

Chapter 18

Renewing the Sectional Struggle, 1848-1854

A. True or False

Where the statement is true, mark T. Where it is false, mark F, and correct it in the space immediately below.

- ___ 1. Democratic politicians and others attempted to avoid the issue of slavery in the territories by saying it should be left to “popular sovereignty.”
- ___ 2. The Free Soil party consisted of a small, unified band of radical abolitionists.
- ___ 3. The California gold rush diverted the nation’s attention from slavery.
- ___ 4. Southerners demanded a more effective fugitive-slave law to stop the “Underground Railroad” from running escaped slaves to Canada.
- ___ 5. In the Senate debate of 1850, Calhoun spoke for compromise, while Clay and Webster each defended his own section’s interest.
- ___ 6. In the key provisions of the Compromise of 1850, New Mexico and Utah were admitted as slave states, while California was left open to popular sovereignty.
- ___ 7. The provision of the Compromise of 1850 that aroused the fiercest northern opposition was the Fugitive Slave Law.
- ___ 8. The greatest political winner in the Compromise of 1850 was the South.
- ___ 9. The Whig party disappeared because its northern and southern wings were too deeply split over the Fugitive Slave Law and other sectional issues.
- ___ 10. The Pierce administration’s expansionist efforts in Central America, Cuba, and the Gadsden Purchase were basically designed to serve southern proslavery interests.
- ___ 11. In negotiating the first American treaty with China in 1844, diplomat Caleb Cushing made sure that the United States did not align itself with the imperialistic European great powers in China.
- ___ 12. Douglas’s Kansas-Nebraska Act was intended to organize western territories so that a transcontinental railroad could be built along a northern route.
- ___ 13. Both northerners and southerners alike refused to accept Douglass’s plan to repeal the Missouri Compromise.

- ___ 14. The Kansas-Nebraska Act wrecked the Compromise of 1850 and created deep divisions within the Democratic Party.
- ___ 15. The Republican Party was initially organized as a northern protest against Douglas's Kansas-Nebraska Act.

Multiple Choice

Select the best answer and write the proper letter in the space provided.

- ___ 1. "Popular sovereignty" was the idea that
- the government of the United States should be elected by the people.
 - the American public should vote on whether to admit states with or without slavery.
 - The people of a territory should determine for themselves whether or not to permit slavery.
 - The United States should assume popular control of the territory acquired from Mexico.
- ___ 2. In the election of 1848, the response of the Whig and Democratic parties to the rising controversy over slavery was
- a strong proslavery stance by the Democrats and a strong antislavery stance by the Whigs.
 - platforms stressing both parties' clear differences with the antislavery Free Soil party.
 - an attempt to ignore the issue.
 - to free each individual candidate to take his own stand on the issue.
- ___ 3. The quick formation of an effective government in California was essential because of
- the desire of antislavery forces to gain a new state for their cause.
 - the threat that Mexico would reconquer the territory.
 - the need to have a government capable of building a transcontinental railroad.
 - the very large and unruly population drawn into the state by the discovery of gold.
- ___ 4. The proposed admission of California directly in the Union was dangerously controversial because
- the territory was in a condition of complete lawlessness and anarchy.
 - the Mexicans were threatening renewed warfare if California joined the Union.
 - California's admission as a free state would destroy the equal balance of slave and free states in the U.S. Senate.
 - there was a growing movement to declare California an independent nation.
- ___ 5. The existence of the "Underground Railroad" added to southern demands for
- the stationing of armed police and troops along the Ohio River and the Mason-Dixon line to capture runaways.
 - the death penalty for abolitionists.
 - a stricter federal Fugitive Slave Law.
 - the enslavement of all free blacks in the South.

