

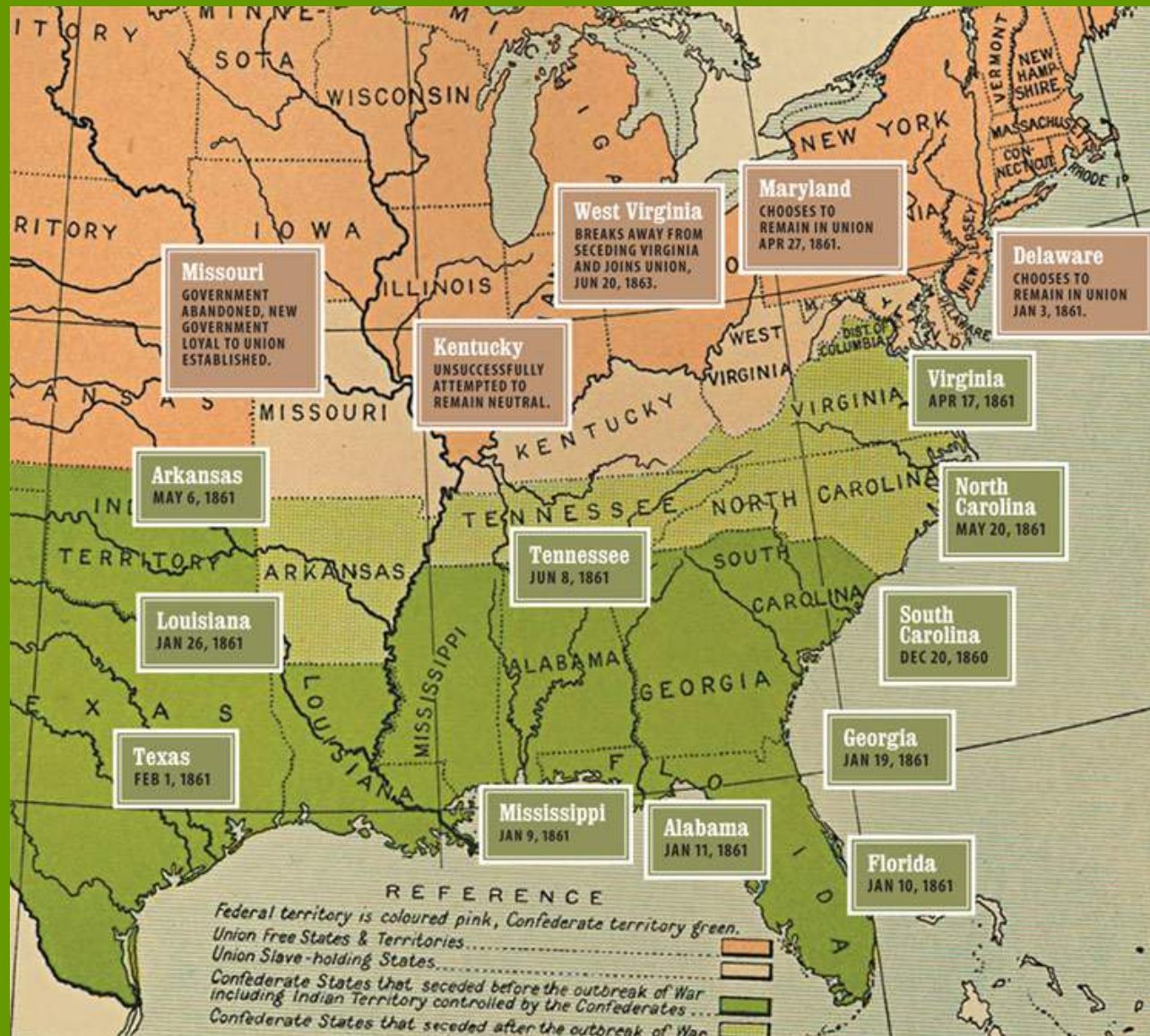
LEQ: What was the first state to secede from the United States?



This map shows the dates that the Southern states seceded or left the United States. South Carolina seceded on December 20, 1860. This image is courtesy of civilwar.org.us.

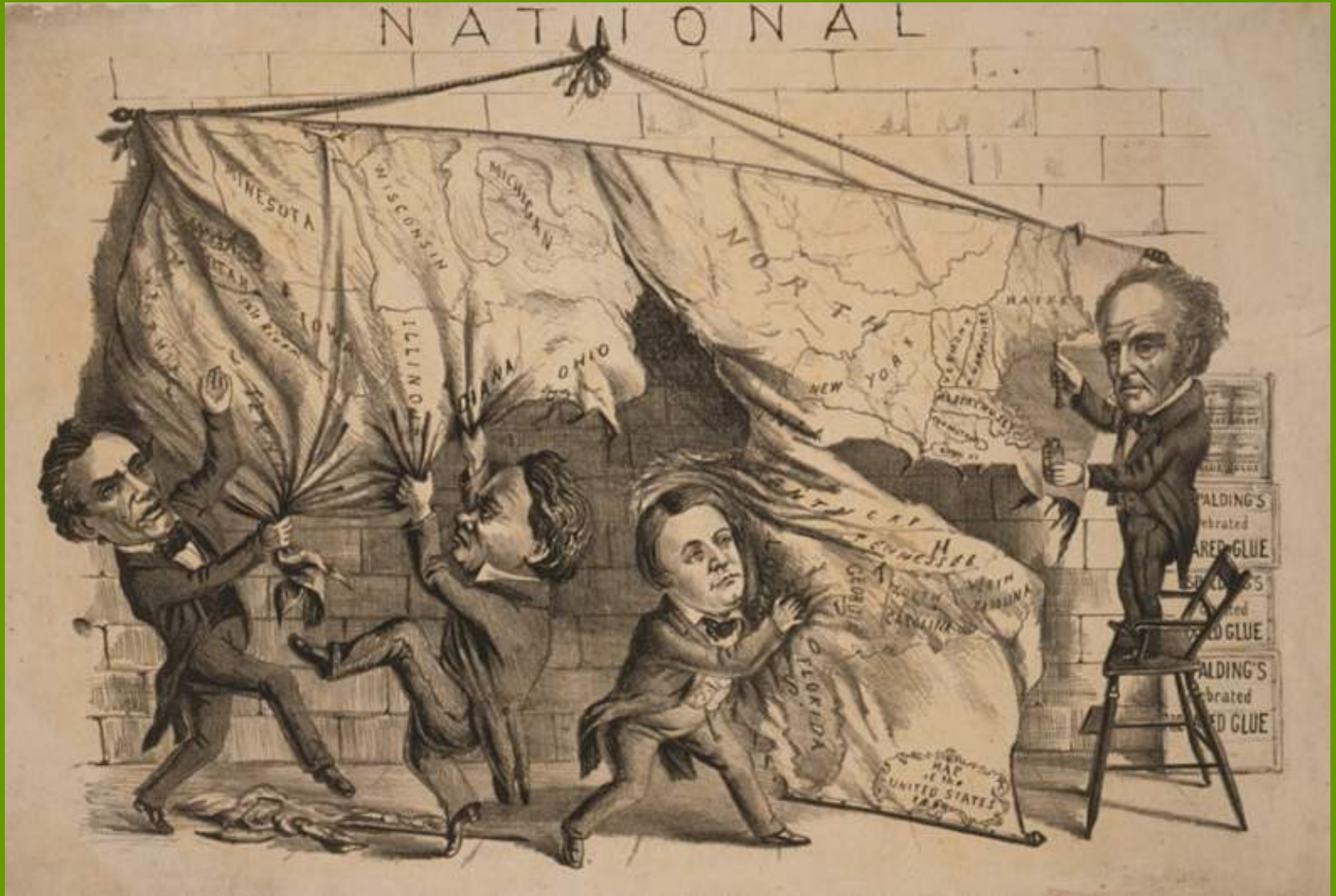
LEQ: What was the first state to secede from the United States?

South Carolina



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Secession



There were four candidates for the Presidential Election of 1860. On the left, Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas tear at the western part of the country. John C. Breckinridge tears away the South. John Bell attempts to repair the northeastern section of the country. This image has been labeled by some editors as "Dividing the National Map." This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

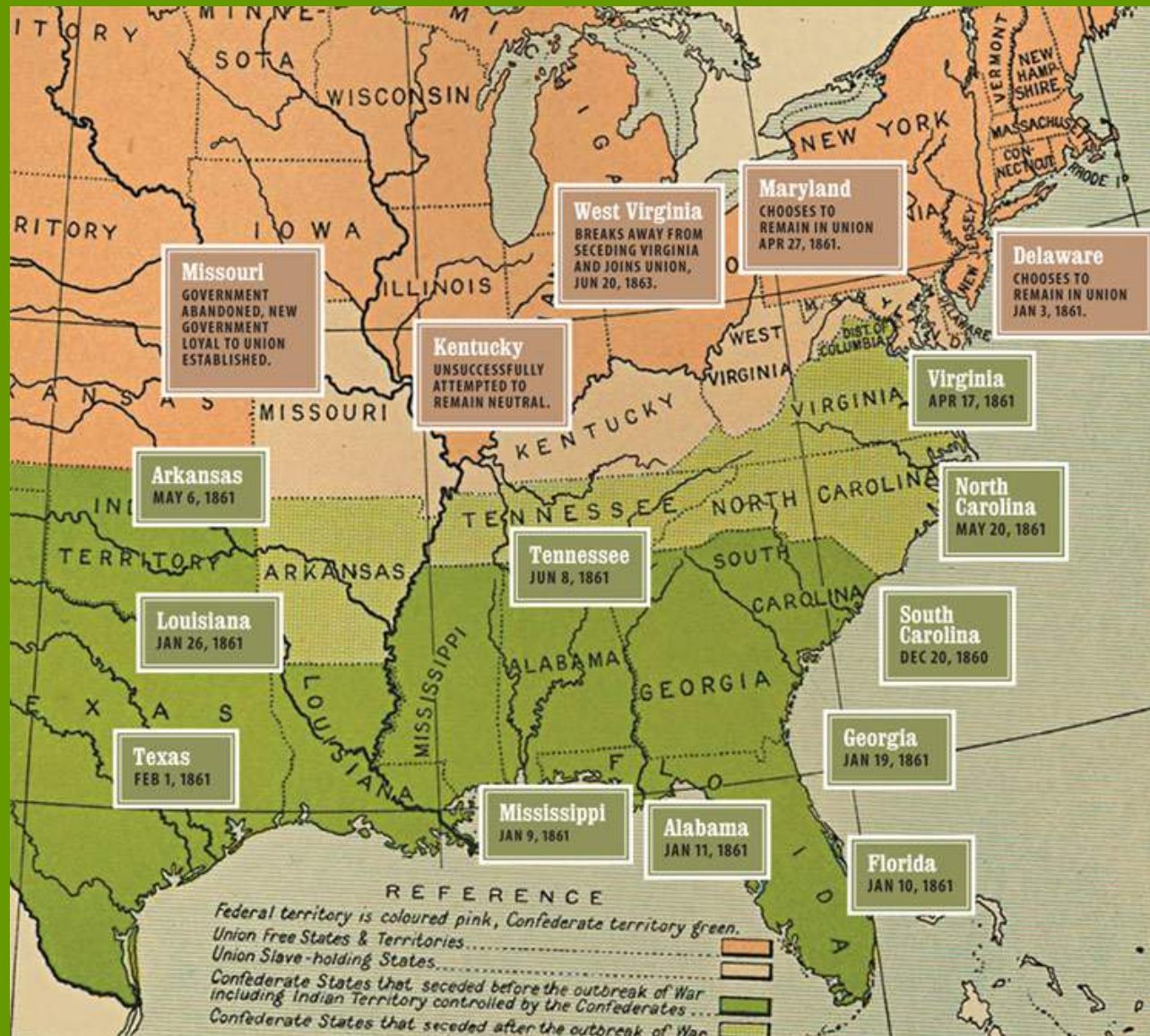
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Year after year in the 1850s, relations between the North and the South grew worse.

**THE UNION
IS IN DANGER!
BALLY, FREEMEN, TO THE RESCUE!**

**GRAND
MASS MEETING
OF THE
CONSTITUTIONAL UNION PARTY.**



In pursuance of a call of the STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, a Grand Mass Meeting of the friends of the UNION and all who favor the election of Bell and Everett, will be held at **FREDERICK CITY, MARYLAND,**

ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6th. 1860,
Commencing at 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Union Presidential Electors of the State, together with other distinguished Speakers, who have volunteered their aid in this canvass, are expected to address the assembled Constitutional Union men of Frederick County on the occasion.

**PROGRAMMES OF THE ORDER OF
PROCESSION, SPEAKING, &C.,**

Including arrangements for the reception of Delegations from the various election Districts of the county, and elsewhere, will be issued in due time.

The Committee of Arrangements anticipate that the proposed Mass Meeting will be an immense demonstration in favor of "The Union, the Constitution, and the Enforcement of the Laws," and they solicit the co-operation of every order-loving and law-abiding citizen.

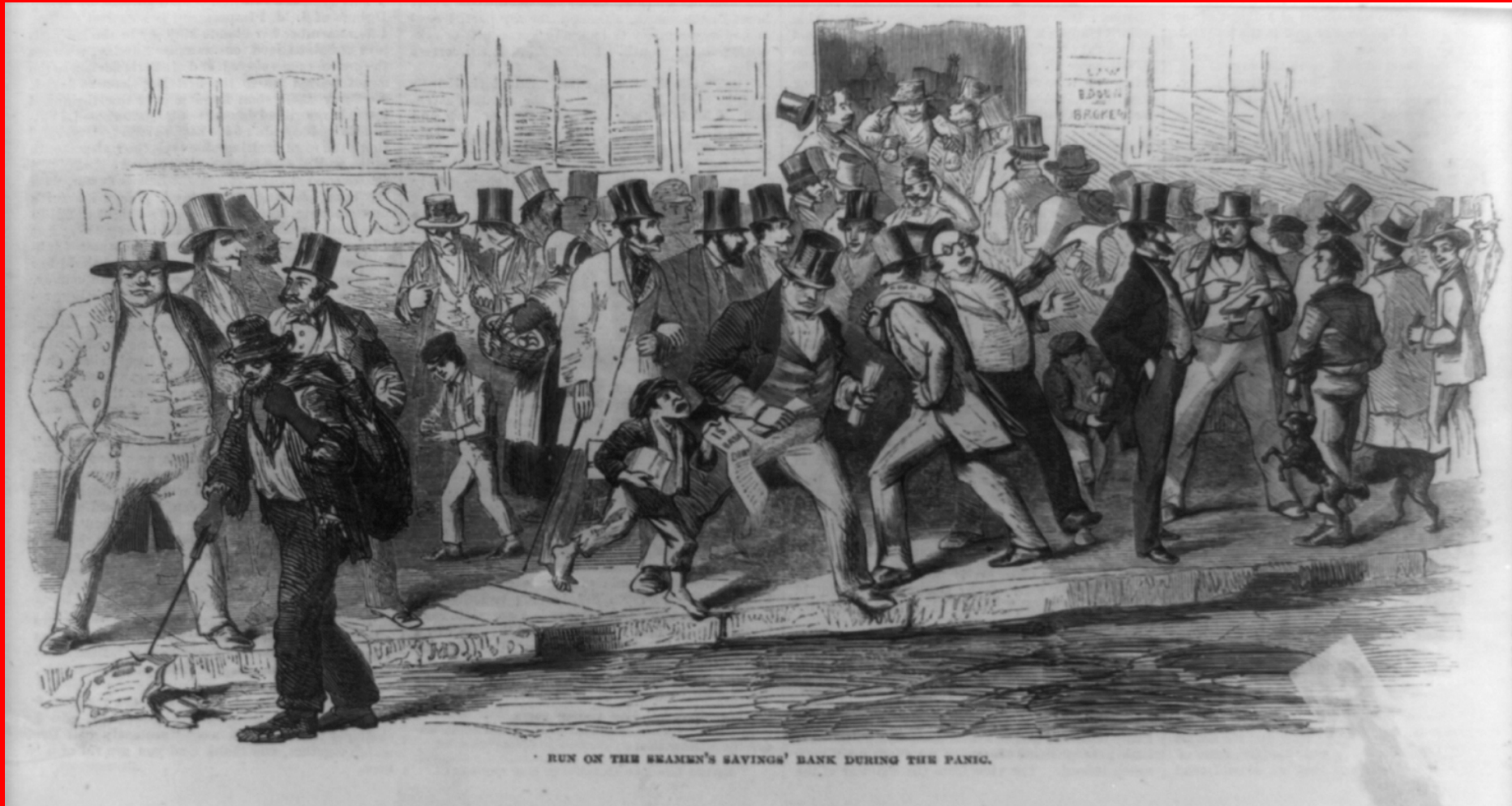
Come One! Come All! Let the loyal citizens of Frederick County show, by their presence and co-operation, the detestation in which they hold Sectionalism, whether at the North or at the South, and all attempts to dissolve this glorious Confederacy, under whatever guise or pretence they may appear.

BY ORDER OF THE
COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

Frederick, August 22nd. 1860.
Printed by Schley, Haller & Co., "The Examiner" Power Presses, Frederick.

This image shows an advertisement for the Constitutional Union Party in Frederick, Maryland in September, 1860. This image is courtesy of the Perkins Library of Duke University.

A serious depression, or economic downturn, hit the North in 1857.



To help businesses and poor farmers, Northerners pressed for higher tariffs and free land. Southerners in Congress would not act to raise tariffs, however. This image is titled "Run on the Seamen's Savings' Bank During the Panic." This image appeared in the October 31, 1857 edition of *Harper's Weekly*. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

Congress passed a Homestead Act offering free land to settlers, but President Buchanan vetoed it.



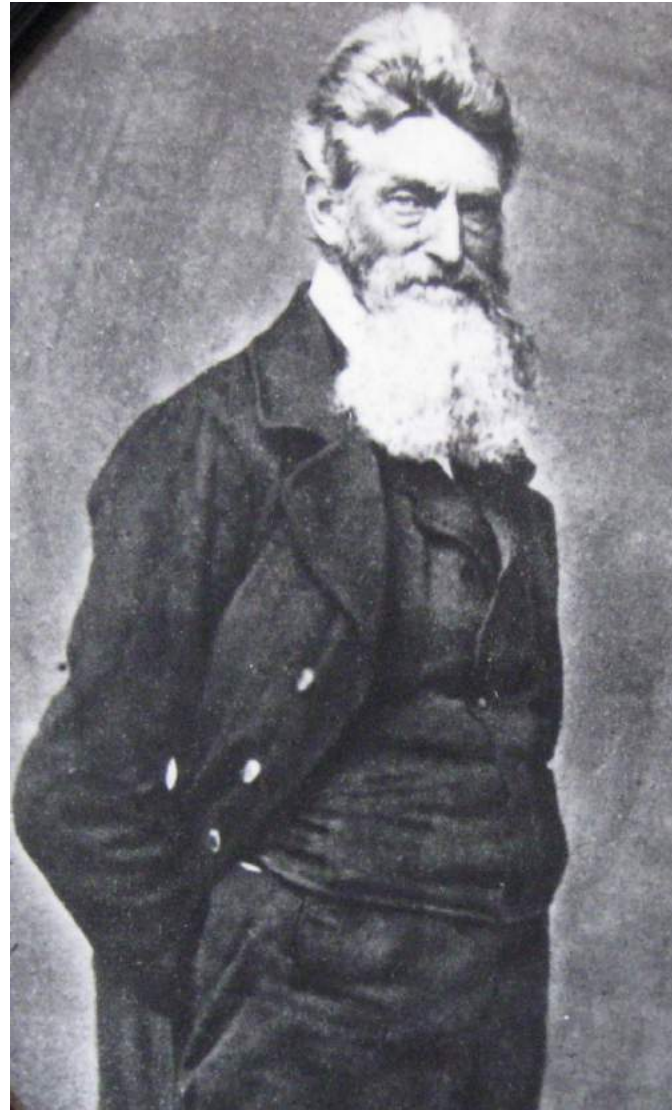
The Homestead Act was designed to settle the undeveloped land owned by the federal government west of the Mississippi River. White Southerners didn't want the Homestead Act passed because it would result in small farms owned by people who did not have a need for slaves. This image is courtesy of the National Archives.

Violence over slavery continued to rage in Kansas.



In October 1859, abolitionist John Brown brought his war against slavery from Kansas to Virginia, not far from Washington, D.C. This painting is titled "Tragic Prelude." It was created by John Steuart Curry (1897-1946) circa 1939. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

When John Brown came to Virginia, he was almost 60 years old.



He now had a long white beard, and he thought of himself as an avenging angel doing God's will by destroying slavery, even if it meant killing people. He had formed a group of 18 armed followers. This photograph was taken by Martin M. Lawrence (1808-1859). A woodcut of this photograph appeared in the November 19, 1859 edition of *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*. This image is on display at the John Brown exhibit at Harpers Ferry National Historic Park. A photograph of this image was taken by Robert Housch on April 27, 2014.

On the night of October 16, 1859, Brown and his men invaded Harpers Ferry, Virginia (now West Virginia).



This is an artist's rendering of what Harpers Ferry, Virginia (now West Virginia) looked like in 1859 at the time of John Brown's Raid. The Shenandoah River is at the bottom of the picture. The Potomac River is on the right side of the picture. This painting is on display at Harpers Ferry National Historic Park. This photograph of the painting was taken by Robert Housch on April 30, 2010.

Brown's men occupied a federal armory, or storehouse for weapons.



