Church History



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- Introduction to Church History
- The Ancient Church
- The Rise of Christendom
- The Early Middle Ages
- The Age of Crusades
- The Renaissance
- Conquest and Reformation
- The Age of Enlightenment
- The Age of Revolution
- The Modern Age
- The Postmodern Age

- AD 1st-3rd centuries
- AD 4th-5th centuries
- AD 6th-10th centuries
- AD 11th-13th centuries
- AD 14th-15th centuries
- AD 16th century
- AD 17th-18th centuries
- AD 19th century
- AD 20th century
- AD 21st century

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- The Age of Revolution
 - The American Revolution
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 - The Napoleonic Era
 - You're Doing It Wrong
 - Soldiering for Christ (part 3—The Civil War)

AD 1st-3rd centuries

AD 4th-5th centuries

AD 6th-10th centuries

AD 11th-13th centuries

AD 14th-15th centuries

AD 16th century

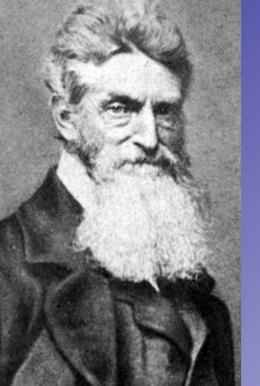
AD 17th-18th centuries

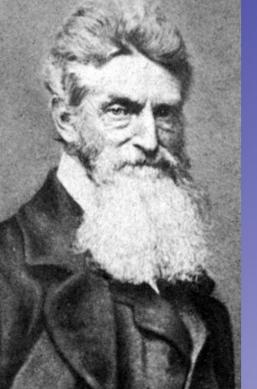
AD 19th century



People really began putting feet to their faith John Brown led a raid on Harper's Ferry Brown had been a major player five years ago in the violent incidents during "Bleeding Kansas" but had started out studying to become a Congregationalist minister in New England

But after abolitionist journalist (and Presbyterian minister) Elijah Lovejoy was murdered in Alton, Illinois, by an anti-abolitionist mob in 1837 (none of whom ever got convicted for the crime... since the local judge and members of the jury had been part of that mob)





People really began putting feet to their faith
1859
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but had started out studying to become a
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But after abolitionist journalist (and Presbyterian
minister) Elijah Lovejoy was murdered in Alton,
Illinois, by an anti-abolitionist mob in 1837, Brown
realized that all of the editorials and sermons and
Underground Railroads in the world wouldn't be

Underground Railroads in the world wouldn't be enough to end slavery—it would take blood (the Underground Railroad wasn't underground and it wasn't a railroad—it was an informal

series of safe houses and helping hands that would assist fugitive slaves to get out of the South and into sanctuary in the North... preferably Canada) (Brown decided it would make more sense to have actual fortresses along the way, manned by armed troops made up of abolitionist militias and freed slaves—what he called the "Subterranean Pass-Way")

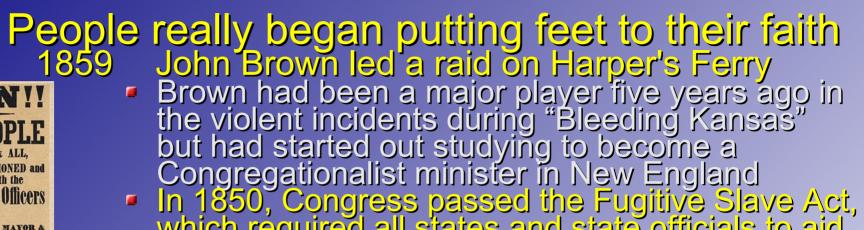


Watchmen and Police Officers
of Boston,
For since the recent ORDER OF THE MAYOR &
ALDERMEN, they are empowered to act as

SLAVES. Therefore, if you value your LIBERTY, and the Welfare of the Fugitives among you, Shun them in every possible manner, as so many HOUNDS on the track of the most unfortunate of your race.

Keep a Sharp Look Out for KIDNAPPERS, and have TOP EYE open.





which required all states and state officials to aid the apprehension and return of all fugitive slaves—with steep fines for not doing so

The South hoped that this would prevent the operations of things like the Underground Railroad it instead, it just made stronger abolitionists of many people in the North—and made many African-Americans immediately leery of intéracting with any police or state officials

In résponse, Brown created the League of come together and defend one another to the death against fugitive-hunters

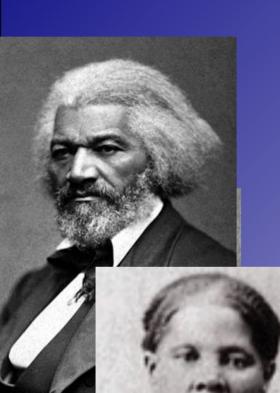
on them to strike first and to and even to run into the homes of prominent whites in the area to make it look like they supported the Leaque's actions

