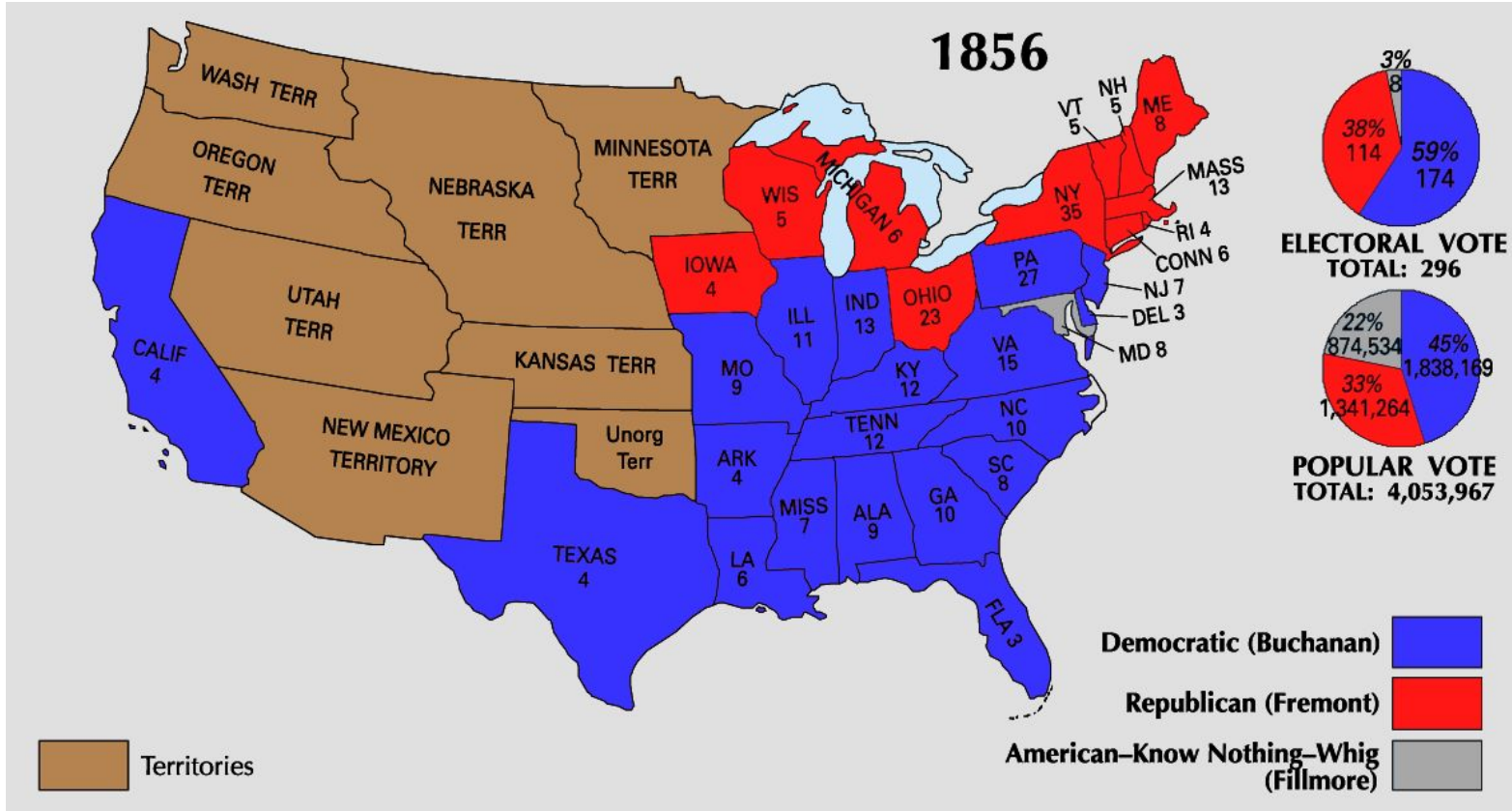


Political Conflicts-Lesson 3

Political Party Response to the Kansas-Nebraska Act

Many Anti-Slavery Whigs, Anti-Slavery Democrats, and Free-Soilers began to join together to form the Republican Party. Many people were divided over the issue of slavery, so parties started to form based on this issue. The Republican Party agreed to let slavery continue in the South, but opposed any further extension of it in the new territories



Dred Scott

A Southern Slave who was taken by his owner to the North and then back into slavery in the South. Scott sued for his freedom. Having been to free soil, he argued that he should be a free man.



Chief Justice Roger Taney's Ruling

“African Americans had no rights to which the white man was bound to respect; and that the negro might justly and lawfully be reduced to slavery for his benefit. He was bought and sold and treated as an ordinary article of merchandise, whenever profit could be made by it. It is too clear for dispute, that enslaved African race were not intended to be included, and formed no part of the people who framed and adopted the Declaration....”

