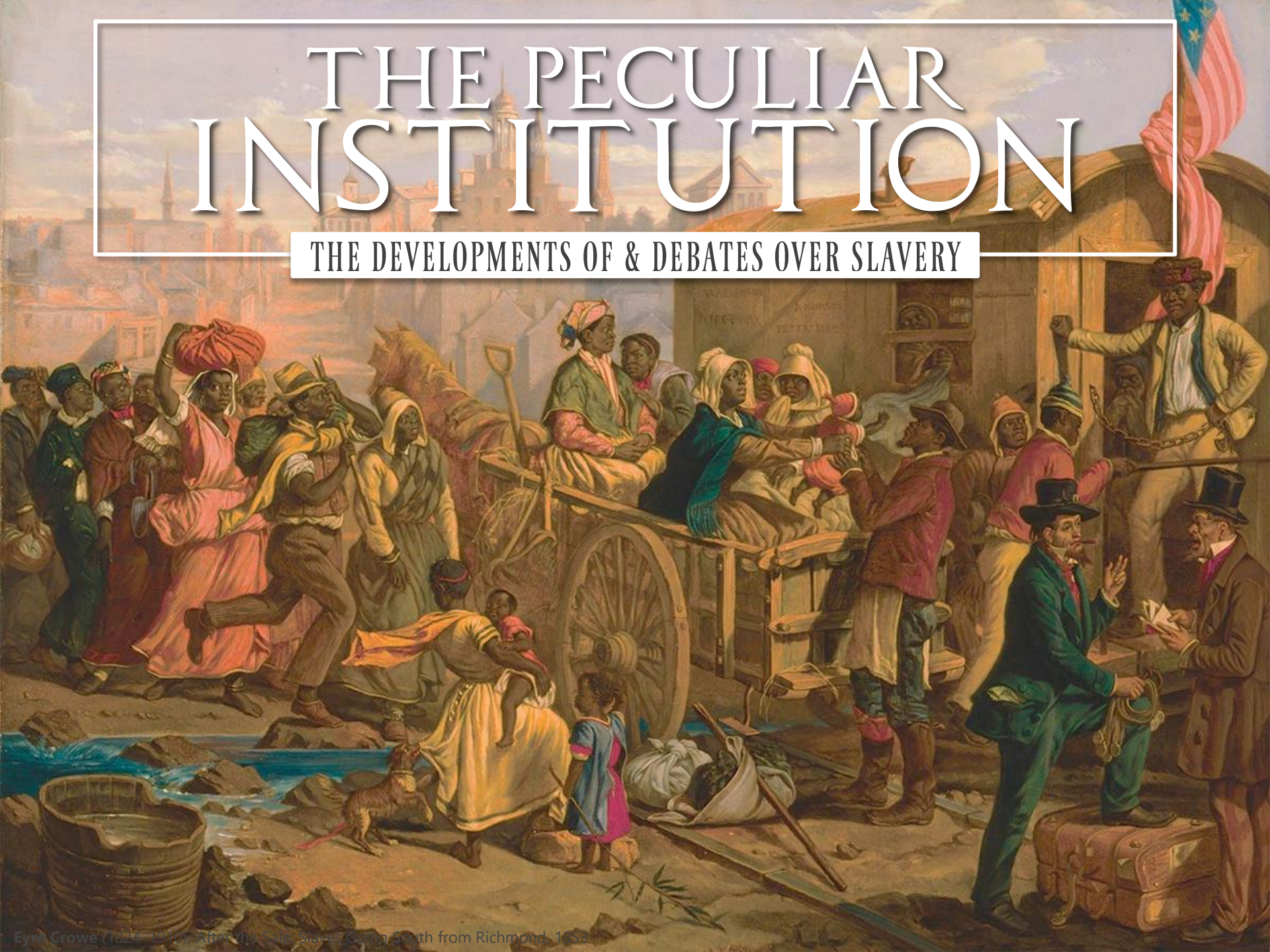


# THE PECULIAR INSTITUTION

THE DEVELOPMENTS OF & DEBATES OVER SLAVERY



A detailed historical engraving depicting a slave auction scene. In the center, a group of African men are being inspected by white men in hats. One man is being led into a wooden enclosure. In the foreground, a man is kneeling in a shallow pit, while another man stands nearby. The background shows a large building with a thatched roof and other figures, suggesting a busy slave market or plantation setting.

# SLAVERY IN HISTORICAL CONTEXT

# BEGINNINGS TO COLONIAL PERIOD

1400s  
1600s

SUBSAHARA &  
W. AFRICA SLAVERY

Before 1000s AD

PORTUGUESE  
& W. AFRICA

1440s

SPANISH  
ENCOMENDA

1500s

JAMESTOWN  
BLACK INDENTURES

1619

BACONS  
REBELLION

1676

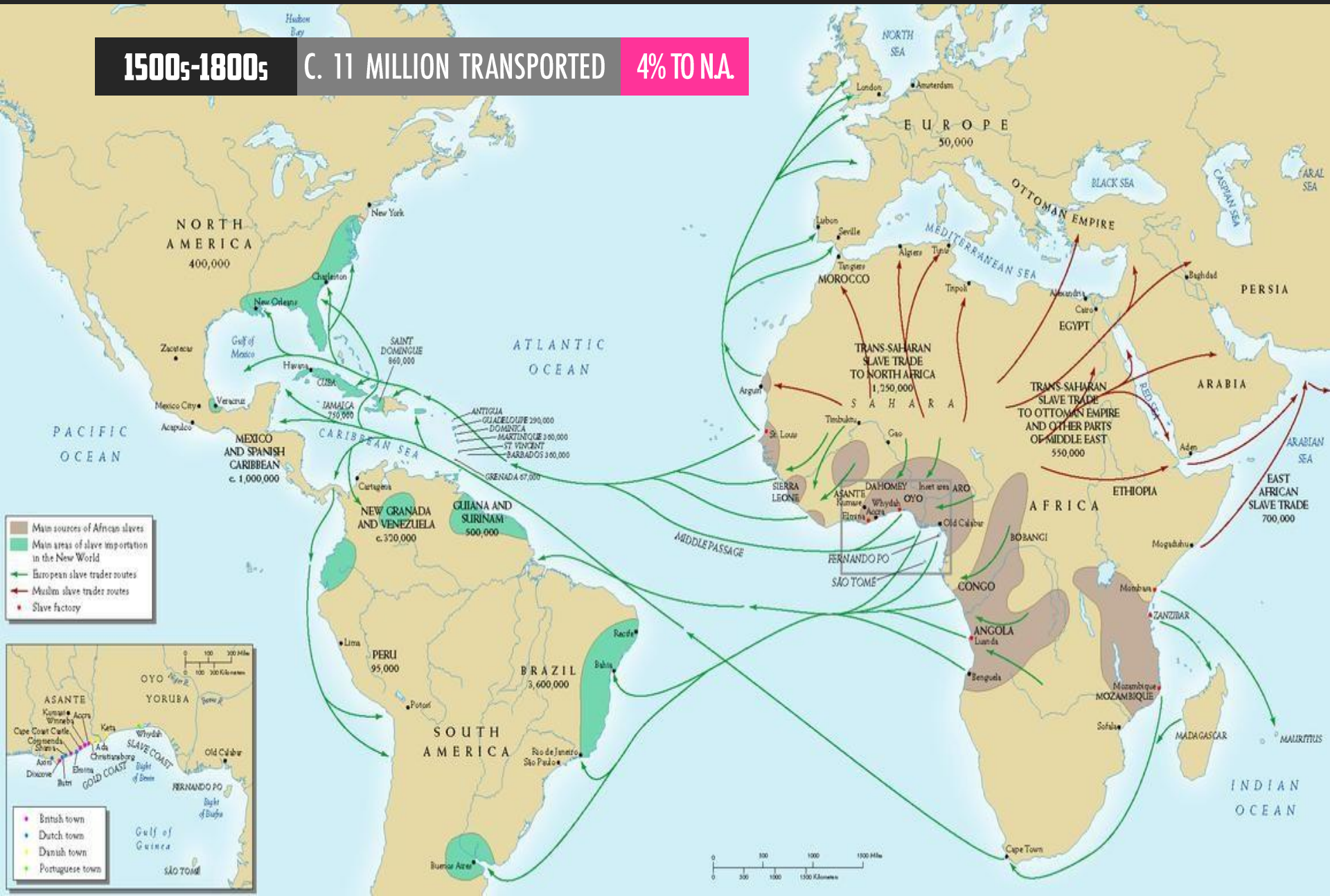


# THE SLAVE TRADE

1500s-1800s

C. 11 MILLION TRANSPORTED

4% TO NA



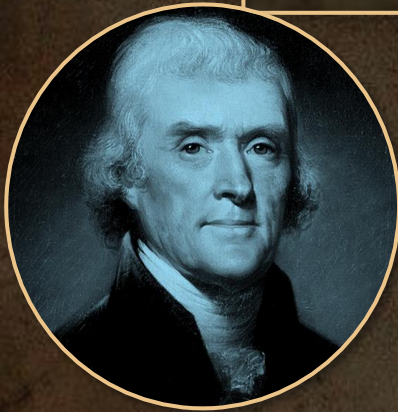
# FOUNDING & EARLY REPUBLIC

1700s  
1800s



*There is not a man living who wishes more sincerely than I do, to see a plan adopted for the abolition of [slavery]; but there is only one proper and effectual mode by which it can be accomplished and that is by Legislative authority; and this, as far as my suffrage will go, shall never be wanting....*

*Letter to Robert Morris, 1782*

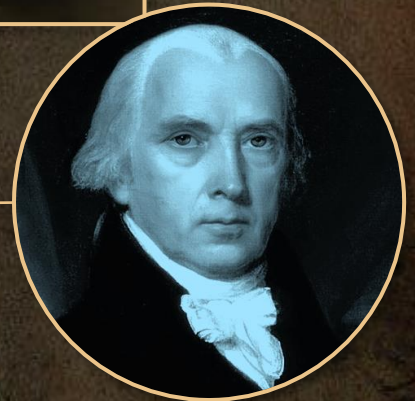


*The whole commerce between master and slave is a perpetual exercise of the most boisterous passions, the most unremitting despotism on the one part, and degrading submissions on the other*

*Notes on the State of Virginia, Query XVIII, 1782*

*We have seen the mere distinction of colour made in the most enlightened period of time, a ground of the most oppressive dominion ever exercised by man over man.*

*Debate Before the Committee of the Whole, 1787*



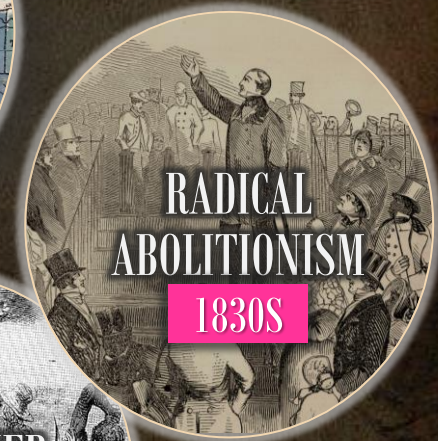
## **THE FOUNDING ERA**

THERE WAS A GROWING BELIEVE THAT SLAVERY WAS A MORAL DEPRAVITY & AGAINST THE VALUES OF THE REVOLUTION  
**BUT THERE WERE ISSUES...**

THE COMPLEXITY OF SLAVERY — THE LOGISTICS OF EMANCIPATION — THE POLITICAL & LEGAL TENSIONS WITHIN THE REPUBLIC

# ANTEBELLUM PERIOD

1810s-1850s



The background is a detailed historical painting of a cotton plantation. In the foreground, a white man in a top hat and a woman in a long white dress stand on a dirt path, gesturing towards a group of African American people. To the left, a man in a white shirt and dark pants stands next to a horse-drawn cart loaded with large bales of cotton. In the middle ground, several African American men and women are working in a vast field of cotton plants. Some are sitting on the ground, while others are standing. In the background, there are more cotton bales, a small wooden house, and a line of trees under a blue sky with white clouds.

# THE ECONOMICAL & SOCIO-CULTURAL UNDERPINNINGS OF SLAVERY



# TASK SYSTEM

INDIVIDUALIZED — LESS STRICT — FOCUS ON SKILLED LABOR — PRE-ANTEBELLUM PERIOD

<https://www.encyclopedia.com/humanities/applied-and-social-sciences/magazines/task-system>

## SYSTEMS OF SLAVE LABOR



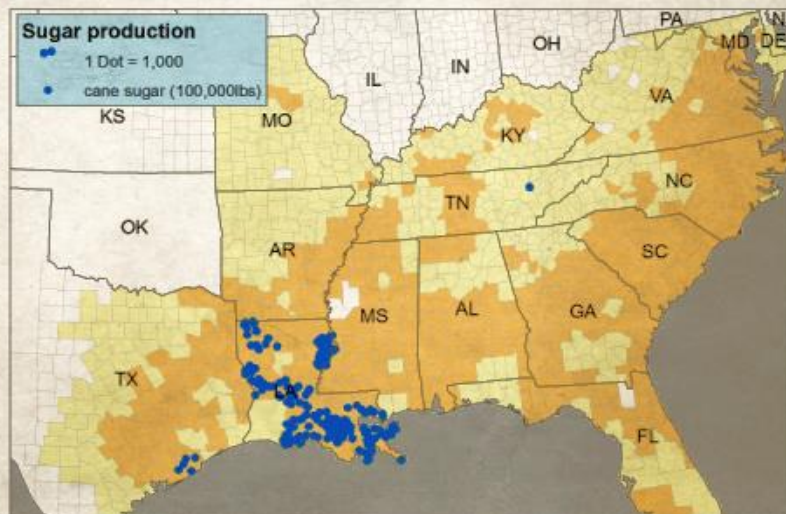
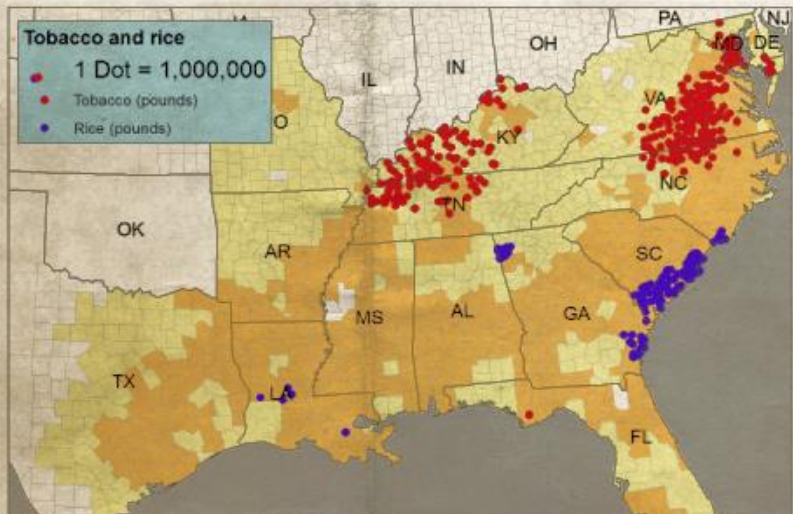
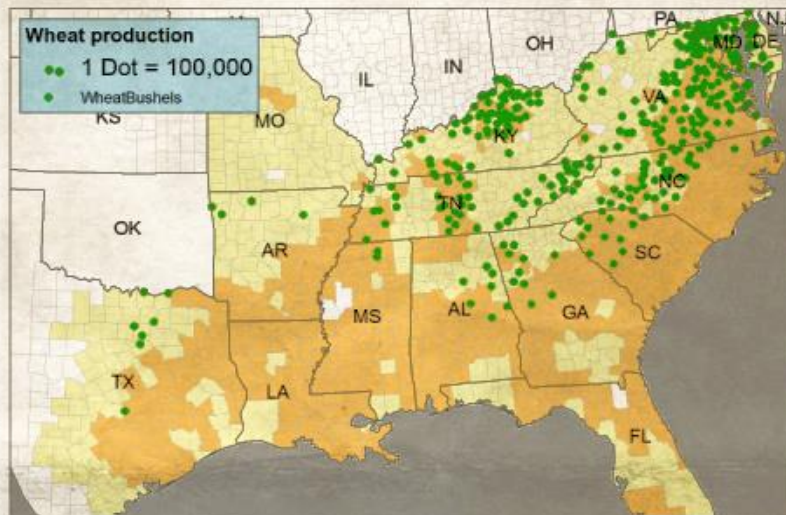
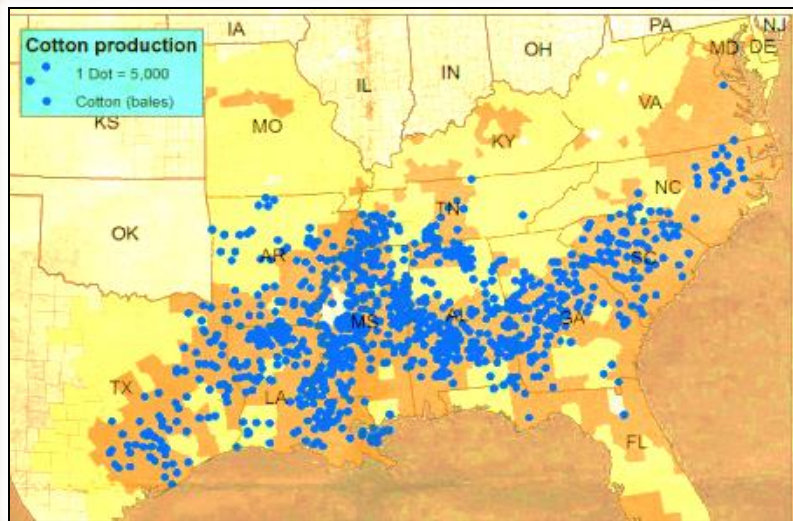
# GANG SYSTEM

COLLECTIVED — STRICTER — FOCUS ON EFFICIENCY — MID-ANTEBELLUM PERIOD

<https://www.encyclopedia.com/humanities/applied-and-social-sciences/magazines/gang-system>

# MAJOR AREAS OF SLAVE LABOR

Slavery and agricultural production, 1860



Map prepared by Patrick Rael, Department of History, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine.

