

SLAVERY, SECTIONALISM, AND MANIFEST DESTINY

www.geocities.com/socialstudiesjhscunningt@jenkintown.org

Outcomes: Students will

- A. Point out the economic strengths and weaknesses of the “Cotton Kingdom”
- B. identify social stratification in white Southern society, and explain why support for slavery was widespread among them
 - 1. Describe the Southern planter aristocracy and identify their strengths and weaknesses
 - 2. Describe the non-slaveowning white majority of the South and explain its relations with both the planter elite and black slaves
- C. describe the nature of African American life, both, slave and free, before the Civil War
- D. describe the effects of the “peculiar institution” of slavery on both blacks and whites
- E. explain why abolitionism was at first unpopular in the North and describe how it gradually gained strength
- F. describe the fierce Southern response to abolitionism and the growing defense of slavery as a “positive good”

- G. explain the spirit of “Manifest Destiny” that inspired American expansionism in the 1840s
- H. indicate how American anti-British feeling led to various conflicts over debts, Maine, Canadian rebellion, Texas, and Oregon
- I. explain why the movement to annex Texas gained new momentum and why the issue aroused such controversy
- J. indicate how the issues of Oregon and Texas became central in the election of 1844 and why Polk’s victory was seen as a mandate for “Manifest Destiny”
- K. describe how the issues of California and the Texas boundary created conflict and war with Mexico
- L. describe how the dramatic American victory in the Mexican War led to the territorial acquisition of the Southwest
- M. describe the consequences of the Mexican War, especially its impact on the slavery question

Resources

- A. *American Pageant & Spirit*, ch. 16-17

Outline

- I. Southern society
 - A. King Cotton
 - B. economic problems
 - C. social structure
 - 1. white plantation families
 - 2. small slaveowners
 - 3. non-slaveowning white majority
 - 4. free African Americans

- II. Slavery & Abolition
 - A. The Nature of Slavery
 - B. Life Under Slavery
 - C. The Abolitionist Movement
 - 1. early abolitionists & movements
 - 2. southern backlash & revisionism

- III. The Tyler administration
 - A. A Democrat in Whig clothing?
 - B. problems with England
 - C. Manifest Destiny
 - 1. Maine compromise
 - 2. Texas annexation

- IV. The Polk Administration
 - A. Manifest Destiny: Oregon compromise
 - B. The Mexican-American War
 - 1. causes
 - 2. strategy & campaigns
 - 3. results
 - a) territorial gains
 - b) problems over slavery

Vocabulary

Chapter 16

Harriet Beecher Stowe
 William Lloyd Garrison
 Denmark Vesey
 David Walker
 Nat Turner
 Sojourner Truth
 Theodore Dwight Weld
 Frederick Douglass
 Arthur & Lewis Tappan
 Elijah P. Lovejoy
 John Quincy Adams

oligarchy
 abolitionism
 “positive good”
 Cotton Kingdom
The Liberator
 American Anti-Slavery Society
 peculiar institution
 Liberty Party
 Lane rebels
 gag resolution

Chapter 17

John Tyler
 John Slidell
 Winfield Scott

Lord Ashburton
 Zachary Taylor
 Nicholas P. Trist
 James K. Polk
 Stephen W. Kearny
 David Wilmot
 Robert Gray
 John C. Frémont

 joint resolution
 Manifest Destiny
 Fiscal Bank
 Webster-Ashburton Treaty
 “spot” resolutions
 Tariff of 1842
 “conscience” Whigs
 Bear Flag Revolt
Caroline
 Hudson’s Bay Company
 Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo
 Californios
 Liberty Party
 “all of Mexico”
 Aroostook War
Creole
 Walker Tariff of 1846
 Wilmot Proviso