People really began putting feet to their faith
1859
John Brown led a raid on Harper's Ferry
Brown had been a major player five years ago in
the violent incidents during "Bleeding Kansas"
but had started out studying to become a
Congregationalist minister in New England
In 1850, Congress passed the Fugitive Slave Act,
which required all states and state officials to aid
in the apprehension and return of all fugitive
slaves—with steep fines for not doing so
Increasingly, Brown became more and more
militant—and more and more well-known
Both Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass were

Both Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass were tremendously impressed with his zeal and commitment to the abolitionist cause

 And yet, Brown was also becoming more violent
 His forces dragged pro-slavery settlers out of their homes in Kansas and hacked them to pieces with cayalry sabers

They engaged openly with Missouri's militia—and regularly won their engagements, even though usually outnumbered
 And he began to plan for an armed insurrection by the slaves in the South



Funky little teaching moment—
Brown was sure that if the slaves were simply armed, they would certainly rise up and kill their masters, taking freedom for themselves
With the financial backing of the "Secret Six"—a group of wealthy northern abolitionists—he amassed enough weapons and ammunition to equip a small force to raid the U.S. Army armory at Harper's Ferry, in Virginia, to obtain far more obtain far more

He asked both Tubman and Douglass for their support
But while Tubman enthusiastically threw her support
behind the effort and started enlisting blacks to help
Douglass decried the violence and argued that it
was not only immoral, but also doomed to fail
(in fact, Douglass actually worked to undermine
Tubman's efforts by actively encouraging
southern blacks not to take part in the raid)



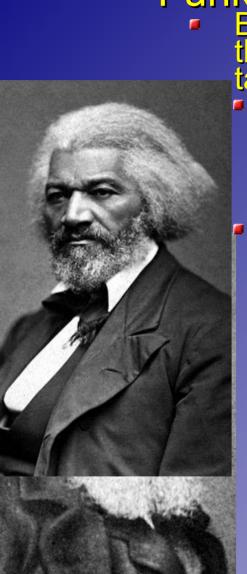
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Douglass

(who had learned to read in part from scattered pages from the Bible that he'd found in the guiter in Baltimore—he'd taken them home, carefully washed and dried them, and then read them over and over)

(I like Frederick Douglass)



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Douglass wasn't always against the concept of

armed violence

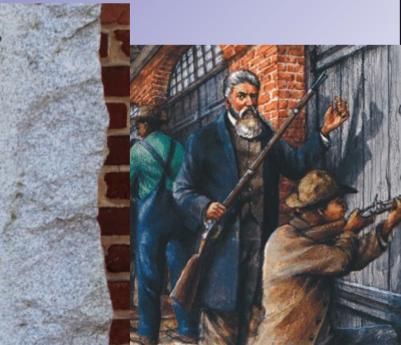
Once, while he was speaking at a hall in Boston alongside Sojourner Truth and others, he got so emotional that he departed from his notes and declared that blacks had no hope for freedom

unless they took up arms to fight and kill for it
The audience fell silent (and so did Douglass)
...but after a few moments, Sojourner Truth
quietly asked, "Frederick, is God dead?"
(I really like Sojourner Truth...)



Funky little teaching moment—
Brown was sure that if the slaves were simply armed, they would certainly rise up and kill their masters, taking freedom for themselves
In 1859, Brown led his makeshift troops to Harper's Ferry, taking the armory quickly, with relative ease (Note: The first person that they killed was a railroad baggage master—Heyward Shepherd—who tried to warn the passengers when he saw the armed men—which is terribly ironic, since Heyward Shepherd was a freed black man)

ON THE NIGHT OF OCTOBER 16, 1859, HEYWARD SHEPHERD, AN INDUSTRIOUS AND RESPECTED COLORED FREEMAN, WAS MORTALLY WOUNDED BY JOHN BROWN'S RAIDERS. IN PURSUANCE OF HIS DUTIES AS AN EMPLOYEE OF THE BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD COMPANY, HE BECAME THE FIRST VICTIM OF THIS ATTEMPTED INSURRECTION.



