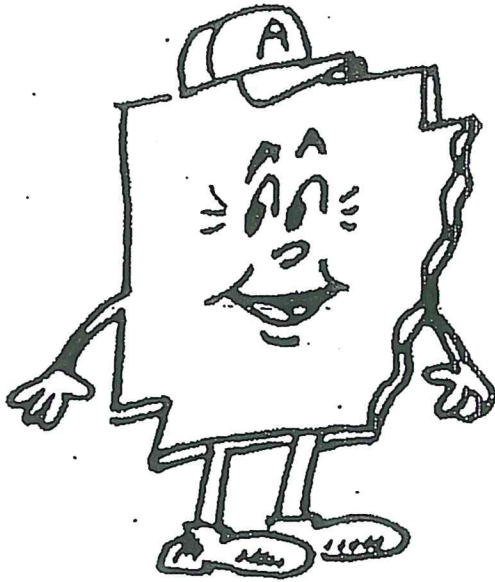


STATES' RIGHTS



South: for
state sovereignty

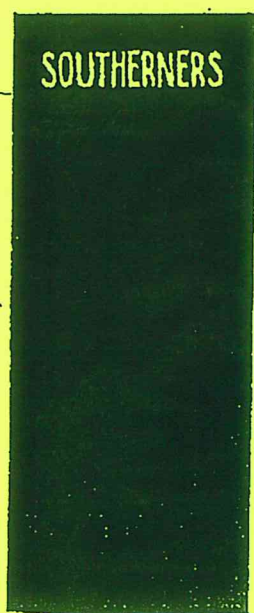
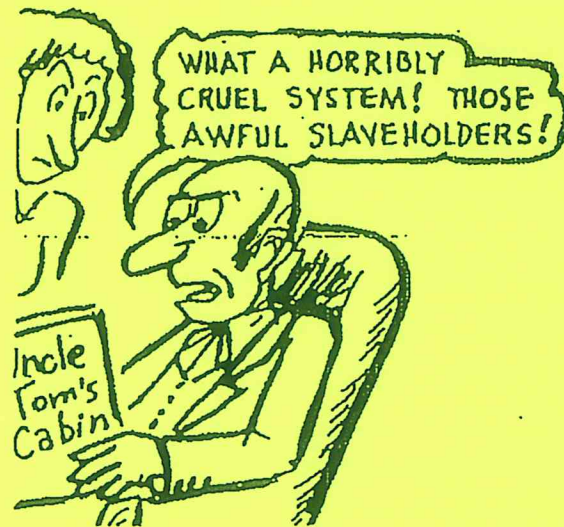
North: for national
sovereignty

The South wanted the voters in each state to decide for themselves whether or not to allow slavery. Slaves, of course, could not vote.

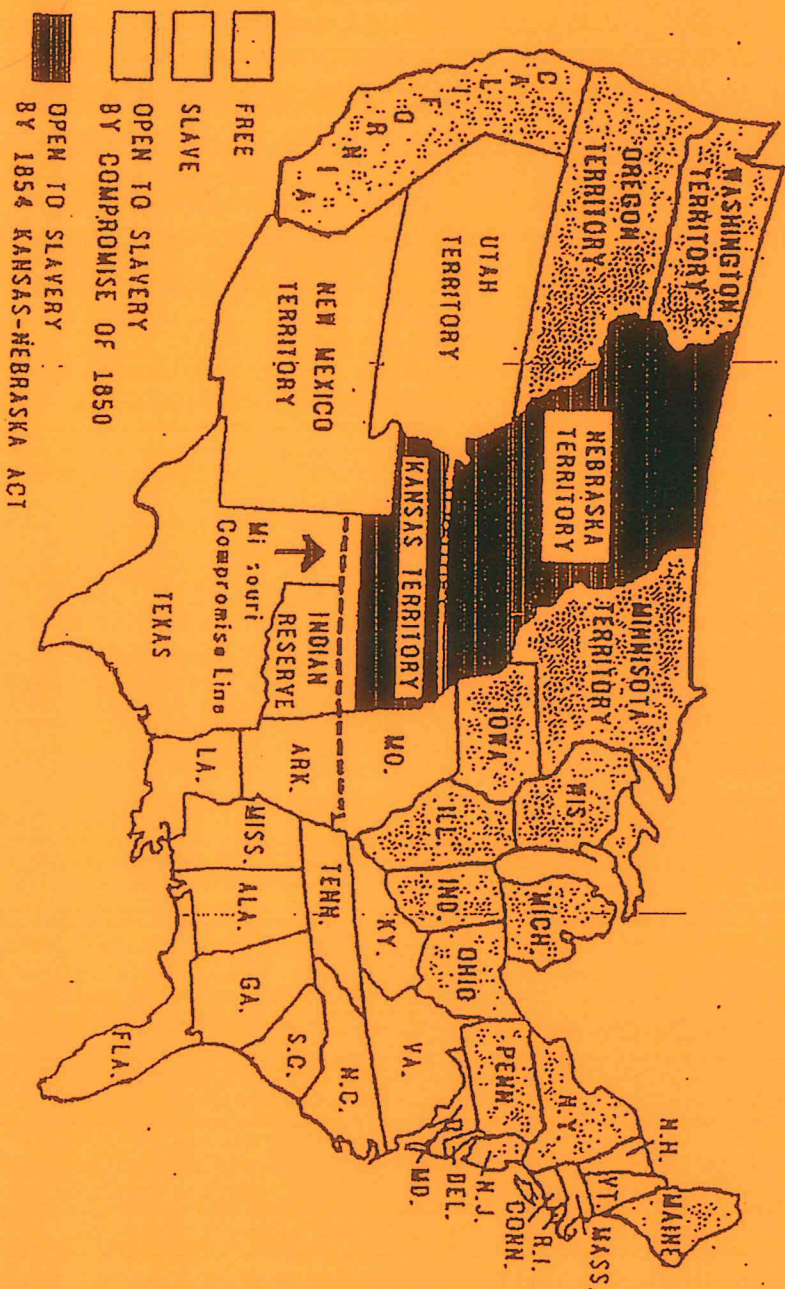
The North wanted the national government to outlaw slavery throughout the United States. This would make slavery illegal in every state.