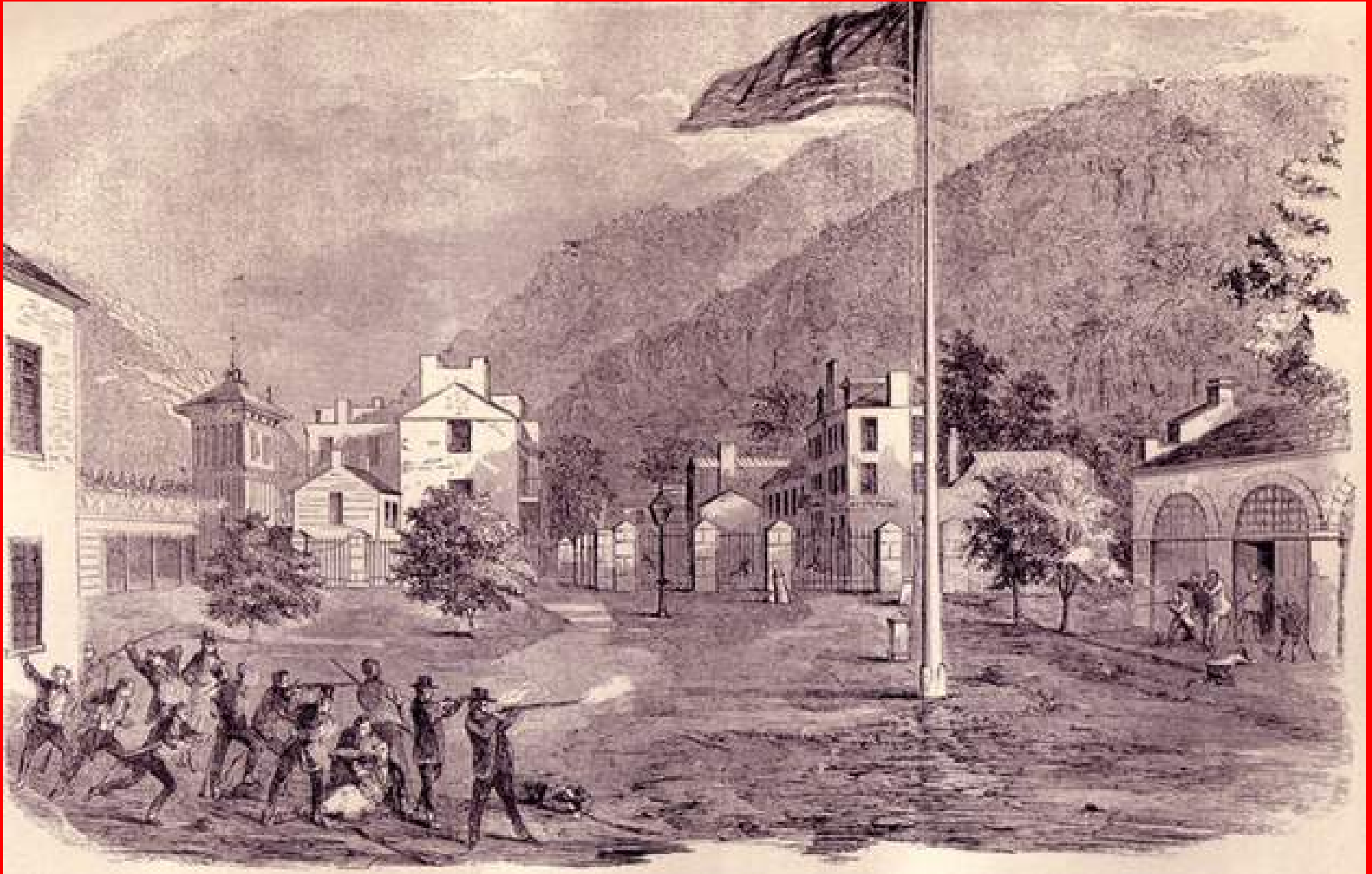
The armory consisted of approximately ten buildings. They first occupied the Arsenal buildings located along the Shenandoah River. Those are the red brick buildings closest to the Shenandoah River. They are called the Small Arsenal (short side of building visible) and to its right the Large Arsenal (long side of building visible). When they occupied the rifle factory, which is the farthest building to the right with smoke coming out of it, along the Potomac River, they took several hostages. This painting is on display at Harpers Ferry National Historic Park. This photograph of the painting was taken by Robert Housch on April 30, 2010.

Brown's men hoped to use captured guns and rifles to arm all the enslaved people in the area.



They hoped to ignite a slave revolt that would end in freedom for all enslaved African Americans. They would escape with the weapons into the mountains and they expected slaves from around the South to join them. These weapons are on display at the John Brown Exhibit at Harpers Ferry National Historic Park. This image was taken by Robert Housch on April 27, 2014.

The next morning, local farmers and militia had rushed to town in a panic, fearing a slave rebellion.



Brown and his followers probably could have escaped, but Brown refused. This image was printed in *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper* in October, 1859. This image is courtesy of tcgop.org.

Nobody else in Brown's group attempted to escape until it was too late, and they defended themselves in the armory's fire engine house.



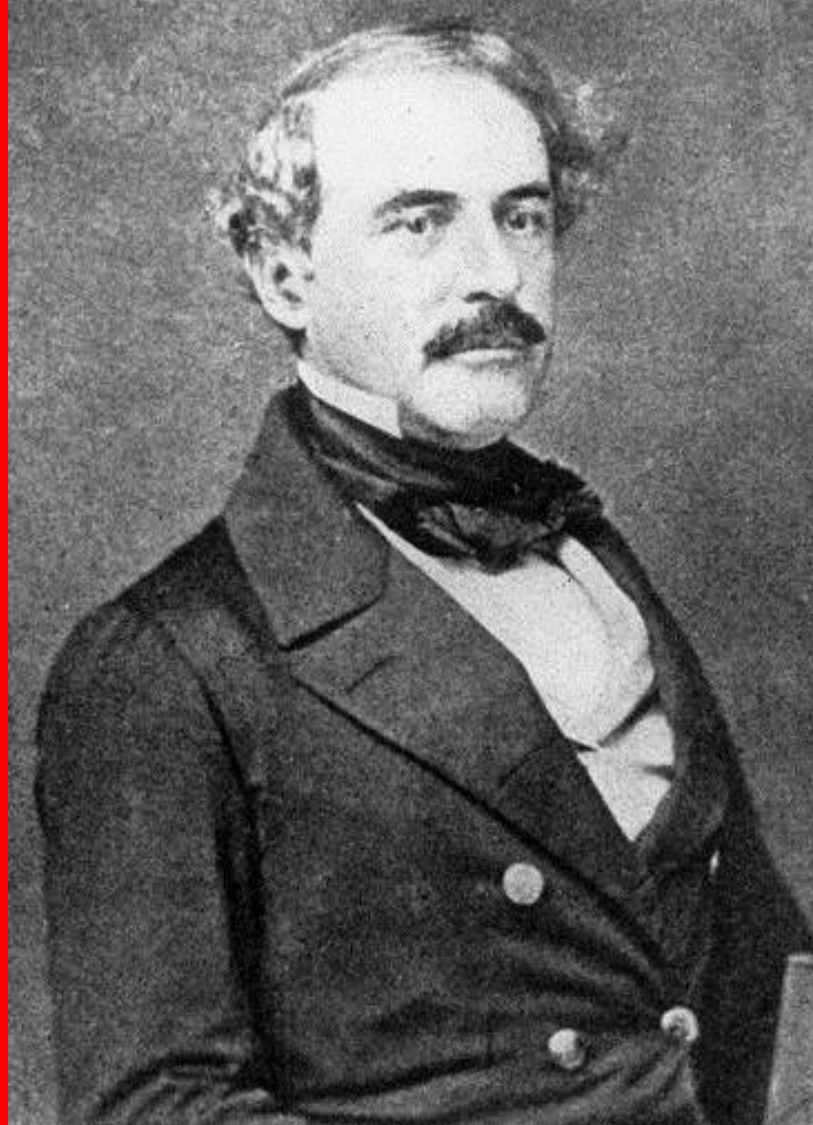
By the time that Brown attempted to negotiate with the militia, they had trapped him. This image is was taken by Robert Housch on April 27, 2014.

Rumors spread in Washington of a huge slave rebellion.



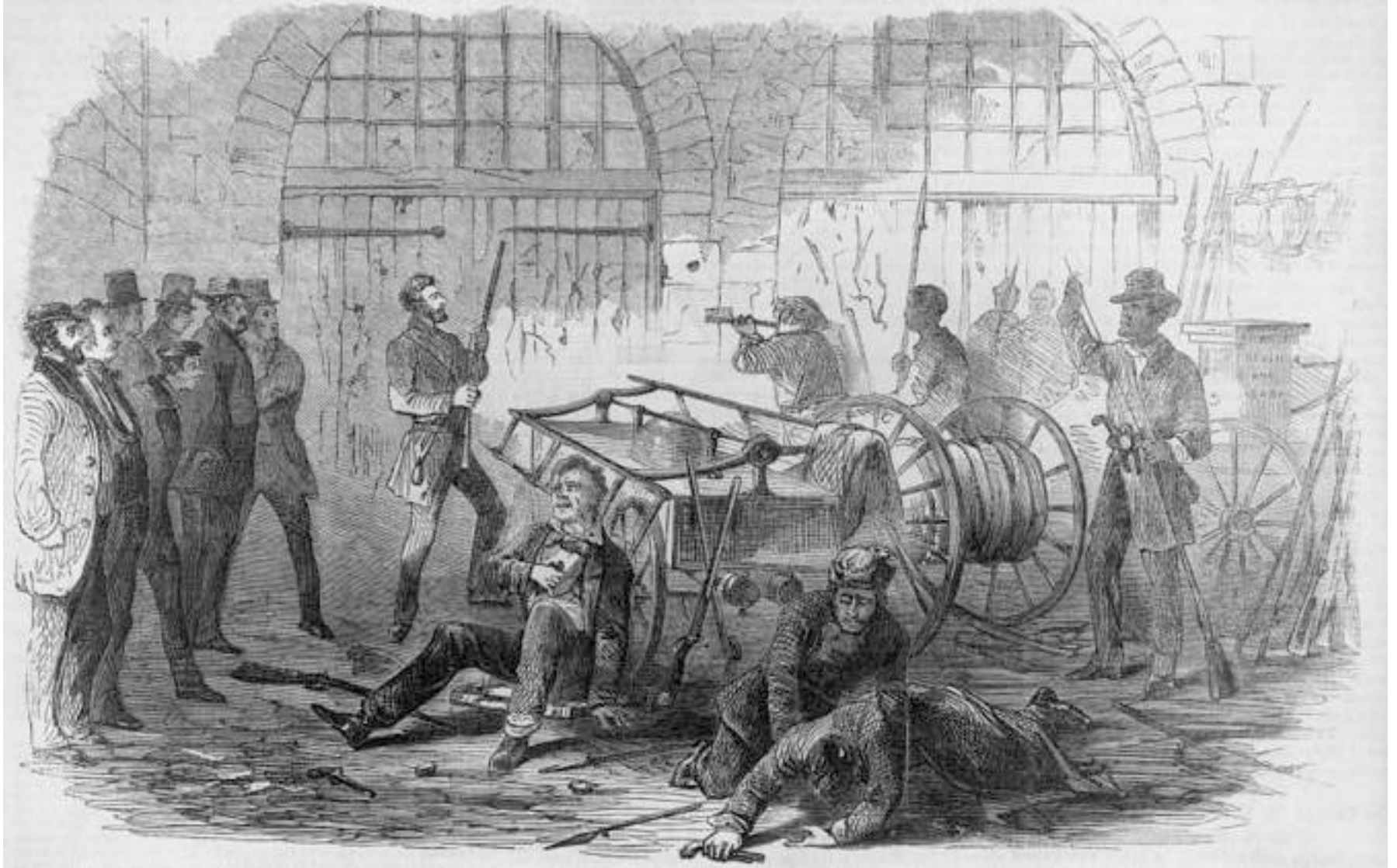
This image shows the east front of the United States Capitol. The capitol was redesigned by Charles Bulfinch (1763-1844) who was the Architect of the Capitol from 1818-1829. This image was taken by John Plumbe (1809-1857) circa 1846. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

President Buchanan sent in army troops and a company of United States Marines, commanded by Colonel Robert E. Lee.



This image shows Robert E. Lee (1807-1870) when he was a brevet Lieutenant-Colonel of Engineers in 1850. This image was taken by Mathew Brady (1822-1896). This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

On the second morning, the Marines— plus a huge crowd— surrounded Brown and his men who were in the fire engine house.



This image shows the interior of the fire engine house just before the Marines attacked. On the left are the hostages held by Brown's men. This image was published in *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper* on November 5, 1859. It is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

When Brown refused to surrender, the soldiers battered down the door and attacked with bayonets.



The Marines first attempted to batter down the door with large mallets. When that didn't work they used a very strong ladder. After they battered down the door, the Marines on the right rushed into the Fire Engine House with their bayonets. This image was published in *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper* on October 29, 1859. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

One of the marine officers wounded and captured Brown.



Marine First Lieutenant Israel Greene wrote about his action after entering the Fire Engine House: "Quicker than thought I brought my saber down with all my strength upon [Brown's] head. He was moving as the blow fell, and I suppose I did not strike him where I intended, for he received a deep saber cut in the back of the neck. He fell senseless on his side, then rolled over on his back." This image is courtesy of flickr.com.

John Brown's raid on the arsenal had lasted 36 Hours.



During that time, no local people had joined his cause. This image is titled "Bringing the Prisoners Out of the Engine House." This image appeared in *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper* on November 5, 1859. This image is on display at the John Brown Exhibit at Harpers Ferry National Historic Park. A photograph of the image was taken by Robert Housch on April 27, 2014.

10 of Brown's 18 men, including two of his sons, had been killed.



Brown's men had killed four civilians, two Marines, and two slaves. Brown's son Oliver, who was wounded, asked his father to kill him. Brown said, "if you must die, die like a man." A few minutes later Oliver was dead. His other son, Watson, was shot when he was sent out with a white flag and the townspeople shot him. This image was published in Benjamin Lossing's *Our Country* in 1895. This image is courtesy of ushistoryimages.com.

The first person that Brown's men killed was a free African American, Heyward Shepherd.



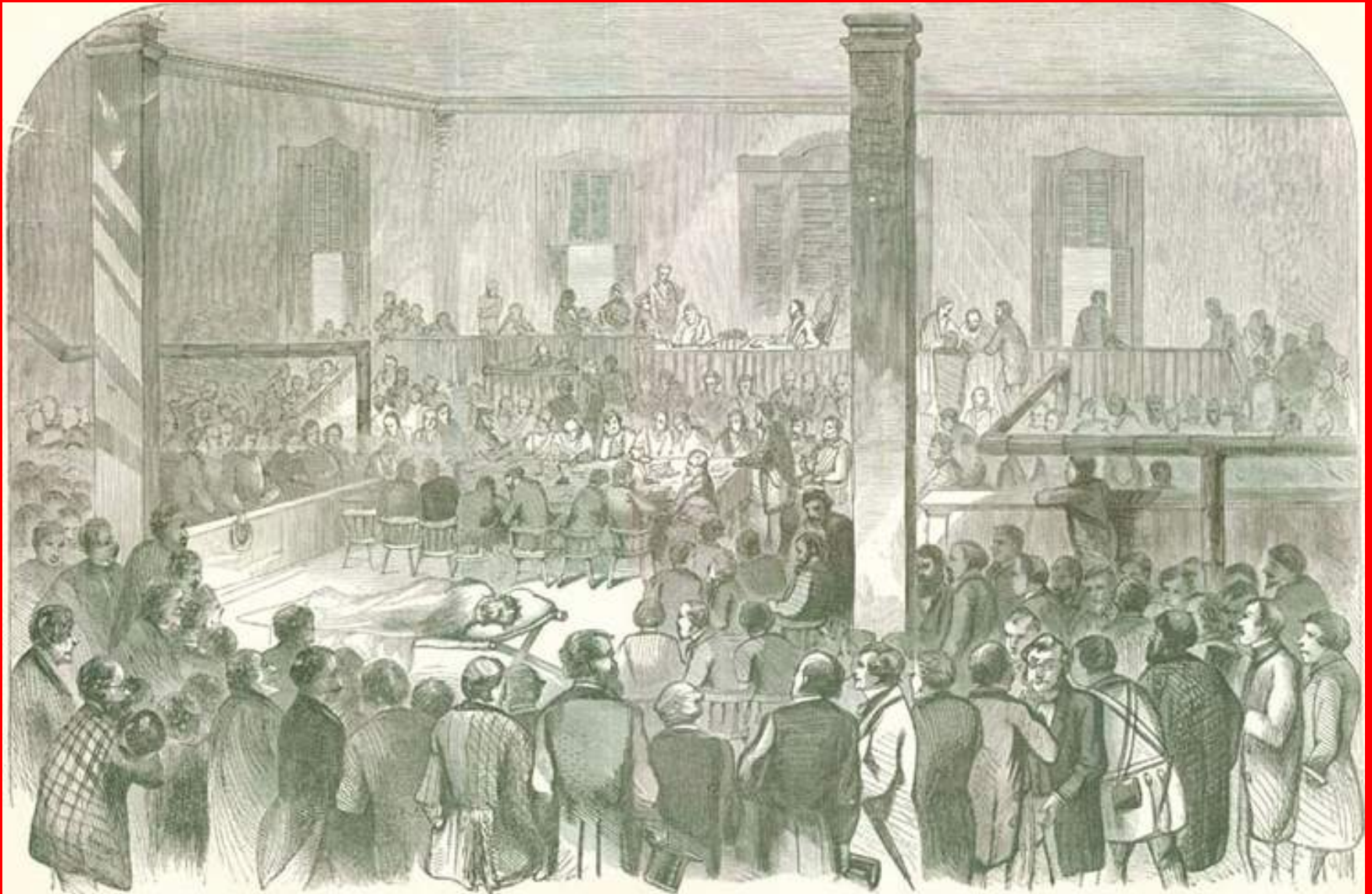
Heyward Shepherd was a free African-American baggage handler for the Winchester and Potomac Railroad company. His wife and children lived in nearby Winchester. Little is known about Heyward Shepherd, including how he felt about John Brown's raid. Although accounts differ regarding the circumstances of his death, he probably was shot by one of Brown's men during the first hours of the raid. This is the only known likeness of Heyward Shephard. It was created by "Porte Crayon." This image is on display at the John Brown Exhibit at Harpers Ferry National Historic Park. A photograph of the image was taken by Robert Housch on April 27, 2014.

Northerners had mixed reactions to John Brown's Raid.



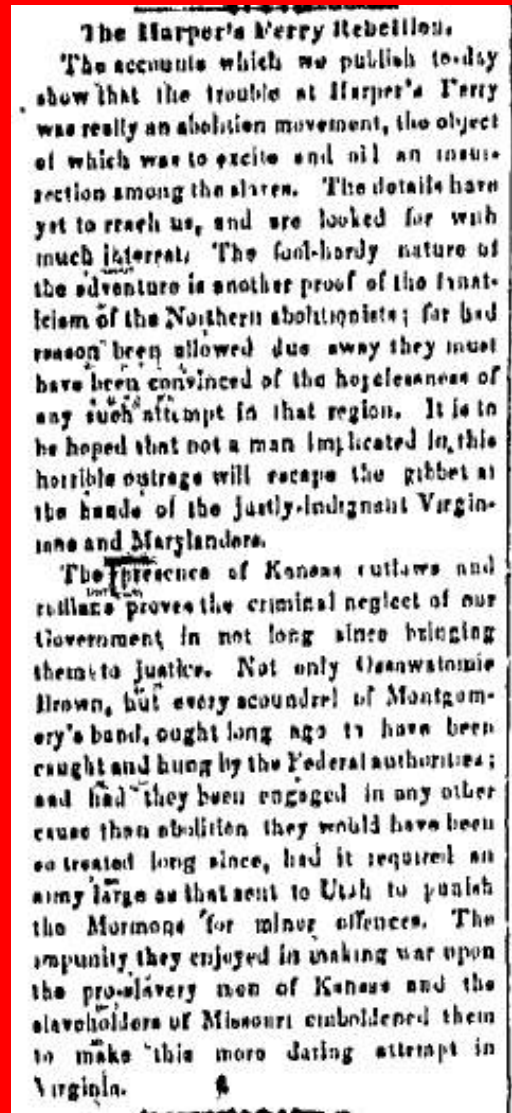
Was John Brown a courageous martyr to the cause of freedom or a madman? This is the front page of Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper from November 5, 1859. This image is on display at the John Brown Exhibit at Harpers Ferry National Historic Park. A photograph of the image was taken by Robert Housch on April 27, 2014.

At his trial, Brown testified in a moving and dignified manner.



Northern abolitionists especially admired his hatred for slavery, and many believed that his execution would give their cause a martyr and a hero. Because of his wounds, at his trial John Brown was frequently confined to a bed set up for him in the courtroom, and seen at the lower left of this image. This image was created by Porte Crayon for the November 12, 1859 issue of *Harper's Weekly*. This image is courtesy of the West Virginia State Archives.

In the South people's reactions to the raid consisted of fear, anger, and hatred for the North.



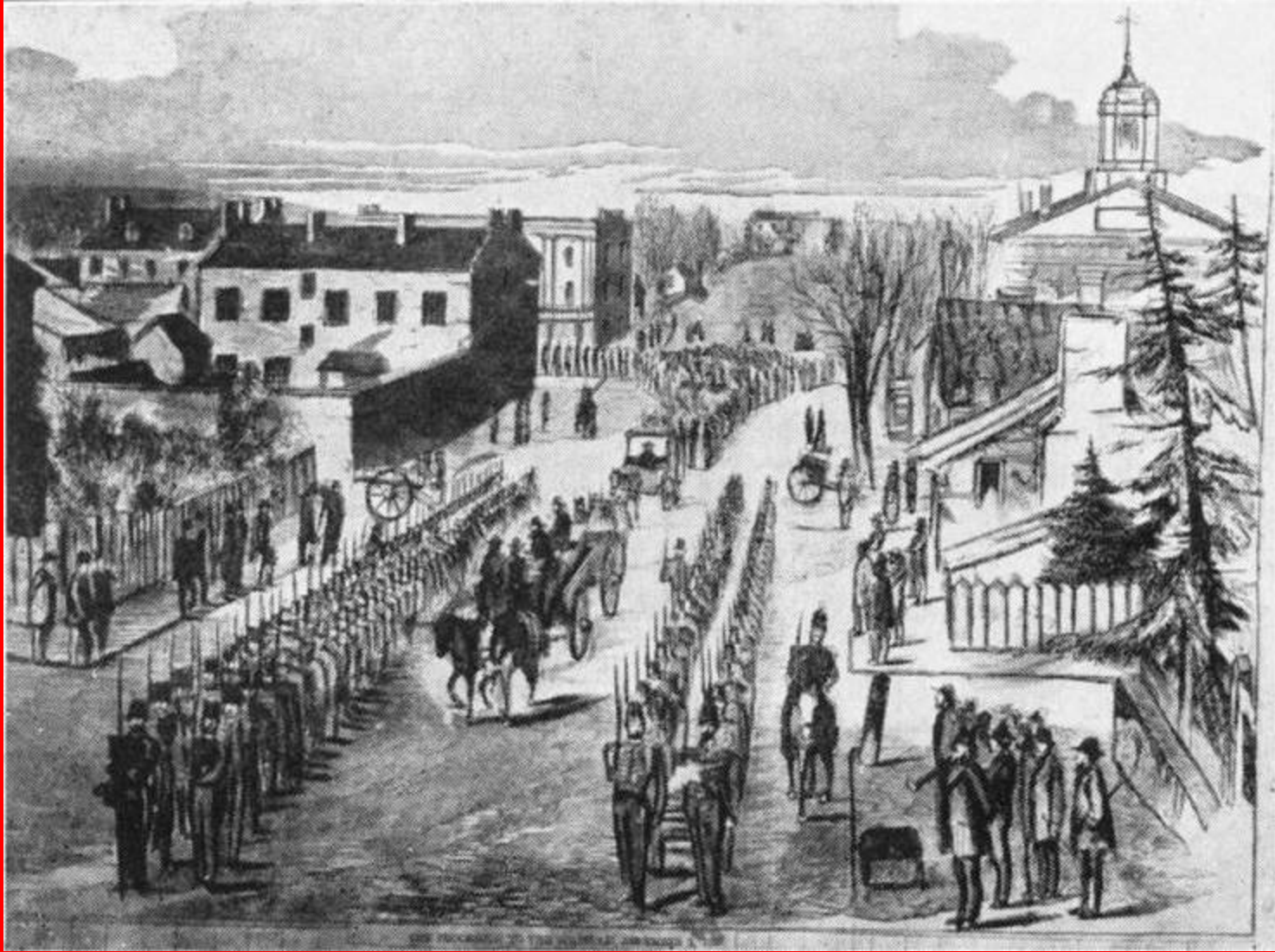
Southerners became convinced that they could not live safely in the Union. This image is from the *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, Columbus, Georgia, from October 21, 1859, page 2, column 1. This image is courtesy of newsbank.com.