Funky little teaching moment—

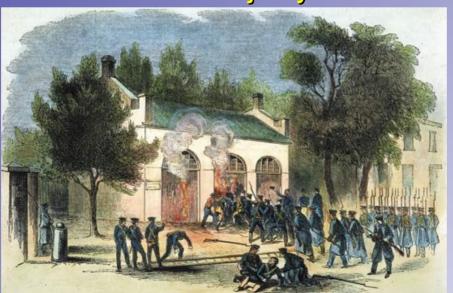
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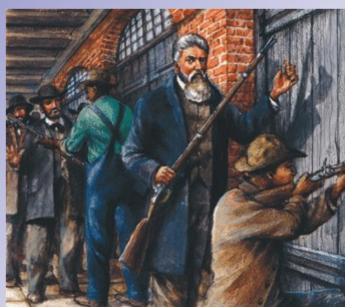
In 1859, Brown led his makeshift troops to Harper's Ferry, taking the armory quickly, with relative ease but they found that getting out was the tricky bit

Local townsfolk and militia kept the raiders pinned down in the armory until a detachment of U.S. Marines showed up and demanded that they surrender

When Brown refused, it took the Marines only three minutes to break down the doors and either kill or arrest the majority of them

arrest the majority of them



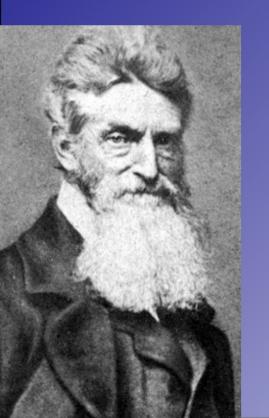


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In 1859, Brown led his makeshift troops to Harper's Ferry, taking the armory quickly, with relative ease but they found that getting out was the tricky bit

Brown was tried and convicted

(because—go figure—even most northern abolitionists still didn't support the killing of innocents and the storming of a U.S. Army military facility to steal weapons to mount an armed insurrection...)





Funky little teaching moment

Brown was sure that if the slaves were simply armed, they would certainly rise up and kill their masters, taking freedom for themselves

In 1859, Brown led his makeshift troops to Harper's Ferry, taking the armory quickly, with relative ease but they found that getting out was the tricky bit Brown was tried and convicted of murder, conspiracy to rebellion, and treason against the state of Virginia His execution was a media circus, with various luminaries coming out to support Brown—if not, entirely, his actual actions
Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry David Thoreau, Walt Whitman, Victor Hugo, and others all went on record as saying that executing Brown was a travesty—like executing Moses for freeing the Hebrews from bondage in Egypt Thus, even though most northerners didn't support his actions, the death of John Brown sparked a massive surge in abolitionism in the North—and a surge in recruiting for militias in the South.

in the South

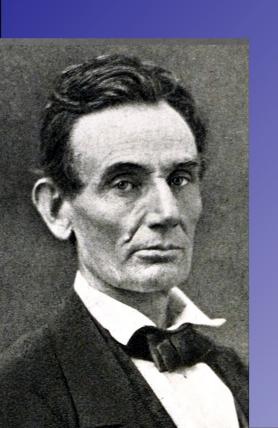
Harriet Tubman praised Brown, saying that "he done more in dying than 100 men would in living..."



People really began putting feet to their faith

1859
1860
The Crittenden Compromise
Republican Abraham Lincoln drew a line in the sand against slavery in his 1854 "Peoria Speech" (Where he argued against the institution for three straight hours, saying,

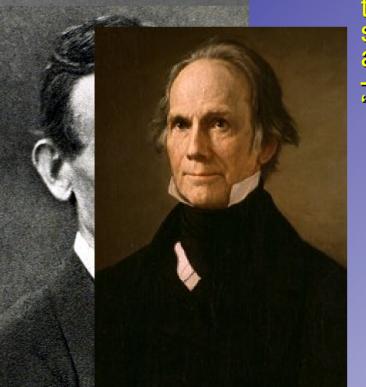
"Little by little, but steadily as man's march to the grave, we have been giving up the old for the new faith. Nearly eighty years ago we began by declaring that all men are created equal; but now from that beginning we have run down to the other declaration, that for some men to enslave others is a 'sacred right of self-government.' These principles cannot stand together. They are as opposite as God and Mammon; and whoever holds to the one must despise the other.")





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Republican Abraham Lincoln drew a line in the
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and as part of his Presidential campaign platform,
he argued that slavery should be made illegal in
all U.S. territories

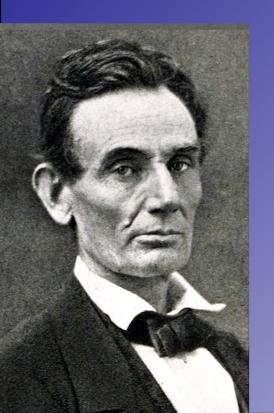
(i.e.; that slavery should only be allowed to exist in the states that were already slave states, and should not be allowed to extend into new territories as they are added as new states to the Union—thus thumbing his nose at Henry Clay's 1820 "Missouri Compromise")