1852: UNCLE TOM'S CABIN

Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel dramatizing the cruelties of slavery touched readers emotionally. It created widespread antislavery support among Northerners. One of the most influential books ever written, it sold 300,000 copies the first year. Uncle Tom's Cabin was perceived differently by:



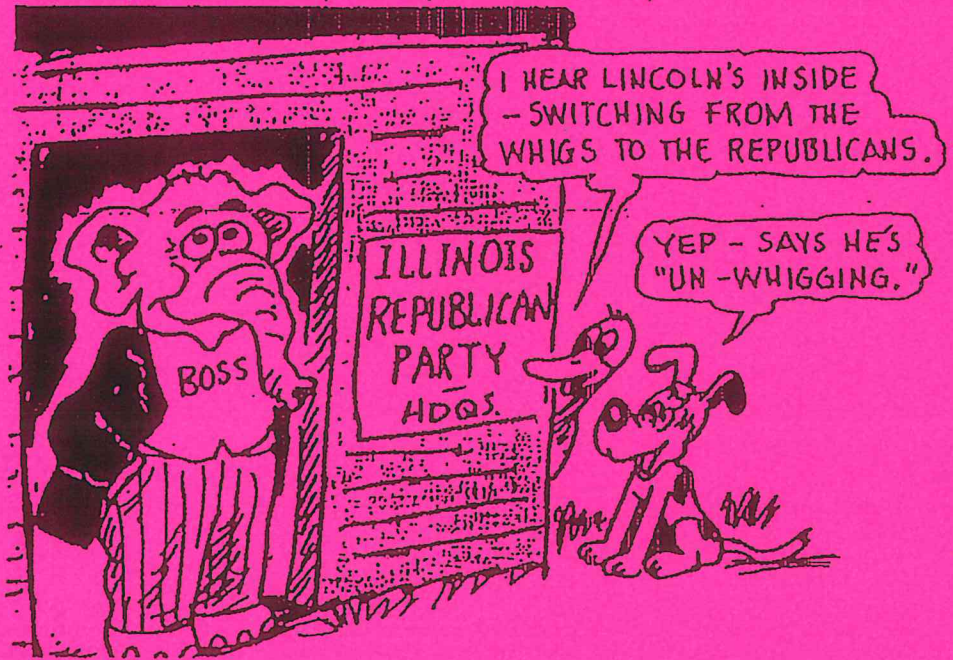
1854: KANSAS-NEBRASKA ACT—This act, which so angered Lincoln, was proposed by Illinois Senator Stephen A. Douglas, a northern Democrat courting favor with southern Democrats. It allowed the Kansas and Nebraska territories popular sovereignty (the right to decide for themselves) about slavery. The act pleased southerners but outraged many northerners because it repealed the 1820 Missouri Compromise, which had prohibited slavery in this area by declaring "forever" free the Louisiana Purchase north of the line 36° 30' (except Missouri).



- FREE
- SLAVE
- OPEN TO SLAVERY BY COMPROMISE OF 1850
- OPEN TO SLAVERY BY 1854 KANSAS-NEBRASKA ACT

1856: ABRAHAM LINCOLN JOINS THE REPUBLICAN PARTY—

Lincoln, an outstanding Whig politician in Illinois, reluctantly switched parties to stop the spread of slavery.



1856: "BLEEDING KANSAS"—Popular sovereignty caused a small scale civil war in Kansas which lasted four months and caused 200 deaths. Armed combat raged between proslavery settlers, mostly Missouri immigrants, and antislavery settlers, mostly New England immigrants financed by New England abolitionist Eli Thayer's Emigrant Aid Society and led by John Brown. Kansas eventually became a free state (1861).

The Kansas conflict of 1856 proved a dark forecast of things to come.



1856: BIRTH OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY—(formed locally in 1854)

For the first time, sectional political parties developed as North and South divided over the slavery issue.