Northern support for Brown horrified Southerners as much as the raid itself.



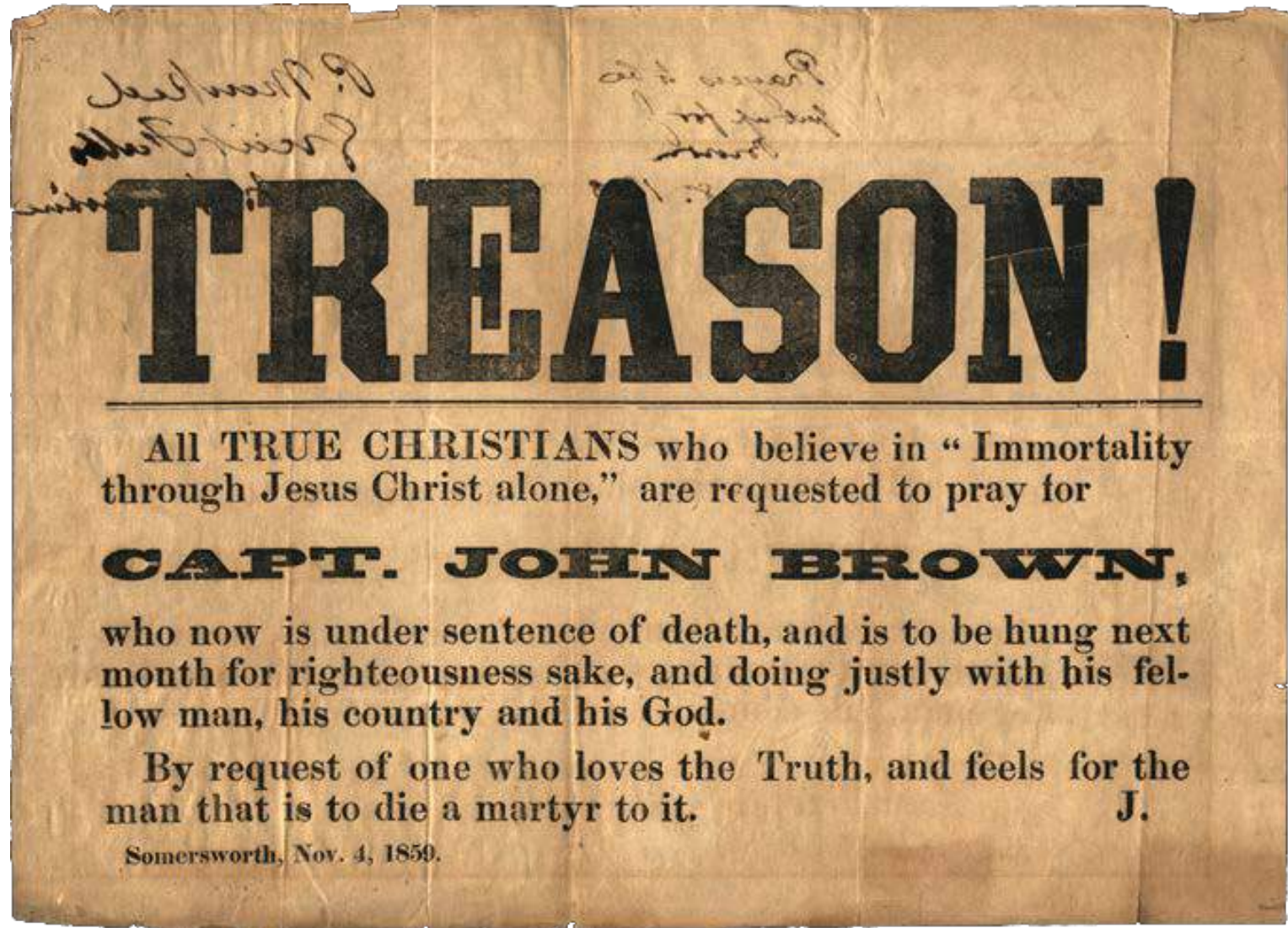
Many white Southerners feared the possibility of a slave rebellion, and they became convinced that the North hoped to produce one. The Secret Six, or Secret Committee of Six, was a group of men who secretly funded the 1859 raid on Harper's Ferry. Four of them are pictured here, Franklin Sanborn, Thomas Wentworth Higginson, and Gerrit Smith, are on the far left. George Luther Stearns is the heavily bearded figure in the right center. This image is on display at the John Brown Exhibit at Harpers Ferry National Historic Park in a section titled "Who Was Who." A photograph of the image was taken by Robert Housch on April 27, 2014.

Southern towns organized militias and declared martial law.



Rumors of plots and slave revolts spread quickly. Planters enforced harsh discipline, threatening to whip or hang any enslaved persons who acted at all rebellious. This image is titled "John Brown on the Way to be Executed Two and One-Half Blocks from the Jail to His Scaffold." It was created for Elijay Avey's *The Capture and Execution of John Brown; A Tale of Martyrdom*. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

Virginia state authorities convicted John Brown of treason and murder and sentenced him to hang on December 2, 1859.



This "Treason" broadside is sympathetic to John Brown and his mission. It was created on November 4, 1859 in Somersworth, New Hampshire. This image is courtesy of the Commonwealth of Virginia, and of Wikimedia Commons.

While he awaited his hanging, he spoke with many individuals, including reporters about his goal to end slavery.



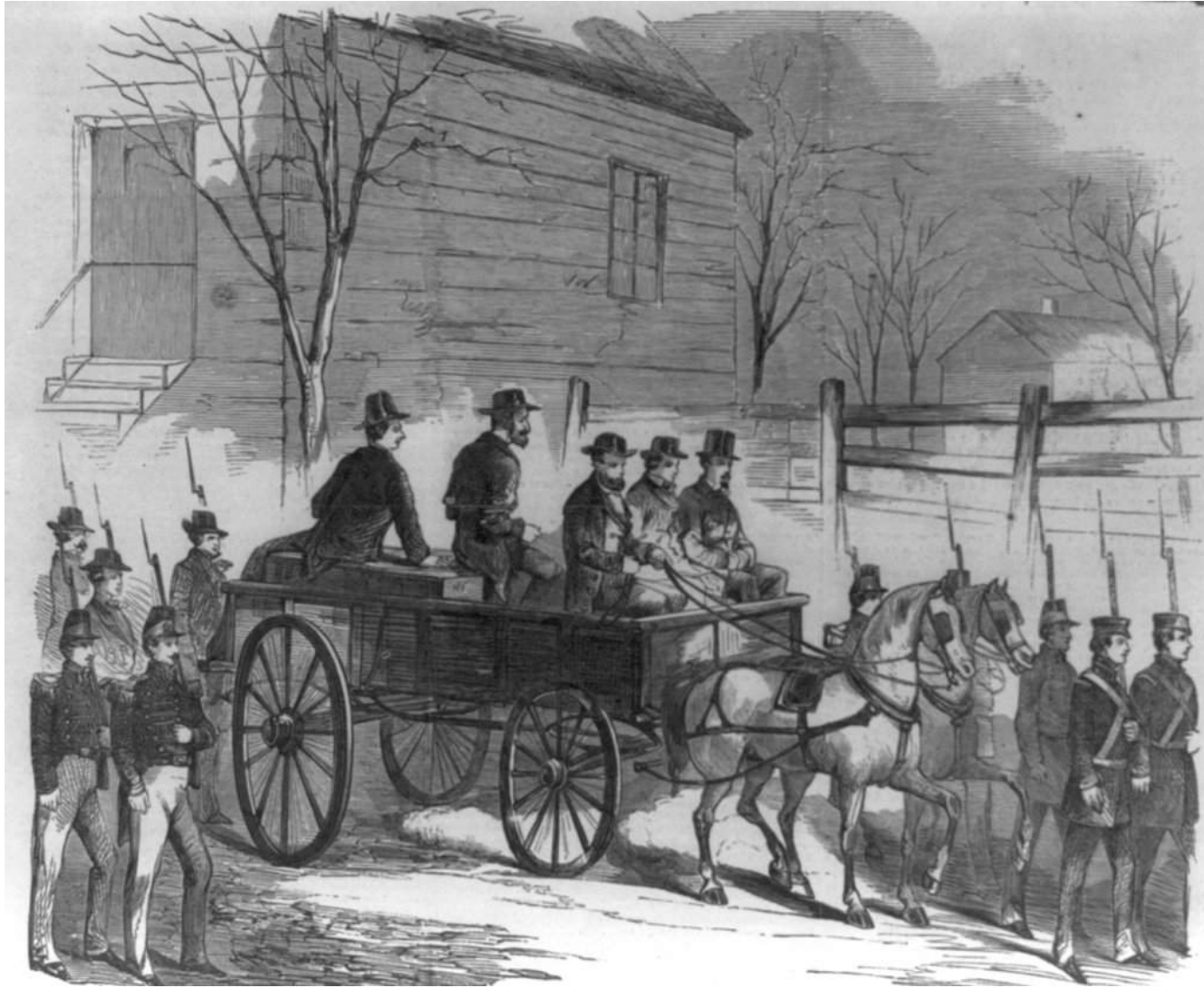
Almost a month elapsed between the time that John Brown was sentenced to die and his actual hanging. This was the time when he gave some interesting interviews. This image was created for the November 5, 1859 issue of *Harpers Weekly*. This image is courtesy of crossroadsofwar.org.

When he left the jail to be hanged, he kissed a baby held towards him by its mother.



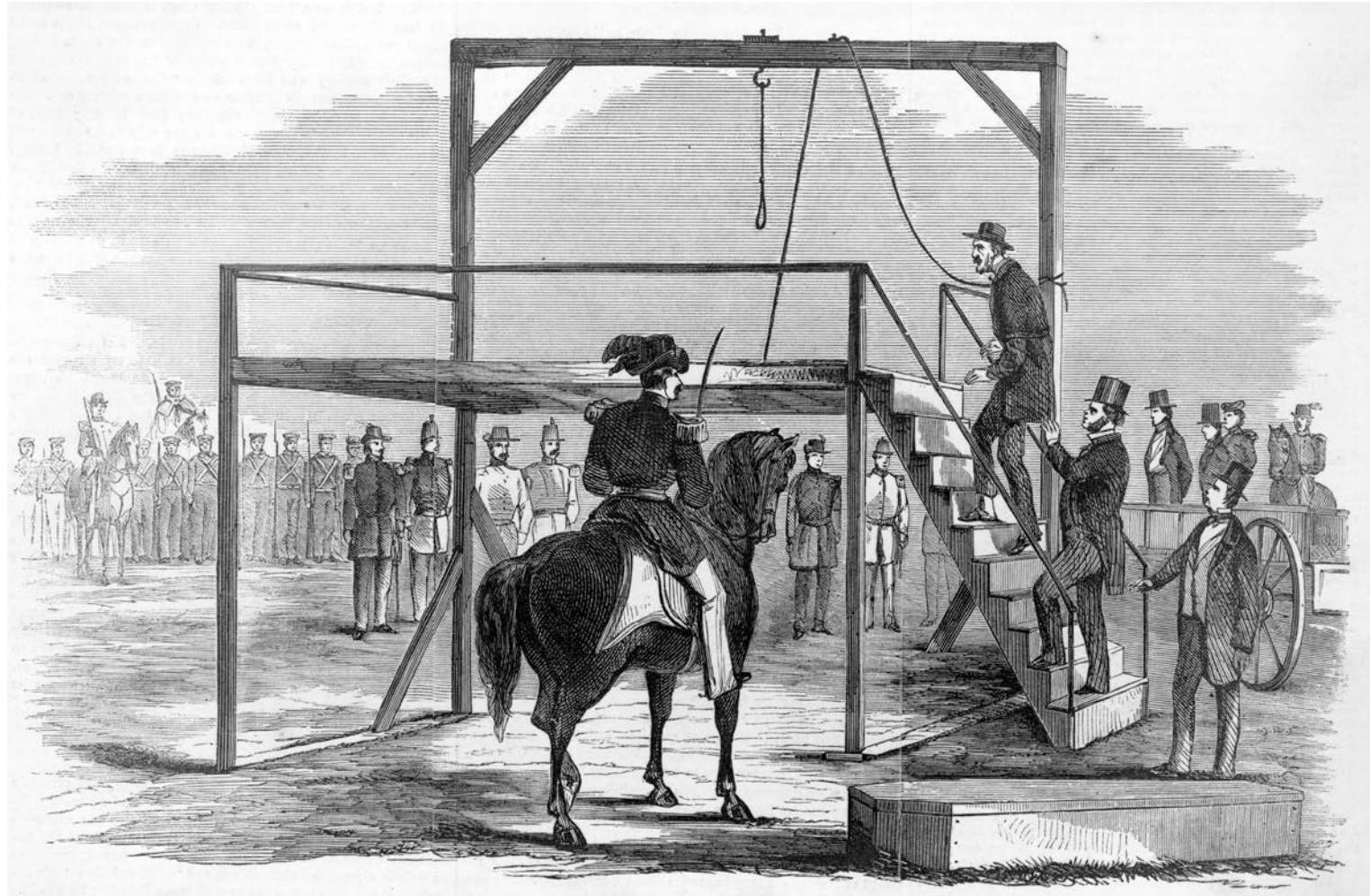
This image is titled "The Last Moments of John Brown." It was created by Thomas Hovenden (1840-1895) circa 1883. This image is courtesy of the Metropolitan Museum of Art and Wikimedia Commons.

Brown calmly rode in a wagon, sitting on his coffin on the way to the scene of his execution.



This image shows John Brown leaving the jail, and sitting on his coffin on his way to be executed in Charleston, Virginia, now West Virginia. This image was created for the December 17, 1859 issue of *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

John Brown then calmly walked up the steps to the scaffold where he was hanged.



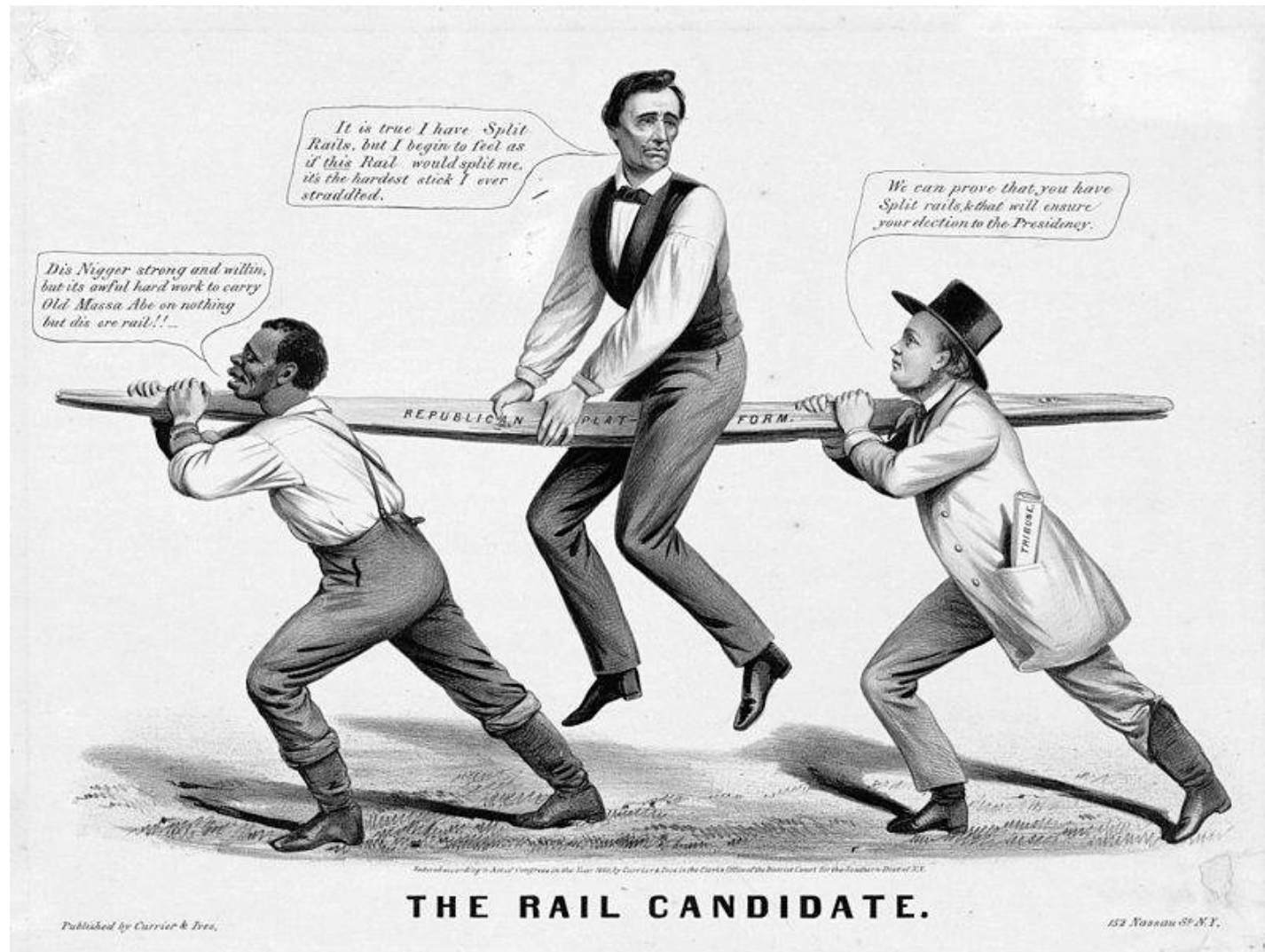
This image is titled "John Brown Ascending the Scaffold Preparatory to Being Hanged— From a Sketch By Our Special Artist." This image was created for the December 17, 1859 edition of *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

John Brown's raid became a major theme in the presidential election campaign of 1860.



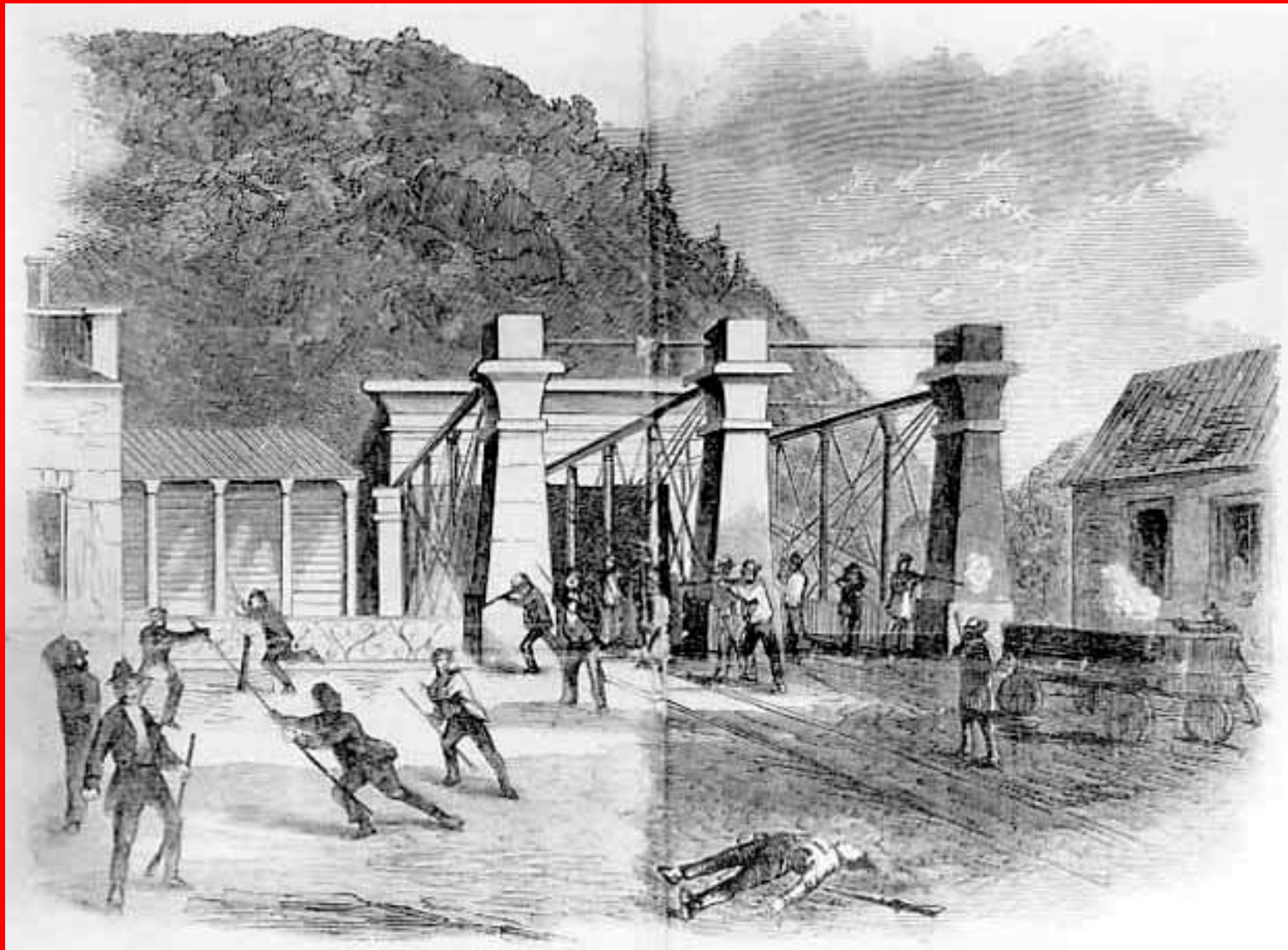
This image shows John Brown and some of his hostages in the Fire Engine House during the raid. This image is courtesy of the Western Reserve Historical Society.

