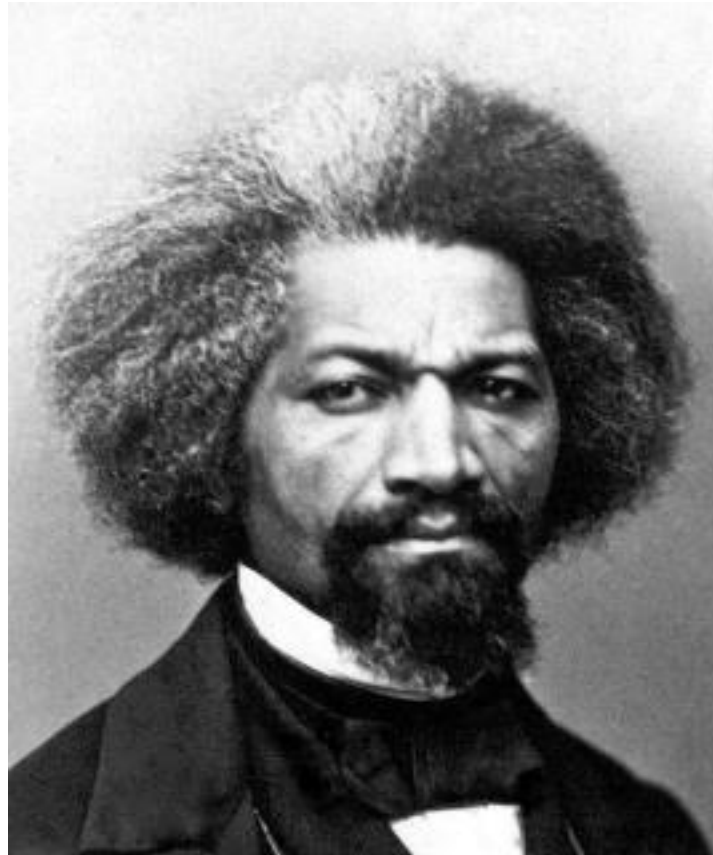
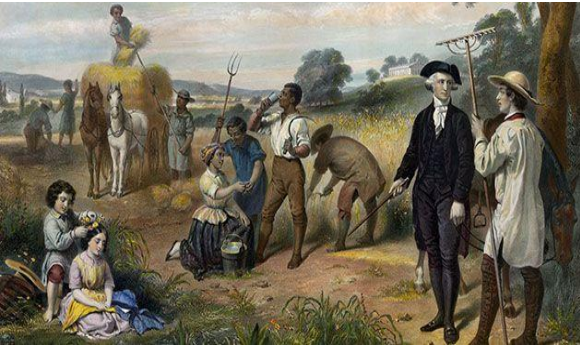
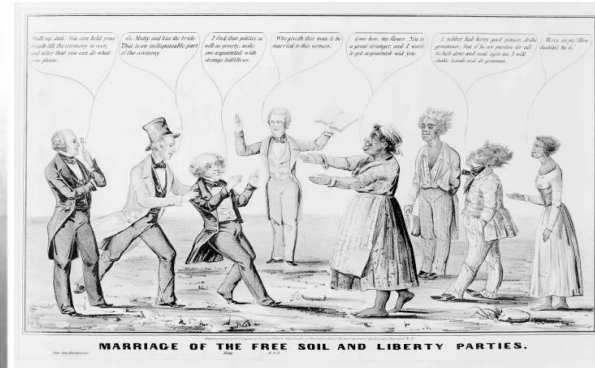