Data source: U.S. Census data.

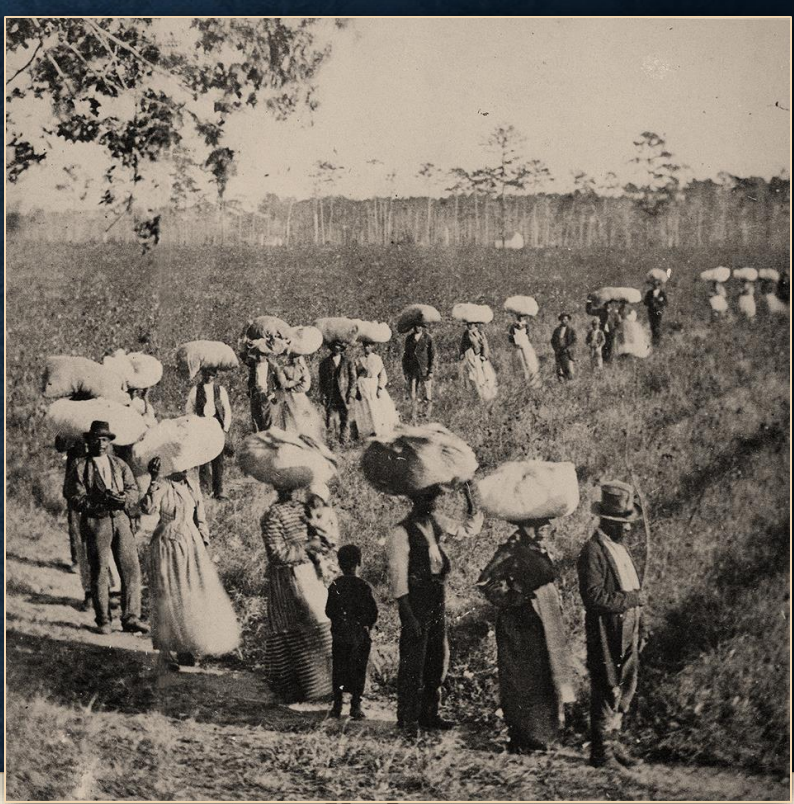
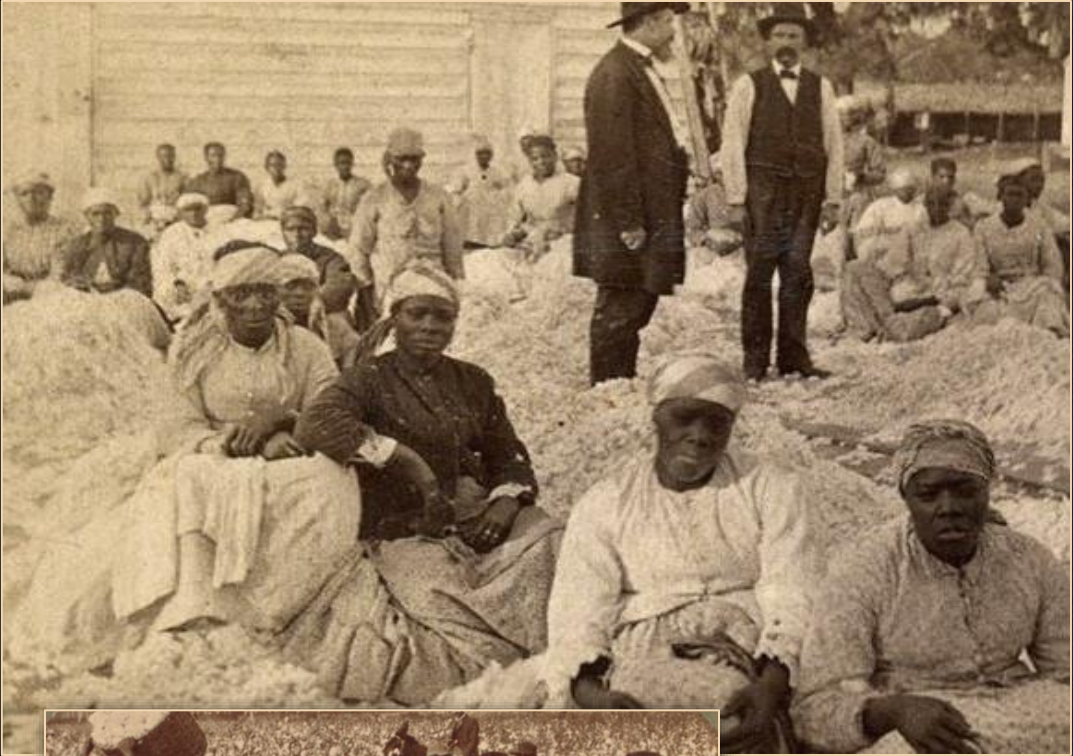
Shapefile source: Carville Earle, Changyang Cao, John Heppen, and Samuel Otterstrom, 1999.

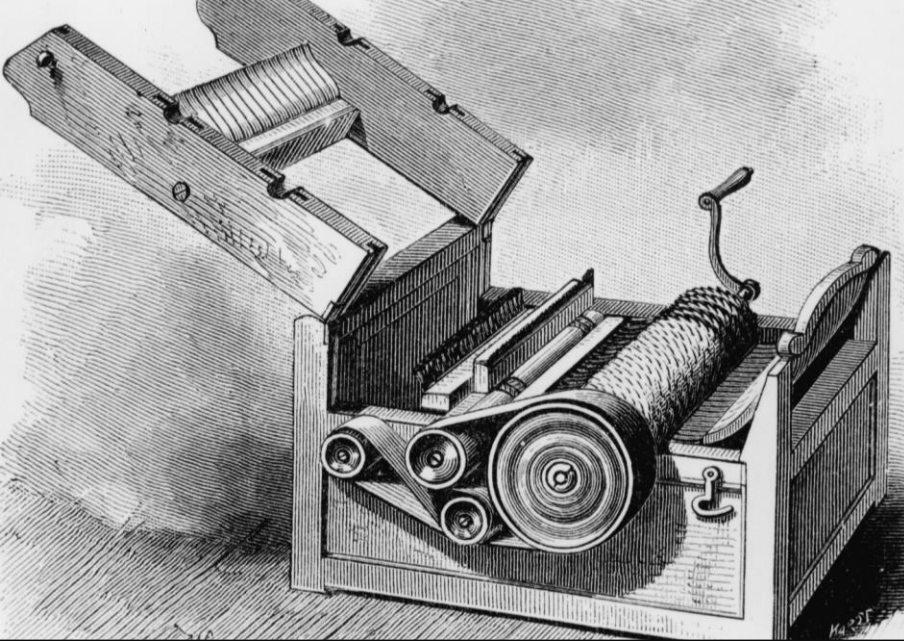
The Historical United States County Boundary Files 1790 - 1999 on CD-ROM. Geographic Publications. Louisiana State University.



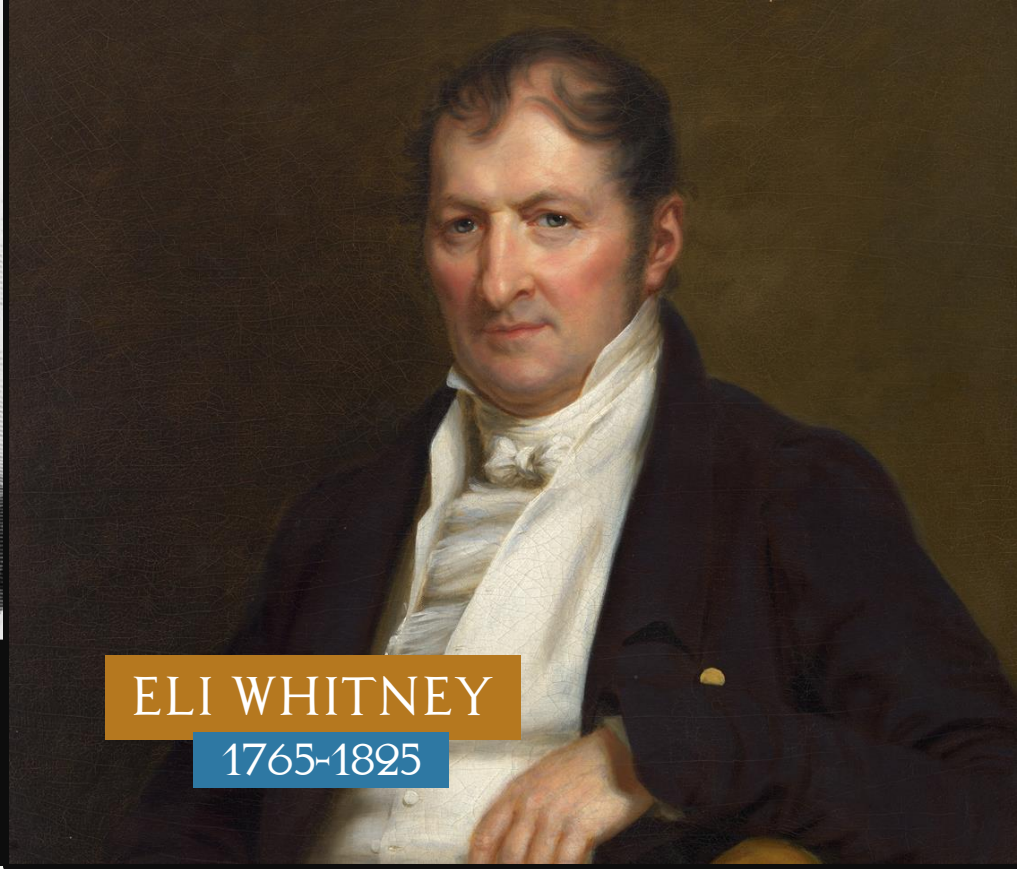
**Enslaved African Americans  
as % of total pop**