Democrats thought this was their opportunity to hurt the election chances of Republicans.



Democrats branded the raid a "Black Republican plot and accused party leaders of plotting with Brown. The issue also concerned Republicans. When Lincoln ran for President in 1860, he was described as the "Rail Candidate" with the rail representing the Republican platform. A slave is holding up the platform on the left and abolitionist and newspaper editor Horace Greeley on the right. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

Many Republicans admired Brown's ideals but not his actions, which they saw as crimes.



Abraham Lincoln protested that "John Brown was no Republican." This image is titled "Attack on the Insurgents at the bridge by the Railroad Men." This uncovered iron span, known as the "Winchester Span" because it carried the tracks of the Winchester and Potomac Railroad. It was erected in between 1850 and 1852. This image is part of the Historic Photo Collection at Harpers Ferry National Historic Park. This image is courtesy of the National Park Service.

Still, Southerners remained suspicious of Republicans and anyone who refused to support slavery.



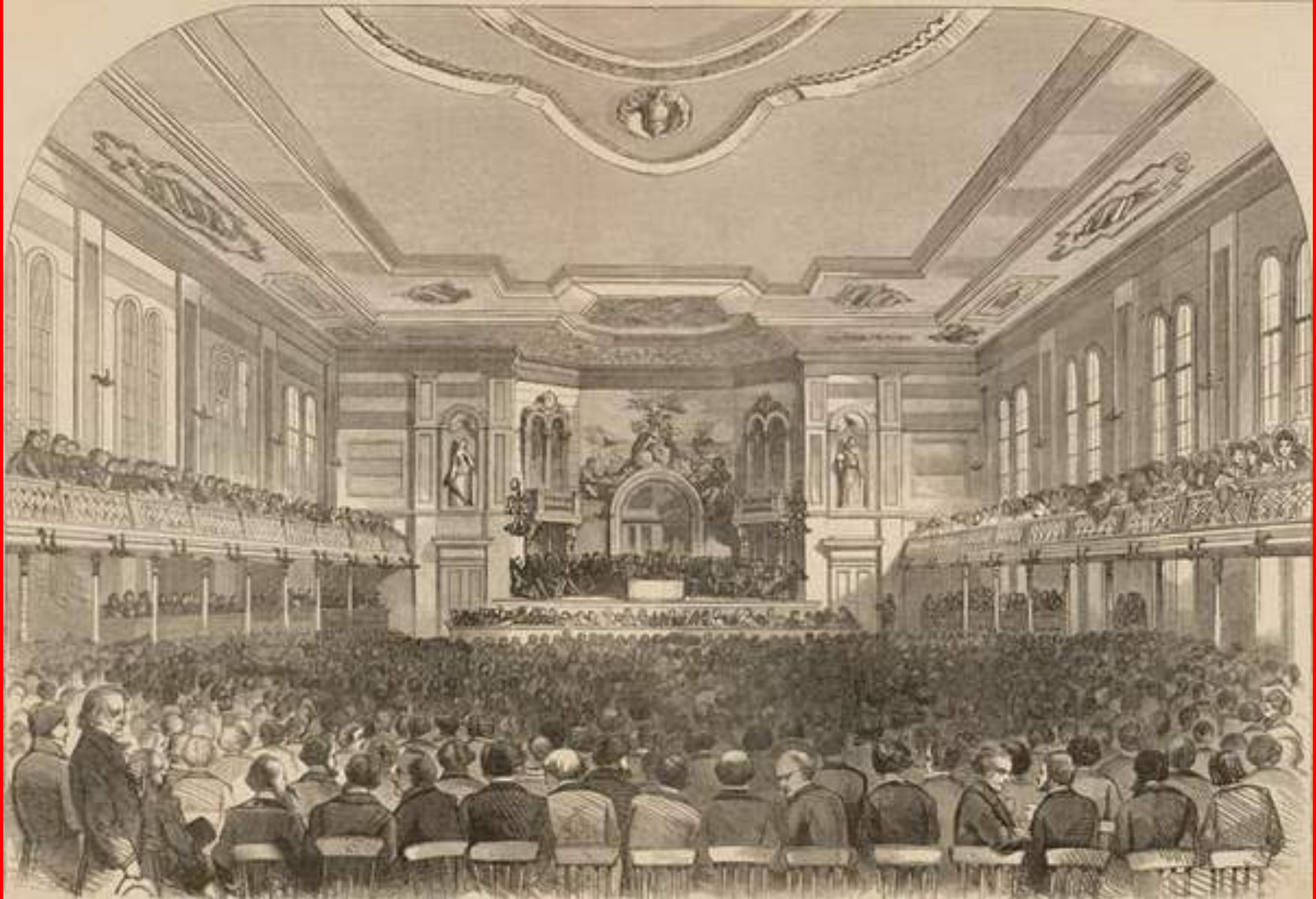
This image is titled *A Cotton Plantation on the Mississippi*. This image was created in 1848 by W.A. Walker. It was published by Currier & Ives in 1884. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

The issue that splintered the nation also broke apart parties.



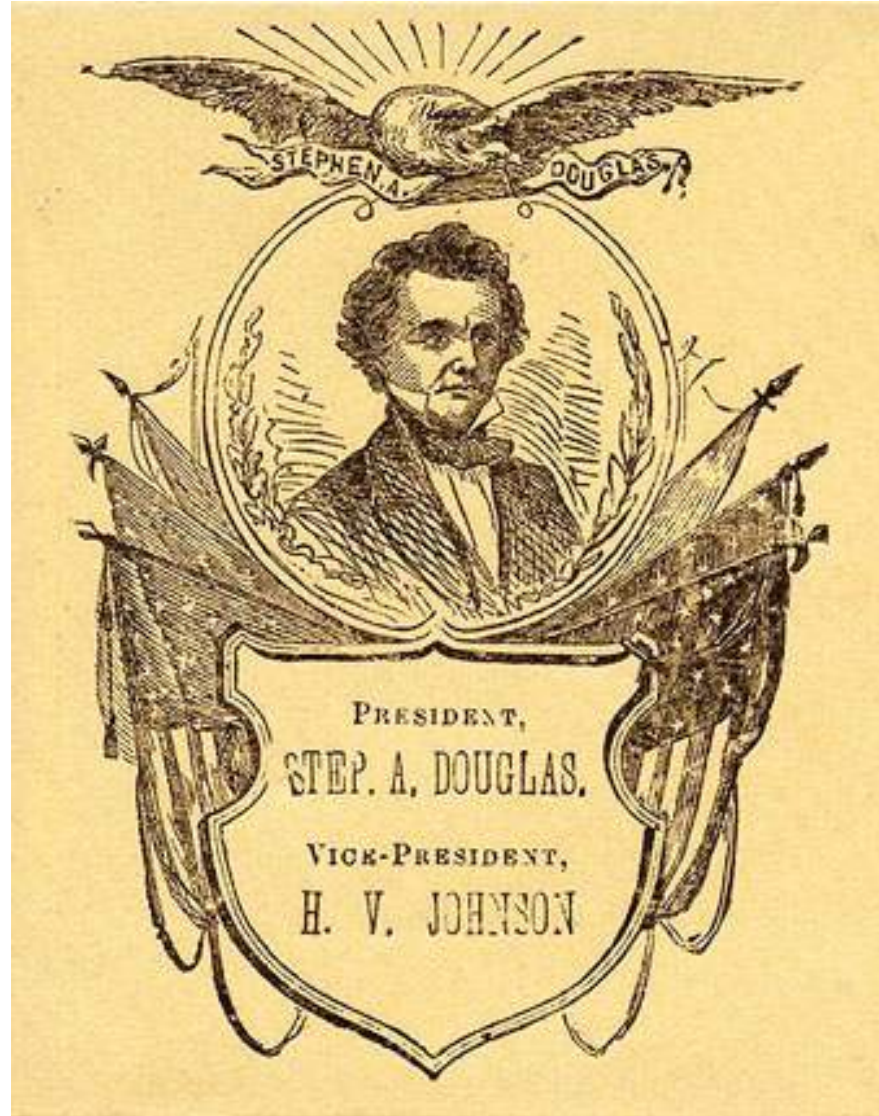
In 1860 Stephen A. Douglas tried to hold onto his leadership in the Democratic party. However, he insisted that as President he would not fight against laws that discouraged slavery in the territories. This image was taken by Mathew Brady (1822-1896) circa 1860. This image is courtesy of the National Archives.

This stand lost Douglas the support of Southern delegates at the Democratic convention in Charleston, South Carolina.



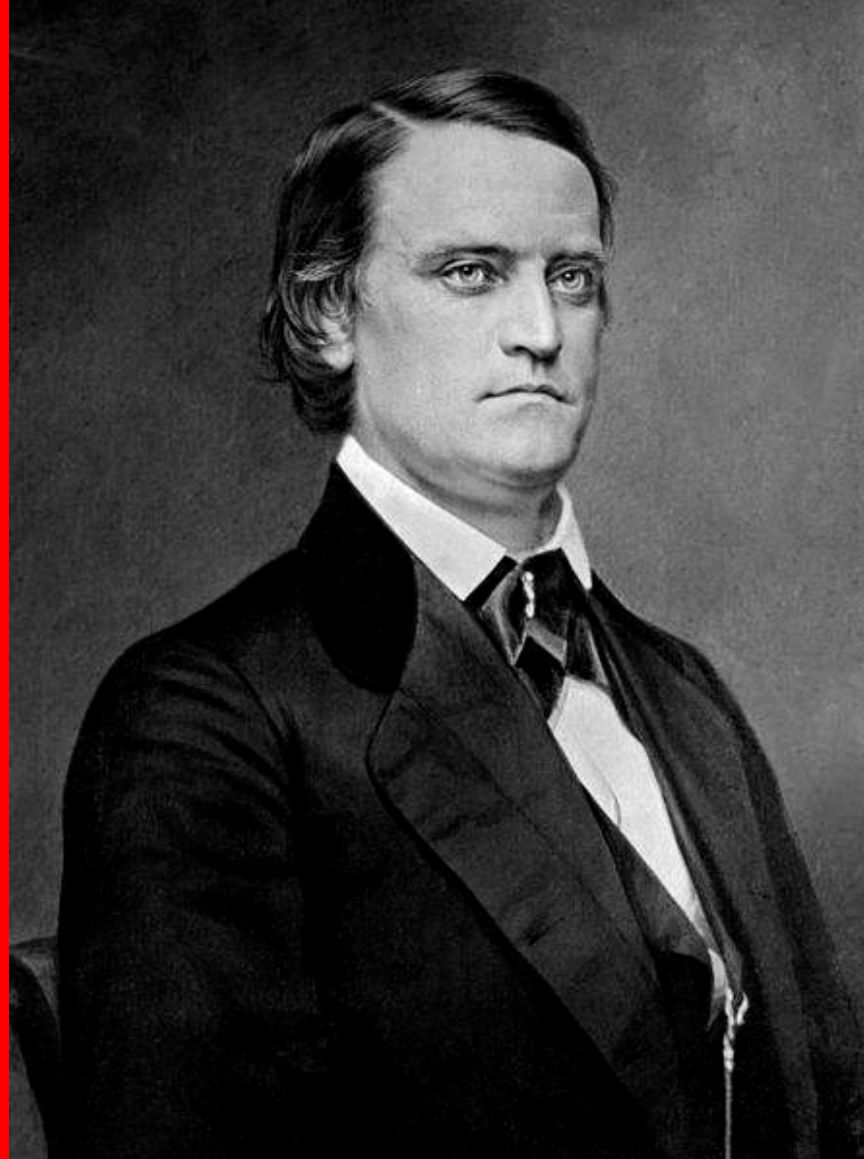
The Democratic party was now split into different groups. This image shows the 1860 Democratic Convention in Charleston, South Carolina. This image appeared in *Harpers Weekly* on April 28, 1860. This image is courtesy of wisconsinhistory.org.

Northern Democrats nominated Douglas for President and supported popular sovereignty.



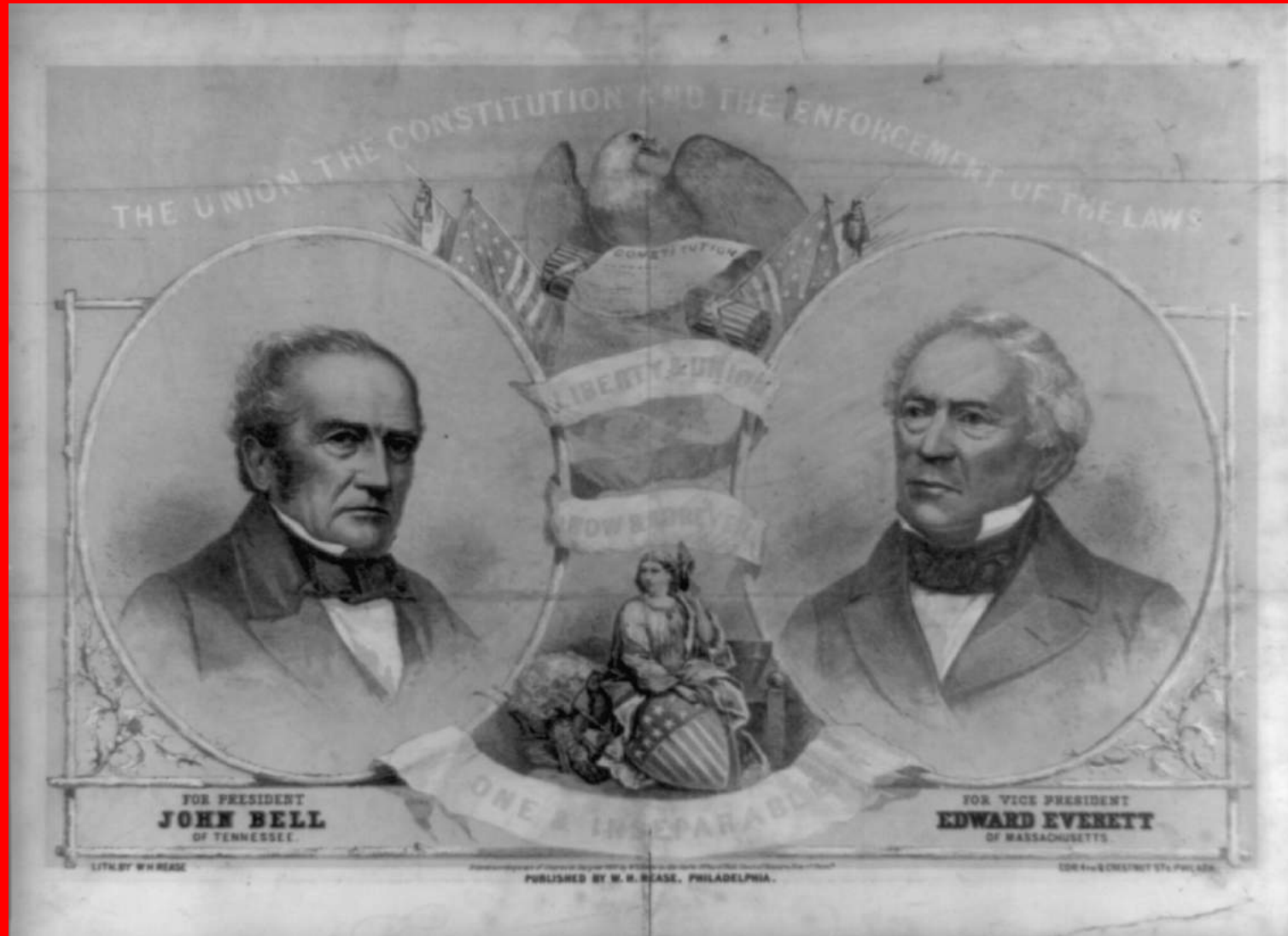
Stephen A. Douglas of Illinois was the Presidential candidate. The Vice-Presidential Candidate was Herschel Vespasian Johnson, a former governor of Georgia. This image is courtesy of usg.edu.

Southern Democrats chose Vice-President John C. Breckinridge of Kentucky, who supported the *Dred Scott* decision.



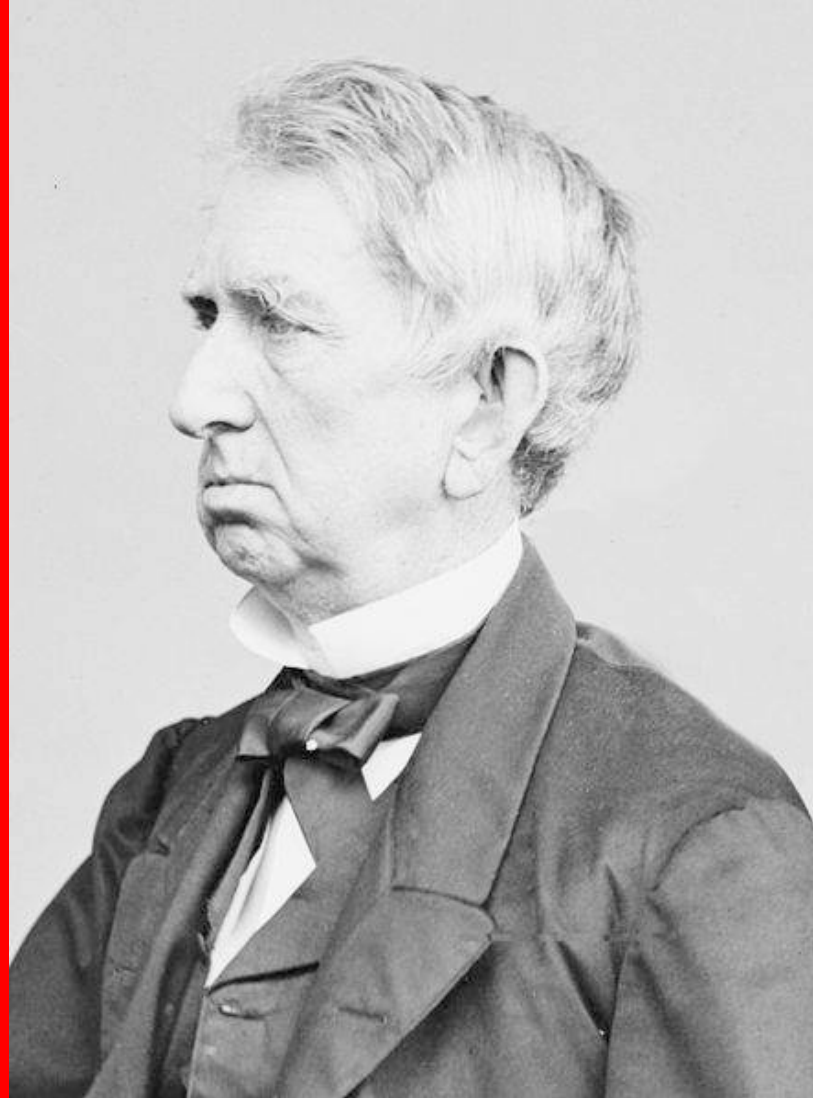
John C. Breckinridge had been Vice President of the United States under James Buchanan. This image was taken by Mathew Brady (1822-1896) circa the 1860s. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

Alarmed by sectional divisions, a group of former Whigs put together the Constitutional Union party.



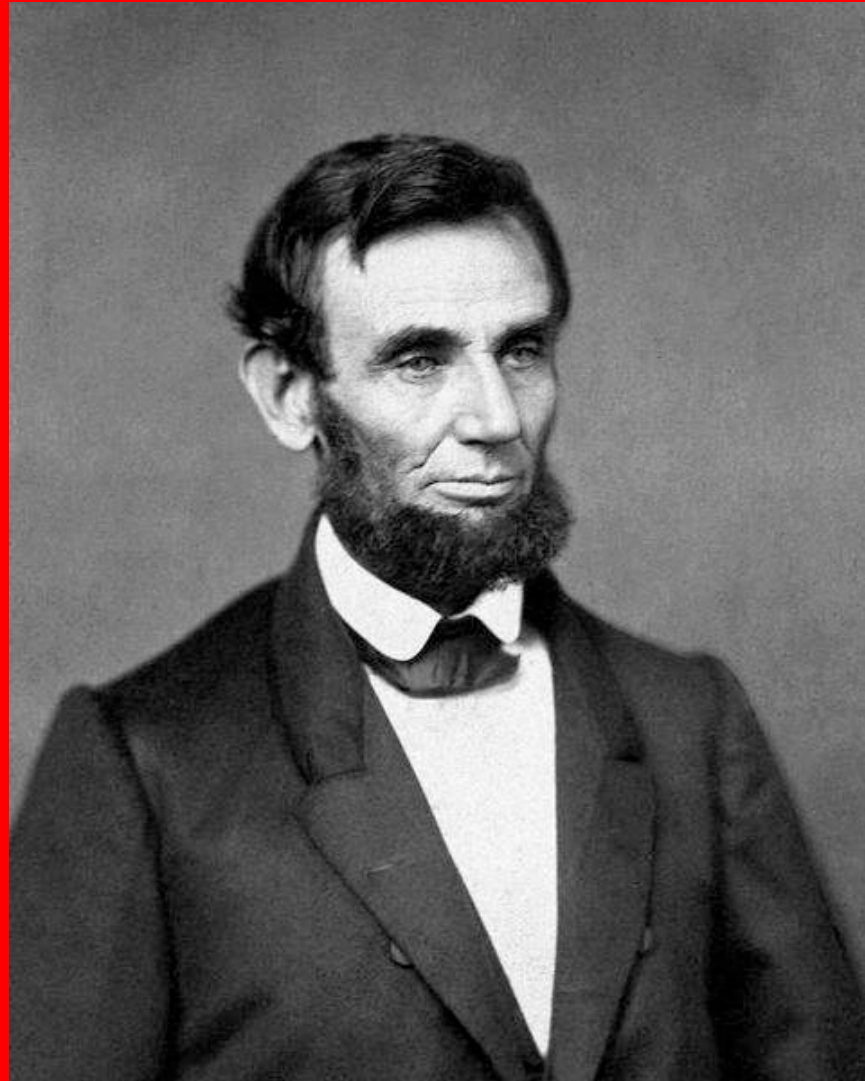
The Constitutional Union party nominated Senator John Bell of Tennessee and championed the Union and the Constitution, while at the same time attempting to avoid the slavery issue. The Vice-Presidential candidate was Edward Everett of Massachusetts. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

Before John Brown's raid, Republicans considered William H. Seward their first choice for President.