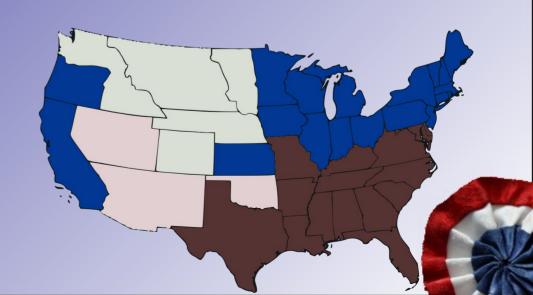




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Several southern states threatened to secede if the Missouri Compromise were repealed So Whig senator John Crittenden from Kentucky suggested a new Compromise to protect it

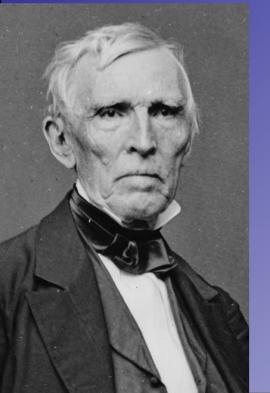


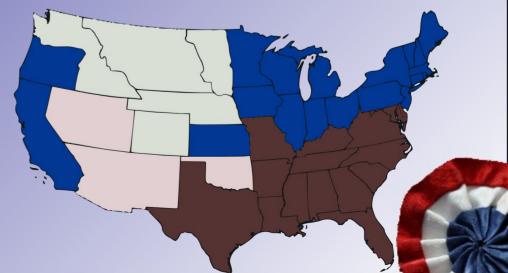


Funky little teaching moment

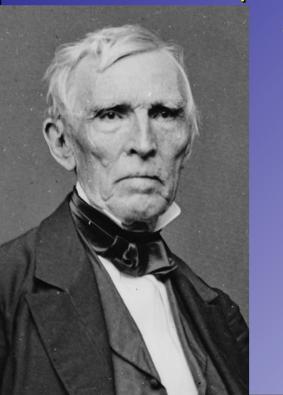
A fair compromise between southern Whigs who wanted to maintain the Missouri Compromise and allow all southern territories and states to hold slaves, and northern Republicans who wanted to make slavery illegal in all new American lands was simple, according to Crittenden—

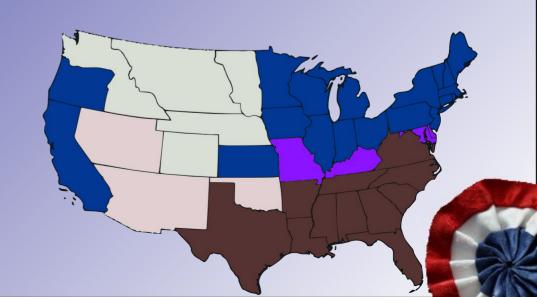
Six Constitutional Amendments would preserve the Missouri Compromise—the sixth of which would declare that no future Amendments could ever be made by Congress to legislate slavery or declare it illegal Four Congressional Resolutions would strengthen the Fugitive Slave Act but disallow any new slaves to be brought over from Africa





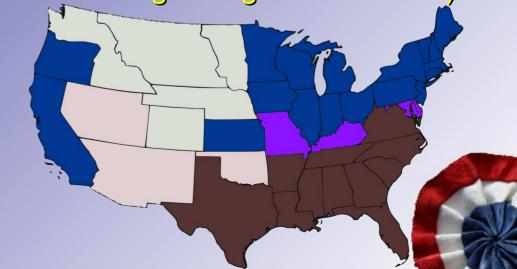
Funky little teaching moment—
A fair compromise between southern Whigs who wanted to maintain the Missouri Compromise and allow all southern territories and states to hold slaves, and northern Republicans who wanted to make slavery illegal in all new American lands was simple, according to Crittenden—
Amazingly, though all of the southern Whigs loved the plan, all of the northern Republicans hated it
Even some slave states found themselves siding with the North against the plan, and arguing against the idea of secession over the issue





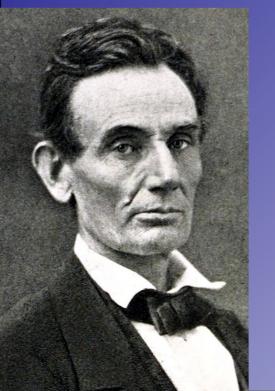
People really began putting feet to their faith
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1860 The Crittenden Compromise
Abraham Lincoln was elected President
He was derisively called the "Rail Candidate,"
because he was (unfairly) seen as running on a
platform made up of only one issue—slavery
But his predecessor, James Buchanan, had
basically annoyed everyone on both sides of the
issue by trying to placate everyone's interests
(like trying to make the "Dred Scott case" of
1857 just go away by pressuring the Supreme
Court to declare Scott to be property, and thus
incapable of deserving the rights of a citizen)