# SSUSH7: INVESTIGATE POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS DURING THE AGE OF JACKSON.



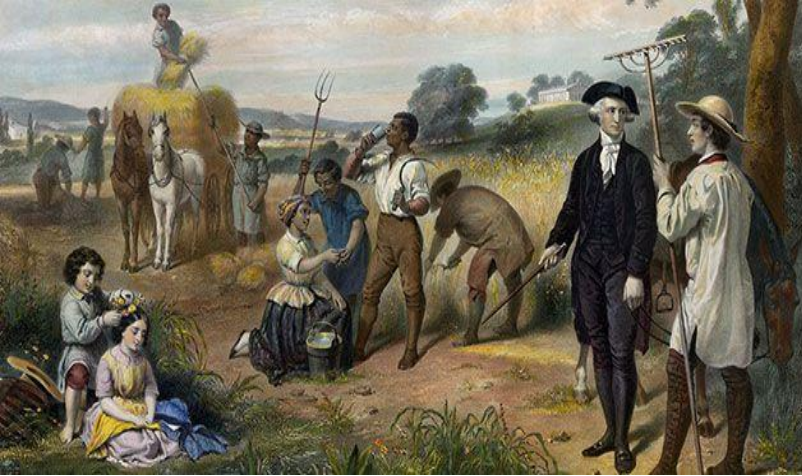
Frederick Douglass



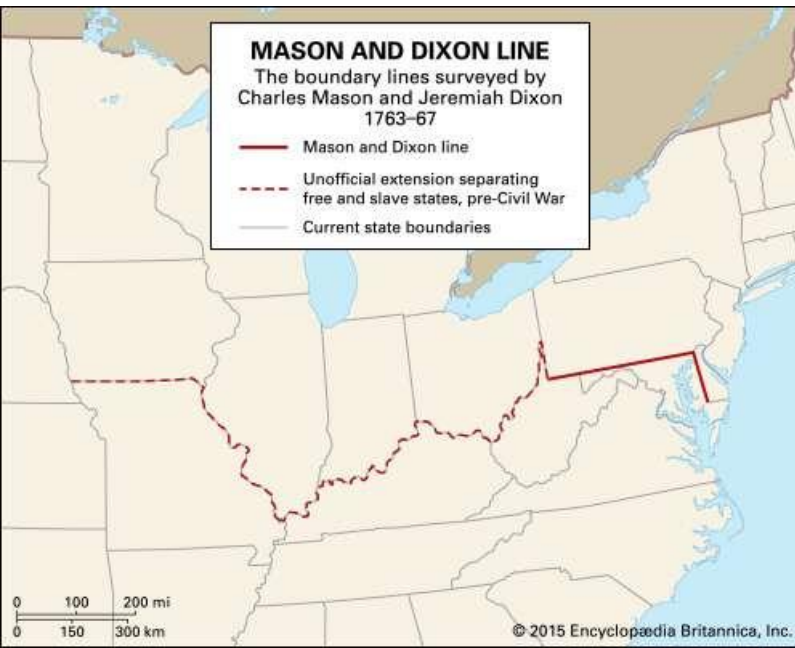
**ELEMENT D:** Explain how the significance of slavery grew in American politics including slave rebellions and the rise of abolitionism.

# Slavery: An Overview

- ❑ The issue of slavery has been present in American politics since the nation's inception.



- Slavery was an issue when Jefferson drafted the Declaration of Independence.
  - The delegates to the Constitutional Convention created a series of compromises addressing slavery to placate Southerners at Philadelphia.
  - Jefferson and Washington spoke out against slavery and freed their own slaves upon death.
  - Both historical figures have been scrutinized for the contradiction of owning slaves while speaking out against the practice.



- Slavery was prohibited in the Northwest Territories by federal law so that slave holding was confined to those states south of the Mason-Dixon Line.

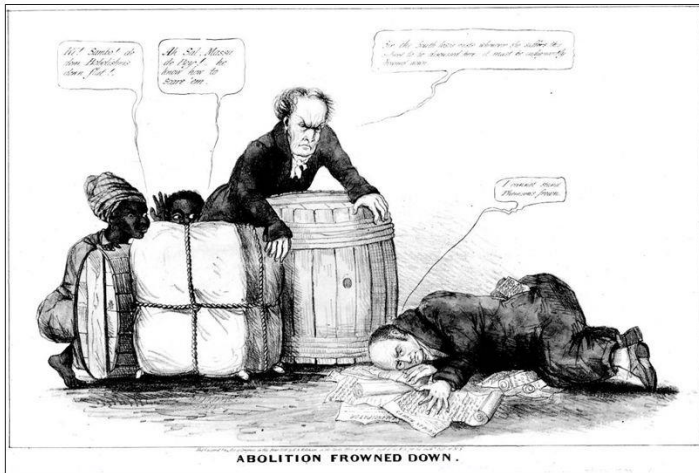
# Pre-Industrial Era Slavery



- ❑ Prior to the cotton gin, slavery was nearly dead in the Upper South, awaiting its final benediction by state legislatures, and was dying a slow death in the Lower South.
- ❑ The cotton gin and westward expansion revived slavery.
- ❑ Eli Whitney invented the cotton gin in 1793.
  - It is a machine that rapidly removes cotton plant seeds from the valuable cotton fiber used to make thread and fabric.
  - By producing more cotton in a day than any person could clean by hand, the gin reduced the cost of processing cotton and greatly raised the profit from growing it.
  - To further cut costs and raise profits, unskilled slaves were often put to work running the cotton gins in southern states.

# Politics of Slavery

- ❑ Politicians in the first third of the 1800s sought to maintain “a perfect equilibrium” on the issue of slavery in several ways.
- 1. First, by maintaining an equal number of slave and free states.
- 2. The second way to maintain peace was to prevent slavery from becoming a divisive issue through the passage of the “gag” rule, which prevented the discussion of slavery in the House of Representatives from 1836-1844.
- 3. Third, division over slavery was minimized by continuing the process of working out compromises on the issue in the 1850s.
  - However, as the mid-western and northern states continued to grow in economic power and population (political representation), slavery became increasingly entangled in every political issue facing the nation, such as nullification, states’ rights, and the admission of new territories as states.