-Chief Justice Roger Taney

Reaction/Significance

The decision was made and Dred Scott was still considered a slave. The public's reaction to this decision ranged from happy to outraged. Many anti-slavery supporters knew that slave owners could move into free states and bring their slaves with them. Slavery could now spread into areas of the United States that were considered free. **5**

Lincoln's Speech at the Republican State Convention

“We are now into the fifth year since a policy was initiated of putting an end to slavery agitation. In my opinion, it will not cease, until a crisis shall have been reached, and passed. A house divided against itself cannot stand. I believe this government cannot endure, permanently half slave and half free. I do not expect the Union to be dissolved-I do not expect the house to fall-but I do expect it will cease to be divided. It will become one thing or another.”

-Abraham Lincoln

LINCOLN vs. DOUGLAS

Election Results of the 1858 Campaign for U.S. Senator from Illinois



On January 5, 1859 the U.S. Senator from Illinois was elected by the Illinois General Assembly, which consisted of 25 State Senators and 75 Members of the State House of Representatives.

Voting strictly according to party, the General Assembly elected Stephen Douglas (Democrat) over Abraham Lincoln (Republican) by a vote of 54-46.

These maps show the Illinois Senate and House district boundaries in 1859, along with the votes for each candidate.

Illinois Senate Districts

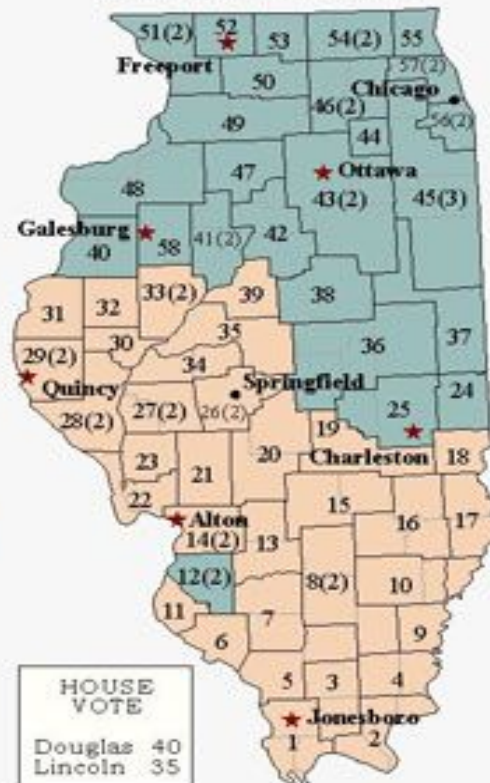
(25 Districts & 25 Senators)



SENATE VOTE	
Douglas	14
Lincoln	11

Illinois House Districts

(58 Districts & 75 Reps.)



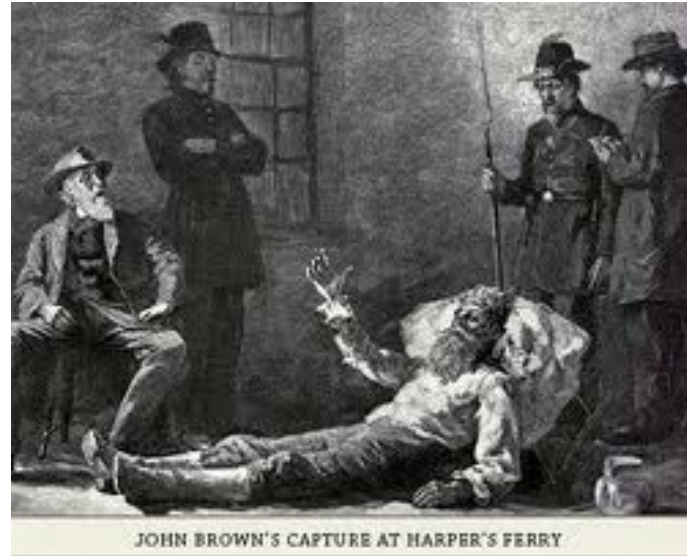
HOUSE VOTE	
Douglas	40
Lincoln	35

Votes by District

- Lincoln
- Douglas
- Debate Site
- 56(2) District No. (No. of Votes)

Harper's Ferry

In 1859, John Brown, a white abolitionist, launched a slave revolt at Harper's Ferry. Frustrated with the political conflicts in the United States, he planned to spark slave uprisings in both Kansas and Virginia. The uprising was quickly crushed, and Brown was tried and executed. **8a**



JOHN BROWN'S CAPTURE AT HARPER'S FERRY

Aftermath of Harper's Ferry

John Brown's attempted uprising sounded the alarm bell among Southerners who feared future slave revolts. However, Brown was seen as a hero to many in the North. His name became a symbol for the anti-slavery movement. His act of violence also demonstrated to many that the slave question had brought the country to the verge of war.