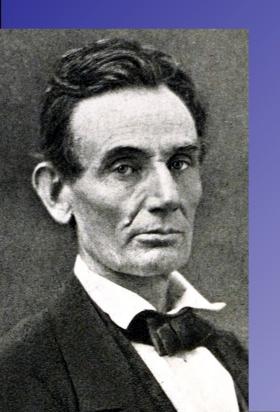


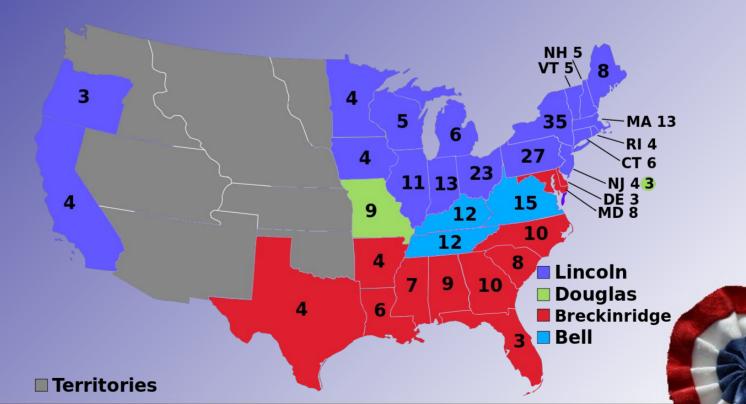
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But his predecessor, James Buchanan, had
basically annoyed everyone on both sides of the
issue by trying to placate everyone's interests
so people were ready for someone to come along
and finally resolve the issue one way or another
(it's just that the North and the South wanted it
resolved in opposite ways...) resolved in opposite ways...)



- Funky little teaching moment—
 Political elections are funny things
 Lincoln won because of his support in northern states
 He won only two out of 996 counties in the southern slave states, and absolutely no ballots were cast for him in 10 out of the 15 southern slave states





Funky little teaching moment—
Political elections are funny things
Lincoln won because of his support in northern states
But he only won a little over 1/3 of the total popular votes in the 1860 election

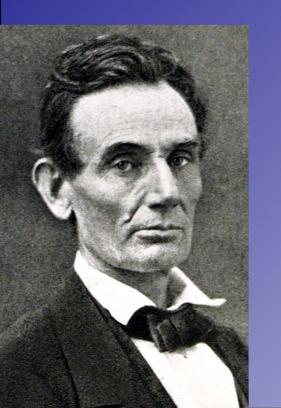
Lincoln received only 1,865,908 votes out of nearly 5,000,000 total votes, while Stephen Douglas received 1,380,202 votes, John Breckinridge received 848,019 votes, and John Bell still received 590,901 votes

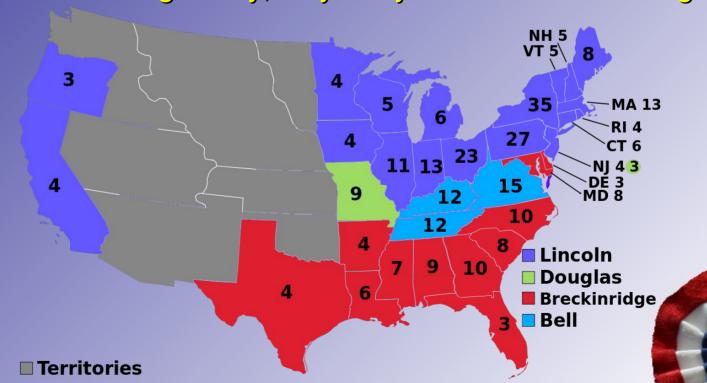


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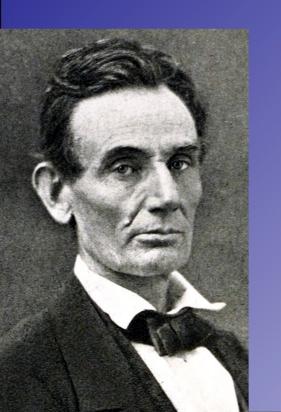
Arguably, the only reason that Lincoln won was because his opponents solit all of the opposing votes that would have defeated him, had a single opposition party run against him...