- ___ 6. Among the notable advocates of compromise in the controversy over slavery in 1850 were
- William Seward and Zachary Taylor.
 - Henry Clay and Daniel Webster.
 - John C. Calhoun and Abraham Lincoln.
 - Stephen Douglas and Harriet Tubman.
- ___ 7. During the debate over the Compromise of 1850, northern antislavery forces were particularly outraged by what they considered the “betrayal” of Senator
- Stephen A. Douglas
 - Daniel Webster
 - William H. Seward
 - John C. Calhoun
- ___ 8. Under the terms of the Compromise of 1850,
- California was admitted to the Union as a free state, and slavery in Utah and New Mexico territories would be left up to popular sovereignty.
 - California was admitted as a free state, and Utah and New Mexico as slave states.
 - California, Utah, and New Mexico were kept as territories but with slavery prohibited.
 - New Mexico and Texas were admitted as slave states and Utah and California as free states.
- ___ 9. The final battle to gain passage of the Compromise of 1850 was substantially aided by
- the conversion of William Steward to the idea of compromise.
 - the death of President Taylor and the succession of President Fillmore.
 - the removal of the proposed Fugitive Slave Law from the compromise bill.
 - the agreement to rely on popular sovereignty to resolve the future of slavery in California.
- ___ 10. The greatest winner in the Compromise of 1850 was
- the North.
 - the South
 - neither the North nor the South
 - the border states
- ___ 11. One of the primary effects of the Fugitive Slave Law passed as part of the Compromise of 1850 was
- an end to slave escapes and the Underground Railroad.
 - the extension of the underground railroad into Canada.
 - a sharp rise in northern antislavery feeling.
 - an increase in violent slave rebellions.
- ___ 12. The conflict over slavery after the election of 1852 led shortly thereafter to
- the death of the Whig party.
 - the death of the Democratic party.
 - the death of the Republican party.
 - the rise of the Free Soil party.
- ___ 13. Southerners seeking to expand the territory of slavery undertook filibustering military expeditions to acquire
- Canada and Alaska.
 - Venezuela and Colombia
 - Nicaragua and Cuba.
 - Hawaii and Japan

- ___ 14. The primary goal of Commodore Matthew Perry's treaty with Japan in 1854 was
- establishing a balance of power in East Asia.
 - opening Japan to American trade.
 - guaranteeing the territorial integrity of China.
 - establishing American naval bases in Hawaii and Okinawa.
- ___ 15. Northerners especially resented Douglas's Kansas-Nebraska Act because
- it aimed to build a transcontinental railroad along the southern route.
 - it would make him the leading Democratic candidate for the presidency.
 - it repealed the Missouri Compromise prohibiting slavery in northern territories.
 - it would bring Kansas into the Union as a slave state.

C. Identification

Supply the correct identification for each numbered description.

- _____ 1. Hotheaded southern agitators who pushed southern interests and favored secession from the Union.
- _____ 2. The doctrine that the issue of slavery should be decided by the residents of a territory themselves, not by the federal government.
- _____ 3. The boundary line between slave and free states in the East, originally the southern border of Pennsylvania.
- _____ 4. The informal network that conducted runaway slaves from the South to Canada.
- _____ 5. Senator William Seward's doctrine that slavery should be excluded from the territories as contrary to divine moral law standing above even the Constitution.
- _____ 6. The provision of the Compromise of 1850 that comforted southern slave-catchers and aroused the wrath of northern abolitionists.
- _____ 7. Third-party entry in the election of 1848 that opposed slavery expansion and prepared the way for the Republican Party.
- _____ 8. A series of agreements between the North and South that temporarily dampened the slavery controversy and led to a short-lived era of national good feelings.
- _____ 9. Political party that fell apart and disappeared after losing the election of 1852.
- _____ 10. An agreement between Britain and America concerning any future Central American canal.
- _____ 11. A top-secret dispatch, drawn up by American diplomats in Europe, that detailed a plan for seizing Cuba from Spain.

- _____ 12. Southwestern territory acquired by the Pierce administration to facilitate a southern transcontinental railroad.
- _____ 13. The sectional agreement of 1820, repealed by the Kansas-Nebraska Act.
- _____ 14. The political party that was deeply divided by Douglas's Kansas-Nebraska Act.
- _____ 15. A new political party organized as a protest against the Kansas-Nebraska Act.

D. Matching People, Places, and Events

Match the person, place, or event in the left column with the proper description in the right column by inserting the correct letter on the blank line.

