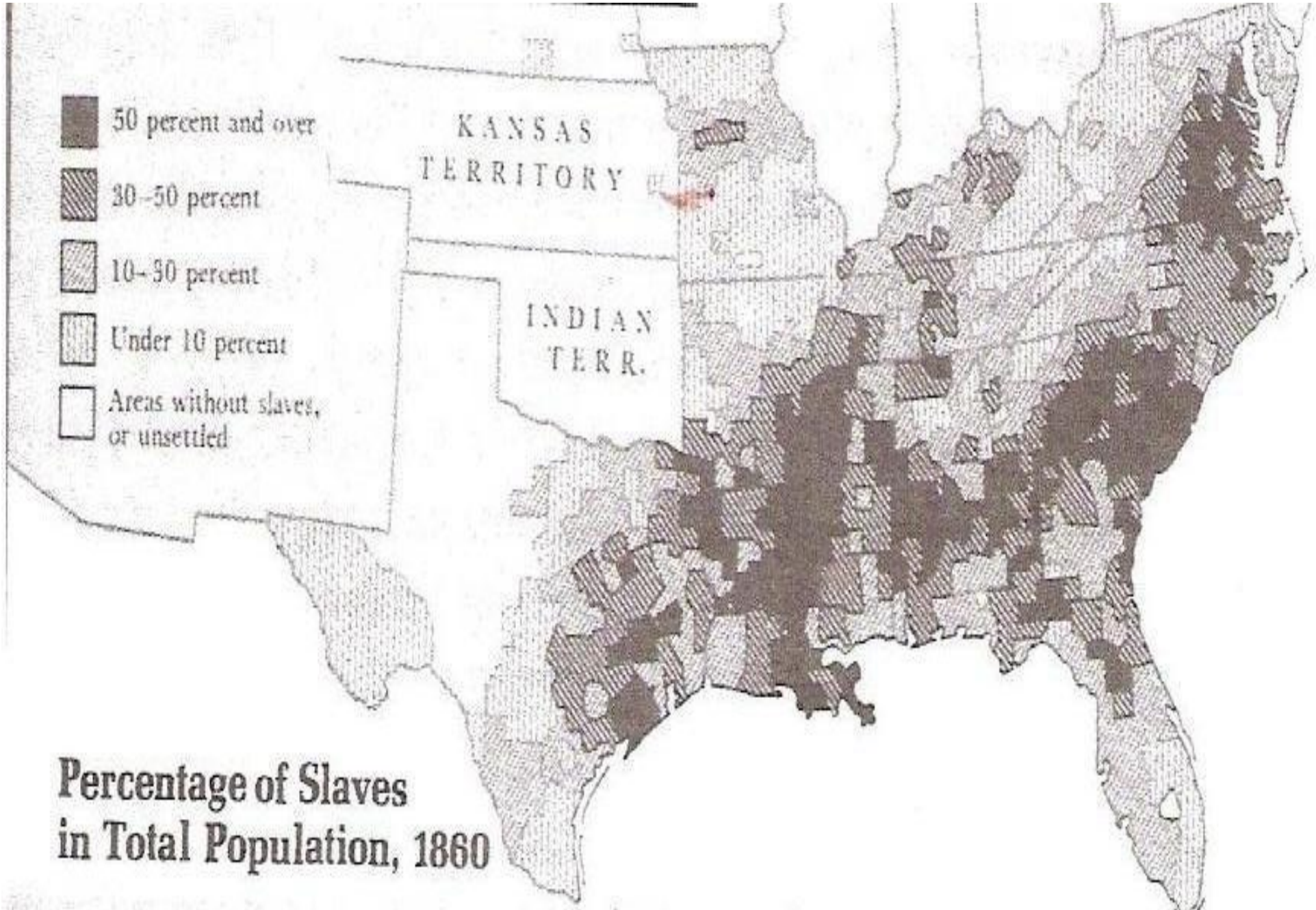
Daniel Webster – Massachusetts

Strong national government – avoid civil war

The Economies

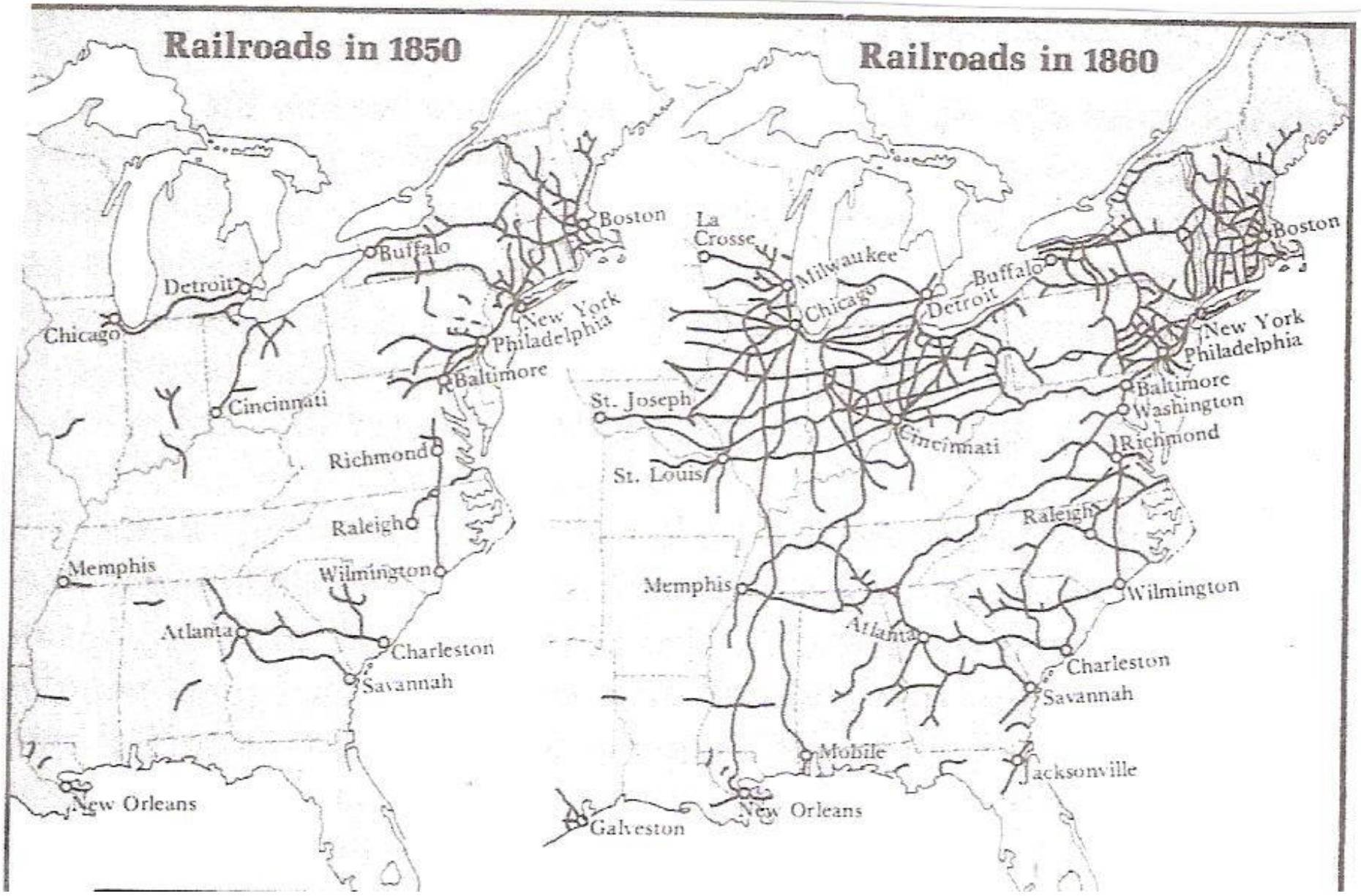


**Principal
Staple Crop Regions
of the South, 1860**



Railroads in 1850

Railroads in 1860



Changing Demographics

By 1850 population growth had been 20% greater in the free states than in the slave states.

87% of the immigrants from abroad settled in the North

Only 14 % of the canal mileage ran through slave states

In 1840 the South had possessed 44% of the country's railroad mileage, but by 1850 the more rapid pace of northern construction had dropped the southern share to 26%

With 42 % of the population, slave states possessed only 18 percent of the country's manufacturing capacity, a decline from the 20 percent of 1840.

Nearly half of this industrial capital was located in the 4 border states whose commitment to southern rights was shaky.

By 1846 was low (around 3 cents a pound in the mid-1840s). The states that grew cotton kept less than 5 percent of it at home for manufacture into cloth. They exported 70 percent of it abroad.

The price of cotton doubled by the 1850's

Where Are We?