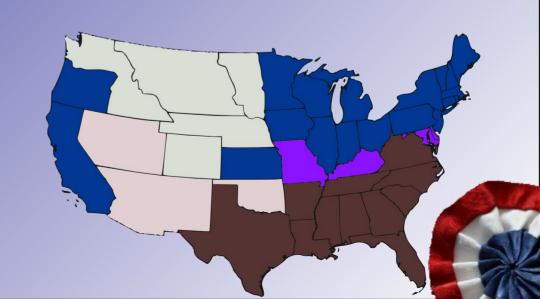
...and he got very, very lucky in the electoral college



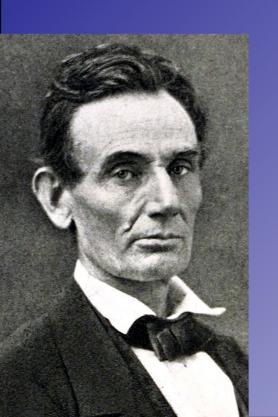


People really began putting feet to their faith
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The Crittenden Compromise
Abraham Lincoln was elected President
He was derisively called the "Rail Candidate,"
Ironically, after all of that, Lincoln assured the
South that he wouldn't end slavery
He wrote letters to every governor, telling them that
he supported creating a Constitutional Amendment
that would protect slavery in all of the states where
it was currently legal

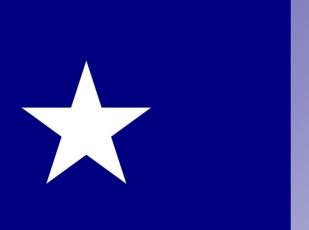


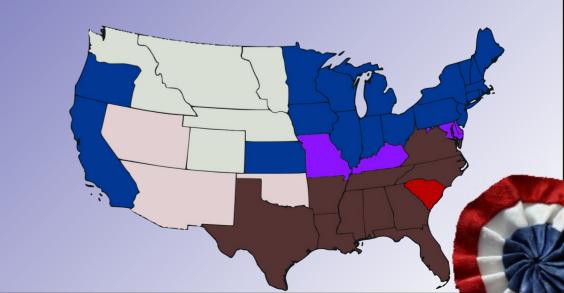


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He was derisively called the "Rail Candidate,"
Ironically, after all of that, Lincoln assured the
South that he wouldn't end slavery
He wrote letters to every governor
And in his First Inaugural Address, he reiterated,
"I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to
interfere with the institution of slavery in the
States where it exists. I believe I have no
lawful right to do so, and I have no inclination
to do so..."



- Funky little teaching moment—
 But at the news that Lincoln had been elected, South Carolina immediately voted to secede from the Union They adopted a new flag, and declared themselves to be a sovereign nation

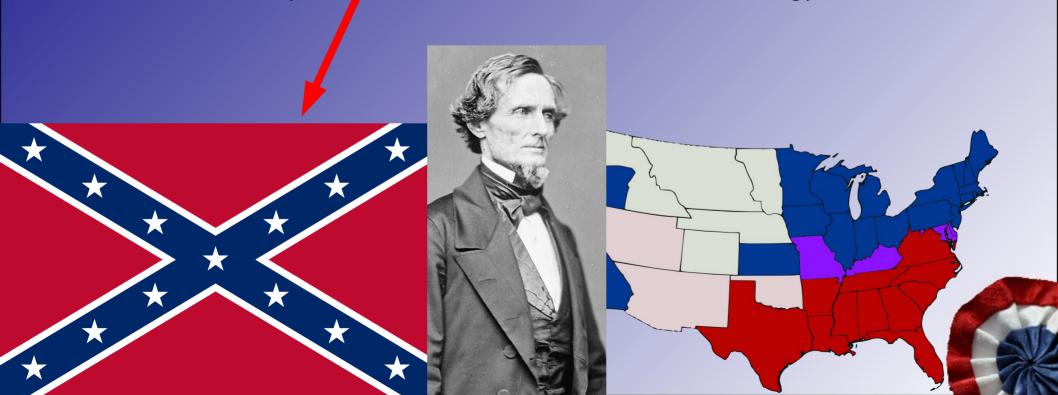




Funky little teaching moment

But at the news that Lincoln had been elected, South Carolina immediately voted to secede from the Union Within three months, several other states decided to secede as well, and to come together as a new nation, called the Confederate States of America with former Secretary of War Jefferson Davis as their new President

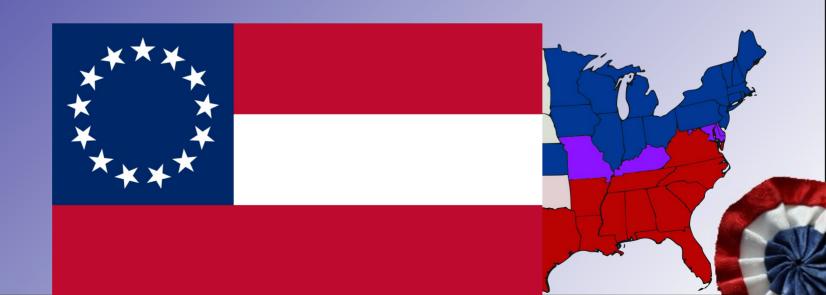
(but this was never the Confederate flag)



