

# Events and Trends Leading to Civil War: Perceptions and Realities (Page Tips)

ANTI Slavery	PRO Slavery	Date	Event or Trend	Perceptions and Realities—View from the North and South and from PRO Slavery and ANTI Slavery Factions
-	-	1820s	Republic of Mexico	Mexico independent from Spain with northern provinces (today from TX to CA)
-	-	1832	-	Election: Andrew Jackson <sup>#</sup> (Democrat)
-	<	1836-05	TX Independence from Mexico/Lone Star Rep.	Why did it remain the Lone Star Republic? How many potential slave states, each with 2 pro-slavery Senators? What was Mexico's position?
-	-	1836	-	Election: Martin Van Buren (Democrat)
?	?	1840s	"Manifest destiny"	What is it? What is "allocated by Providence"? Who coined the term? John L. O'Sullivan How moved west? Overland Trails (OR, CA) + Plains Indians/buffalo Where are the future targets? Canada, Cuba, Hawaii, Mexico
-	-	1840	-	Election: William Henry Harrison <sup>#</sup> (Whig; later dies, John Tyler V.P.)
-	-	1841	Creole	Slave rebellion during transport from VA to LA; then to Bahamas and Br. free them
-	-	1842	Webster-Ashburton Treaty	US/Br. patrols of African coast to stop the slave trade (also NE boundary with Canada)
>	<	1844-12	-	Election: James K. Polk (Democrat) OR 54° 40' or fight (>); TX annexation (<)
-	<	1845-02 28	TX, a state	Why Tyler? (lame duck +) Method to pass?
-	-	1845-03 04	-	Polk inaugural
-	-	1846-05	Mexican War starts	Rio Grande vs. Nueces (TX)-Gen. Zackary Taylor - Santa Fe (NM)/Bear Flag Republic(CA)
-	-	1846-06	OR dispute resolved	US/Br. negotiations – OR northern boundary remains 49°
>	-	1846-08	Wilmot Proviso (condition)	No slavery in territory taken from Mexico – Wilmot (Democrat, North) - sectional vote
-	<F - IF	1848-02	Mexican War ends	US paid Mexico: \$15M + \$3M in claims by US citizens. US got: AZ, CA, NV, and UT. US got: US-Mexico border at Rio Grande. <F = If Missouri Compromise continues and if 36° 30' continues
-	-	1848-12	-	Election: Zachary Taylor <sup>#</sup> (Whig; later dies, Millard Fillmore V.P.) vs. Democrat (popular sovereignty) vs. Free Soil <sup>§</sup>
-	-	1849	California	Forty-niners (a lot of them); territorial convention decides a free state
>	<	1850-02 to 09	Compromise of 1850	Major player: Stephen Douglass (IL, Democrat, Senator) - Legislation in this package: • California as a free state • No slave trade in the District of Columbia • NM (TX gets \$10M, debt problem) and UT territories by popular sovereignty • More powerful Fugitive Slave Law – Required return/punished those helping them
P>	-	1852	Uncle Tom's Cabin	Author? Harriet Beecher Stowe Why matter? 300,000 US copies
-	-	1852-12	-	Election: Franklin Pierce (Democrat) vs. Winfield Scott <sup>#</sup> (Whig)
-	<F	1853	Gadsden Purchase	US paid Mexico: \$15M. Why the purchase?
-	<P	1854-01 – 05	Kansas-Nebraska Act	Major player: Stephen Douglass Why the legislation? Repeal Missouri Compromise + Kansas & Nebraska territories by popular sovereignty
-	-	1854-01	Revolt of factions starts  Revolt results	Foundation of Republican Party = • Anti-slavery Northern Democrats • Anti-slavery Northern Whigs – a shift in Whigs such as Abraham Lincoln • Free Soilers - No slavery in the territories • Nativist party (a.k.a. Know Nothings—write in candidates and win regionally)
>	<	1855-1856	"Bleeding Kansas" – This is not a dramatic term. There is bloodshed.	What are the unintended consequences of the principle of popular sovereignty? Multiple attacks from both directions resulting in a civil war over slavery: ▪ 1 <sup>st</sup> weak and 2 <sup>nd</sup> PRO Slavery territorial governor ▪ PRO Slavery legislature - fraud/violence by about 5K Missourians (border ruffians) ▪ ANTI Slavery center at Lawrence, Kansas; counter constitution ▪ PRO Slavery attack on Lawrence—burned hotel, attacked homes, burned newspapers ▪ ANTI Slavery attack by John Brown's group—killed 5 PRO Slavery people, mutilated bodies displayed – Pottawatomie Massacre
>	-	1856	Events in Senate chamber	Preston Brooks? Charles Sumner? – Leads more Northerners to Republican Party
-	-	1856-12	-	Election: James Buchanan (Democrat)
-	<	1857-03	Dred Scott case	Ruling by Supreme Court (Roger Taney Court):- 2 key points: Slaves are not citizens and cannot sue. Missouri Compromise is unconstitutional violation of due process by Congress.
-	<	1857-10 -12	Fraud in another Kansas election	Majority of Kansans were free-state. What does Douglas do? (Kansas not admitted until 1861, after secession)
-	-	1858	7 Lincoln-Douglas debates	Senate contest in Illinois: ▪ Abraham Lincoln – Moderate: not abolitionism, slavery remains but no expansion ▪ Stephen Douglas
P>	-	1859	Raid at Harpers Ferry, VA	Who does it? What's at Harpers Ferry? What's the objective?
P>	-	1860-11	Election	Election: Abraham Lincoln, Republican (highest popular vote but only 39%; 180 electoral votes to 123, all 18 free states) – 3-way split of the Democratic Party (North, South, and Constitutional Union)
-	<	1860-11, 12	Secession crisis	Secession - South Carolina 1 <sup>st</sup> Federal fort, Fort Sumter, in Charleston harbor Buchanan – unarmed ship, supplies to Fort Sumter in Charleston harbor
-	<	1861-02	Another election	Who is elected? Jefferson Davis <sup>§</sup> , President; Alexander Stephens <sup>§</sup> , Vice-President What's their Constitution? Confederacy - 6 more secede (AL, FL, GA, LA, MS TX)
-	-	1861-03	Lincoln inaugural address	Slavery remains where it exists, but will "hold, occupy, and possess" federal property <sup>§</sup>
-	<	1861-04	Fort Sumter	What happened? Before supplies can reach Fort Sumter, 1 <sup>st</sup> shots by South Carolina How does it appear? Post Fort Sumter: 11 total (VA, AR, TN, NC) Western Virginia—Refused to secede; was a separate state in 1863.