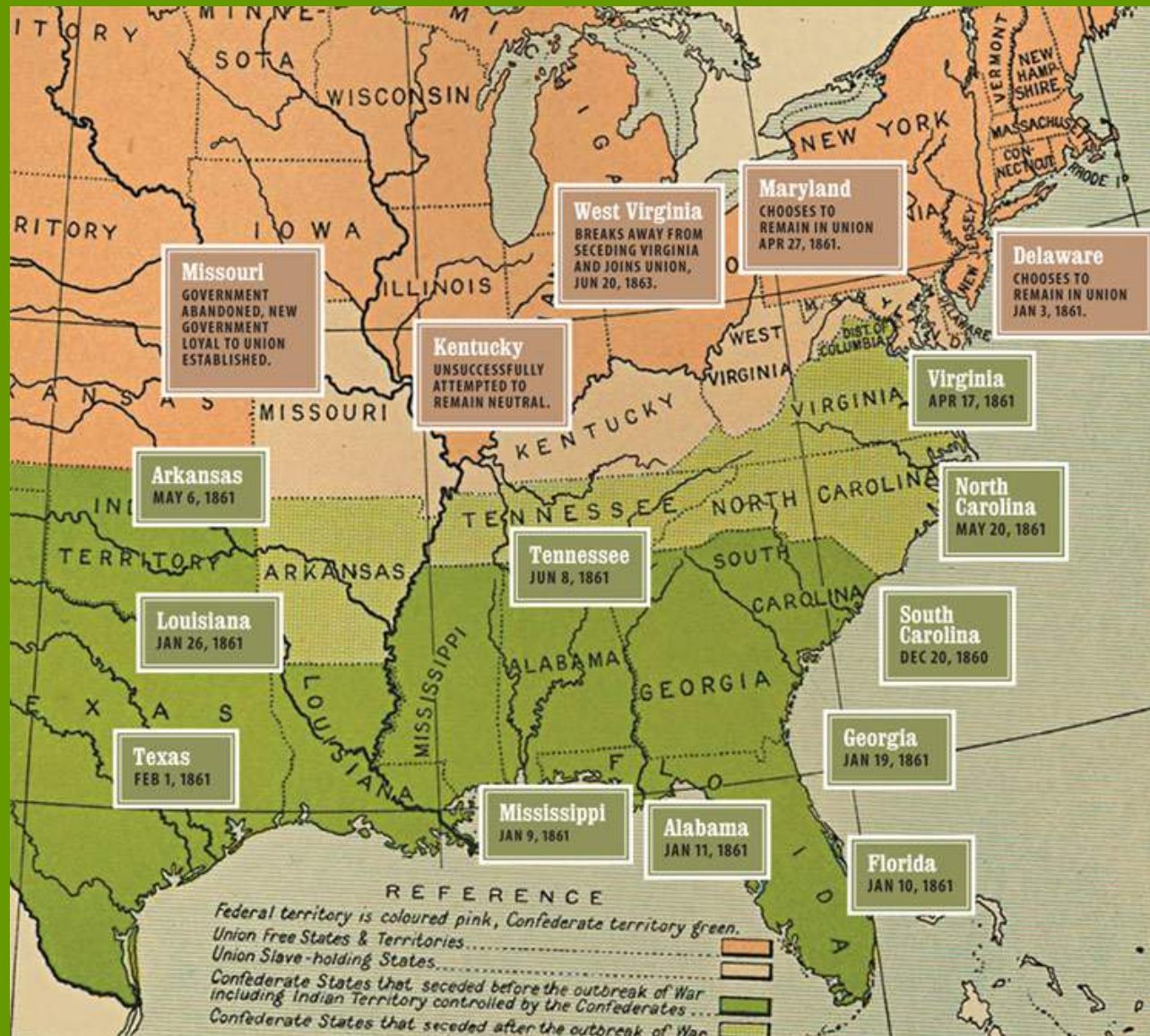
Many voters, however, considered Seward's views against slavery to be too extreme. Democrats blamed him for inspiring the raid on Harpers Ferry. Seward had been a governor and senator from New York State. This image was created by Mathew Brady (1822-1896) circa 1860. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

Abraham Lincoln, who had fewer enemies and remained popular outside the Northeast, seemed a safer choice for the Republicans.



Although Lincoln opposed extending slavery into the territories, he conceded Southerners' right to have slavery in the South. Lincoln became the Republican Party's nominee for President. This image was taken in 1860 by an unknown photographer. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

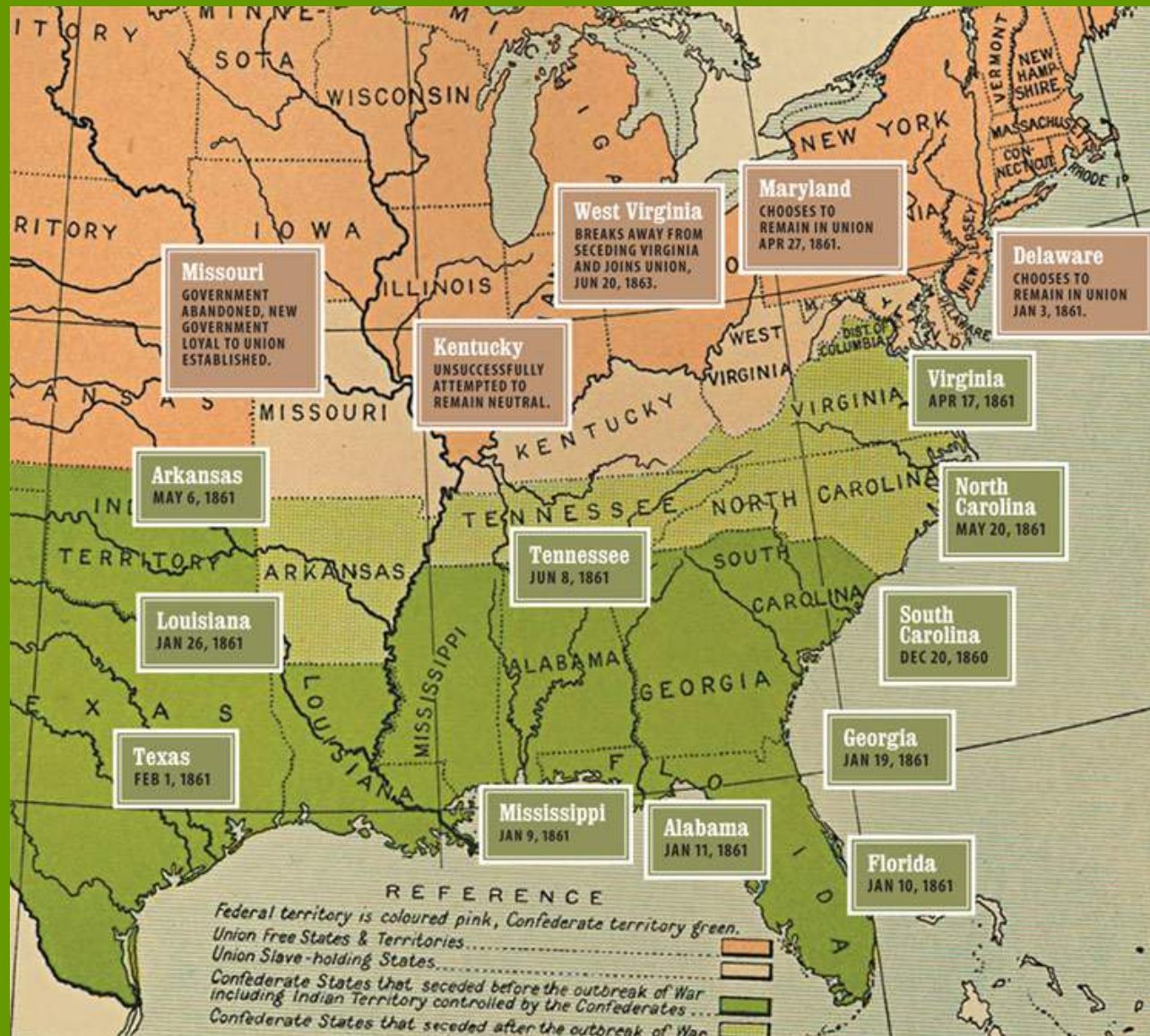
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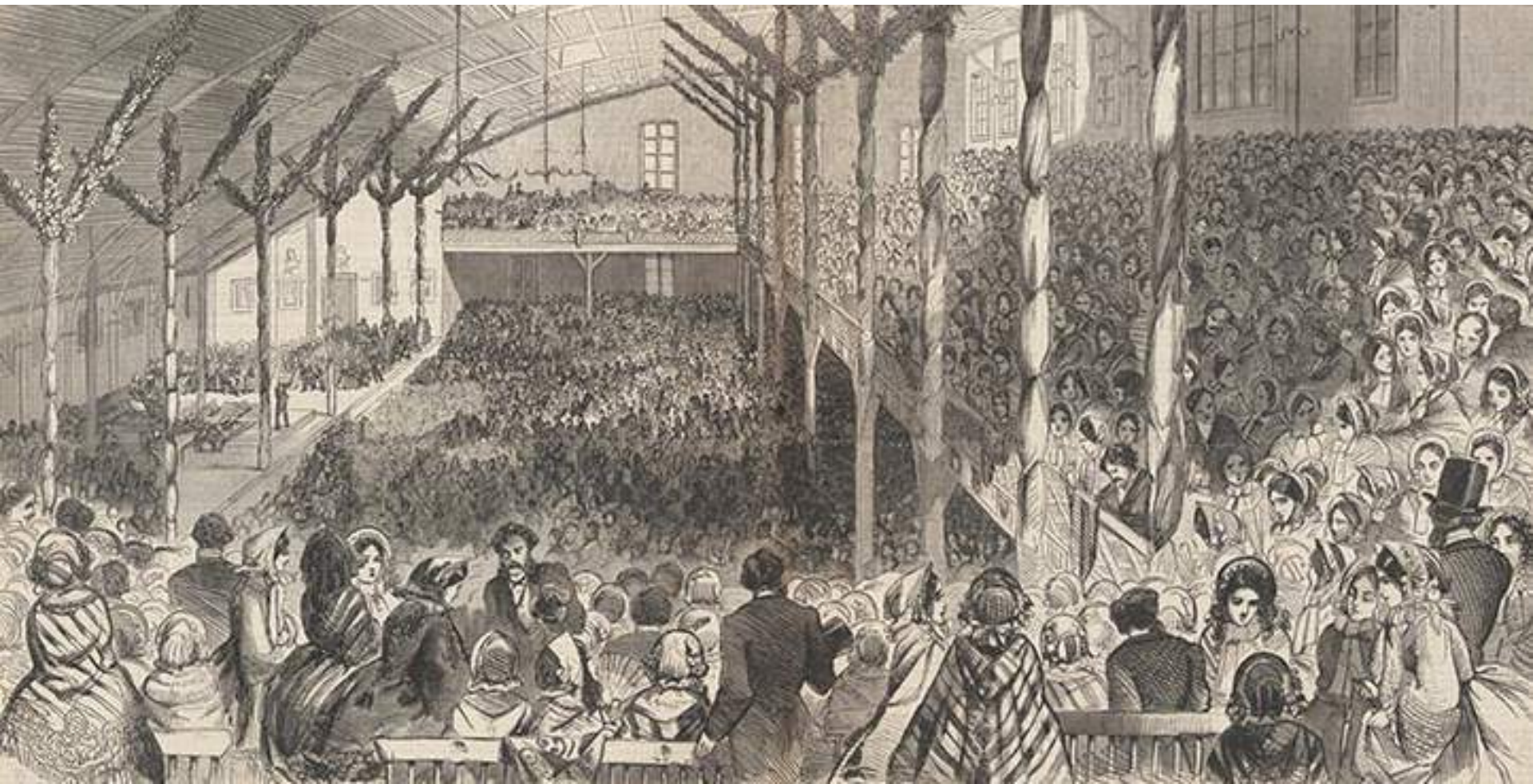
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This map shows the dates that the Southern states seceded or left the United States. South Carolina seceded on December 20, 1860. This image is courtesy of civilwar.org.us.

The Republican platform called for a homestead act, a transcontinental railroad, and a protective tariff.



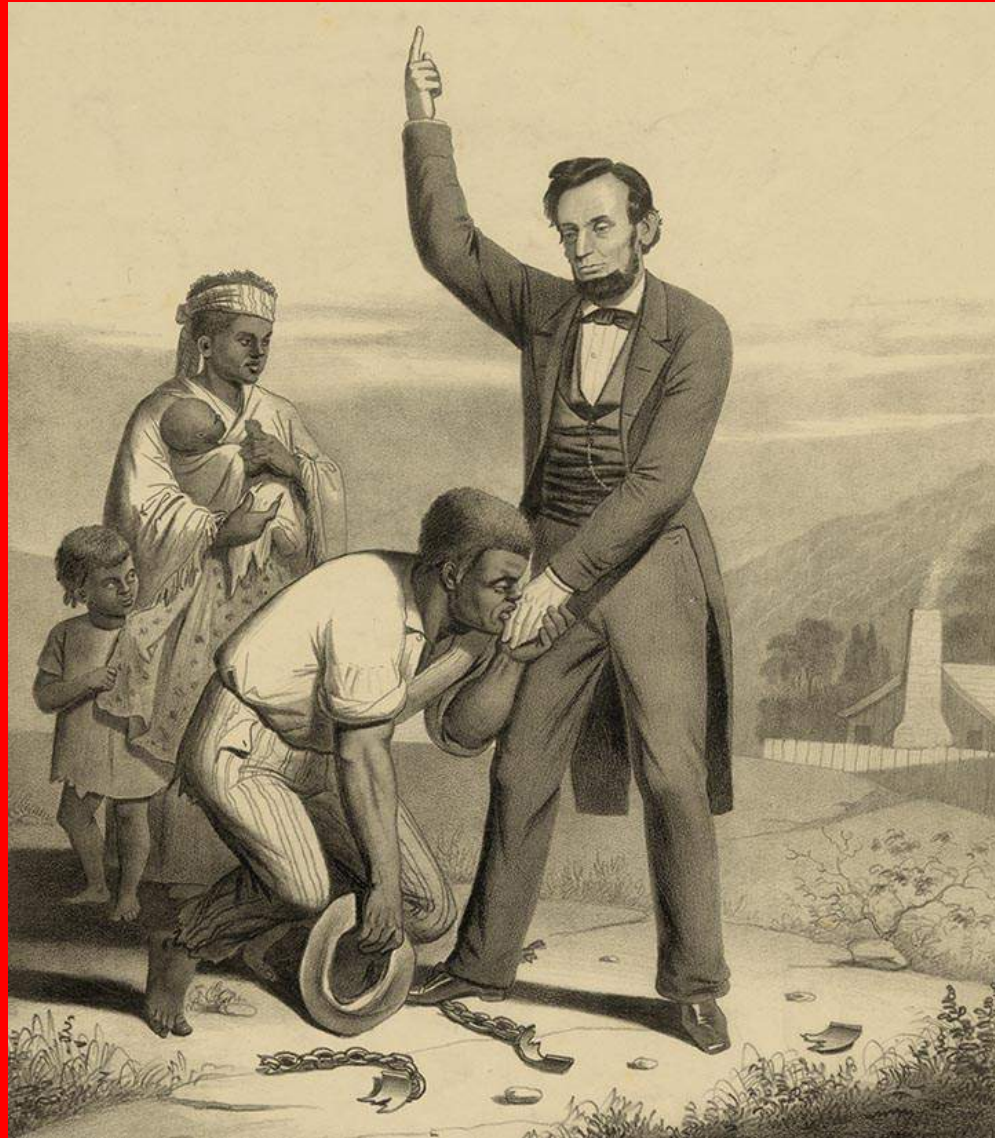
These goals appealed to farmers, Westerners, and manufacturers. The 1860 Republican National Convention took place in a wooden structure in Chicago, Illinois called the Wigwam. This image was created for the May 19, 1860 edition of *Harper's Weekly*. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

Southerners detested the Republicans' platform and their candidate.



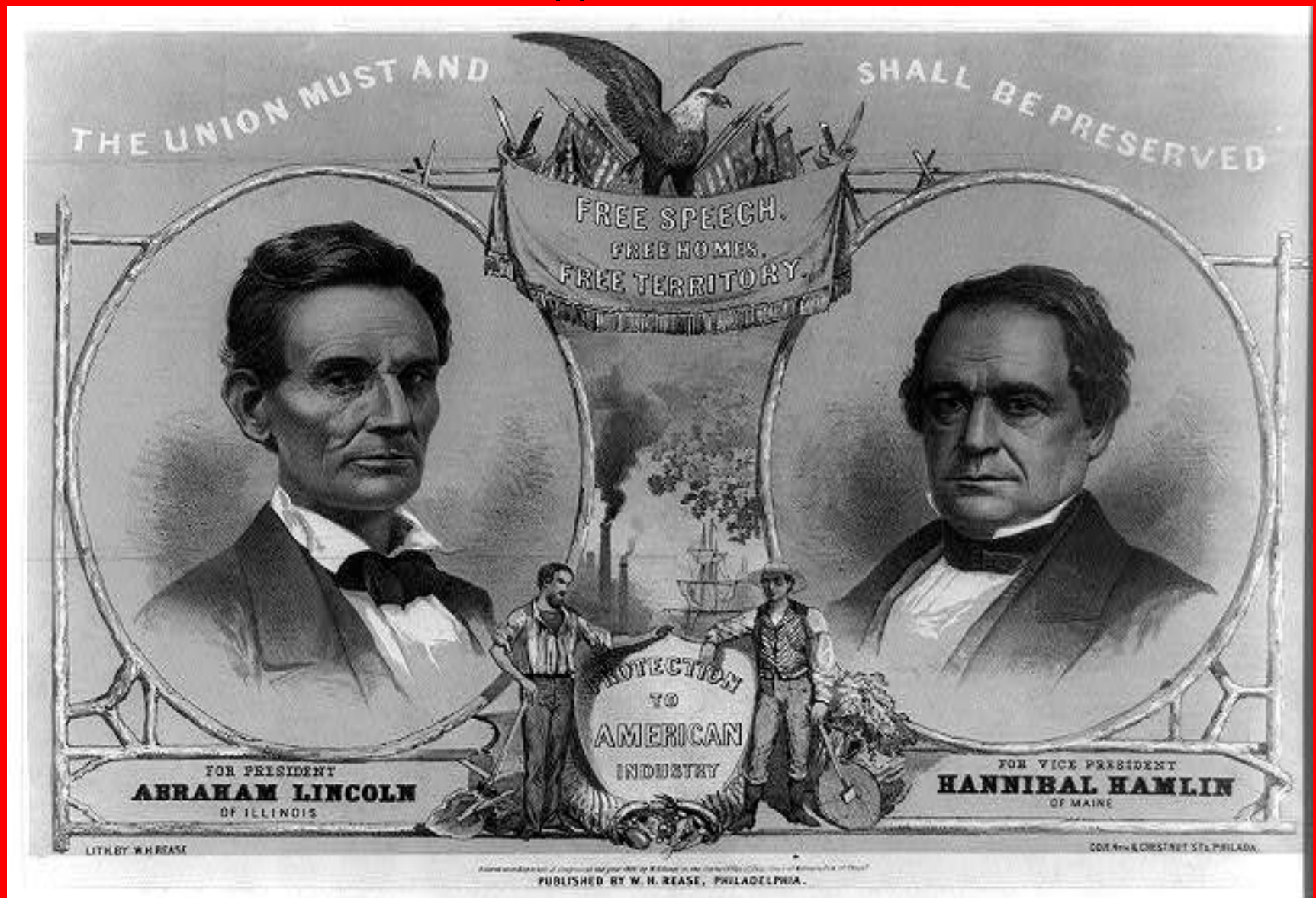
This image shows the outside of the Wigwam in Chicago, Illinois where the Republican National Convention was held in 1860. It was a wooden structure. This image was taken circa 1860, and was republished in *McClure's Magazine* in February, 1907. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

Many “white” Southerners thought of Lincoln as an abolitionist and believed the Republicans wanted to make war upon the South.



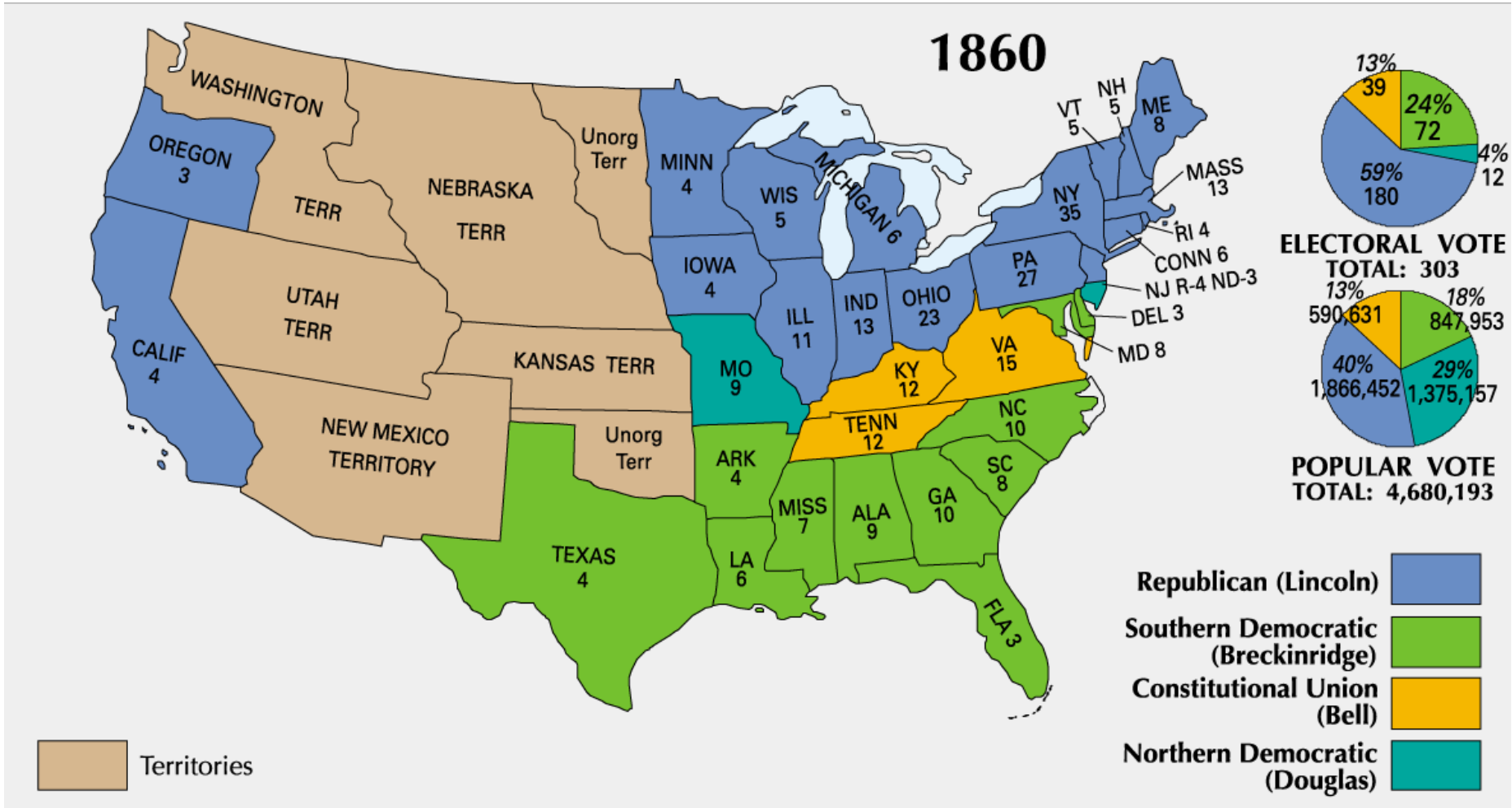
Some Southerners feared that if Lincoln became President, they would lose their voice in the national government. This image is courtesy of libcom.org.