- None, or missing data
- 0.1% - 25%
- 25.1% - 93%



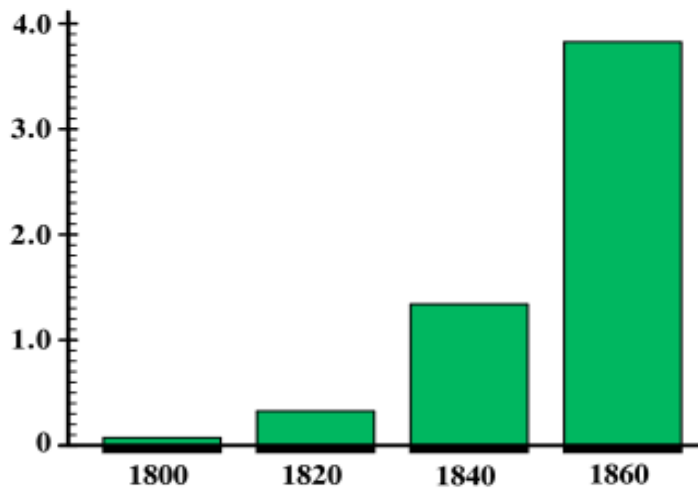


# COTTON GIN (1793)

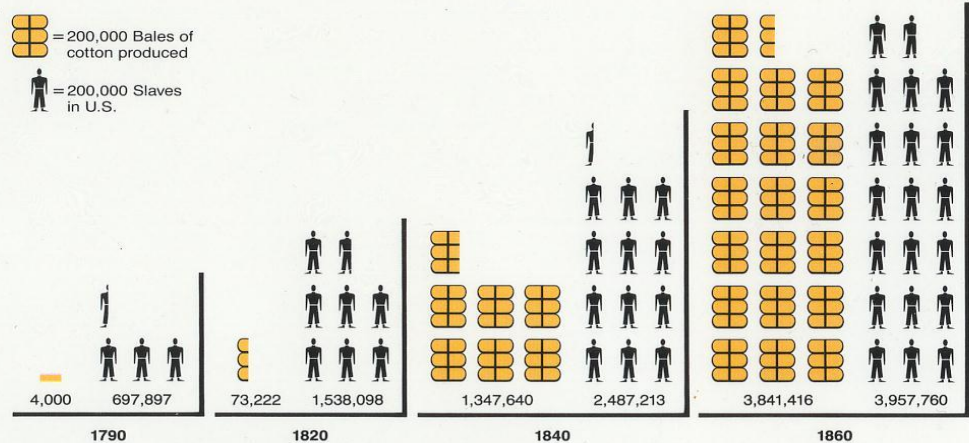


ELI WHITNEY

1765-1825

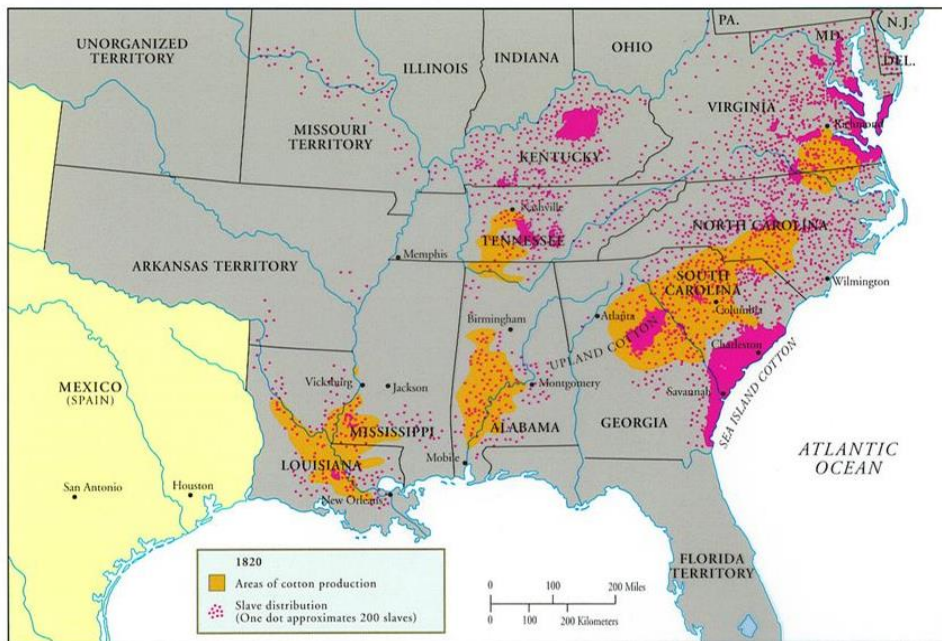


Cotton Production (Millions of Bales) 1800 - 1860

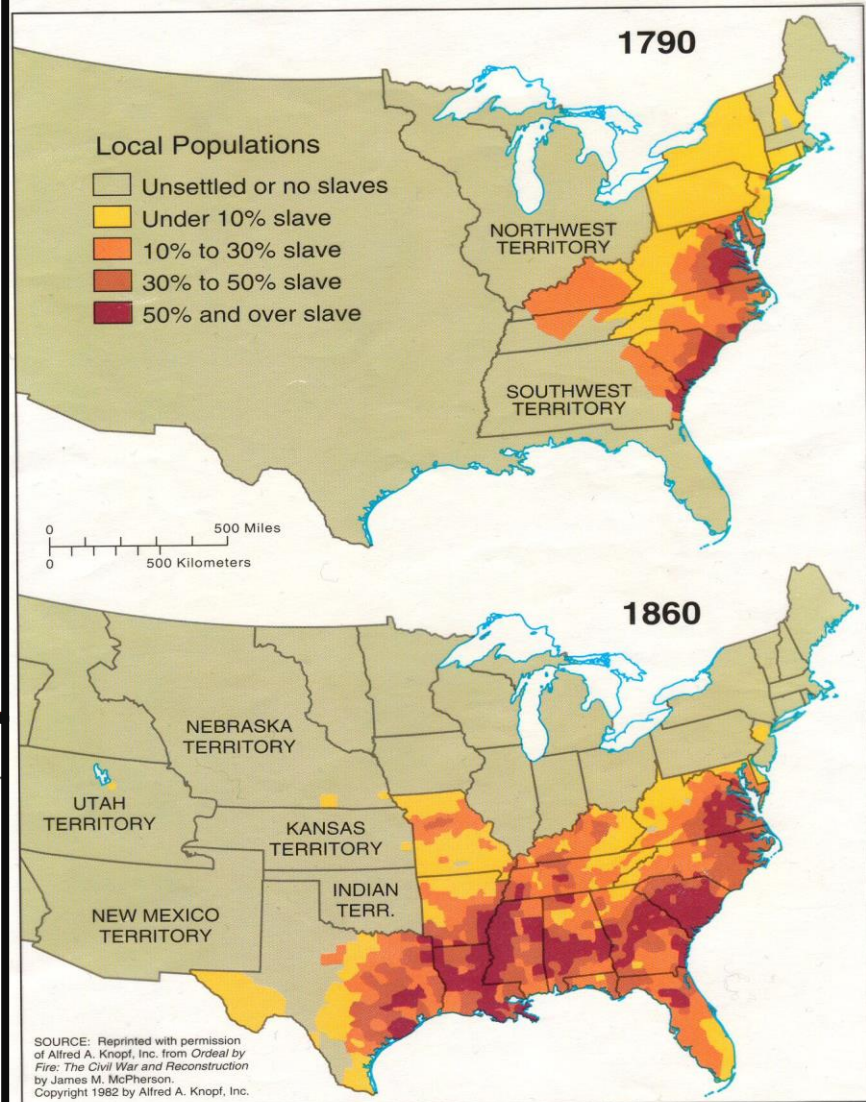
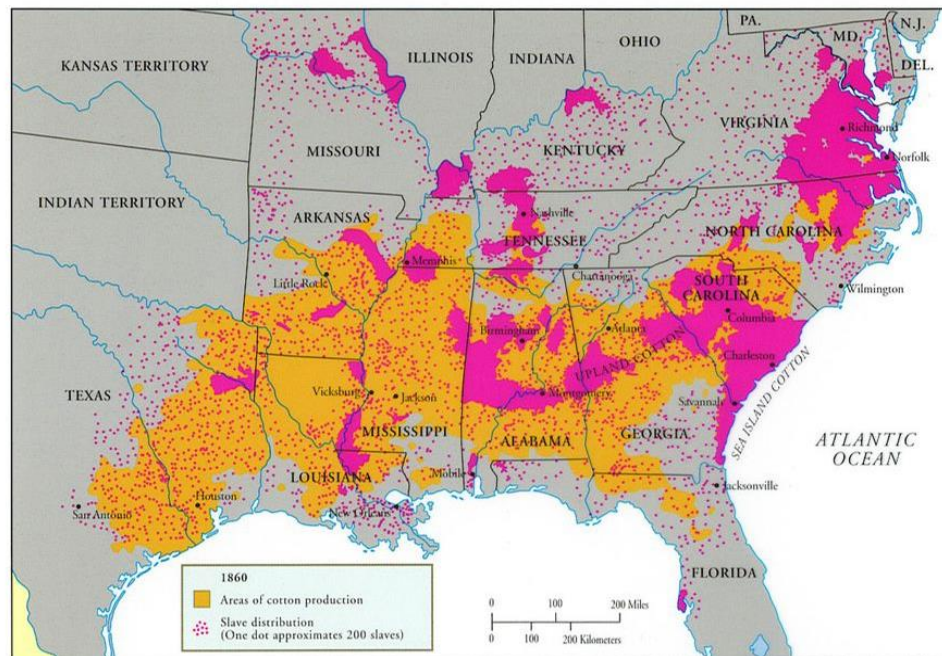


Growth of Cotton Production and the Slave Population, 1790–1860

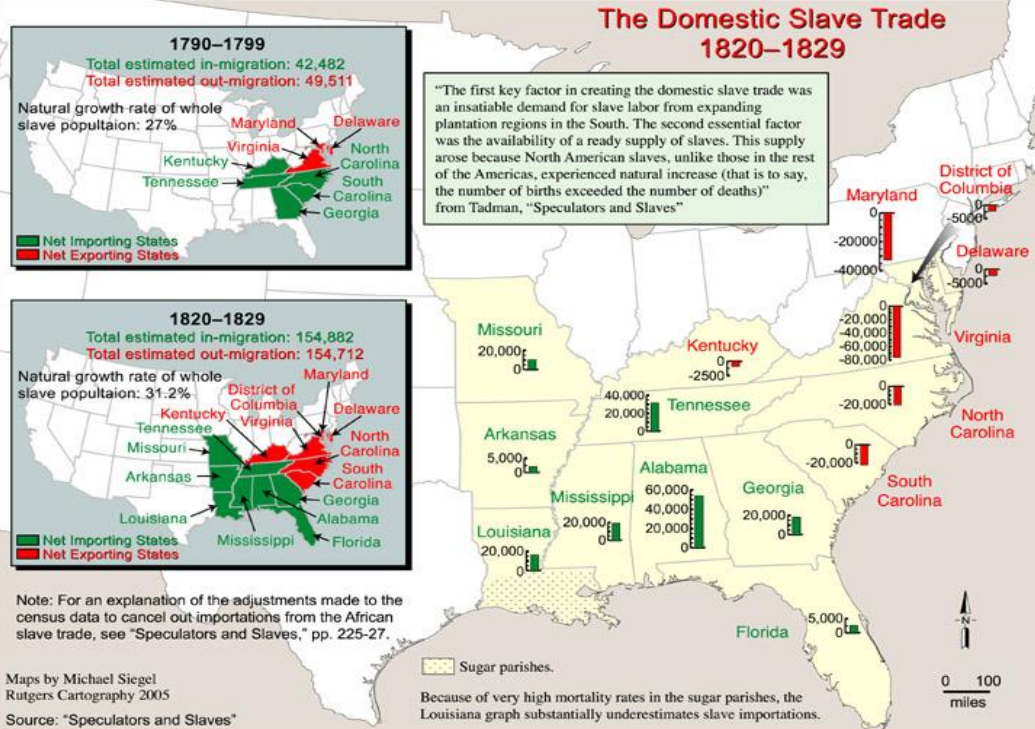
**Slavery and Cotton in the South, 1820**



**Slavery and Cotton in the South, 1860**

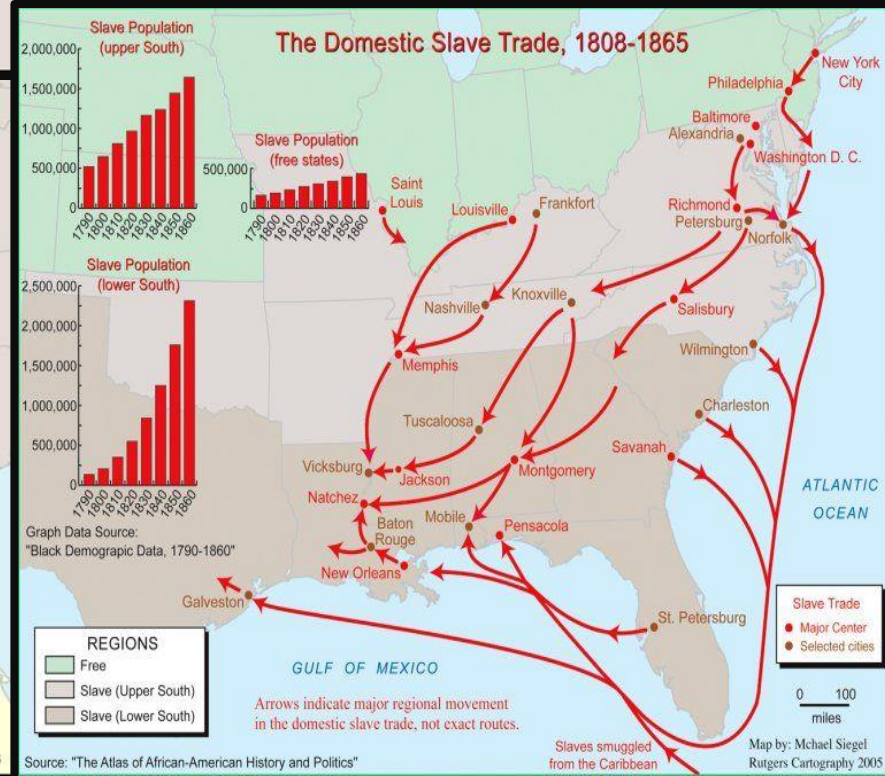
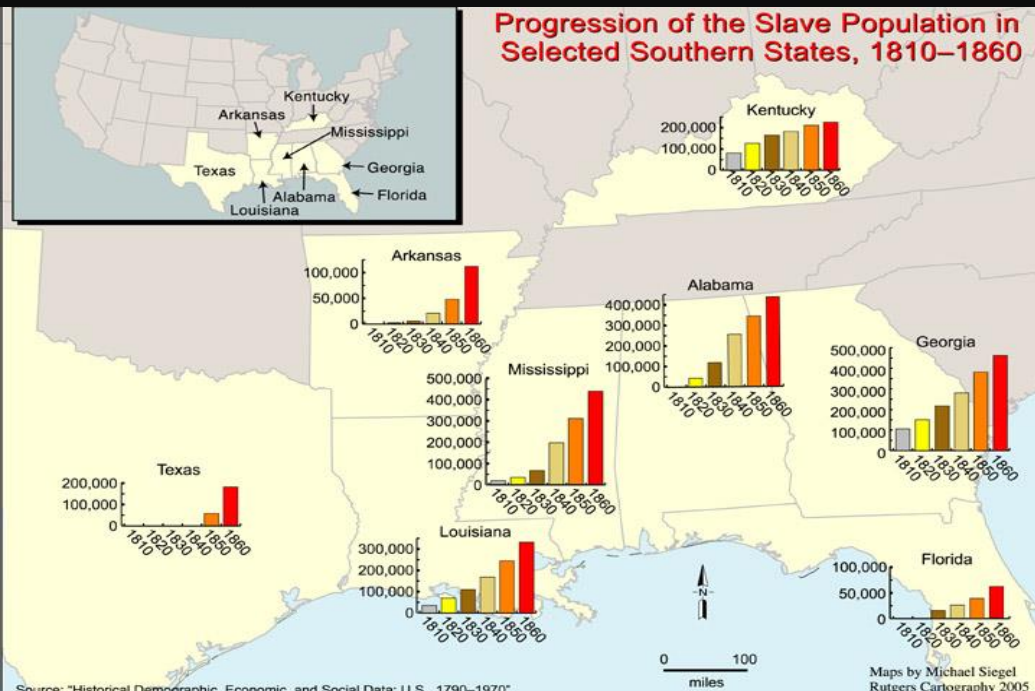


**PROGRESSIVE SHIFT OF POWER  
& ECONOMICS FROM UPPER  
SOUTH TO THE LOWER SOUTH**

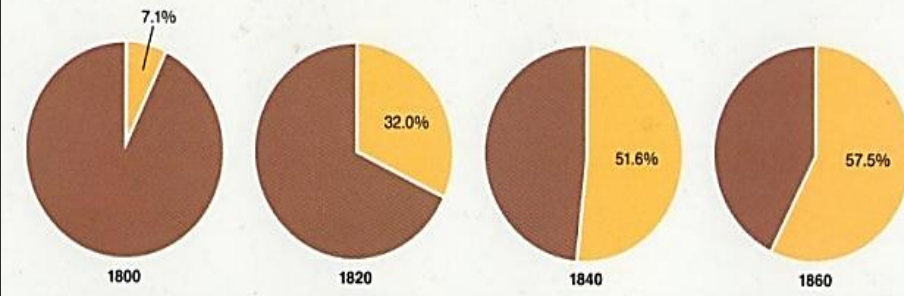
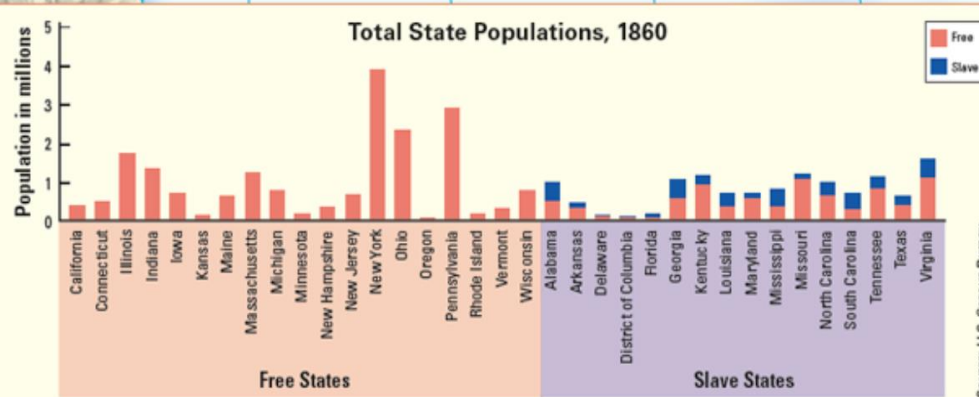
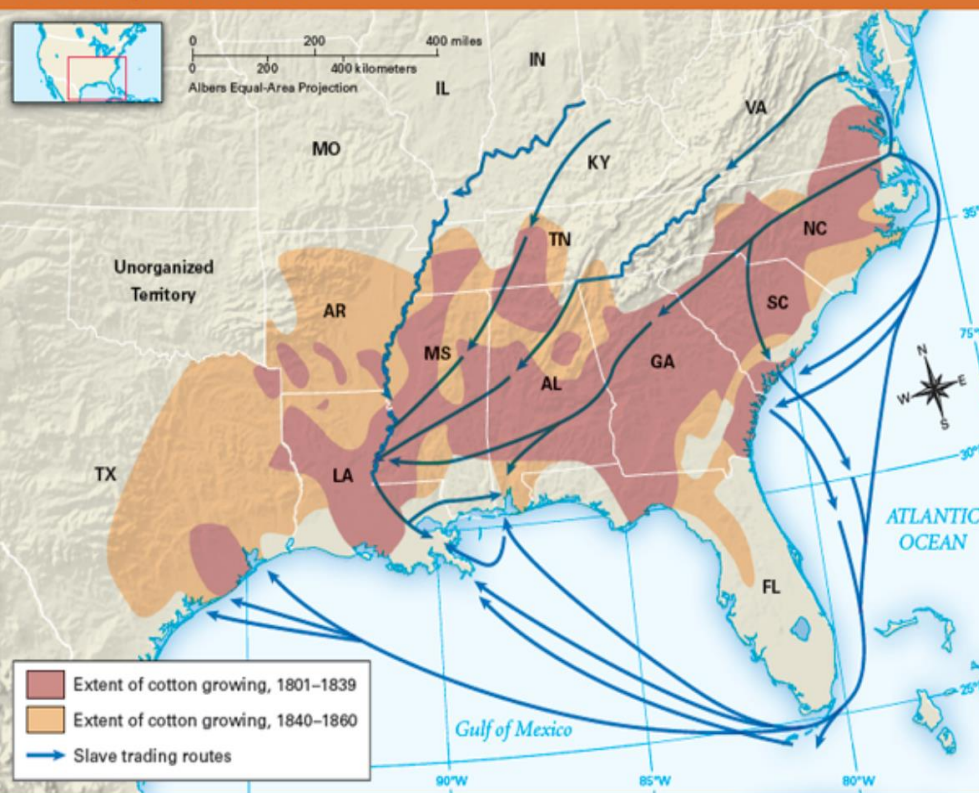