<sup>#</sup> Military hero

<sup>§</sup>Replaces earlier Liberty Party. Spoiler party. Slogan: "Free soil, free speech, free labor, and free men."

<sup>§</sup>In Lesson Primaries: Lincoln's Inaugural Address, 1861; Jefferson Davis, Inaugural Address; Alexander Stephens, "Cornerstone" Address.

# Reminders, Colors, Symbols, and Abbreviations for States

## Reminders:

- Slave states = Have only the Senate to protect slavery from change—with the additional support of two pro-slavery Presidents in 1852 (Franklin Pierce) and 1856 (James Buchanan)
- Democrat and Whig Parties **both** contained PRO and ANTI slavery advocates (Unlike the Republican Party, they were **both** national parties, not sectional ones.)

## Colors for the forces that are developing in this period but will be the color of uniforms in the Civil War:

- **Blue** – the Union – the 23 states of the North (including 4 slave-holding border states)
- **Gray** – the Confederacy – the 11 states of the South

## Symbols in the 1<sup>st</sup> two columns:

- - = event that is not directly related to slavery
- > = push by **ANTI-Slavery**
- < = push by **PRO-Slavery**
- **F>** (future possibility for **ANTI-slavery**)
- **<F** (future possibility for **PRO-slavery**)
- **P>** (perceived threat to **ANTI-slavery**) – *perceived* = to regard something as
- **<P** (perceived threat to **PRO-slavery**)

## Abbreviations for states:

- AL = Alabama
- CA = California
- CO = Colorado
- FL = Florida
- GA = Georgia
- KS = Kansas
- MO = Missouri
- MS = Mississippi
- NE = Nebraska
- NM = New Mexico
- OR = Oregon
- TX = Texas
- UT = UT

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