- The Republican party was created by northerners committed to stop expansion of slavery into the territories. It drew antislavery people from several parties, including Whig, Democratic, Free Soil, and American (a secret, anti-Catholic party nicknamed "Know Nothing").
- The Democratic party split into northern and southern factions.
- The Whig party died as northern Whigs joined the Republican party, and southern Whigs joined the Democrats.

IF YOU'RE A 1990S
REPUBLICAN, HERE'S
WHERE YOU GOT
YOUR START!



1857: DRED SCOTT DECISION



VS.

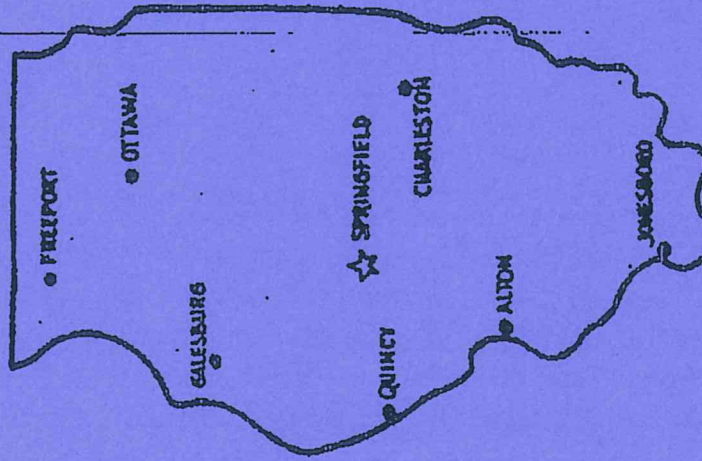


Dred Scott, a Missouri slave, sued for his freedom after briefly living with his owner on free soil in the North. Shock waves jolted the nation when Supreme Court Chief Justice Roger Taney ruled that:

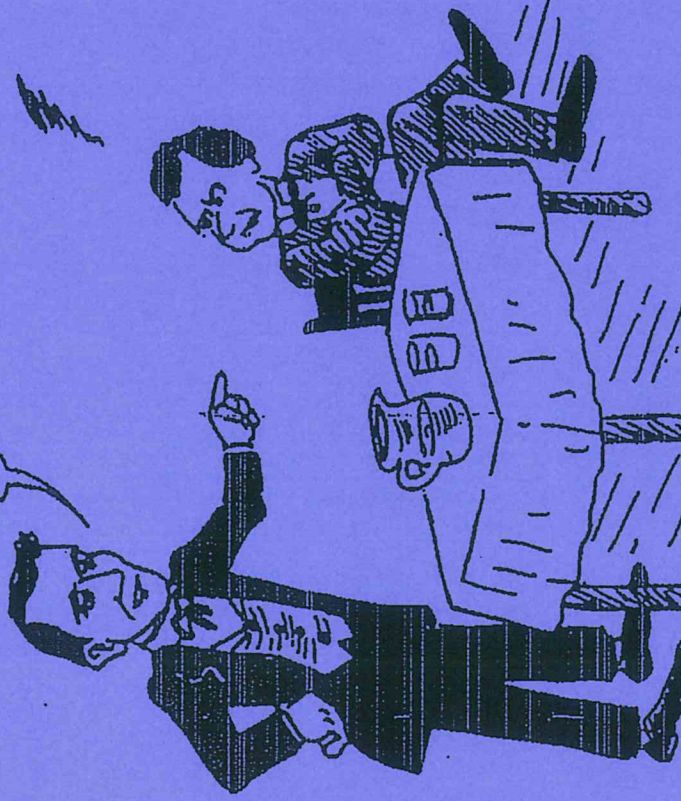
- 1) Slaves were not citizens, so they could not bring suit in court.
 - ~~2) Slaves were property.~~
 - 3) Because the 5th Amendment protected property, and slaves were property, Congress could not ban slavery from the territories.
 - 4) The Missouri Compromise, which had banned slavery, was unconstitutional.
- Southerners were overjoyed at the ruling. Northerners were dismayed and began joining the Republican party in droves.

1858: LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATES—In the Illinois senate race Republican Abraham Lincoln and Democrat Stephen A. Douglas debated the slavery issue in seven cities. Crowds of 12,000 heard Lincoln describe his position as antislavery but not abolitionist. Slavery was wrong but legal, being protected by the Constitution. Slavery, therefore, could not be abolished where it existed; but it should not be expanded. Douglas won the senate race, but Lincoln won national attention as a rising political star.

• DEBATE SITES



WHEN HE INVITES ANY PEOPLE WILLINGLY TO ESTABLISH SLAVERY, HE IS BLOWING OUT THE MORAL LIGHTS AROUND US.



1859: HARPER'S FERRY—

Fanatical abolitionist John Brown and his followers seized the federal arsenal at Harper's Ferry, Virginia. They hoped to stir a slave revolt in Virginia and end slavery.

Captured and executed, Brown became a martyred hero for many northerners.