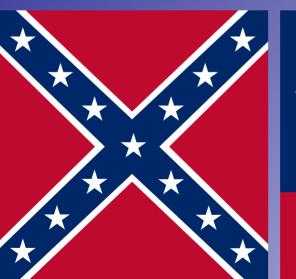
Funky little teaching moment²—
They called themselves a "Confederacy" not only to differentiate themselves from the northern "Union" but also to emphasize that they considered themselves less of a unified nation and more of a loose confederation of sovereign nation-states

So they took a nod from the state flag of Tennessee and created their own, Confederate flag (and then just kept adding stars to it as other states joined them over time)

(NOTE: This flag was affectionately referred to as "The Stars and Bars" flag)



Funky little teaching moment²
They called themselves a "Confederacy" not only to differentiate themselves from the northern "Union" but also to emphasize that they considered themselves less of a unified nation and more of a loose confederation of sovereign nation-states
So they took a nod from the state flag of Tennessee and created their own, Confederate flag
But when the wind hit the flag, it was hard to distinguish it from the Union flag, so most states came up with their own battle flags, for use in the field
Thus, this was a battle flag from the Army of Texas and this was from the Army of Northern Virginia (affectionately known as "The Southern Cross" flag)

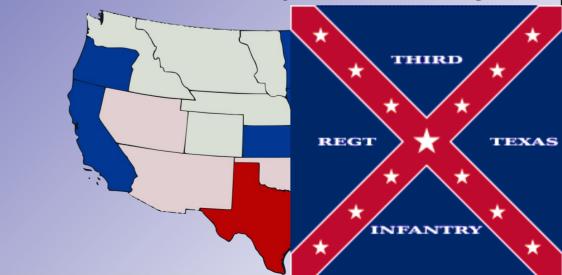






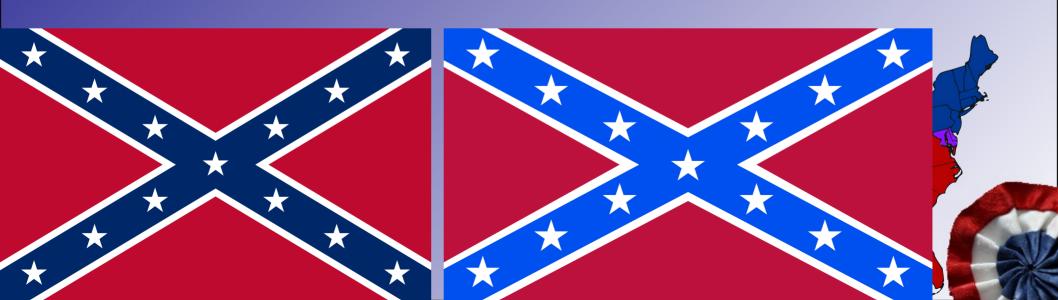
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But when the wind hit the flag, it was hard to distinguish it from the Union flag
Later, the CSA incorporated Virginia's battle flag into their new, official national flag (and naval ensign)
But it too often looked like they were surrendering, so they added a red bar so it wasn't just a "white flag"





Funky little teaching moment²—
 They called themselves a "Confederacy" not only to differentiate themselves from the northern "Union" but also to emphasize that they considered themselves less of a unified nation and more of a loose confederation of sovereign nation-states

 All of this is to say that this was never any kind of flag (Note: It is reminiscent of the naval jack that some ships flew later in the war, but the colors are all wrong, and the jack was never flown in the field or in battle)

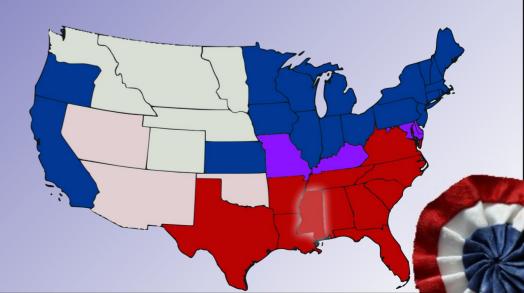


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 All of this is to say that this was never any kind of flag—this is just what self-proclaimed "rebels" like to hang in their basements and garages...
 (NOTE: I do confess that I have always found it kind of offensive that the actual Confederate battle flag is still proudly incorporated into the modern, state flag of Mississippi...)

of Mississippi...)