THERE WAS A MOVEMENT OF  
SLAVES FROM THE UPPER  
SOUTH TO THE DEEP SOUTH  
ACROSS THIS TIME

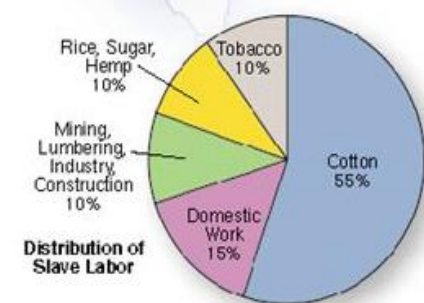
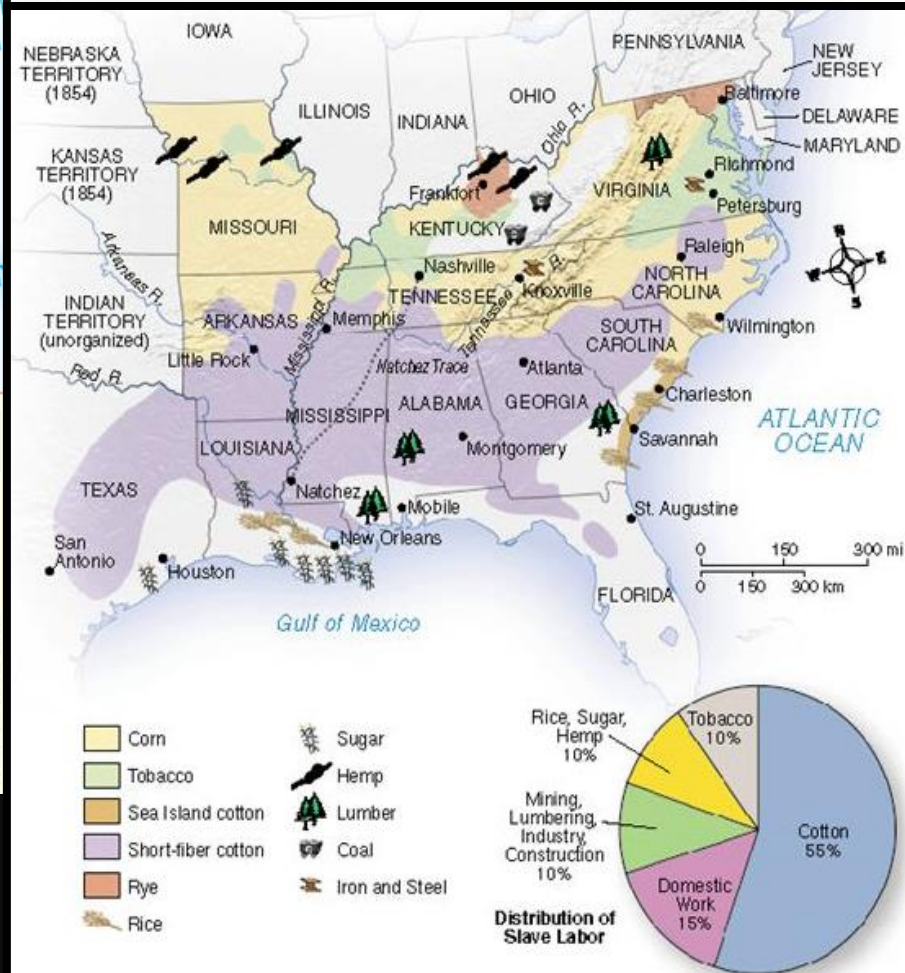
[http://www.inmotionaame.org/gallery/detail.cfm?migration=3&topic=7&id=3\\_001M&type=map](http://www.inmotionaame.org/gallery/detail.cfm?migration=3&topic=7&id=3_001M&type=map)



# The Slave System, 1801–1860



**Value of Cotton Exports as a Percentage of All U.S. Exports, 1800–1860**



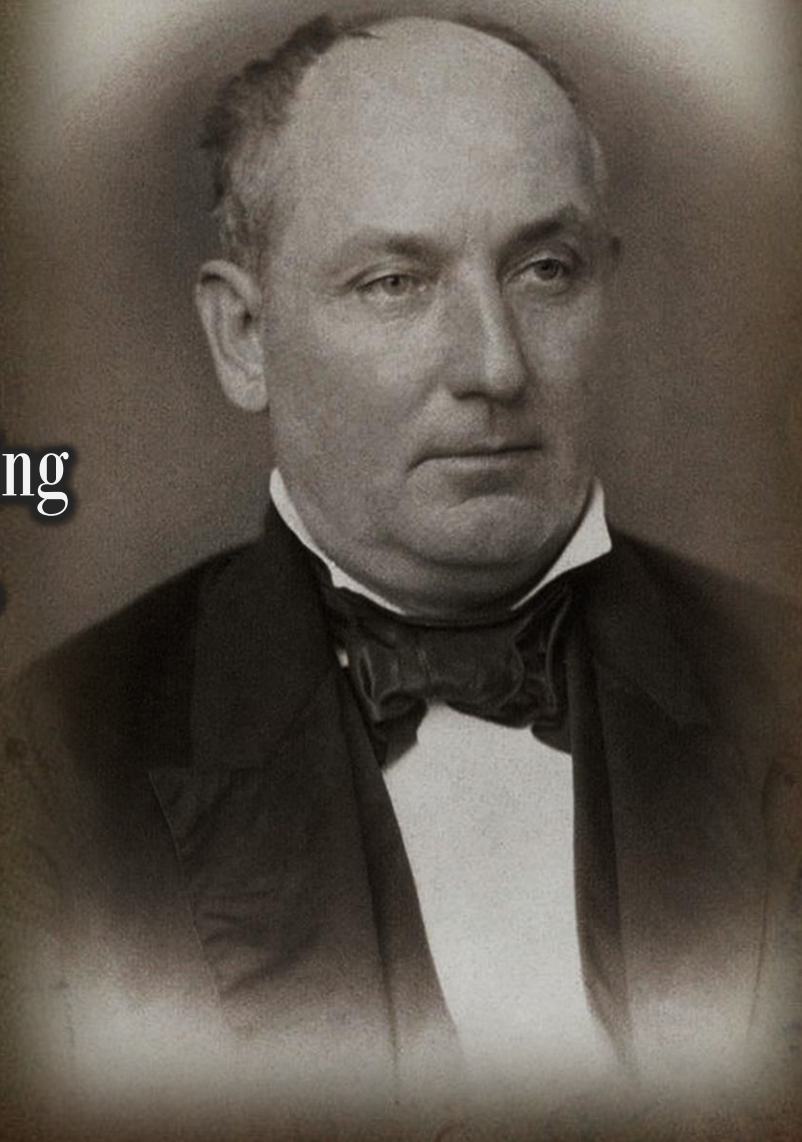
**BY 1860 SOUTHERN COTTON ACCOUNTED FOR 2/3<sup>RD</sup> OF THE WORLD'S COTTON PRODUCTION**

"THE VALUE OF SOUTHERN SLAVERY WAS THREE TIMES GREATER THAN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF ALL CAPITAL, NORTH AND SOUTH COMBINED, INVESTED IN MANUFACTURING, ALMOST THREE TIMES THE AMOUNT INVESTED IN RAILROADS, AND SEVEN TIMES THE AMOUNT INVESTED IN BANKS. IT WAS ALSO EQUAL TO ABOUT SEVEN TIMES THE TOTAL VALUE OF ALL CURRENCY IN CIRCULATION IN THE COUNTRY, THREE TIMES THE VALUE OF THE ENTIRE LIVESTOCK POPULATION, TWELVE TIMES THE VALUE OF ALL AMERICAN FARM IMPLEMENTS AND MACHINERY, TWELVE TIMES THE VALUE OF THE ENTIRE U.S. COTTON CROP, AND FORTY-EIGHT TIMES THE TOTAL EXPENDITURES OF THE U.S. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

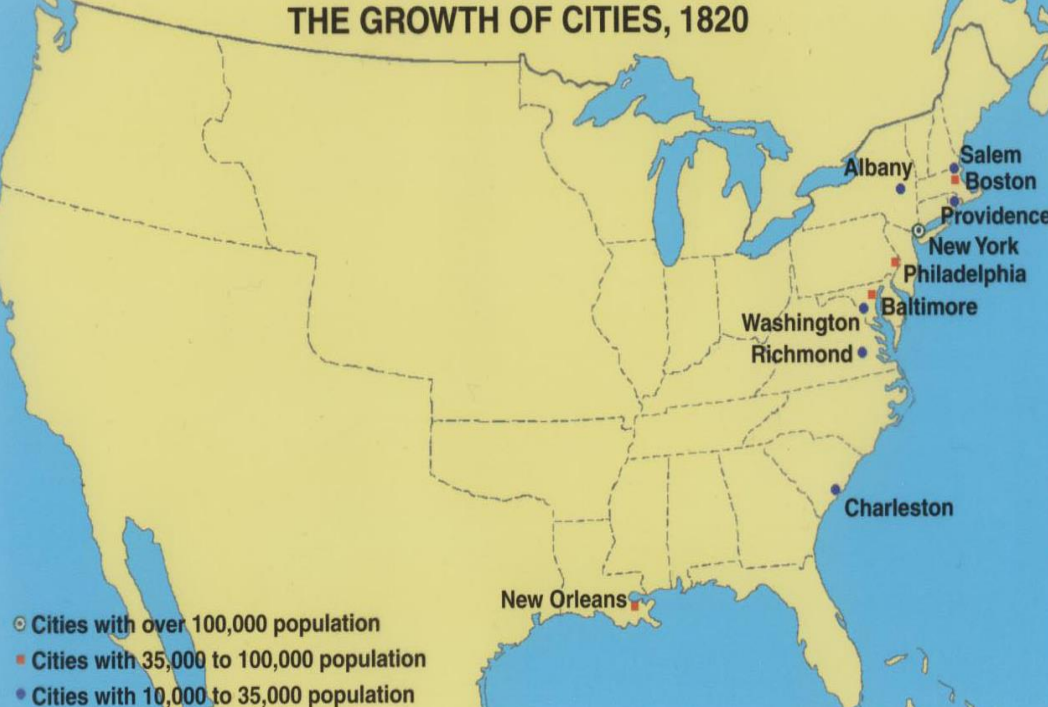
Steven Deyle, *Carry Me Back: The Domestic Slave Trade in American Life*  
(Oxford University Press, 2005), pg. 59-60

But if there were no other reason why we should never have war, would any sane nation make war on cotton? Without firing a gun, without drawing a sword, should they make war on us we could bring the whole world to our feet.... No, you dare not make war on cotton. No power on earth dares to make war upon it. COTTON IS KING.

**JAMES HENRY HAMMOND**  
SOUTH CAROLINA SENATOR (MARCH 4, 1858)



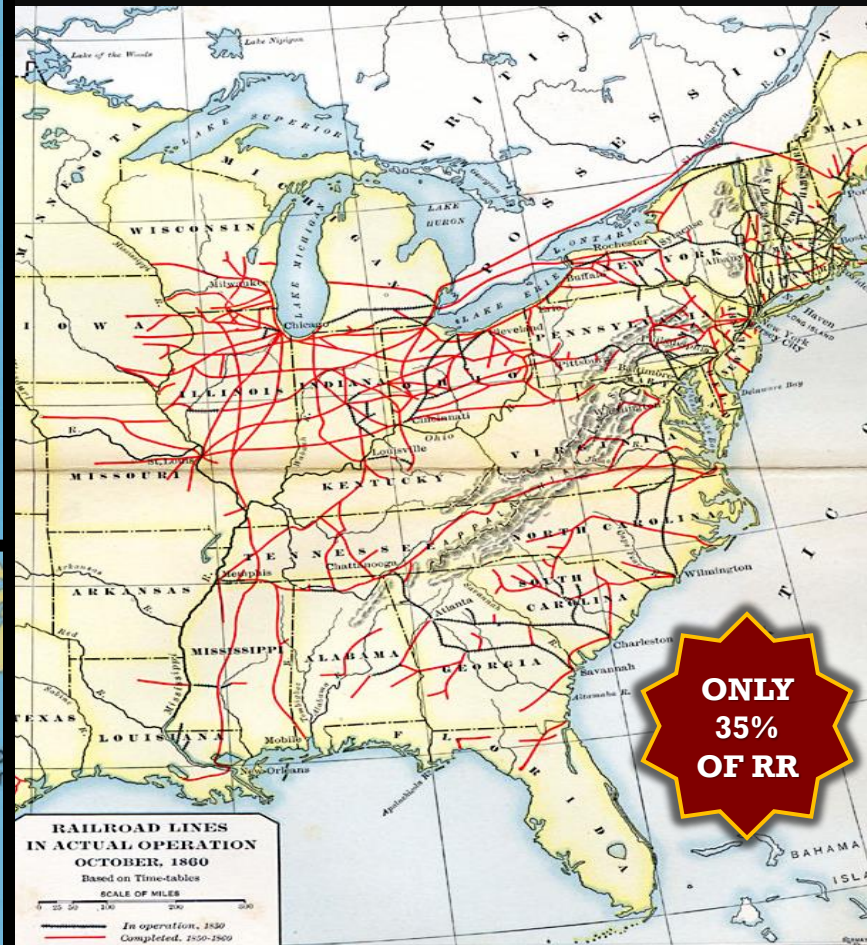
## THE GROWTH OF CITIES, 1820



## THE GROWTH OF CITIES, 1860



## THE SOUTH'S UNDIVERSE ECONOMY INFRASTRUCTURE & URBANIZATION



<https://www.measuringworth.com/slavery.php>

### Regional Wealth in 1850 and 1860 Billions of \$2016 dollars

	North 1850	South 1850	North 1860	South 1860
Total Wealth	\$32,200	\$20,500	\$41,400	\$26,800
Value of Slaves	-	\$9,300	-	\$12,950
Non-slave Wealth	\$32,300	\$11,200	\$41,400	\$13,800

# SOUTHERN SLAVEOCRACY

U.S. POPULATION  
IN 1850 WAS  
23,000,000  
9,500,000 LIVED IN  
THE SOUTH (40%)