Lincoln's name did not even appear on the ballot in 10 Southern states.



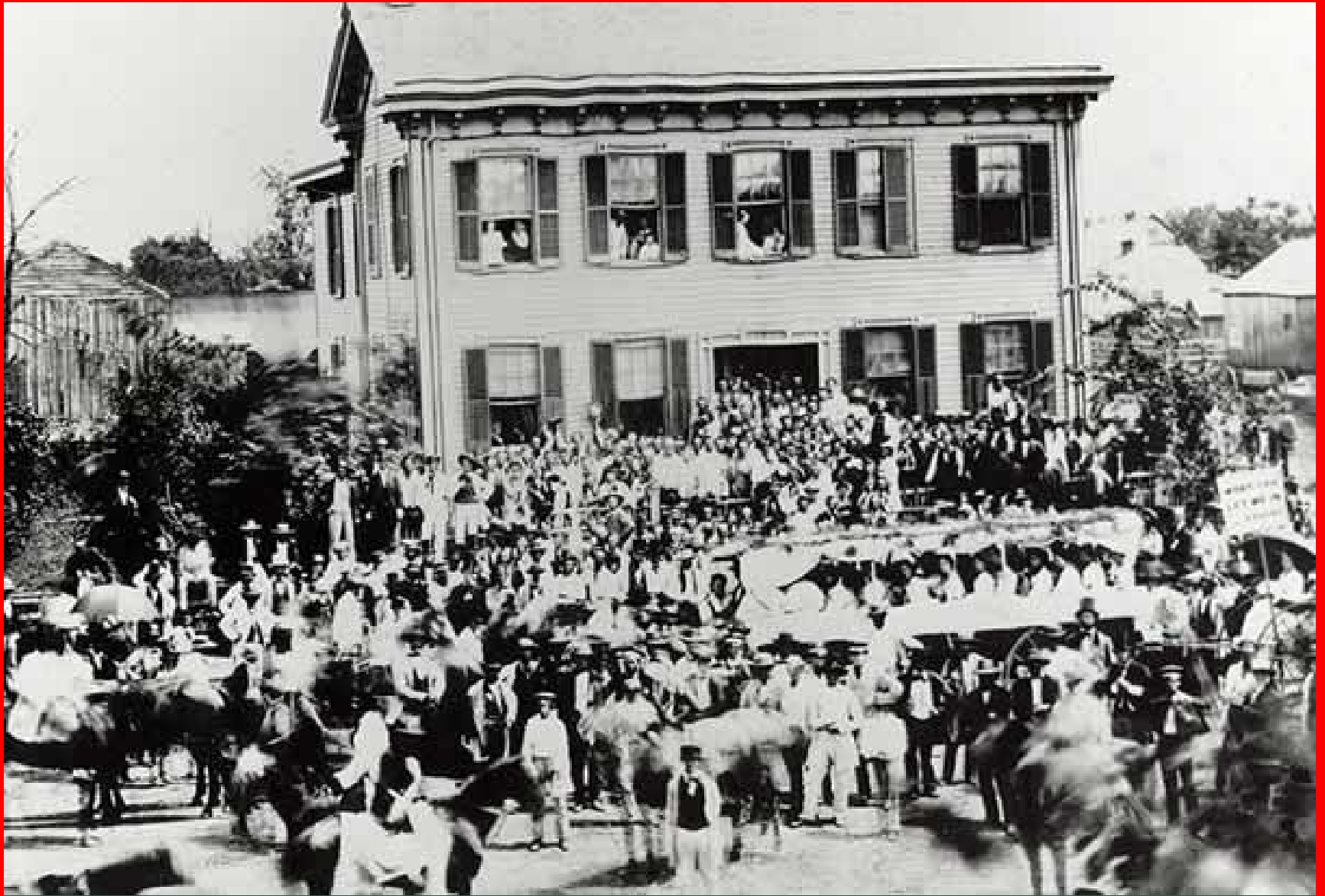
A newspaper in Atlanta, Georgia, insisted that the South "would never submit to... the inauguration of Abraham Lincoln." It predicted that the South would secede rather than accept Lincoln as President. The Republican's Vice-Presidential candidate was Hannibal Hamlin of Maine. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

November 6, 1860 was election day.



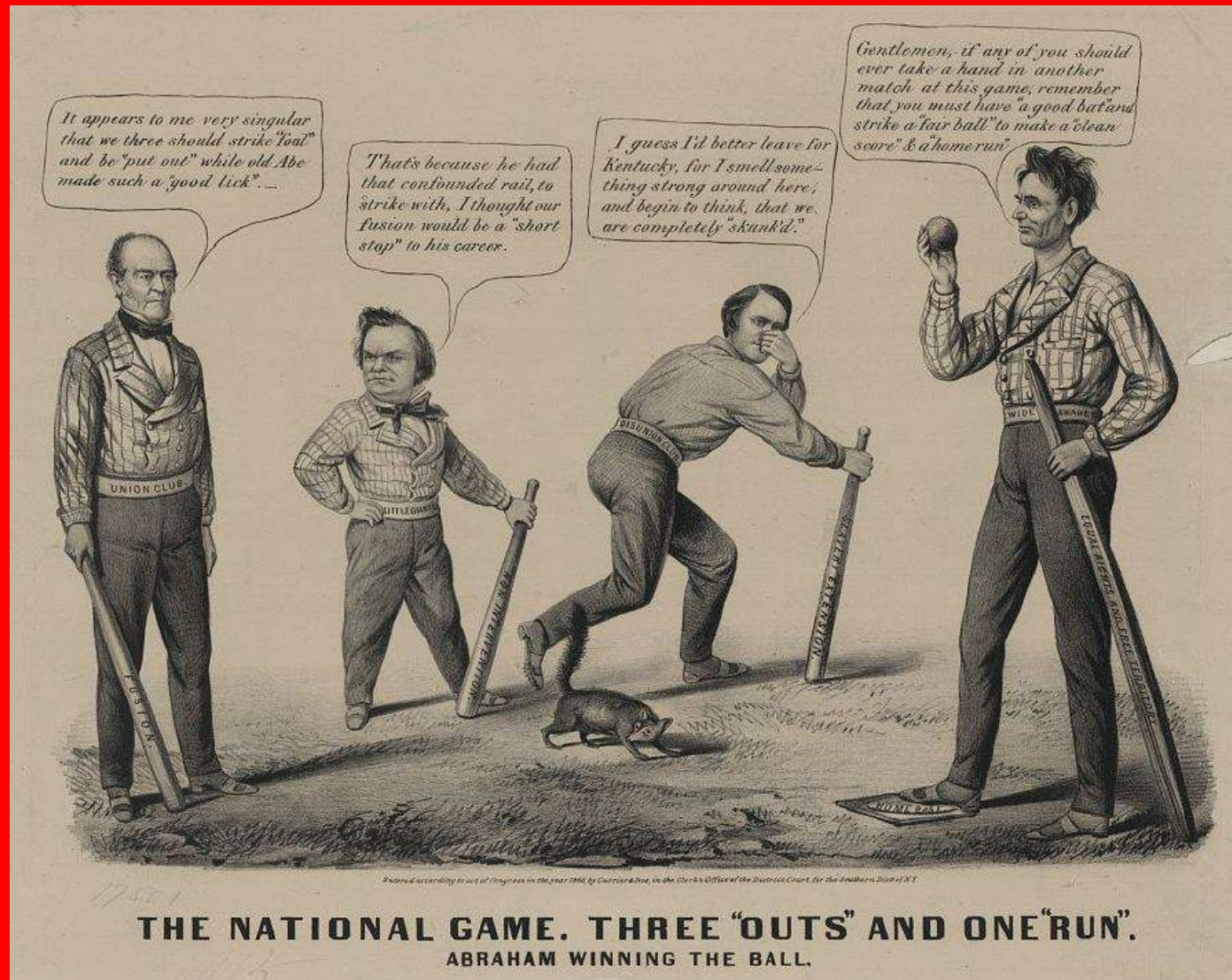
In Springfield, Illinois, Lincoln's hometown, those watching the returns over the telegraph celebrated his victories in New England, the Northwest, and Pennsylvania. When New York voted for Lincoln, he had won the presidency. This image is courtesy of mrlincolnandfreedom.org.

The final election tally showed Lincoln carried every free state except New Jersey.



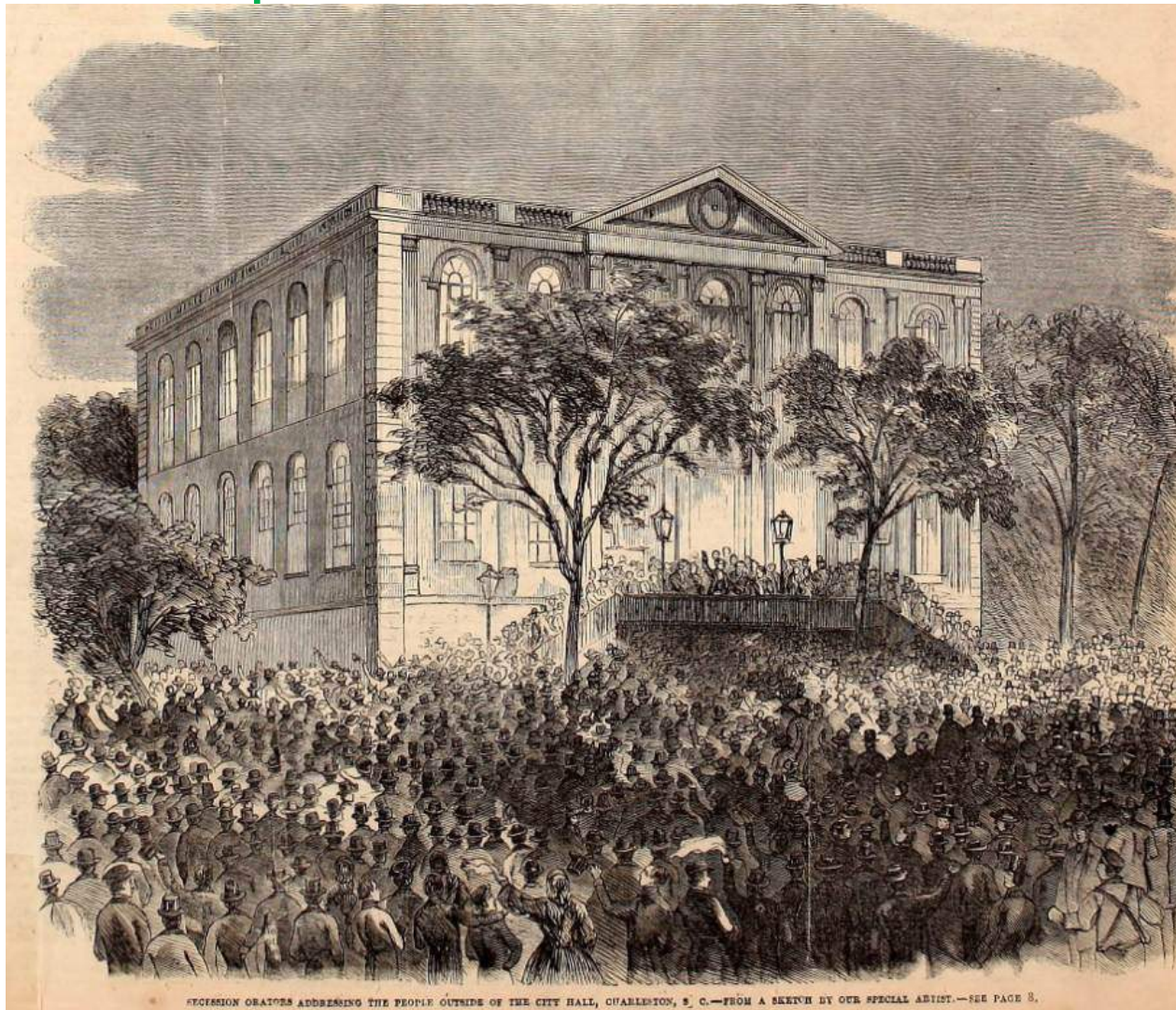
Lincoln had won a majority of the electoral votes. This photograph shows the celebration outside Abraham Lincoln's Springfield, Illinois home after it was announced that he had won the 1860 Presidential election. Lincoln is wearing a white suit and standing to the right of the front door. This image is courtesy of history.com.

Yet because of the four-way race, Lincoln received only 40 percent—less than a majority—of the popular vote.



The left, the Presidential candidates are John Bell, Stephen Douglas, John Breckinridge, and Abraham Lincoln. This image was created by Louis Maurer for Currier and Ives circa 1860. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

Some Southerners reacted differently than one might expect to Lincoln's election.



SECESSION ORATORS ADDRESSING THE PEOPLE OUTSIDE OF THE CITY HALL, CHARLESTON, S. C.—FROM A SKETCH BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST.—SEE PAGE 8.

In Charleston, South Carolina, people set off fireworks and fired cannons to salute the South Carolina flag. This image is titled "Secession Orators Addressing the People Outside of the City Hall, Charleston, S.C." This image was created for the November 24, 1860 issue of *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*. This image is courtesy of paperlessarchives.com.

“White” Southerners were certain that a new nation would be born in South Carolina.

The Charleston Mercury.

CHARLESTON, S. C., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1860.

NUMBER 11,008

VOLUME LV.

THE MERCURY

[illegible]

TRAVELLER'S GUIDE.

[illegible]

UNCLASSIFIED POST OFFICE,
MILWAUKEE 120 1/2 NORTH OF THE MALL

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SULLIVAN'S ISLAND PHASE.
Business better during the week.

[illegible]

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Resolutions Meeting.
 will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 10, 1966, in the Board Room of the County Administration Center, 1000 N. 1st St., Phoenix, Arizona. The meeting will be held in the Board Room of the County Administration Center, 1000 N. 1st St., Phoenix, Arizona. The meeting will be held in the Board Room of the County Administration Center, 1000 N. 1st St., Phoenix, Arizona.

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When we have finished the first part of the book, we have a good idea of what the author is trying to do. The book is a collection of essays, each of which is a study in itself. The author is a very good writer, and his style is very clear and concise. The book is a very good introduction to the study of the history of the world, and it is a very good book to read for anyone who is interested in the subject.

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Dr. Ronald D. Smith, a senior research advisor at the University of California, San Diego, says that the technology is not ready for widespread use. He says that the technology is still in the early stages of development and that it will take several years before it can be used in a commercial setting. He also says that the technology is still in the early stages of development and that it will take several years before it can be used in a commercial setting.

First Southwest Cavalry,

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Abstract

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1. The first step is to identify the problem.

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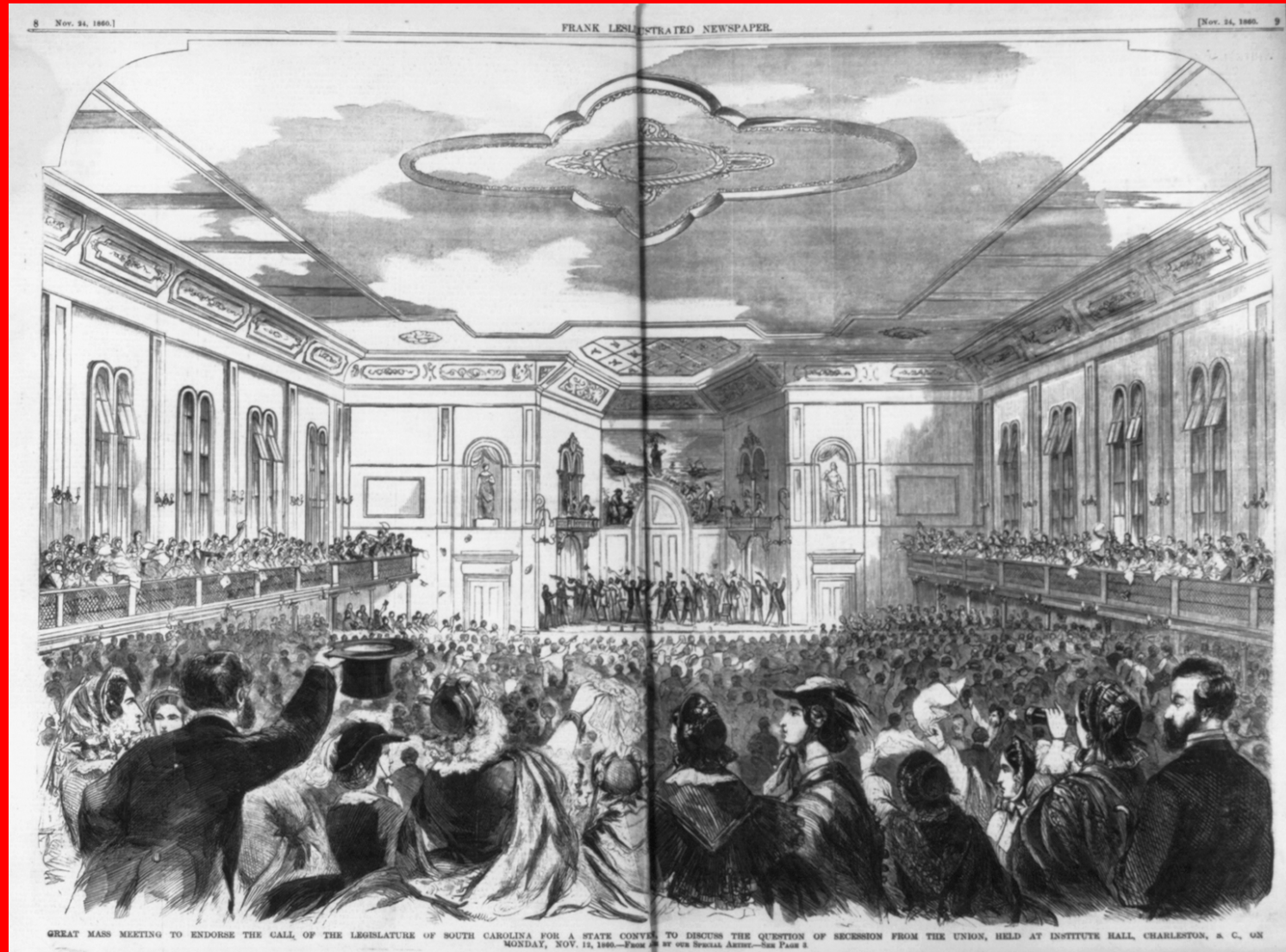
A Charleston newspaper editorial on this page, second column from the left proclaimed, "The tea has been thrown overboard, the revolution of 1860 has been initiated." This image is courtesy of the microfilm collection at the Gettysburg College Library, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. This image was scanned by Robert Housch.

The United States senators from South Carolina resigned from Congress, and the South Carolina state legislature called a convention to see what steps to take.



This room became the home to the United States Senate on January 4, 1859. It is still the home to the Senate. This image was taken circa 1873. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

Many South Carolinians believed that the time to secede had come.



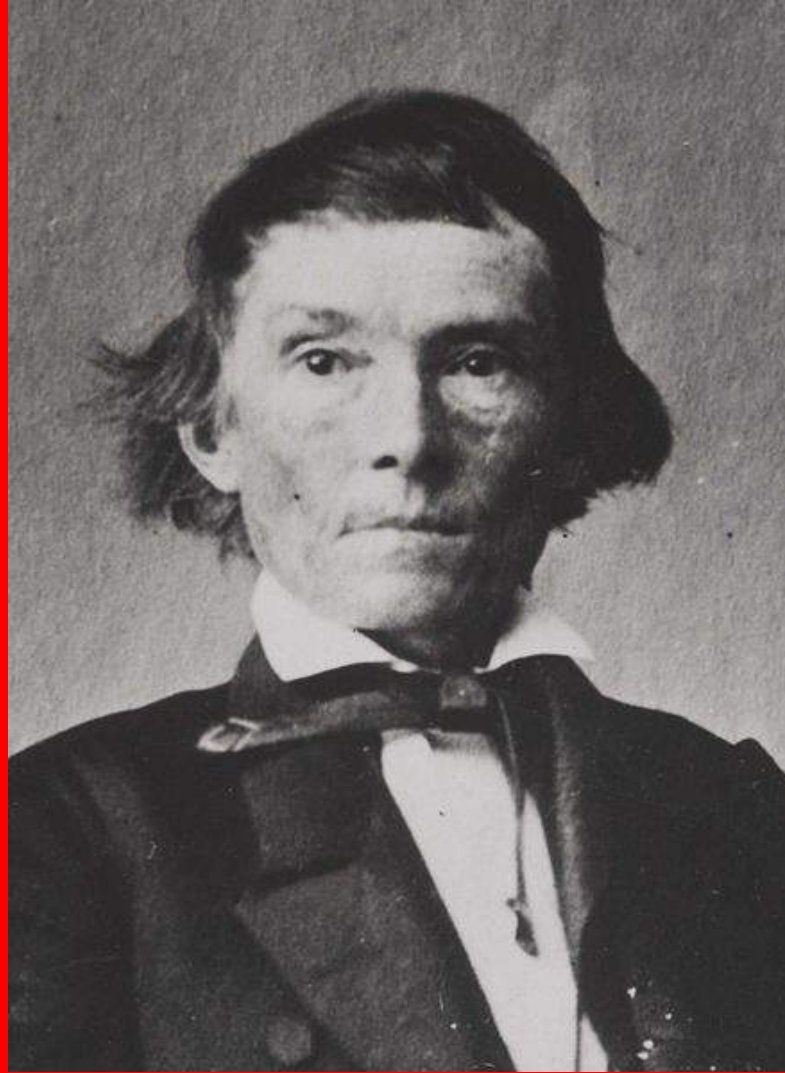
This image is titled "Great Mass Meeting to Endorse the Call of the Legislature of South Carolina for a State Convention to Discuss the Question of Secession from the Union, Held at Institute Hall, Charleston, S.C. on Monday, November 12, 1860. This image was created for the November 24, 1860 edition of *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

Not all Southerners seemed as eager to leave the Union as the people in Charleston.



