SSUSH8: EXPLORE THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SLAVERY, GROWING NORTH-SOUTH DIVISIONS, AND WESTWARD EXPANSION THAT LED TO THE OUTBREAK OF THE CIVIL WAR.





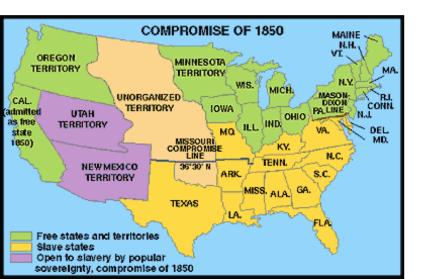




ELEMENT D: Explain how the Compromise of 1850 arouse out of territorial expansion and population growth.

Compromise of 1850: Territorial Expansion



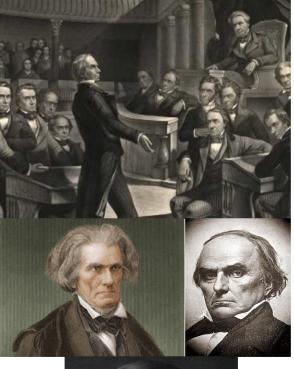


The Compromise of 1850 was four years in the making.
Northern Whigs and Southern Democrats engaged in heated attacks on one another over the status of slavery in the Mexican Cession.

- Then the discovery of gold in California in 1848 rapidly increased the population of the territory past the 100,000 citizens necessary for statehood.
 - As a part of their plan of statehood, Californians drew up a state constitution that outlawed slavery in the proposed state.
 - Southern politicians objected to California's admission as a free state on two points.
 - 1. First, Southerners argued that the exclusion of slavery in the territory violated the Missouri Compromise (the compromise line would split the state).
 - 2. Second, Northerners already controlled the House of Representatives and Southerners feared the admission of California would upset the balance of free and slave states in the Senate.

Compromise of 1850

- Northern and Southern representatives argued bitterly over California.
- □ Henry Clay, who diffused tensions previously with the Missouri Compromise in 1820 and a compromise tariff in 1833, finally presented a plan that he hoped would solve this heated impasse.
 - Clay became known as the "Great Compromiser" due to his pivotal role in negotiating resolutions to challenging political issues.
 - Concerning the present debate over California's admission to the Union, tension was continuing to escalate between the North and the South.
 - Debates between John C. Calhoun, representing the Southern position, and Daniel Webster, representing the Northern position, raged over the bill.
 - Numerous votes were taken, but the extremists on both sides prevented passage of the bill.
 - Clay and Calhoun both left the Senate too ill to continue, as they were quite advanced in age.
 - In Clay and Calhoun's absence, Senator Stephen A. Douglas of Illinois and Daniel Webster of Massachusetts worked to split the proposal into separate bills so that Congressmen could vote on each separately.
 - The five bills then moved through the Congress individually and were ultimately passed.





Compromise of 1850: Population Expansion & Manifest Destiny



□ Collectively, the five laws were known as the Compromise of 1850.

- The provisions of the compromise included:
- . The state of New Mexico would be established by carving its borders from the state of Texas.
- 2. New Mexico's voters would determine whether the state would permit or prohibit slavery.
- 3. California would be admitted as a free state.
- 4. All citizens of the United States, regardless of region, would be required to apprehend runaway slaves and return them to their owners. Those who failed to do so would be fined or imprisoned.
- 5. The slave trade would be abolished in the District of Columbia, but the practice of slavery would be allowed to continue there.
- □ Despite the Compromise of 1850's passage, sectional tension over slavery was eased for only a short time.
- □ The expansion of US territory to the Pacific Ocean had happened quickly and was viewed by many to be the country's "Manifest Destiny".
- □ As populations of western areas grew to the level of statehood, the issue of slavery had to be negotiated through compromise due to the intense sectionalism of the period.