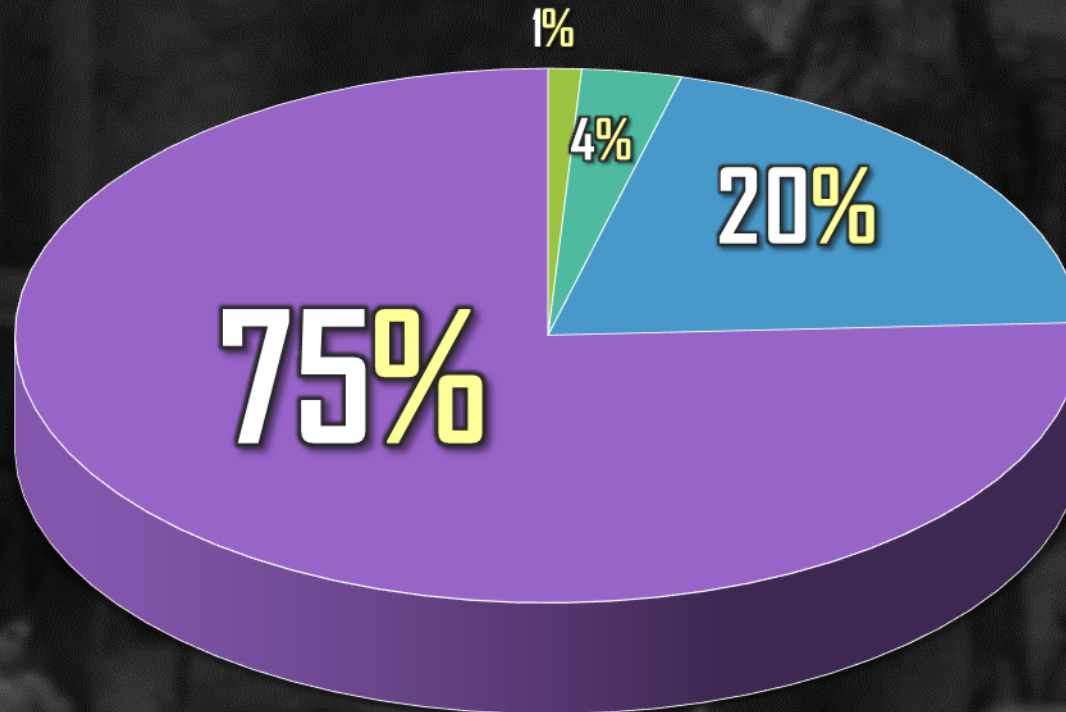
PLANTERS  
7%

POOR WHITE  
FARMERS  
50%

BLACK FREEMEN 3%

SLAVES 40%

# SLAVE HOLDING IN THE SOUTH

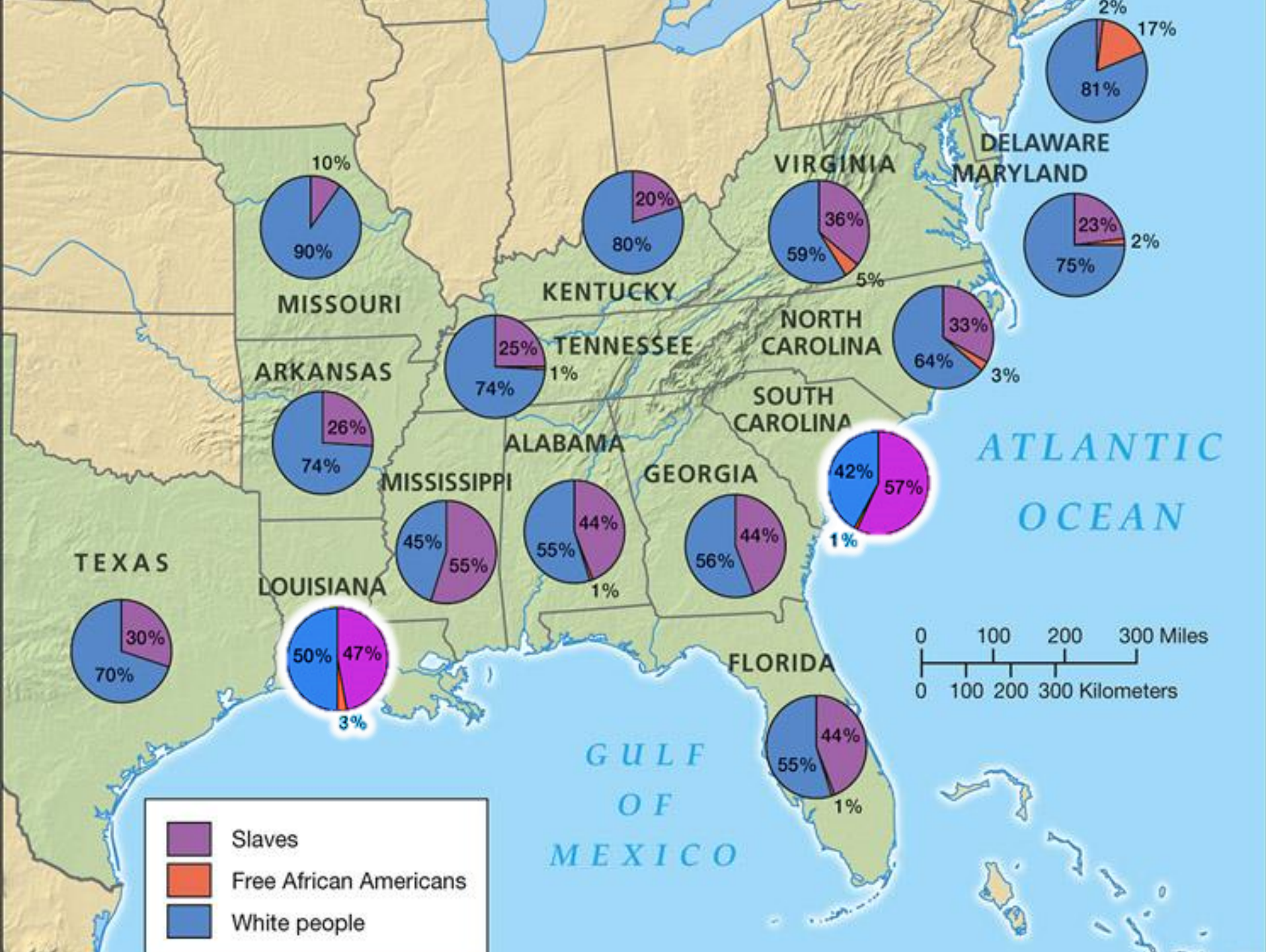


- Planter Elite (50+ Slaves)
- Small Planters (20+ Slaves)
- Small Slave Holders (less than 20 slaves)
- Non-Slaveholders

About 3,000 families in 1850s owned 100 or more slaves which accounted for 10% of the total slave population (4 million)

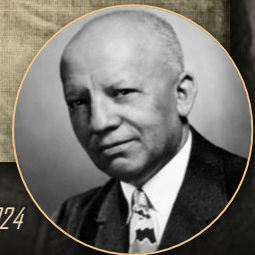
*Peter Kolchin, American Slavery: 1619-1877 (10th Anniversary Edition), United States: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2003, pg. 101; also look at the data compiled at: <https://eh.net/encyclopedia/slavery-in-the-united-states/>*

*Bruce Levine, Half Slave and Half Free, Revised Edition: The Roots of Civil War, United States: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2005, pg. 21-22*



FREE BLACKS WHO WERE ELIGIBLE TO OWN SLAVES (HEAD OF HOUSEHOLDS LIVING IN STATES WHICH WOULD LATER JOIN THE CONFEDERACY), 16% OF THEM OWNED BLACK SLAVES... AND IN CERTAIN STATES IT WAS HIGHER. FOR EXAMPLE SOUTH CAROLINA SAW 43% OF ELIGIBLE FREE BLACK PEOPLE OWN SLAVES, COMPARABLE TO 40% IN LOUISIANA, 26% IN MISSISSIPPI, 25% IN ALABAMA, AND 20% IN GEORGIA.

Carter C. Woodson, "Father of Black History" *Free Negro Owners of Slaves in the United States in 1830: Together with Absentee Ownership of Slaves in the United States in 1830. 1924*



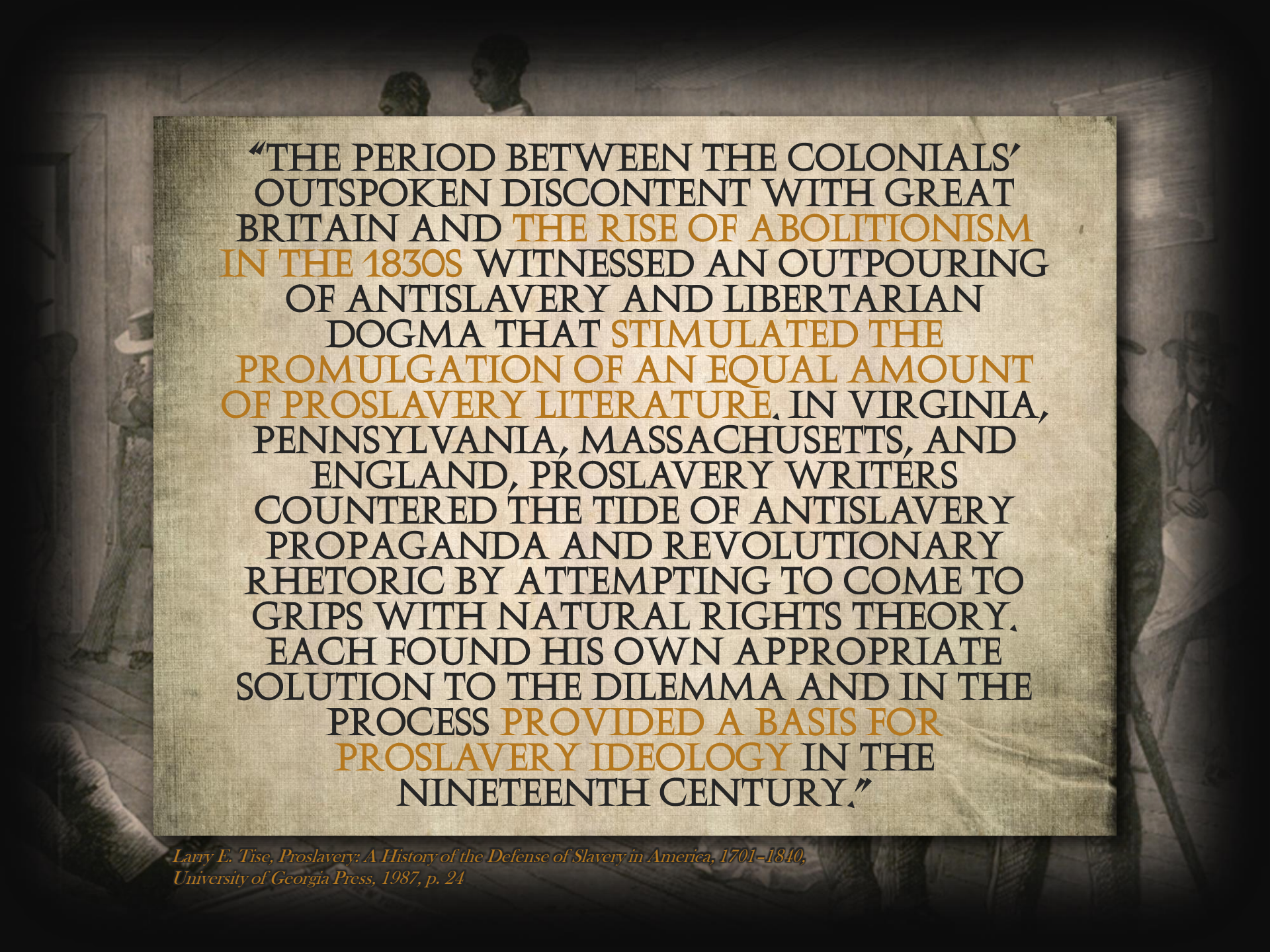
A historical illustration showing a large group of men in 18th-century attire gathered in a grand hall, signing documents. The scene is formal and significant, representing the Founding Era.

**FOUNDING & EARLY REPUBLIC ERA**  
**GRADUAL EMANCIPATION — CHANGE VIA LEGISLATION — STATE-CENTERED**  
**STRUGGLES TO RECONCILE REVOLUTIONARY IDEALS VS. LOGISTICS OF ENDING IT**

**WRESTLING WITH THE ISSUE OF SLAVERY**

A historical illustration showing a group of men in 19th-century attire seated in a legislative assembly or courtroom. The scene is formal and significant, representing the Mid-Antebellum Era.

**MID-ANTEBELLUM ERA**  
**RADICAL ABOLITIONISM — CHANGE VIA RESISTANCE — FEDERAL-CENTERED**  
**BATTLES OVER MILITANT OPPOSITION VS. MILITANT SUPPORT OF SLAVERY**



“THE PERIOD BETWEEN THE COLONIALS’  
OUTSPOKEN DISCONTENT WITH GREAT  
BRITAIN AND THE RISE OF ABOLITIONISM  
IN THE 1830S WITNESSED AN OUTPOURING  
OF ANTISLAVERY AND LIBERTARIAN  
DOGMA THAT STIMULATED THE  
PROMULGATION OF AN EQUAL AMOUNT  
OF PROSLAVERY LITERATURE. IN VIRGINIA,  
PENNSYLVANIA, MASSACHUSETTS, AND  
ENGLAND, PROSLAVERY WRITERS  
COUNTERED THE TIDE OF ANTISLAVERY  
PROPAGANDA AND REVOLUTIONARY  
RHETORIC BY ATTEMPTING TO COME TO  
GRIPS WITH NATURAL RIGHTS THEORY.  
EACH FOUND HIS OWN APPROPRIATE  
SOLUTION TO THE DILEMMA AND IN THE  
PROCESS PROVIDED A BASIS FOR  
PROSLAVERY IDEOLOGY IN THE  
NINETEENTH CENTURY.”