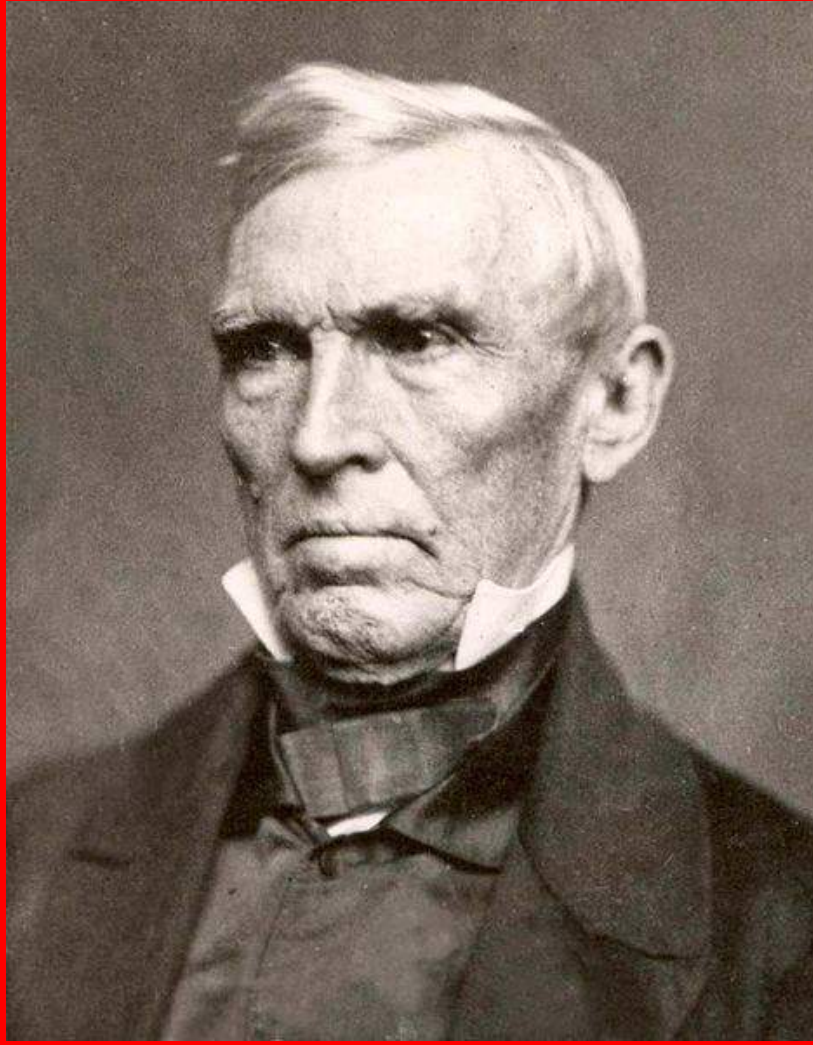
Alexander H. Stephens implored the Georgia legislature not to act unless the federal government moved against the South. This image shows the outside of Institute Hall in Charleston, South Carolina where the Secession Ordinance was signed. On the left is the Circular Congregational Church. This image is courtesy of wadehamptoncamp.org.

Alexander H. Stephens thought the South could defend its rights better within the Union instead of from outside the Union.



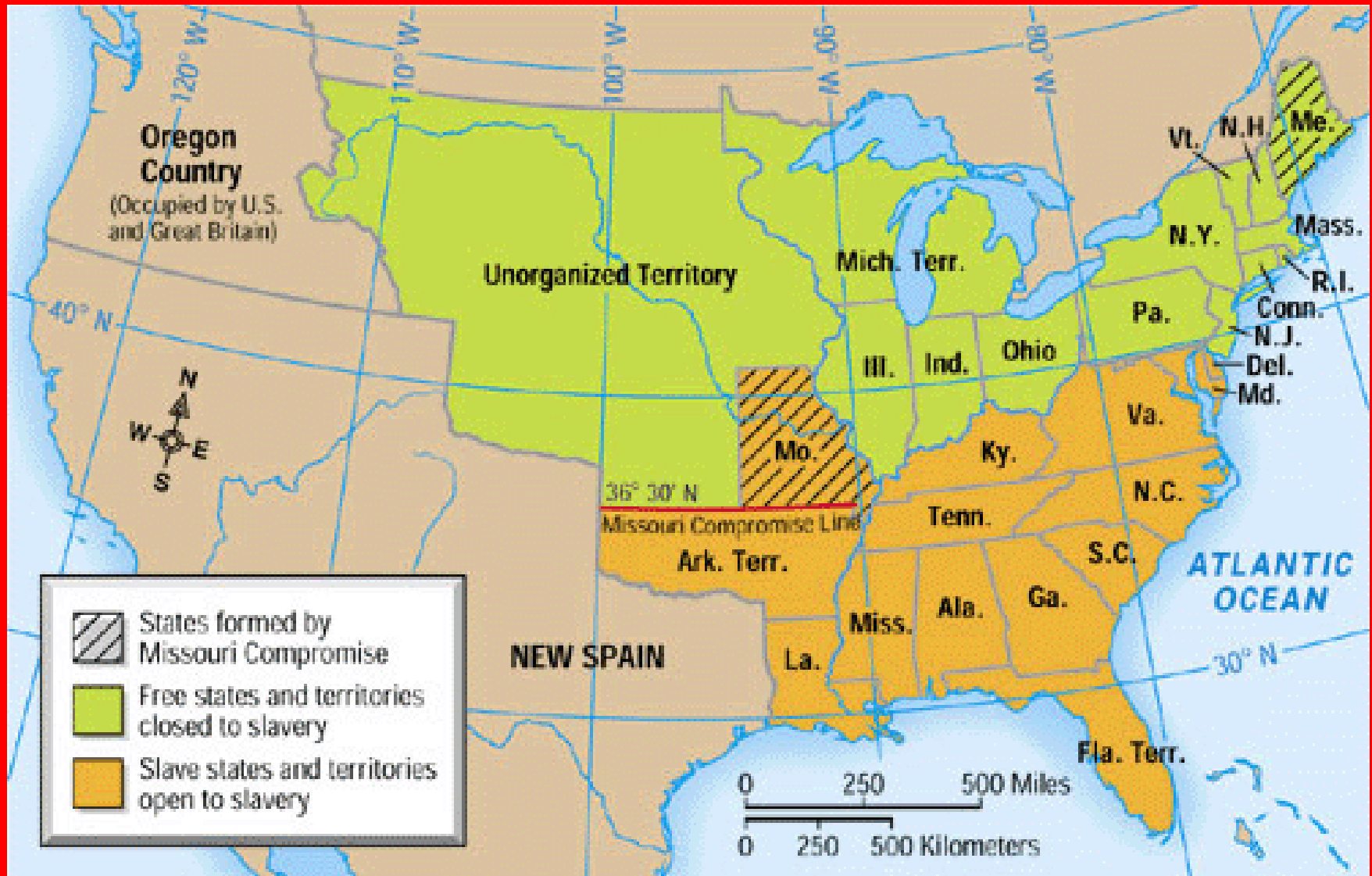
Stephens said, however, that if Georgians decided to secede, he would support his state: "Their cause is my cause, and their destiny is my destiny." Alexander H. Stephens (1812-1883) served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1843-1859. This image of Alexander Stephens was taken circa 1855. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

Senator John Crittenden of Kentucky also tried to save the Union by proposing his Crittenden Plan, which involved several amendments to the Constitution.



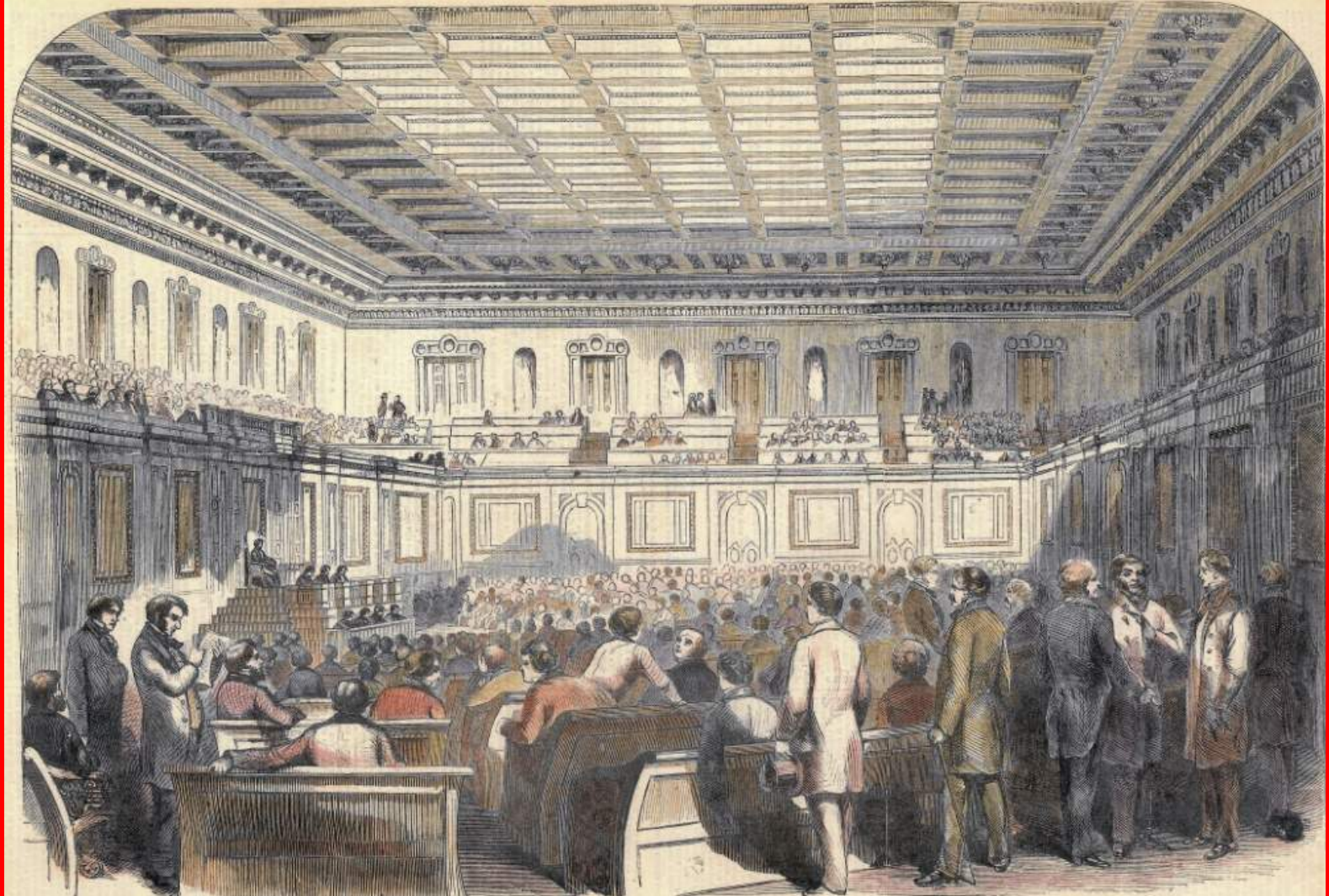
One of Crittenden's (1787-1863) proposed amendments would guarantee the existence of slavery in the states where it already existed. Because he was from the border state of Kentucky, Crittenden had a special cause to be concerned with the coming Civil War. One of his sons became a general in the Confederate Army. Another son was a general in the United States Army. This image was taken by Mathew Brady (1822-1896) circa 1855. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

Another amendment would bring back the old Missouri Compromise line prohibiting slavery in the territories, but allowing a popular vote when a state.



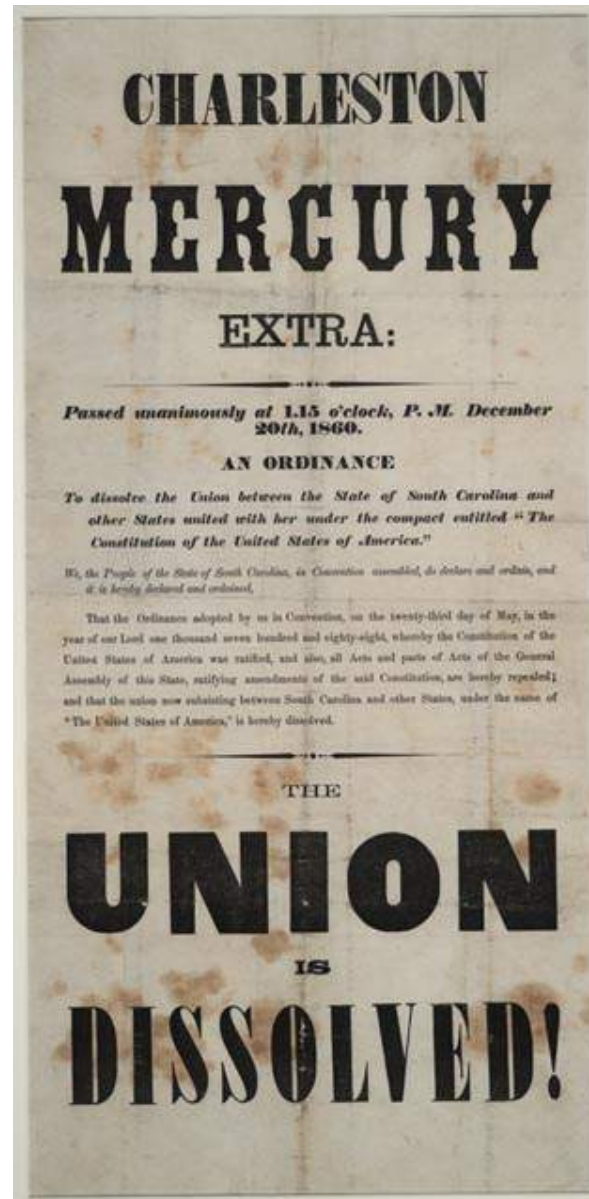
During the Missouri Compromise, Missouri was admitted to the Union as a slave state, and Maine was admitted as a free state. No slavery was allowed above the southern border of Missouri (except for Missouri, of course). This image is courtesy of aupushpacia.blogspot.com.

Lincoln advised Republicans in Congress to oppose the Crittenden Plan.



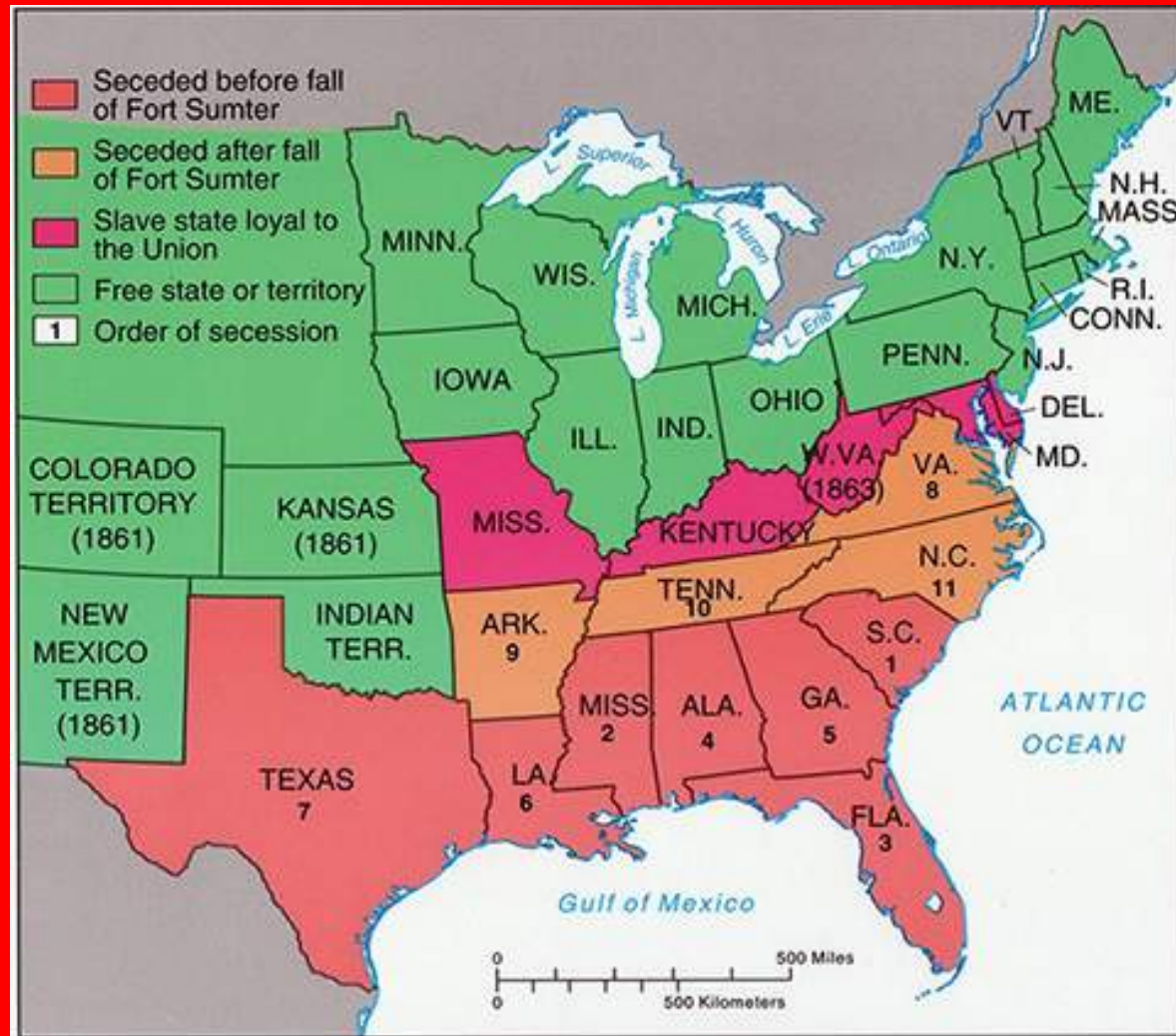
Lincoln said that if the Republicans did not oppose the Crittenden Plan, the Republican party would become “a mere sucked egg, all shell and no meat— the principle all sucked out.” Republicans voted down the Crittenden Plan. This image was created for the December 17, 1859 edition of *Harper's Weekly*. It is titled “Balloting for a Speaker in the House of Representatives at Washington, December, 1859.” This image is courtesy of history.house.gov.

On December 20, 1860, before Lincoln was sworn in as President, delegates at the South Carolina convention voted unanimously to secede from the United States.



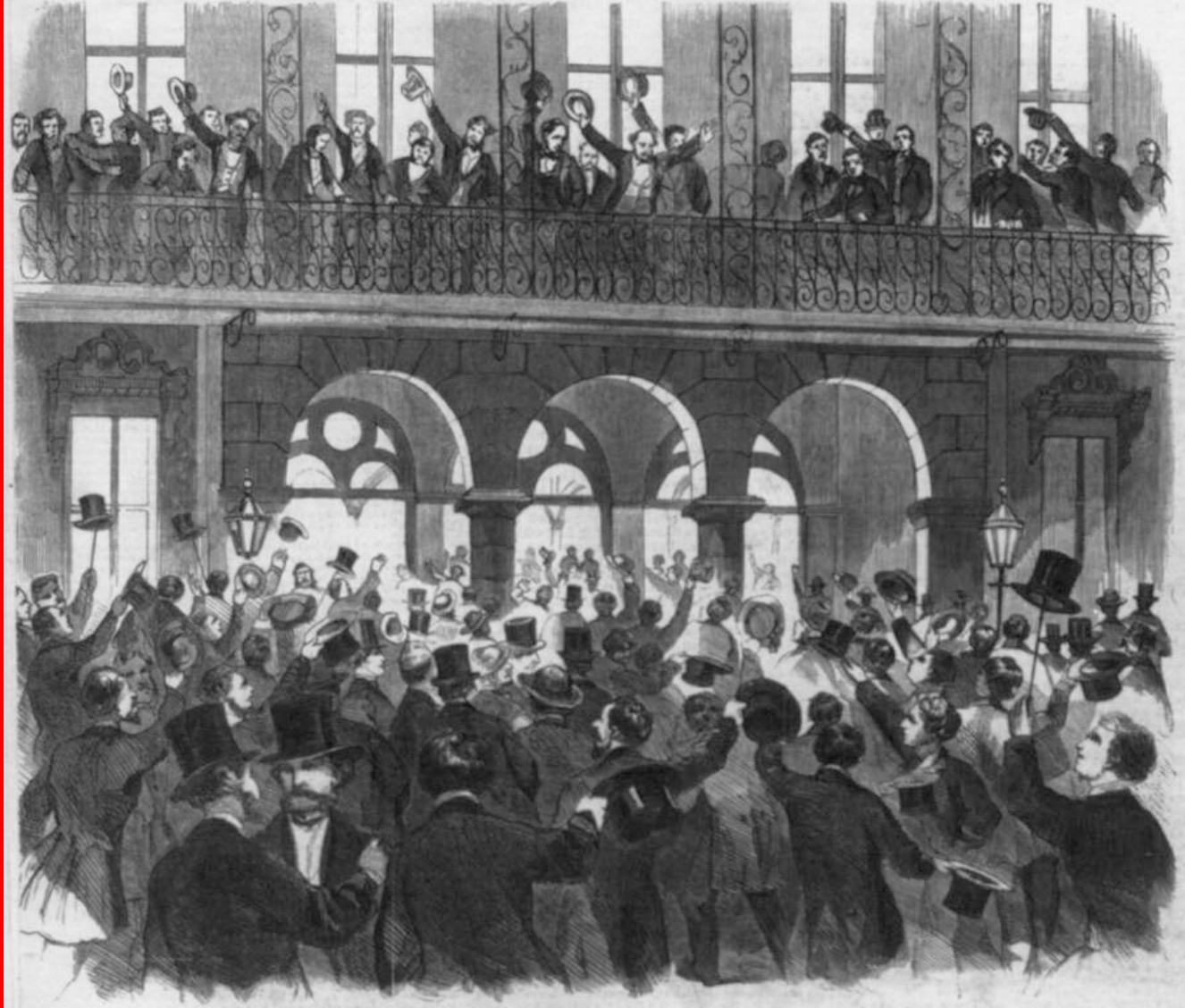
This was an Extra of the *Charleston Mercury*. It states, "Passed unanimously at 1:15 o'clock, p.m., December 20, 1860. An ordinance to dissolve the Union..." This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

By February 1861, Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Texas had also voted to leave the Union.