ABOLITION FROWNED DOWN.

The print relates to John Quincy Adams's opposition to passage of the resolution in 1838, or (more likely) to his continued frustration in attempting to force the slavery issue through presentation of northern constituents' petitions in 1839. In December 1839, a new "gag rule" was passed by the House forbidding debate, reading, printing of, or even reference to any petition on the subject of abolition.



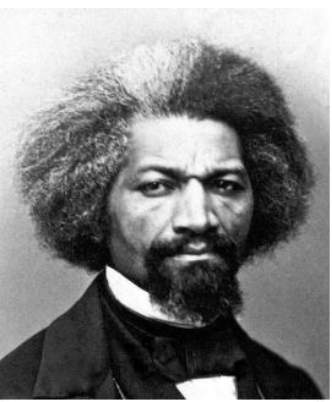
# Politics of Slavery and Abolitionist Movements

- ❑ Party politics were also affected by slavery.
- ❑ The two-party political system re-emerged in the early 1830s with the birth of the Whig Party.
  - The party was short-lived as the issue of slavery fatally split the party by the end of the 1850s.
  - New parties that were far more vocal on abolition, such as the Liberty Party and the Free-Soil Party, formed in the 1850s.
    - These parties caused great fear among southerners who felt increasingly besieged, but by 1860 nearly all of these minor parties had self-destructed.
- ❑ Abolition movements existed in America since the colonial period when the Quakers led the effort to end slavery.
  - Their popularity waned after the American Revolution but were renewed in the 1830s as part of the Second Great Awakening reform movements.
  - Three groups of abolitionists emerged during this period.

1. One group, the American Colonization Society (1818) called for the emancipation and transportation of freed slaves back to Africa to be settled in the new colony of Liberia.
2. The second group, the American Anti-Slavery Society (1833), was led by William Lloyd Garrison and called for immediate emancipation by any means necessary.
3. A moderate group, the Liberty Party, pledged to end slavery through legal and political means.



MARRIAGE OF THE FREE SOIL AND LIBERTY PARTIES.



Frederick Douglass



# Notable Abolitionists

- ❑ Some of the most notable abolitionists were William Lloyd Garrison, Frederick Douglass, and the Grimke Sisters.
  - Garrison was the leading voice for many reform movements and abolition was a particularly important cause to him.
    - He was the founder and editor of the Liberator newspaper, the leading abolitionist newspaper known for graphic stories of the bad treatment slaves endured.
  - Frederick Douglass was a former slave who worked for Garrison in the abolitionist movement.
    - Douglass traveled widely giving eloquent speeches and publishing his own autobiography and an antislavery newspaper – The North Star.
    - Douglass is considered by many to be the most influential former slave or free Black in the abolitionist movement.
  - Sarah and Angelina Grimke were white southern women who lectured publicly throughout the northern states about the evils of slavery they had witnessed growing up on a plantation.
- ❑ The abolition campaign included both men and women; Northerners and some Southerners.
- ❑ For the first time, Blacks began to play a significant role in the movement.
- ❑ Instead of a gradualist approach, the new abolitionists advocated for immediate emancipation without compensation for slave owners.
- ❑ Abolition became a divisive issue as the southern states reacted against growing hostility in the North toward slavery.

# Nat Turner's Slave Rebellion



- ❑ Slave rebellions also began to occur and caused slave owners to implement even more harsh restrictions on slaves.
- ❑ The Black preacher, Nat Turner, believed his mission on Earth was to free his people from slavery.
  - Seeing an 1831 solar eclipse as a message from God, he led a slave rebellion on four Virginia plantations.
  - Approximately 60 whites were killed before Turner and his followers were captured, tried, and executed.
  - Fear and anger over the murder of primarily white women and children led to many innocent Blacks becoming victims of mob violence.
  - Virginia, a state that had been considering a ban on slavery, instead passed a series of laws to strengthen the institution of slavery.
    - Other southern states quickly passed laws that emulated Virginia's revised slave codes to reflect more strict control.

**HORRID MASSACRE IN VIRGINIA**



The Scenes which the above Plate is designed to represent, are—Fig. 1. A Mother intruding for the lives of her children.—2. Mr. Tressin, cruelly murdered by his own slaves.—3. Mr. Harrow, who bravely defended himself until his escape.—4. A comp. of mounted Dragons in pursuit of the Blacks.



Dictionary of Art Terms.