*Larry E. Tise, Proslavery: A History of the Defense of Slavery in America, 1701-1840,  
University of Georgia Press, 1987, p. 24*

# ARGUING FOR SLAVERY

1

## IT'S HISTORICAL

IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN AND WILL ALWAYS BE

2

## IT'S LEGAL

THE FEDERAL & STATE LAWS PROTECT ONES PROPERTY

3

## IT'S ECONOMICAL

IT IS CENTRAL TO THE ECONOMY OF THE WORLD

4

## IT'S BIBLICAL

GOD HAS ORDAINED SOME RACES TO BE SUBSERVIENT

5

## IT'S SCIENTIFIC

SOME RACES ARE SUPERIOR BIOLOGICALLY

6

## IT'S CIVILIZING

IT LIBERATED THE AFRICAN FROM BACKWARD BARBARISM

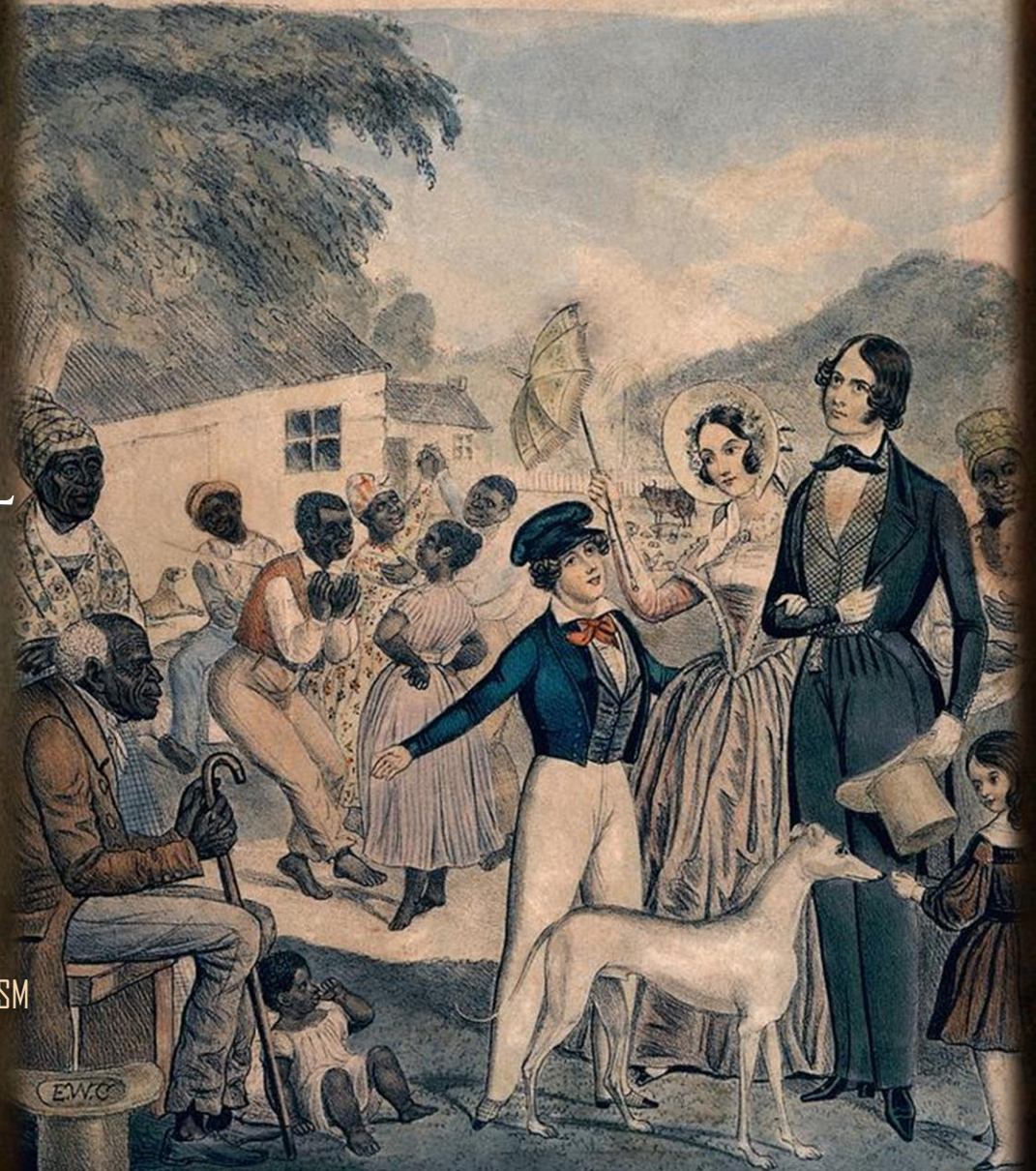
7

## IT'S NATURAL

ALL SOCIETIES HAVE HEIRARCHIES OF TOP TO BOTTOM

*God bless you massa! you feed  
and clothe us. When we are sick  
you nurse us, and when too old  
to work, you provide for us!*

*These poor creatures are a sacred legacy  
from my ancestors and while a dollar is  
left me, nothing shall be spared to increase  
their comfort and happiness.*

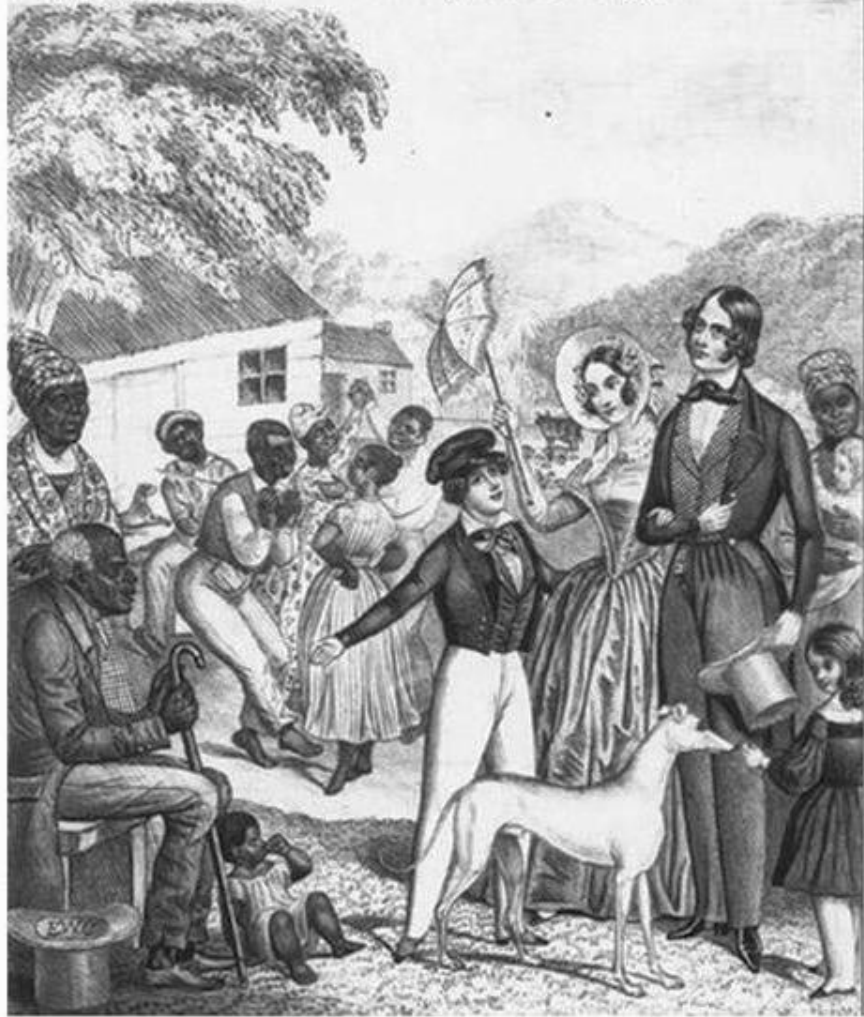


# ARGUING SLAVERY IN THE SOUTH VS. SLAVERY IN THE NORTH

AMERICA.

*God bless you, massa! you feed  
and clothe us. When we are sick  
you nurse us, and when too old  
to work, you provide for us!*

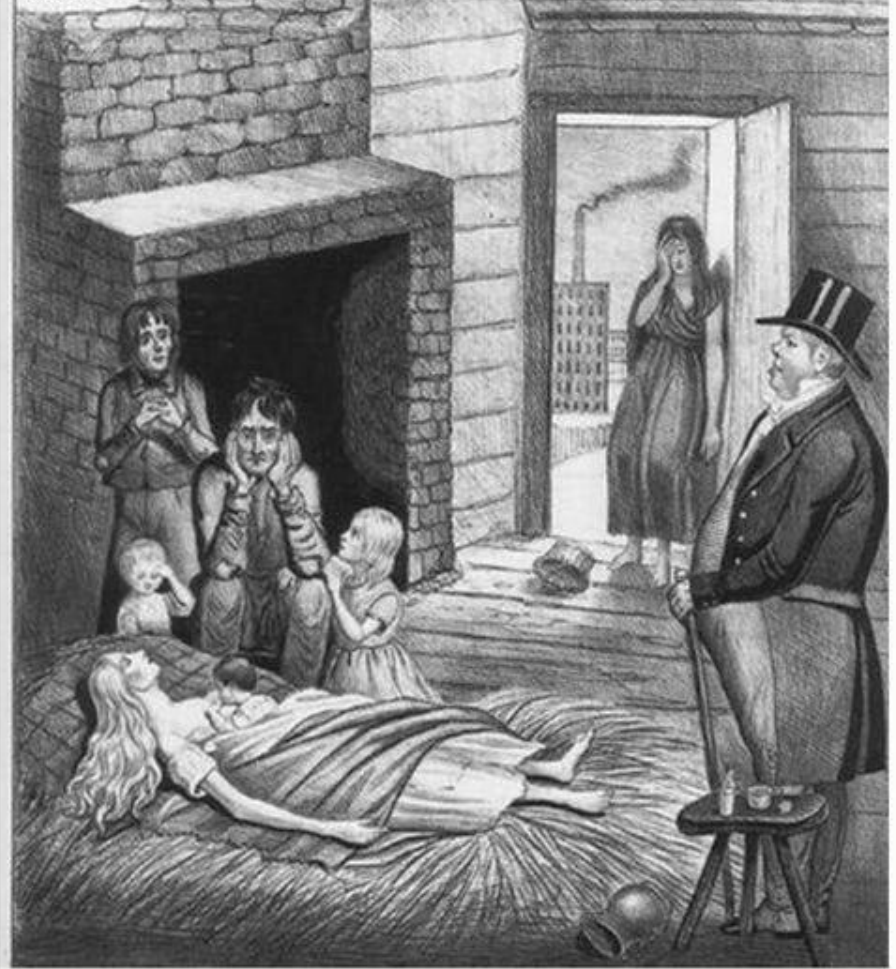
*These poor creatures are a sacred legacy  
from my ancestors and while a dollar is  
left me, nothing shall be spared to increase  
their comfort and happiness.*



ENGLAND.

*Oh heaven! in this boasted land of  
freedom to be starving for want of em-  
ployment! No relief from the perni-  
cious aristocracy whose blasted for-  
tunes have been made by our blood  
and toil!*

*Come pack off to the work-  
house! that's the only re-  
medy for you!*

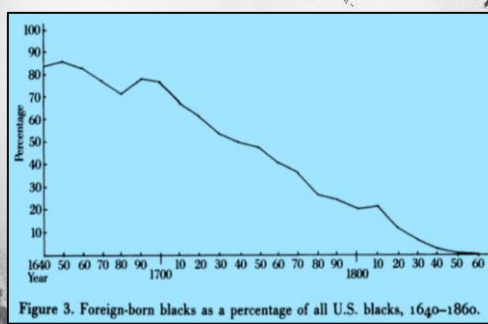
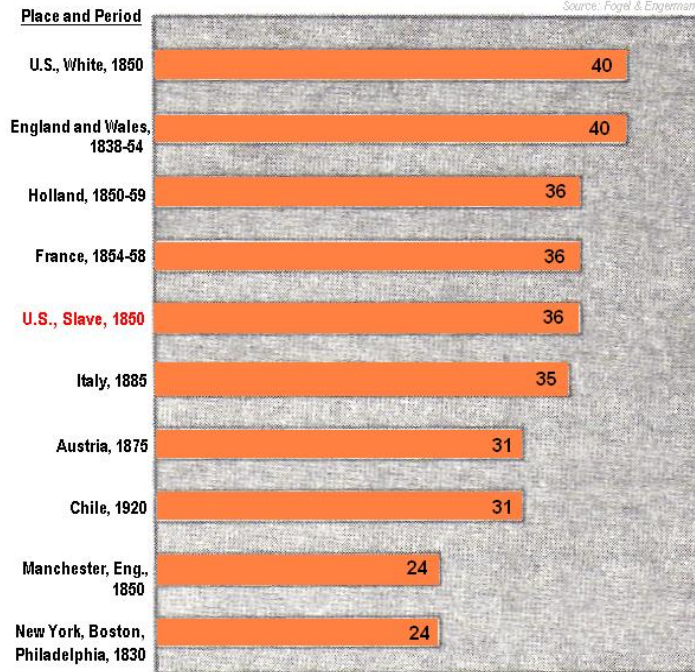




# LIFE & CULTURE OF SLAVES

## Life Expectancy at Birth for U.S. Slaves and Various Free Populations, 1830-1920

Source: Fogel & Engerman

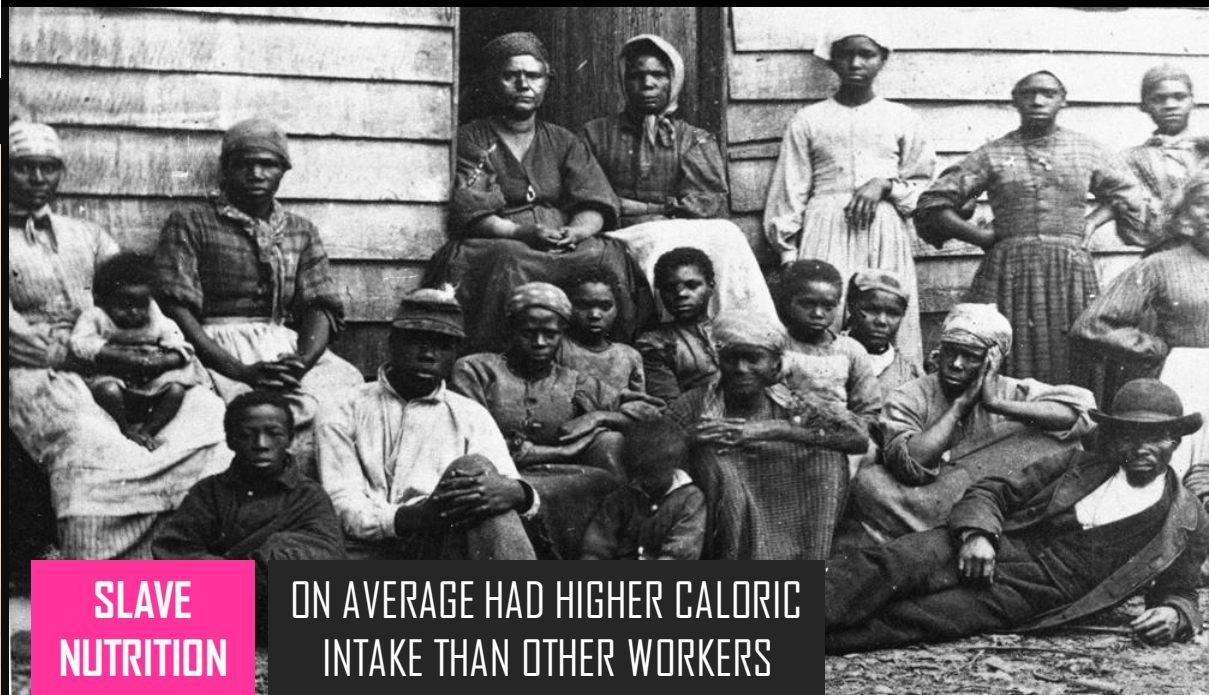
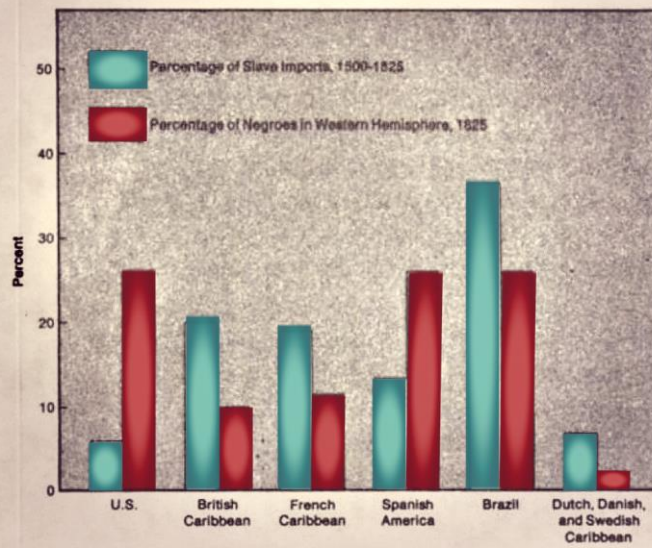


SLAVE POP. INCREASED NOT BECAUSE OF IMPORTS BUT BIRTHS



Fogel and Engerman. Time on the Cross (1995)

## A Comparison of the Distribution of the Negro Population (Slave & Free) in 1825 with the Distribution of Slave Imports, 1500-1825