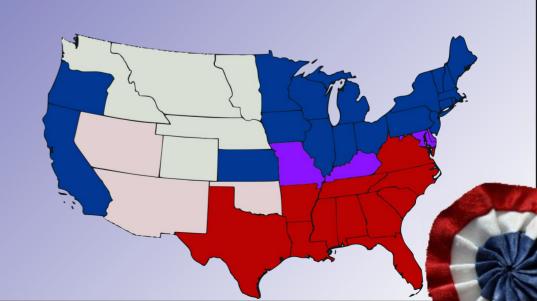


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 All of this is to say that this was never any kind of flag—this is just what self-proclaimed "rebels" like to hang in their basements and garages...
 That also means that on many levels, the modern Order of the Stars and Bars fraternal organization is just plain silly

just plain silly...





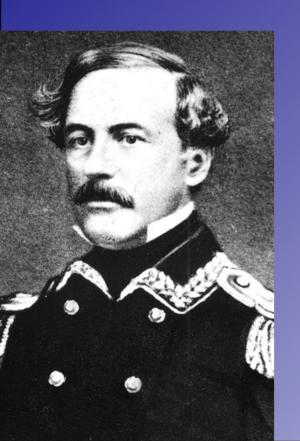
People really began putting feet to their faith
1859 John Brown led a raid on Harper's Ferry
1860 The Crittenden Compromise
Abraham Lincoln was elected President
Battle of Fort Sumter

There wasn't much that Lincoln could do to prevent the southern states from seceding out he did demand that Charleston's Fort Sumter remain in Union hands

So one of Davis' first executive orders was that the new, southern militia-turned-army take Fort Sumter and replace the flag with the Confederate one Under P.G.T. Beauregard, the southern forces took the fort—

many of the officers wearing their gray, former West Point uniforms (NOTE: Most of the Union's

best officers were from the South, and they felt compelled to support their region first and join the Confederate Army—which greatly offended one of the most yocal detractors of secession, Robert E. Lee)



Funky little teaching moment

After the firing on Fort Sumter, Lee resigned his commission in the U.S. Army, because he couldn't bear to contemplate fighting former compatriots (on either side of the conflict)

He began speaking out against the "revolution," writing to his son that "I can anticipate no greater calamity for the country than a dissolution of the Union"

When Jefferson Davis offered him the chance to serve in the Confederate Army, Lee turned him down flat

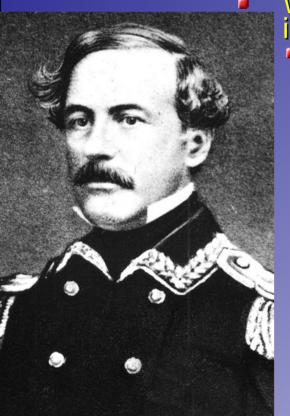
Later, he also turned down a similar offer to take a top position in the Union Army from advisor Francis

Blair, saying,

"Mr. Blair, I look upon secession

"Mr. Blair, I look upon secession as anarchy. If I owned the four millions of slaves in the South, I would sacrifice them all to the Union; but how can I draw my sword upon Virginia, my native state?

NOTE: Lee did own slaves, but found slavery "a moral & political evil in any Country" —just a necessary evil)



Funky little teaching moment

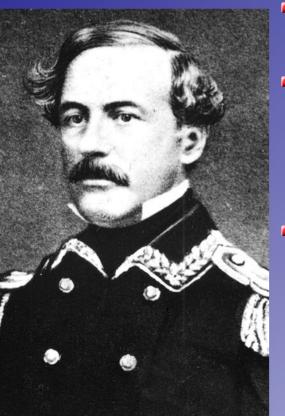
After the firing on Fort Sumter, Lee resigned his commission in the U.S. Army, because he couldn't bear to contemplate fighting former compatriots (on either side of the conflict)

Desperate for guidance, he spoke to his mentor, Winfield Scott, asking if he should just remain neutral, quietly staying on his own plantation

Winfield Scott replied with anger, "I have no place in my army for equivocal men..."

Thus, after a great deal of soul-searching, Lee finally decided that Winfield was right—that he couldn't just sit it out—but also that he could never bear arms against his beloved Virginia

against his beloved Virginia
So he sadly accepted Davis' offer
and took a leadership position
within the Confederate Army...



People really began putting feet to their faith
1859 John Brown led a raid on Harper's Ferry
1860 The Crittenden Compromise
Abraham Lincoln was elected President
Battle of Fort Sumter

There wasn't much that Lincoln could do to prevent the southern states from seceding but he did demand that Charleston's Fort Sumter remain in Union hands

The Battle of Fort Sumter set off protests in both

the North and the South, demanding war

Lincoln ordered an invasion of the South to re-take
all Union property, including forts and weaponry
which just made the final few states join the
rebellion and become part of the Confederacy

Both the North and the South declared

themselves to be in a state of open war...

