

## **Ch 10 Section 2 Protest, Resistance, and Violence**

### **Fugitive Slaves and the Underground Railroad**

#### **The Fugitive Slave Act**

- **Fugitive Slave Act**—part of Compromise of 1850, has very harsh terms
- Alleged fugitives denied jury trial, right to testify on own behalf
- Federal commissioners paid more for returning than freeing accused
- People convicted of helping a fugitive fined, imprisoned, or both

#### **Resisting the Law**

- Northerners send fugitives to Canada, some use force in rescues
- **Personal liberty laws** forbid prison for fugitives, grant jury trials

#### **Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad**

- **Underground Railroad**—secret network of people who help slaves escape
- **Harriet Tubman** escapes from slavery, becomes conductor on 19 trips
- Fugitives go on foot at night, often no food, avoiding armed patrols
- Some fugitives stayed in North; others go on to Canada

#### **Uncle Tom's Cabin**

- Abolitionist **Harriet Beecher Stowe's** *Uncle Tom's Cabin* stirs protest
- *Uncle Tom's Cabin* shows slavery as moral problem, not just political

#### **Tension in Kansas and Nebraska**

##### **Popular Sovereignty**

- Douglas believes people want territories incorporated into Union
- Wants railroad west in Chicago; thinks expansion will help Democrats
- Feels popular sovereignty on slavery best way to organize new states
- Thinks slavery unworkable in prairie farms but seeks South's support

##### **The Kansas-Nebraska Act**

- Douglas's bill repeals Missouri Compromise; bitter debate ensues
- 1854 **Kansas-Nebraska Act** allows popular sovereignty on slavery

#### **Violence Erupts in "Bleeding Kansas"**

##### **The Race for Kansas**

- Northern, Southern settlers pour into Kansas Territory
- Most settlers sent by antislavery emigrant aid societies
- In 1855, Kansas holds election for territorial legislature
- Proslavery "border ruffians" vote illegally, win fraudulent majority
- Proslavery government in Lecompton; antislavery rival in Topeka

##### **"The Sack of Lawrence"**

- Proslavery grand jury brands people of antislavery Lawrence traitors  
- posse of 800 burns, loots town

##### **"The Pottawatomie Massacre"**

- Abolitionist **John Brown** believes God wants him to fight slavery
- Brown, followers violently kill 5 men in "Pottawatomie Massacre"
- Territory called **Bleeding Kansas** for incidents that kill some 200

##### **Violence in the Senate**

- Senator Charles Sumner verbally attacks colleagues, slavery
- Congressman Preston S. Brooks beats Sumner for insults to uncle
- Southerners applaud Brooks; Northerners condemn him