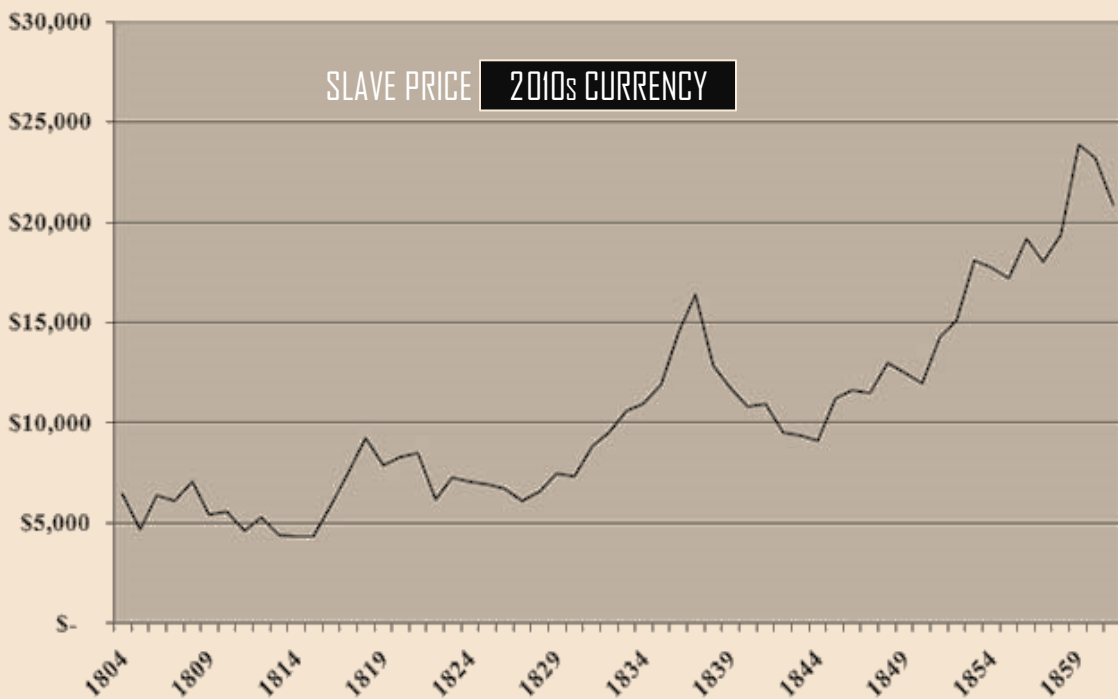
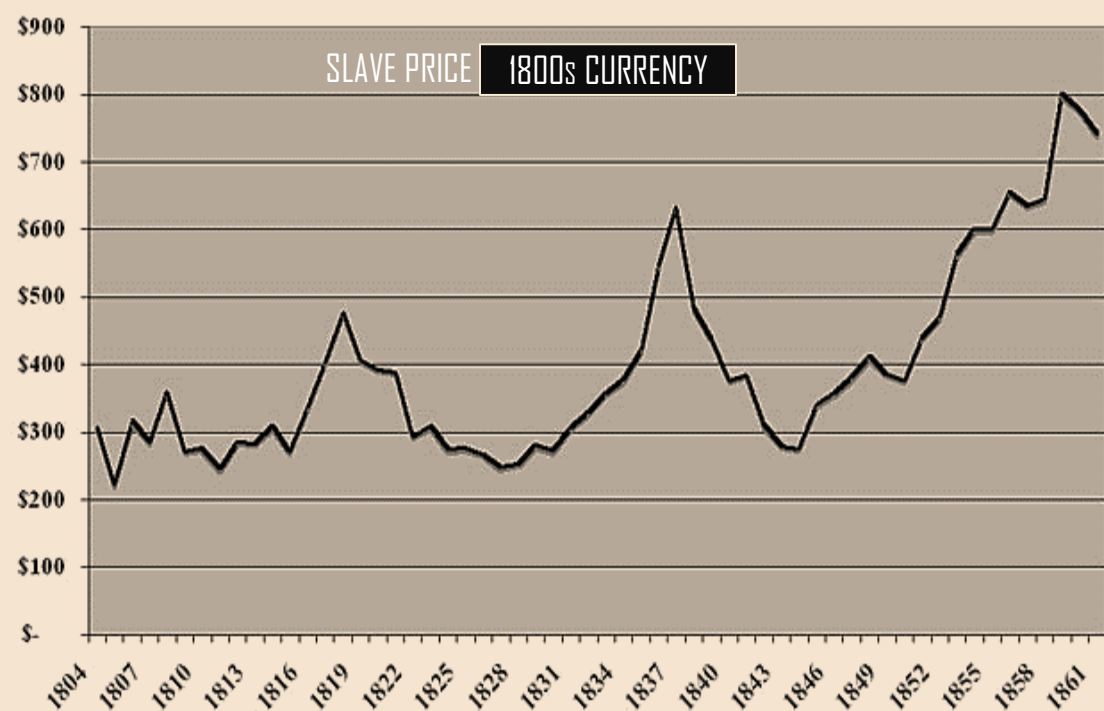


SLAVE NUTRITION

ON AVERAGE HAD HIGHER CALORIC INTAKE THAN OTHER WORKERS

Covey, Herbert C., Egnach, Dwight. *What the Slaves Ate: Recollections of African American Foods and Foodways from the Slave Narratives*. United Kingdom: Greenwood Press/ABC-CLIO, 2009; Chapter 2

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11698-012-0086-7>



Source: Source: *Historical Statistics*, Table Bb215-218. Index of slave values, by age, sex, and region: 1850. All the values are indexed to that of Louisiana males aged 18-30.



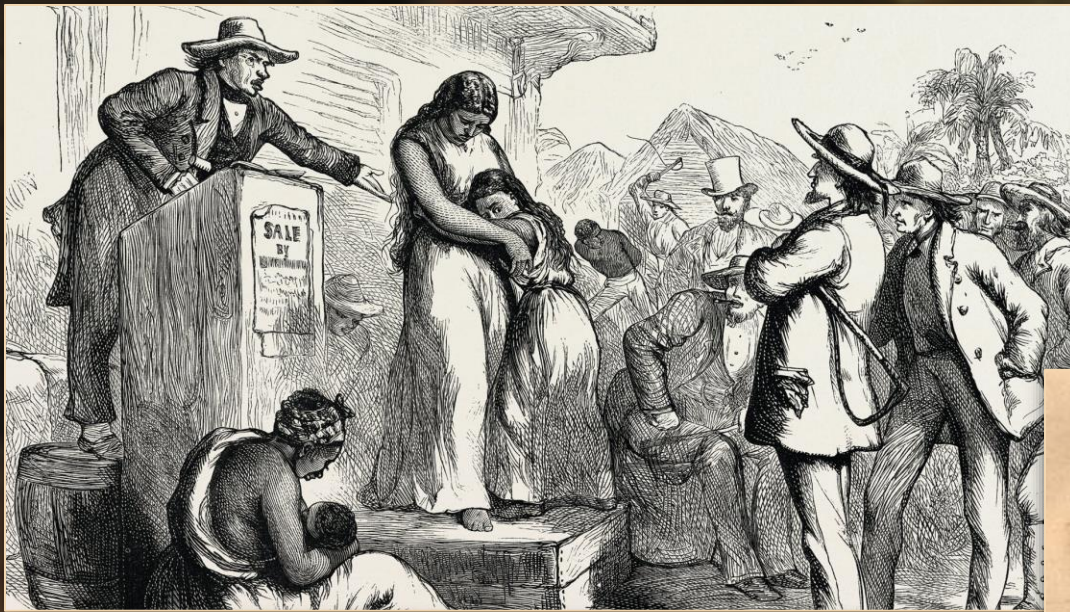
**\$1200  
TO  
1250 DOLLARS!  
FOR NEGROES!!**

THE undersigned wishes to purchase a large lot of NEGROES for the New Orleans market. I will pay \$1200 to \$1250 for No. 1 young men, and \$850 to \$1000 for No. 1 young women. In fact I will pay more for likely

**NEGROES,**

Than any other trader in Kentucky. My office is adjoining the Broadway Hotel, on Broadway, Lexington, Ky., where I or my Agent can always be found.

**ALBOTT, LEXINGTON**  
<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/vos01and>  
<http://www.measuringworth.com/slavery.php> and <http://www.nber.org/chapters/c0606.pdf>



# VALUABLE GANG OF YOUNG NEGROES

By JOS. A. BEARD.

Will be sold at Auction,  
ON WEDNESDAY, 25<sup>TH</sup> INST.

At 12 o'clock, at Banks' Arcade,  
17 Valuable Young Negroes,  
Men and Women, Field Hands.  
Sold for no fault; with the best  
city guarantees.

**Sale Positive  
and without reserve!**  
**TERMS CASH.**

New Orleans, March 24, 1840.



Names	Ages	Hands	H Hands	Value	Remarks
Mary Jose	55 years		y	100 00	wash women, on ac count
Little Mary	14 "		y	400 00	good Girl
Lina	40 "	"		400 00	Hospital nurse. fair.
Julia	20 "	"		400 00	fair hand
Vina	30 "		y	200 00	Sickly
Tamor	30 "	"		400 00	fair hand
Matilda	16 "	"		500 00	good hand
Rose	10 "		o	300 00	a great Liar but will do,
Mary Creole	20 "	"		500 00	good hand
Hannah	45 "		y	300 00	mischief maker all talk,
Terese	11 "		y	300 00	will lie & steal
Fanna	30 "	"		500 00	good hand
Louisa (Dretais)	22 "	"		500 00	good hand
Primitia "	22 "	"		500 00	good hand
Micky	5 "	o	o	150 00	well disposed
Oliza	7 "	o	o	250 00	great Liar but will do
Rebecca, 6 mo	"	o	o	100 00	to young to Judge
Nancy 5 months	o	o	o	100 00	" " " "
Rachael 3 months	o	o	o	100 00	" " " "
Elphry 2 months	o	o	o	100 00	" " " "

# THE PLIGHT OF THE SLAVE

1

## NON-PERSONHOOD

CLASSIFIED LEGALLY AS PROPERTY & NOT PEOPLE

2

## STRENUOUS LABOR

15 HR SUMMER WORKDAY & 14 HR WINTER WORKDAY

3

## ABSENT EDUCATION

THERE WAS LIMITED IF NOT ANY EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

4

## BROKEN FAMILIES

SEPERATION TOOK PLACE AT VARYING DEGREES

5

## ABUSE & VIOLENCE

UTILIZED & CATALOGUED BUT ITS PERVASIVENESS IS UNKNOWN



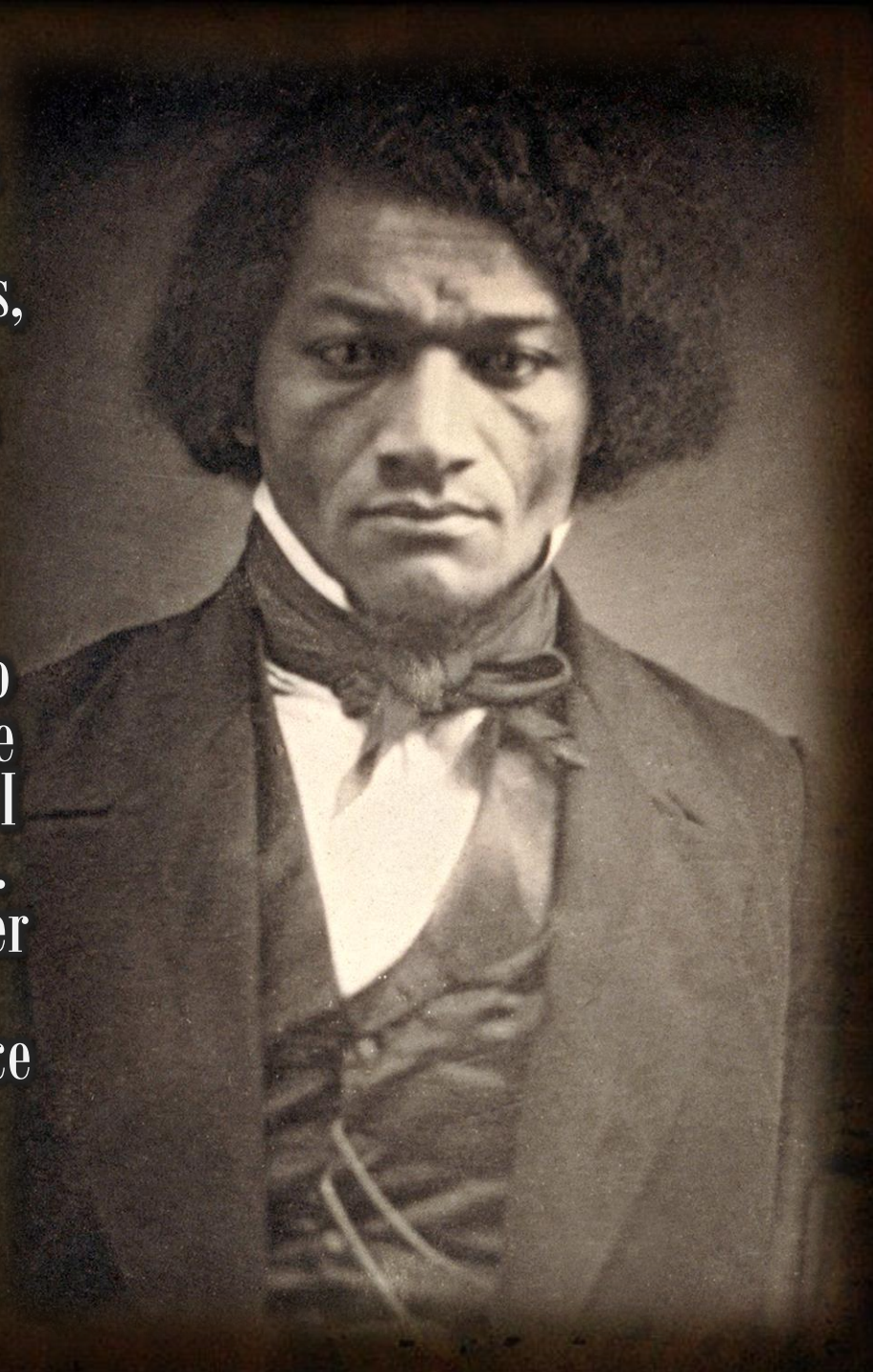
THE ONLY SYSTEMATIC RECORD OF SLAVE WHIPPINGS ACROSS TIME COMES FROM DIARY OF BENNET H. BARROW OF LOUISIANA (1833-1846) WHICH CATALOGUES HIS RULES AND PUNISHMENTS TOWARDS HIS 200 SOME SLAVES

