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| Protective Tariffs | High taxes on imported goods which caused the Nullification Crisis; President Andrew Jackson threatened to use force against South Carolina. |
| Missouri Compromise | This compromise admitted Missouri into the United States as a slave state and admitted Maine as a free state. It prohibited slavery north of the 36⁰ 30’ latitude line. |
| Compromise of 1850 | This Compromise included what was to be done with land acquired after the Mexican-American War, the admission of California as a free state, the Fugitive Slave Law, and the ending of the slave trade in Washington D.C. |
| Fugitive Slave Law | Required that all escaped slaves were to be returned to their masters and people in free states had to help enforce this law. |
| Kansas-Nebraska Act | Allowed people to use popular sovereignty to vote and decide for themselves whether or not to allow slavery within their borders; repealed the Missouri Compromise and led to bloodshed throughout the territory. |
| Uncle Tom’s Cabin | A book written by Harriet Beecher Stowe, which depicted the life of a slave and opened the eyes of the eyes of people in the North to the horrors of slavery. |
| Dred Scott v. Sanford | The Supreme Court decided that slaves were property and that the Missouri Compromise and other legislation limiting slavery were unconstitutional. |
| Abolitionism | The movement to end slavery. |
| John Brown’s Raid on Harper’s Ferry | An abolitionist tries to capture the arsenal at Harper’s Ferry Virginia in order to arm slaves for an uprising. He is captured and hanged, becoming a Martyr for other abolitionists. |
| Election of 1860 | Republican candidate Abraham Lincoln won the election and soon after, Southern states began seceding from the Union. |
| Nat Turner’s Rebellion | This event led to the deaths of more than 50 Virginians and struck fear into the hearts of slave owners. |