

America: Civil War & Western Expansion

- Purchase Arizona and southwestern New Mexico from Mexico -

1854 - Problems of Kansas- Nebraska

- 1854- Nebraska was still unsettled: Nebraska was north of 36 30 line- so therefore should be entered as free state.
- The South stopped it from joining the union for this reason, disrupting the balance of sectional tension
- Douglas used this as an attempt to better his presidential candidacy
- **The Kansas Nebraska Bill Itself:**
 - Repealed the Missouri Compromise and introduced popular sovereignty instead
 - Settlers not congress should decide whether it should be slave or free
 - Good for south
 - Divided Nebraska into two: Nebraska & Kansas
 - Little chance of Slavery in Nebraska as climate was too cold
- Fueled Slave power conspiracy - failure for Douglas
- Set up two Governments
 - LeCompton
 - Pro Slavery, Official
 - Topeka
 - Free State, Unofficial
 - Divided over extremity of beliefs

1854 - Whigs end/Republicans form

- Confrontation in party, split along the Pro-Anti slavery line in 1852, the anti-slavery group being enough to reject Fillmore running for presidential candidate
- Republicans form made up of Ex Whigs

1855 - Kansas Election

- Elections under popular sovereignty to decide on Kansas as Free State or Slave State
- Pro Slave people from neighbouring Missouri sent hundreds of people over to vote in Kansas
 - Would have won the election anyway but the gesture caused huge conflict - Slave power conspiracy

1855 - American Party

- Main Democratic party in North and South during this time
- To become a National party they would have to drop the Anti-Slavery platform
- As a result they lose Northern support
- Decline in immigration lead to decline in Nativism - a fundamental policy of the party
- Events in Congress also weakened the American Party

1856 - Bleeding Kansas/problem of Kansas

- Pro-Slavery posse 'sack' town of Lawrence
 - Trying to arrest Free-State leaders
 - Magnified out of proportion by Northern Papers
 - According to first reports 12 free-staters were killed - in fact none
- This sparked more violence
 - John brown and his sons murdered five pro-slavery people in cold blood
 - Northern Newspapers made it seem like it had been a righteous act
 - He became a Northern hero overnight
- President Pierce appointed a new governor John Geary who managed to form a truce between two sides
- Geary managed to restore order
 - It was obvious however that majority of Kansas was Free-staters
- 1857 - Geary resigns and Buchanan appoints new governor
 - Southern Politician Robert Walker
 - Walker made sure that they would have to enter elections fairly
 - It was clear that Kansas would have to enter the union as a free state
- 1857 - ELECTIONS 2 - new set of fair elections
 - All the anti-slave voters thought the pro-slavery people would rig elections again
 - Only 2200/9000 voted

America: Civil War & Western Expansion

- Made up of three areas
 - Great Plains- Mississippi to the Rockies
 - The Rocky National Park & Sierra Nevada Mountains
 - The Great Basin
- 3000 Natives lived although there was a small minority of white folks (trappers, prospectors etc.)
- **1858: Pikes Peak, Colorado- Gold Rush**
 - 50,000 emigrated there that year
- **1859: Comstock Lode- USA biggest gold and Silver deposit discovered**
- Funds Union's War effort
- Homestead Act, Morrill Land Grant Act, Pacific Railroad had been previously rejected by the Southern members of Congress- no longer a problem after cussion. a

Modes of Transport 1860

- **1860** - 30,000 miles of railroad
- Butterfield's overland express company well established (formed 1857)
- It was also possible to get stable post San Francisco
- **Pony Express:** Could get mail across the central plains in 10 days.
- Was made less used after the invention of the telegraph in 1861

Election of 1860

North was Lincoln vs Douglas

-
- Republicans - Abraham Lincoln:
 - Born in low-socioeconomic position - log cabin - therefore represented American dream
 - He was a loyal Whig and joined the House of Representatives in 1846.
 - However with collapse of the Whig Party he became a Republican
 - REPUBLICAN POLICIES
 - Anti-Slavery
- Democrats - Douglas
 - Had debates with Lincoln in 1858 that boosted Lincoln into the limelight despite losing to Douglas
 - More moderate and secure, but Abraham Lincoln was seen as 'honest'
 - Pro slavery

South was Bell vs Breckenridge

- The Constitutional Unionist Party - John Bell
 - New party composed of mainly Ex-whigs
 - Remained quiet on slavery issue
- Southern Democrats - Breckenridge

System of Slavery:

- **1860:** 4 mill slaves 8 mill whites in 15 southern states.
- **1850:** 1/3 of white southern families owned a slave
- **1860:** had dropped 1/4
- **1860:** Over 1/2 of slave owners owned more than 5 slaves
- 55% of slaves worked in cotton production
- 10% worked in industry
- However by **1860:** 250,000 black people were free in the south.
 - a. Few legal rights, no vote
 - b. Limited employment opportunities
 - c. Had to gain documentation for freedom
- By **1860:** three northern states allowed blacks to vote

Cession

10th November 1860- South Carolina called for elections in for/against secession

- This created chain reaction throughout

20th December- South Carolina succeeds from Union with 169 votes for to 0 against

- Southern committed themselves to individuals action- although it was clear that joint action was needed
- Meeting between southern Congressmen