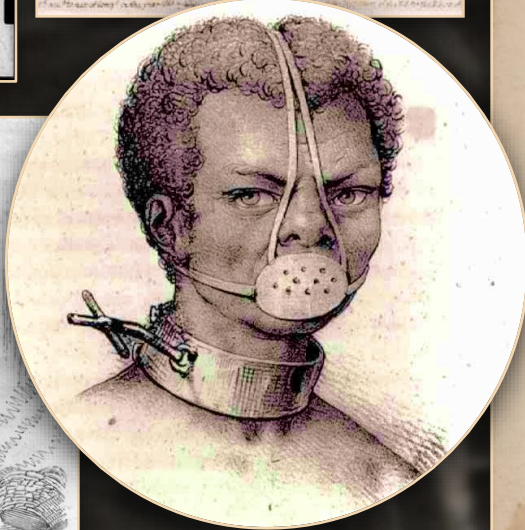
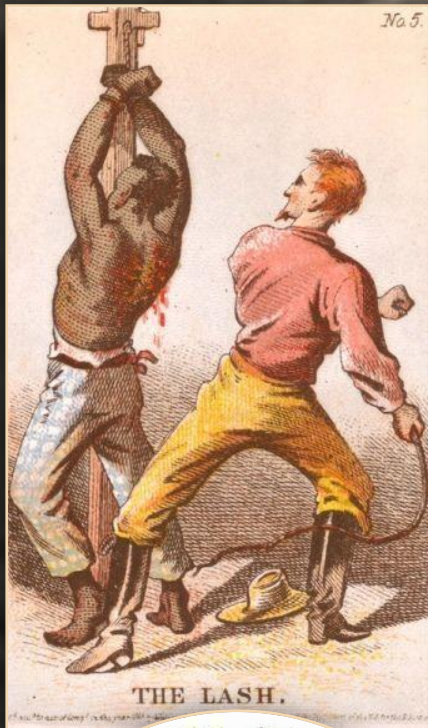
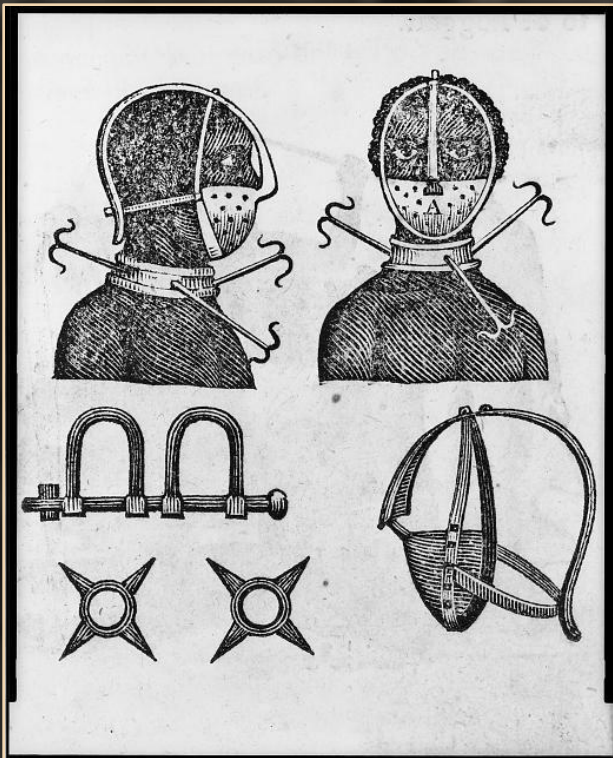


[Master] was a cruel man, hardened by a long life of slaveholding. He would at times seem to take great pleasure in whipping a slave.... No words, no tears, no prayers, from his gory victim, seemed to move his iron heart from its bloody purpose. The louder she screamed, the harder he whipped; and where the blood ran fastest, there he whipped longest. He would whip her to make her scream and whip her to make her hush.... I remember the first time I ever witnessed this horrible exhibition. I was quite a child, but I well remember it.... It struck me with awful force. It was the blood-stained gate, the entrance to the hell of slavery...

**FREDERICK DOUGLAS**

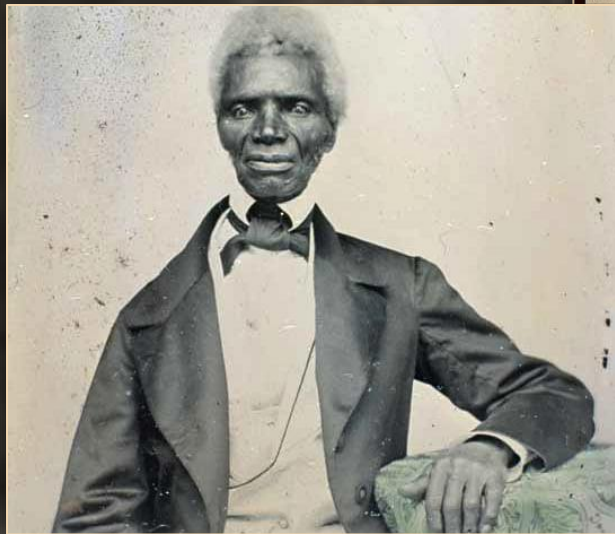
EX-SLAVE & ABOLITIONIST (1847)

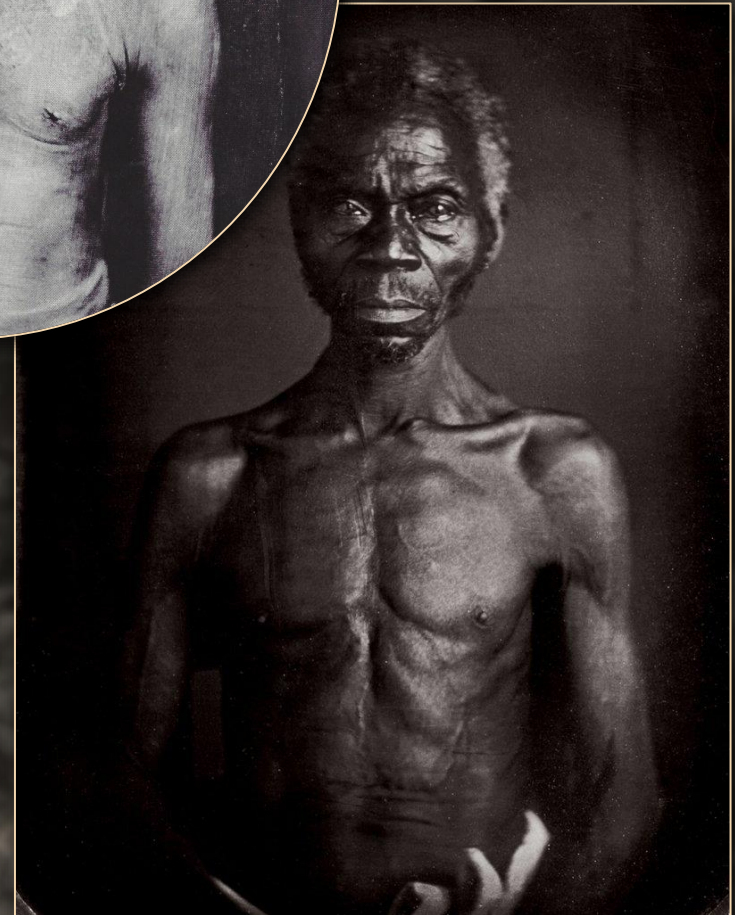
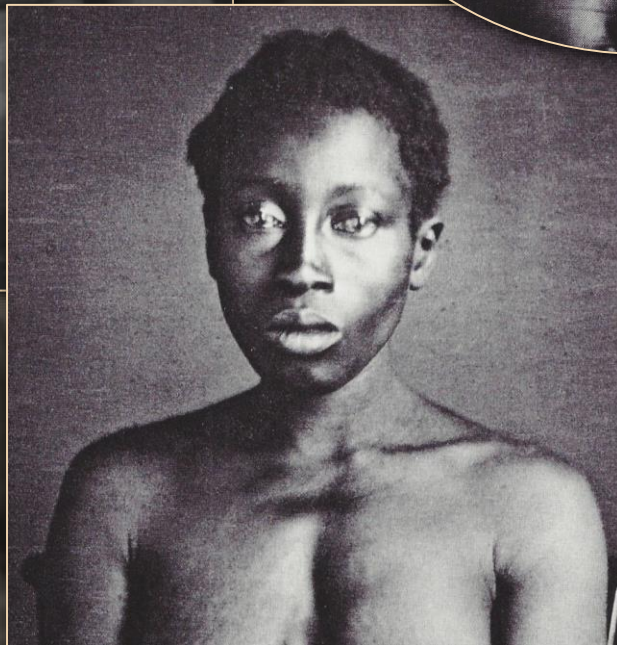
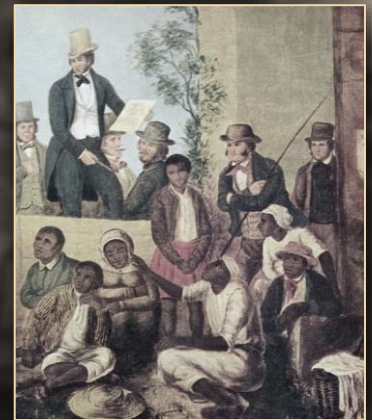
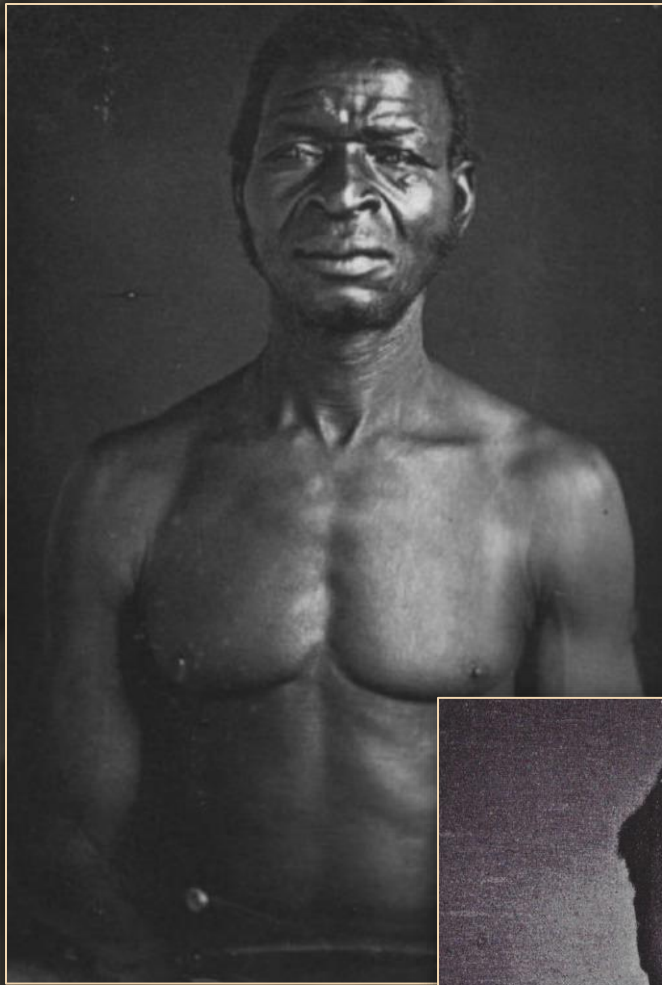


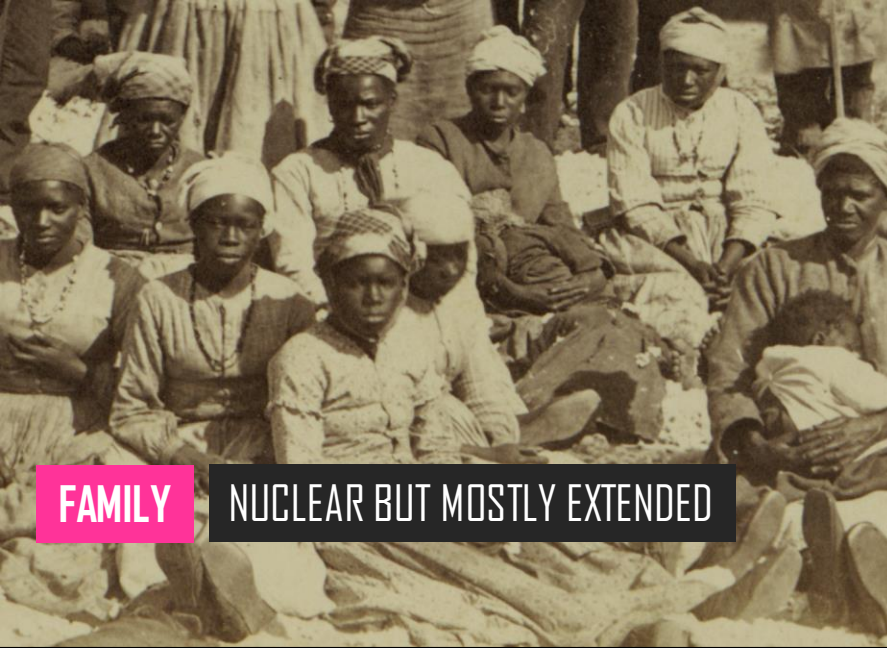


**WILSON CHINN, a Branded Slave from Louisiana.**

Photographed by KIMBALL, 477 Broadway, N. Y.  
 Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1863, by  
 GEO. H. HANKS, in the Clerk's Office of the United States  
 for the Southern District of New York.

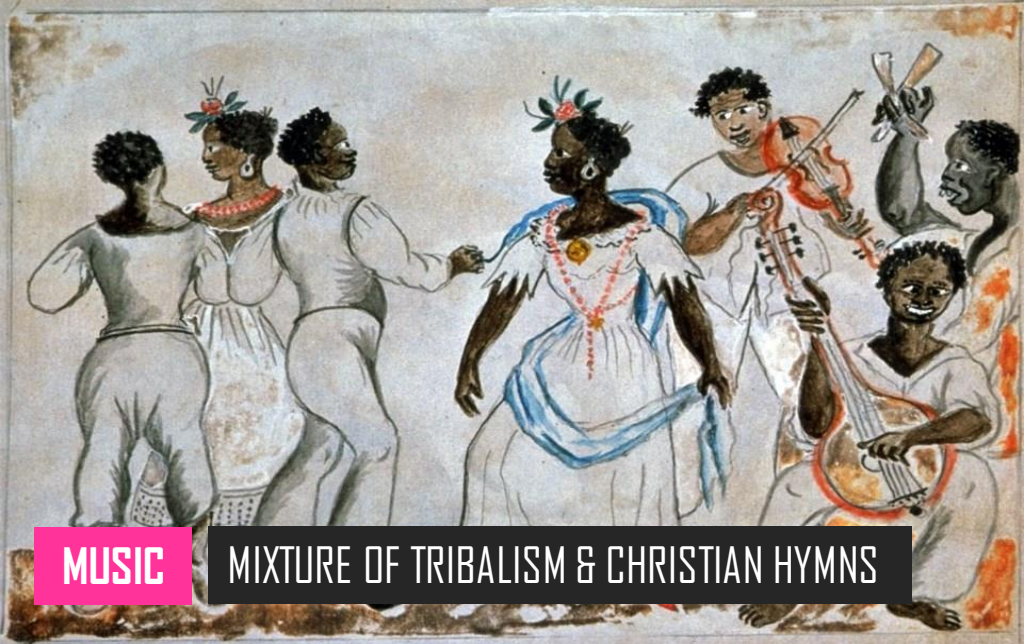






**FAMILY**

NUCLEAR BUT MOSTLY EXTENDED



**MUSIC**

MIXTURE OF TRIBALISM & CHRISTIAN HYMNS



**MARRIAGE**

COULD MARRY BUT COULD BE SEPERATED



**RELIGION**

AFRICAN TRADITIONS MERGED  
W/ CHRISTIAN TRADITIONS

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## SLAVERY TODAY



It isn't legal anywhere but happens almost everywhere—including Europe and the U.S. Slaves are forced to work, without pay, under the threat of violence. They cannot walk away.

### Slavery Is Everywhere

There are tens of millions of people trapped in various forms of slavery throughout the world today. Researchers estimate that 40 million are enslaved worldwide, generating \$150 billion each year in illicit profits for traffickers.

- **Labor Slavery.** About 50 percent toil in forced labor slavery in industries where manual labor is needed—such as farming, ranching, logging, mining, fishing, and brick making—and in service industries working as dish washers, janitors, gardeners, and maids.
- **Sex Slavery.** About 12.5 percent are trapped in forced prostitution sex slavery.
- **Forced Marriage Slavery.** About 37.5 percent are trapped in forced marriages.
- **Child Slavery.** About 25 percent of today's slaves are children.

Slavery today is a hidden crime, making it harder for the public to see and for those in slavery to call out for help.

*Slavery statistics come from the U.N. International Labor Organization, Walk Free and the International Organization for Migration. See our [Trafficking and Slavery Fact Sheet](#) for details.*

### The Rise of Modern Slavery

Slavery has existed for thousands of years, but economic and social forces have enabled its alarming resurgence in the past few decades by increasing people's

#### OUR MODEL FOR FREEDOM

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#### Free the Slaves Formula for Freedom

[view larger](#)

#### What Does Slavery Look Like Today



SLAVERY  
STILL  
EXISTS  
MY  
FRIEND!