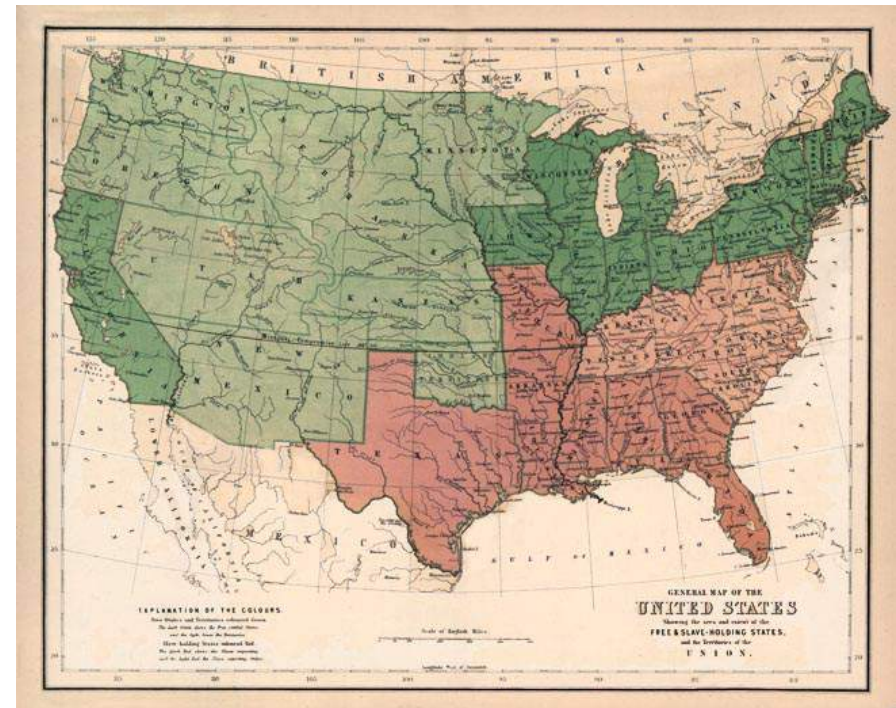
The seven southern states at the bottom of the map were the first to leave the Union. The four states in yellow left after Fort Sumter when President Lincoln called for troops to fight the seceded states. Missouri, Kentucky, Maryland, and Delaware were considered to be border states which sent soldiers to both sides. West Virginia broke away from Virginia in 1863 to form its own state. This image is courtesy of the National Park Service.

These states based their right to secede on the theory of states' rights.



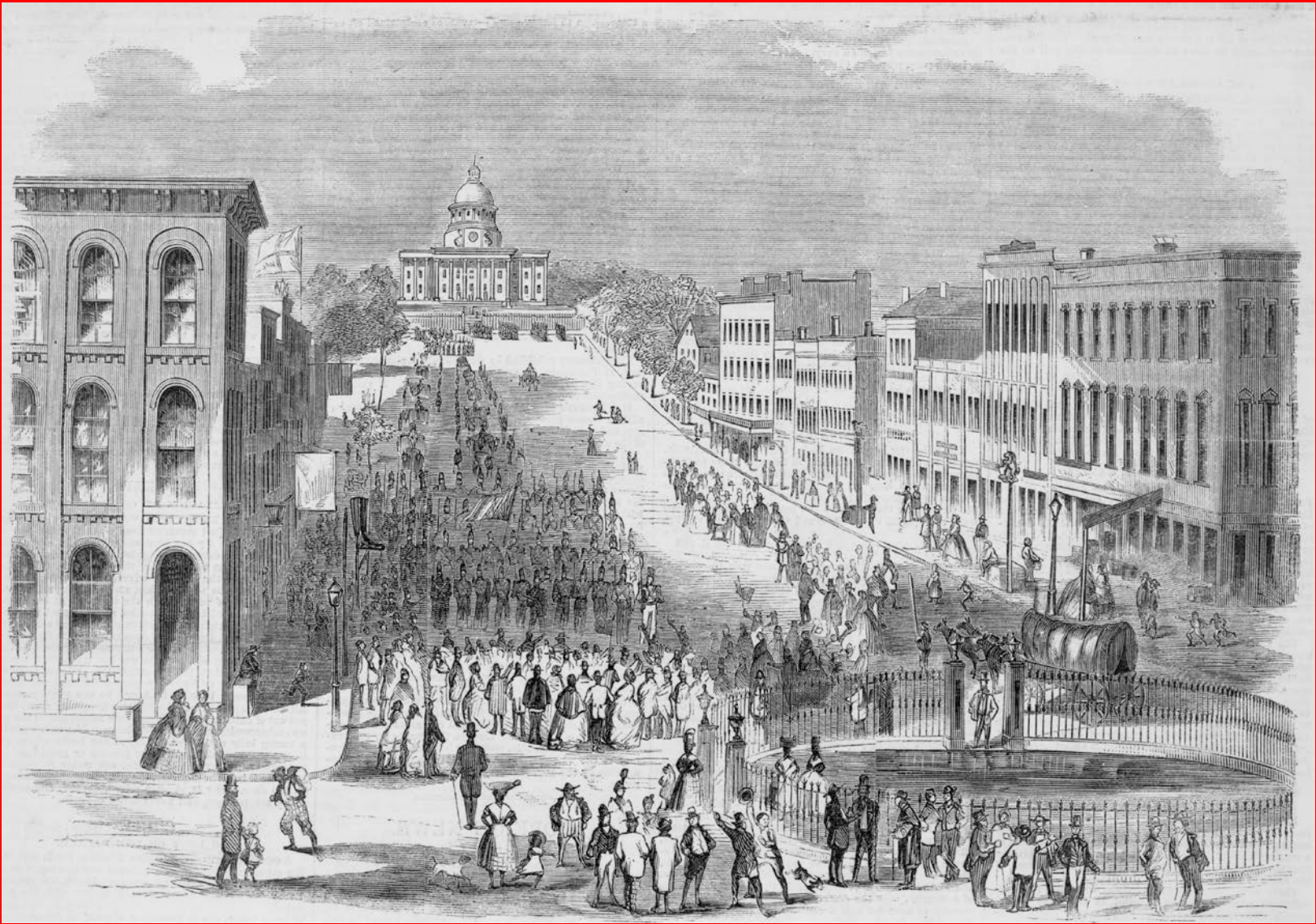
These Southern states defined the Constitution as a contract among sovereign states. This image is titled "Secession Meeting in front of the Mills House, Meeting Street, Charleston, S.C." This image was created for the December 1, 1860 edition of Frank Leslie's Illustrated newspaper. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

According to the Southern states, the Northern states had broken that contract by two major events...



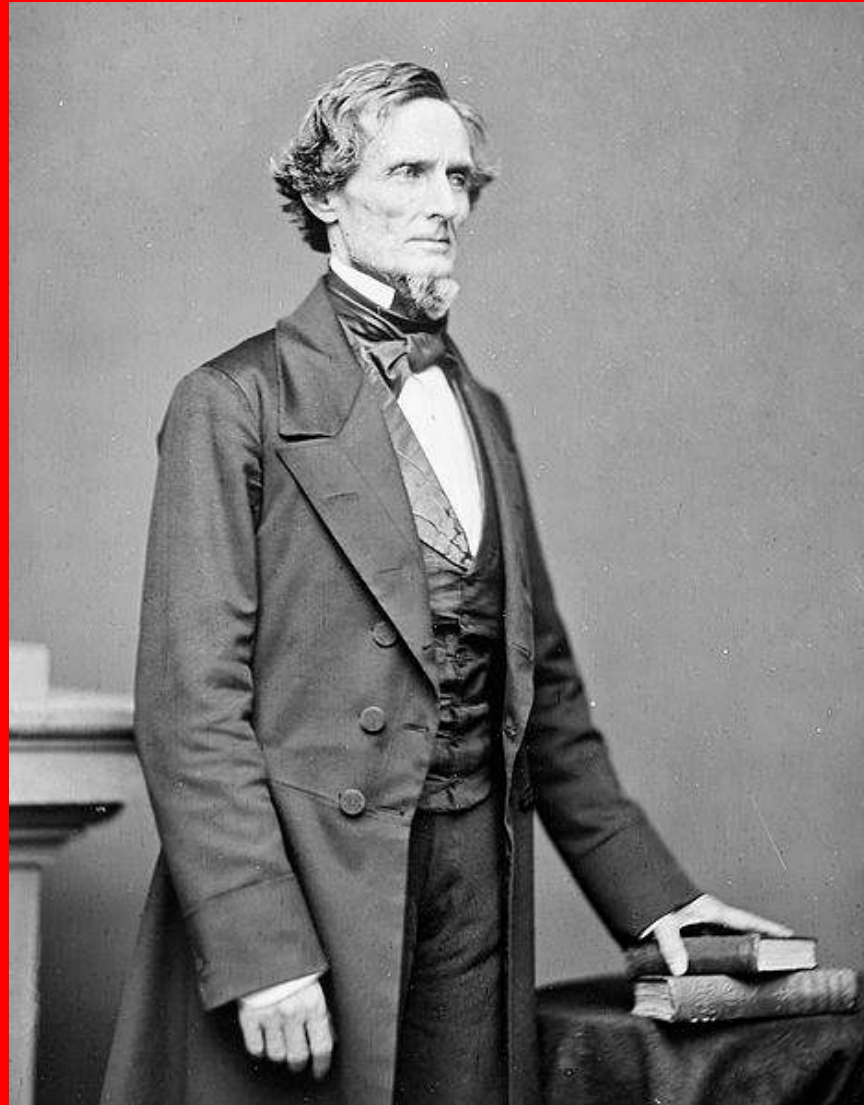
... by refusing to enforce the Fugitive Slave Act, and by denying the Southern states their equal rights in the territories. The image on the left is courtesy of history.com. The image on the right is courtesy of sonofthesouth.net.

On February 4, 1861 delegates met in Montgomery, Alabama to form a new nation.



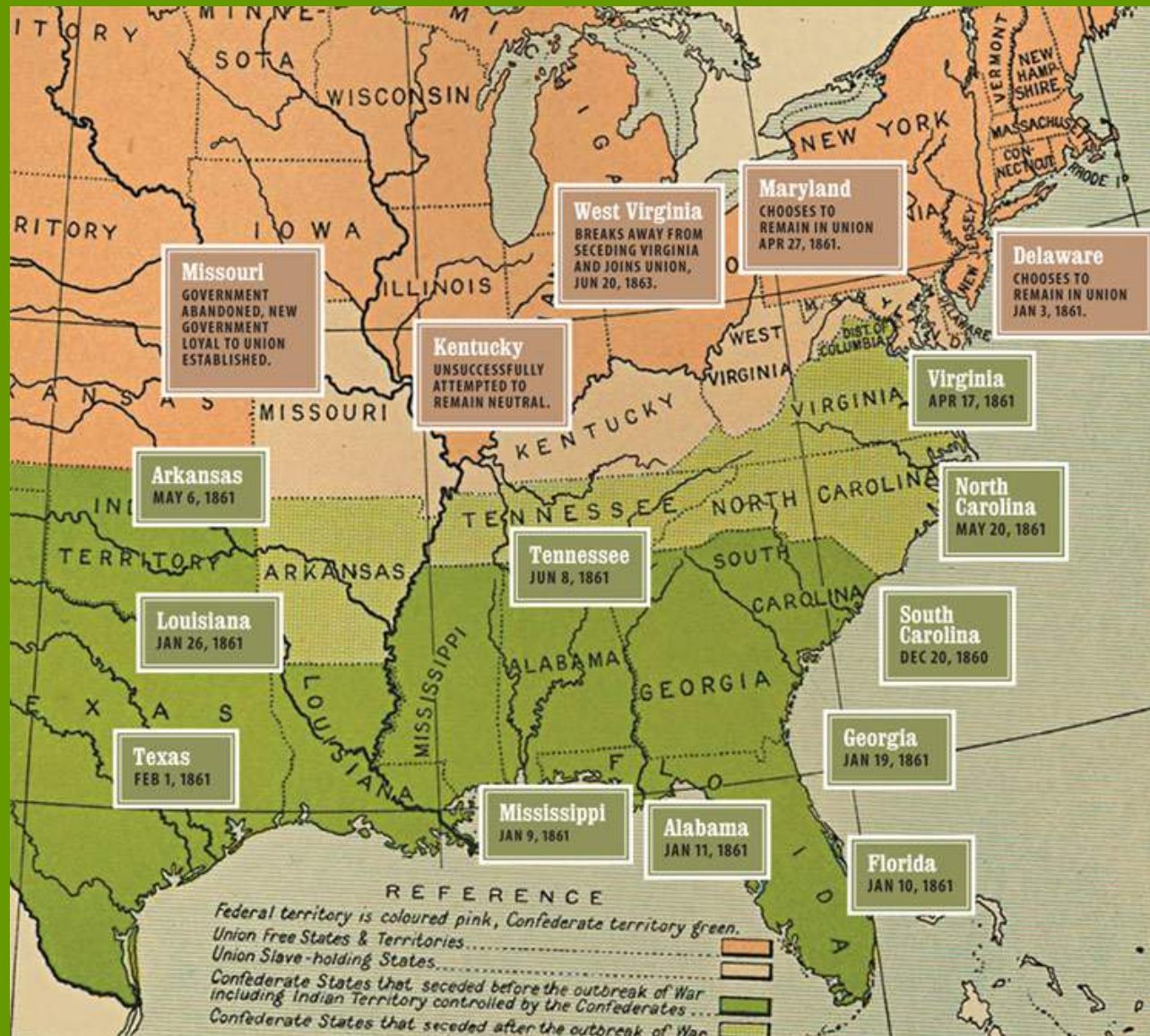
The named it the **Confederate States of America, or the Confederacy**. This image is titled "The City of Montgomery, Alabama, Showing the state House Where the Congress of the Southern Confederacy Meets on February 4, 1861." This image was created for the February 9, 1861 edition of *Harper's Weekly*. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

They elected Jefferson Davis, a former member of Congress and the cabinet, as president.



Jefferson Davis (1808-1889), a former senator from Mississippi, was elected to one six year term as President of the Confederate States of America, and he couldn't be reelected to that office. This photograph was taken by Mathew Brady (1822-1896) circa 1860. This image is courtesy of the National Archives.

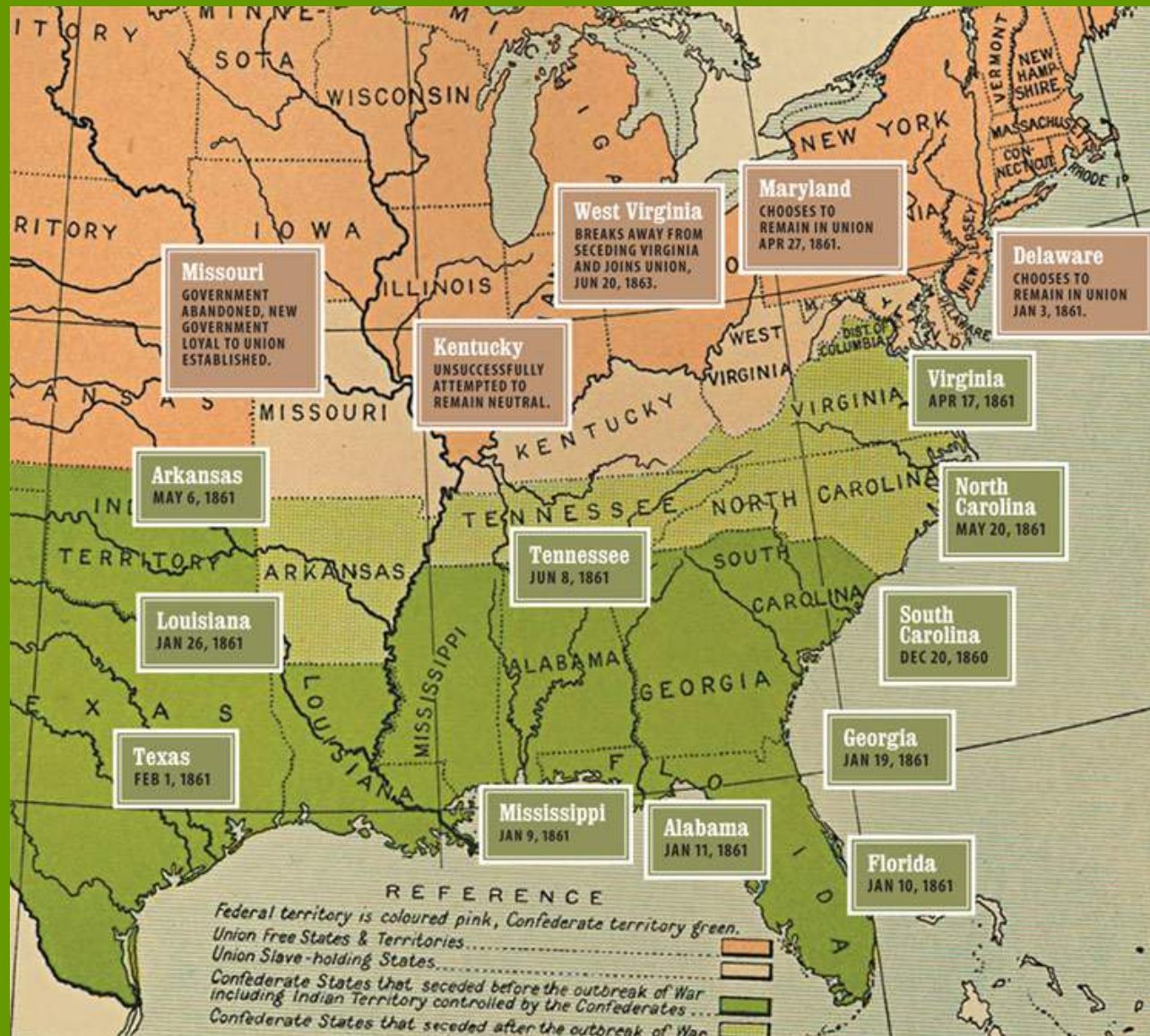
LEQ: What was the first state to secede from the United States?



This map shows the dates that the Southern states seceded or left the United States. South Carolina seceded on December 20, 1860. This image is courtesy of civilwar.org.us.

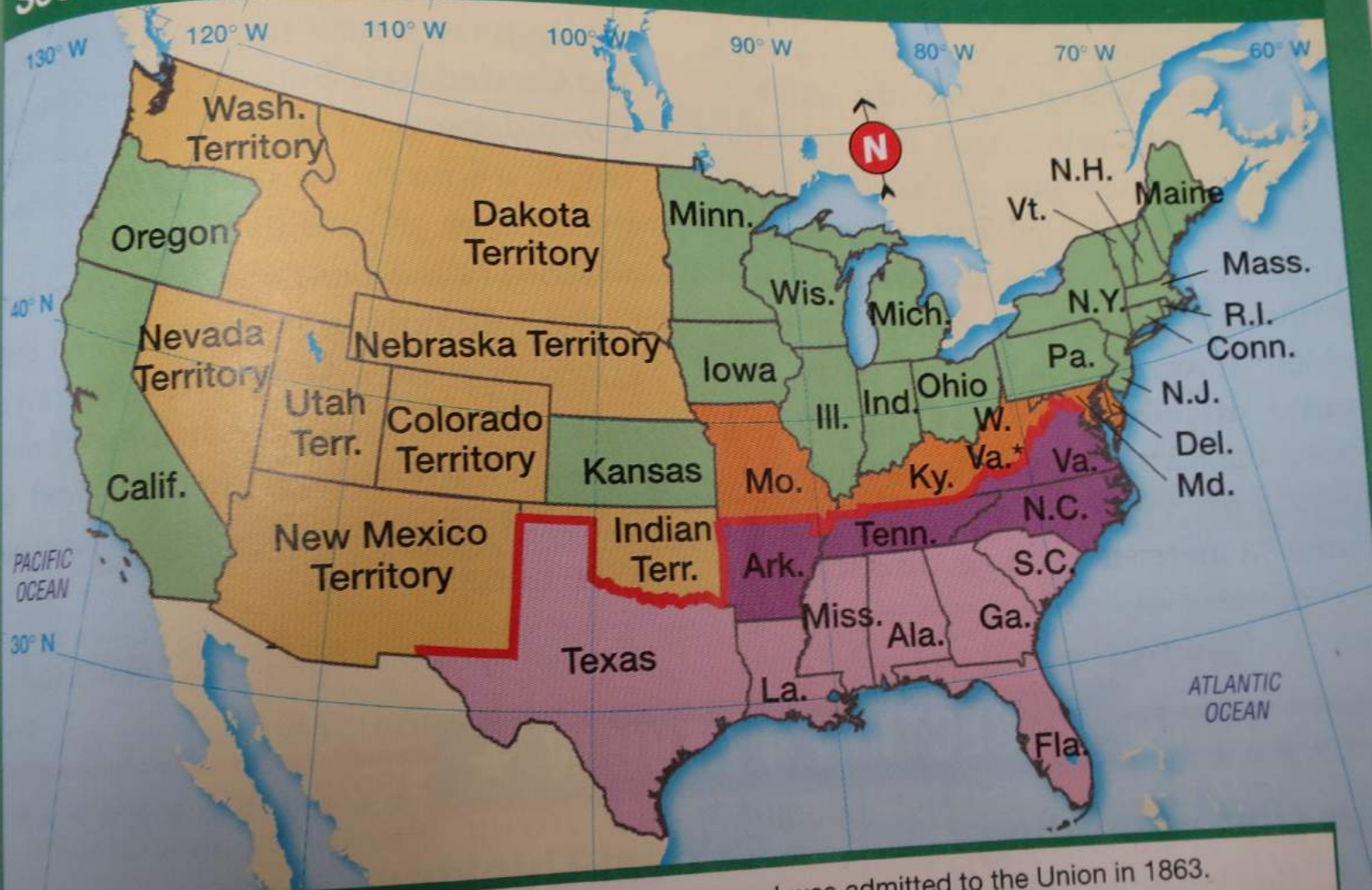
LEQ: What was the first state to secede from the United States?

South Carolina



This map shows the dates that the Southern states seceded or left the United States. South Carolina seceded on December 20, 1860. This image is courtesy of civilwar.org.us.

Seceding States, 1860-1861



*West Virginia seceded from Virginia in 1861 and was admitted to the Union in 1863.

Union free state

Union slave state

Slave state seceding before Ft. Sumter, April 1861

Slave state seceding after Ft. Sumter, April 1861

Confederate states

0 200 400 miles
0 200 400 kilometers

Southern states joined the