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|----------------------------|--|
| ___ 1. Lewis Cass | A. American naval commander who opened Japan to the West in 1854. |
| ___ 2. Zachary Taylor | B. Democratic presidential candidate in 1848, original proponent of the idea of "popular sovereignty." |
| ___ 3. California | C. Weak Democratic president whose prosouthern cabinet pushed aggressive expansionist schemes. |
| ___ 4. Caleb Cushing | D. Famous "conductor" on the Underground Railroad who rescued more than three hundred slaves from bondage. |
| ___ 5. Harriet Tubman | E. Illinois politician who helped smooth over sectional conflict in 1850 but then reignited it in 1854. |
| ___ 6. Daniel Webster | F. Central American nation desired by proslavery expansionists in the 1850s. |
| ___ 7. William Seward | G. Military hero of the Mexican War who became the Whigs' last presidential candidate in 1852. |
| ___ 8. China | H. Whig president who nearly destroyed the Compromise of 1850 before he died in office. |
| ___ 9. Franklin Pierce | I. Rich Spanish colony coveted by American proslavery expansionist in the 1850s. |
| ___ 10. Winfield Scott | J. American diplomat who negotiated the Treaty of Wanghia with China in 1844. |
| ___ 11. Nicaragua | K. The ruling warrior dynasty of Japan with whom Matthew Perry negotiated the Treaty of Kanagawa in 1854. |
| ___ 12. Matthew Perry | L. New York senator who argued that that expansion of slavery was forbidden by a "higher law." |
| ___ 13. Cuba | M. Nation whose 1844 treaty with the United States opened the door to a flood of American missionaries. |
| ___ 14. Tokugawa Shogunate | N. Northern spokesman whose support for the Compromise of 1850 earned him the hatred of abolitionists. |
| ___ 15. Stephen A. Douglas | O. Acquired from Mexico in 1848 and admitted as a free state in 1850 without ever having been a territory. |

E. Matching Cause and Effect

Match the historical cause in the left column with the proper effect in the right column by writing the correct letter on the blank line.

Cause	Effect
___ 1. The evasion of the slavery issue by Whigs and Democrats in 1848	A. Was the predecessor of the antislavery Republican Party.
___ 2. The California gold rush	B. Fell apart after the leaking of the Ostend Manifesto.
___ 3. The Underground Railroad	C. Caused a tremendous northern protest and the birth of the Republican Party.
___ 4. The Free Soil party	D. Made the issue of slavery in the Mexican Cession areas more urgent.
___ 5. The Compromise of 1850	E. Created a short-lived national mood of optimism and reconciliation.
___ 6. The Fugitive Slave Law	F. Heightened competition between southern and northern railroad promoters over the choice of a transcontinental route.
___ 7. The Pierce administration’s schemes to acquire Cuba	G. Led to the formation of new Free-Soil antislavery party.
___ 8. The Gadsden Purchase	H. Aroused active northern resistance to legal enforcement and prompted attempts at nullification in Massachusetts.
___ 9. Stephen A. Douglas’s indifference to slavery and desire for a northern railroad route	I. Led to the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act, without regard for the consequences.
___ 10. The Kansas-Nebraska Act	J. Aroused southern demands for an effective fugitive-slave law.

G. Map Mastery

Using the maps and charts in Chapter 20, answer the following questions.

1. *Texas and the Disputed Area Before the Compromise of 1850*: A large territory claimed by Texas was taken from it in the Compromise of 1850, and parts of it were later incorporated into *five* other states. Which were they?

2. *Slavery After the Compromise of 1850*: Under the Compromise of 1850, which *free* state was partially located south of the line 36° 30’ (the southern border of Missouri), which had been established by the Missouri Compromise as the border between slave and free territories?

3. *Slavery After the Compromise of 1850*: Under the Compromise of 1850, which territory located *north* of 36 30' *could* have adopted slavery if it had chosen to do so?

4. *Slavery After the Compromise of 1850*: After 1850, how many organized territories prohibited slavery? Identify them.

5. *Central America c. 1850*: In Central America, British influence extended along the Atlantic coasts of which two nations?

6. *Central America c. 1850*: In the 1850s, the territories of the future Panama Canal was part of which South American country?

7. *The Gadsden Purchase, 1853*: The proposed southern transcontinental railroad was supposed to run through which two Texas cities?

8. *Kansas and Nebraska, 1854*: The proposed *northern* transcontinental railroad was supposed to run through which territory organized by Stephen Douglas's act of 1854?

9. *The Legal Status of Slavery, from the Revolution to the Civil War*: In 1854, what was the status of slavery in the only state that bordered on the Kansas Territory?

10. *The Legal Status of Slavery, from the Revolution to the Civil War*: Under the Kansas-Nebraska Act, how far north could slavery have extended had it been implemented in Nebraska territory??