

Pre-reading

1.
 - Slavery
 - Expansion of Slavery
 - Fugitive Slave Law
 - Southern State Infringements on Northern States Rights
 - Economic Strength Differences
 - Political Power Struggle

Pages 409-424

2. 1857 is considered an important year for the revolution for several reasons. During the time the North went into economic decline because of surplus wheat and other things. At the same time the South was doing fine because the cotton prices at the time were still high. It made the south think that cotton was actually king. The south began to think that they were economically stronger and just plain better than the North. The panic also raised a few issues key to the Republicans in 1860. One was protection for the businesses that needed with higher tariffs and the other was farms for the people who needed them. This was brought up by the Homestead Act, which was shot down by Buchanan.
3. It could be said that the debates of 1858 were the first battles of the civil war because they argue what's more important, the people of the territory or the will of the federal government. The will of the federal government would be expressed through the Supreme Court in this instance. In the debate, Douglas argued for his Freeport Doctrine, which supported this idea when Lincoln proposed the idea.
4. The case of John Brown is an excellent example for sectional issues, because it demonstrates the differences in opinion between the North and South. The south viewed John Brown as a treasonous murderer and executed him. The North, on the other hand, saw him as a hero and when he was executed in the south it infuriated them. The North ignored the fact that he was crazy and that he was trying to kill lots of people but it was the idea that the south executed some one fighting for such a worthy cause. In this case it didn't matter what the means were.

Pages 421-431

1. The quote by Alexander H. Stephens seems to be true for the most part. During the time the South was interested in its own interests only and not compromising. During the Democratic National Convention, the cotton states basically said "Our way or the highway" and they didn't get their way and left. The big split in the Democratic Party made Republican Party have an easier time getting into offices.
2. The candidates for the election of 1860 were Lincoln, Breckinridge, Bell, and Douglas. Breckinridge was democratic and was popular in the south. Lincoln was Republican and popular in the North and West. Bell was from the Constitutional Union and was popular in the middle states of VA, KY, and TN. The way the voting fell shows how the US was split and how different sections of the country felt on different political issues of the time. The way the voting went corresponds to the political opinions of the area.
3. The succession and popular votes by county are relatively similar but not exactly the same. North Carolina was more divided up about the president than succession. From both pictures it

can be seen that the Carolinas especially South Carolina were serious about slavery. Succession was probably more necessary to the south than inevitable. Its not like there was no way the south could have went on with out succeeding. The south just wanted to quit. Lincoln wasn't even a total abolitionist.

4. I think that the Critten amendments were a legitimate way to try and deal with slavery to stop war. Lincoln didn't necessarily disagree with them but his party did so he stuck to the principles and opposed them. They could have worked to delay the war but the slavery issue couldn't just be brushed under the rug.

Varying Viewpoints

I think everyone acknowledges that slavery had a part in the cause of the civil war, but I think the real debate is how slavery contributed to start of the war. Some saw it as a direct cause as in, the war was started because of slavery and to end slavery. Others see it as an issue involving the sectional formation due to slavery in the US. Slavery was a major difference between the north and south and it really hardened the lines between them and made it really hard for the war not to happen because neither side wanted to back down from its own view.

As I stated before, some see slavery as a major front running issue and other see it as something that wasn't really cause but it was there to help the war start.

How each school views the partisan changes in correlation with what they thought caused slavery. If they thought slavery caused he civil war then they would probably find a way that it relates to slavery or how it was influenced by slavery.