## The Sectional Crisis

Chapter 1 Lesson 4
US History (EOC)

## Grading Rubric:

For this project, you will be graded using the following rubric:

| Points Earned: | $\quad$Students can identify at least 3 ways that <br> the sectional crisis moved America toward <br> the Civil War. |
| :---: | :--- |
| $\mathbf{4 0}$ | Students can identify at least 2 ways that <br> the sectional crisis moved America toward <br> the Civil War. |
| $\mathbf{3 0}$ | Students can identify at least 1 ways that <br> the sectional crisis moved America toward <br> the Civil War. |
| $\mathbf{0}$ | Students cannot identify any ways in which <br> the sectional crisis moved America toward <br> the Civil War. |




## Underground Railroad and the Fugitive Slave Law

- Definition: An informal network of volunteers that helped runaway slaves escape from the South and reach free-soil Canada.
- Leaders of the Underground Railroad:
- Harriet Tubman ("Moses"): was a former slave from Maryland who escaped to Canada.
- She led 19 expeditions from her farm in Canada to rescue 300 slaves (including her parents).
- Served in the Union army in South Carolina as a spy during the Civil War.
- Jerry Loguen: led hundreds of slaves to freedom
- Fugitive Slave Law:
- Original law was passed by Congress in 1793!
- Passed as part of the Compromise of 1850, this set high penalties for anyone who aided escaped slaves and compelled all law enforcement officers to participate in retrieving runaways. Strengthening the anti-slavery cause in the North!



## Election of 1852

- Democrats: Franklin Pierce from New Hampshire.
- Acceptable to the pro-slavery portion of the party - "pro-Southern"
- Favored the Compromise of 1850 !
- Whigs: General Winfield Scott (party split)
- Supported by the abolitionists
- Members were upset over his support of the Fugitive Slave Law!
- Southern Whigs supported the platform BUT they hated Scott = questioning his loyalty to the Compromise of 1850.
- Who Won? Franklin Pierce


## The Caning of Charles Sumner

- Charles Sumner was an abolitionist Senator from Massachusetts.
- He gave a speech called "Crime Against Kansas"
- He lashed out at those supporting slavery
- He insulted a Senator from South Carolina
- Congressman Preston Brooks (South Carolina) hit Sumner over the head 30 times or more with an 11-oz gold-headed cane.



## The Election of 1856

- Democrats: James Buchanan
- Pennsylvania lawyer who sympathized with southern views
- Party platform heavily supported popular sovereignty in the territories.
- Republicans: Captain John C. Ferment "Pathfinder of the West"
- $1^{\text {st }}$ presidential election for the new Republican party
- Party platform vigorously against the extension of slavery in the territories.
- American Party ("know-nothing") nativist in orientation
- Composed of primarily old-stock Protestants reacting to recent wave of Irish, German, Mexican \& Chinese immigration; antiCatholic (accused Ferment of being Catholic)
- Ex-president Millard Fillmore nominated.
- Supported by remnants of the dying Whig party.
- Who Won? James Buchanan



## The Dred Scott Decision: March 6, 1857

- Dred Scott had lived as a slave for 5 years in Illinois and Wisconsin Territory.
- Sued for freedom based on his residency in a free-soil territory.
- 1854: federal courts upheld a ruling denying his freedom suit.
- Scott's lawyers appealed to the Supreme Court
- The Opinion: Dred Scott was a black slave and not a citizen - he cannot sue in federal court.
- RESULT: ALL blacks in America were no longer 'citizens'
- The Missouri Compromise was ruled unconstitutional
- Further divided the Democrats and strengthened the Republicans



## The Union Dissolves

- In 1860, Abraham Lincoln won the presidential election. He opposed the spread of slavery into Western territories.
- Southerners saw the election results as a threat to their society, culture, and economy.
- South Carolina was the first state to secede from the Union, with others following. The states became the Confederacy, or the Confederate States of America.


## Show What You Know...

To earn your 50 points (perfect score)...
On the bottom of your graphic organizer, respond to the prompt given.

Turn it in to the basket when finished.

