

14.2.2 The Dred Scott Decision



Paragraph 1

The **Kansas Nebraska act** had truly divided the country on the issue of slavery.

Many northerners felt that there was currently no political party that suited their wants and needs.

Paragraph 2

Anti Slavery leaders founded **The Republican Party** in 1854

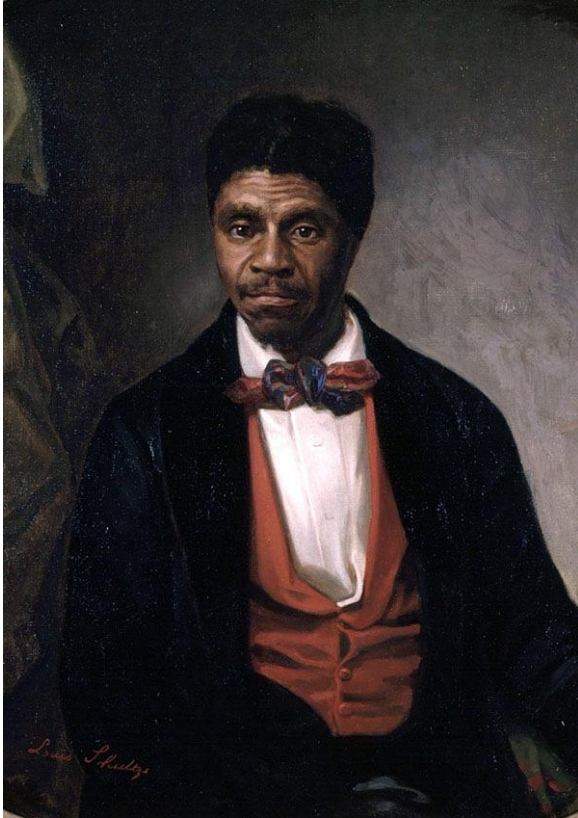
Free Soldiers, Whigs, Democrats and Know Nothings began to convert.

Paragraph 3

In the 1856 election. The Republican candidate lost to Democrat, James Buchanan, but proved they were a force to be reckoned with.

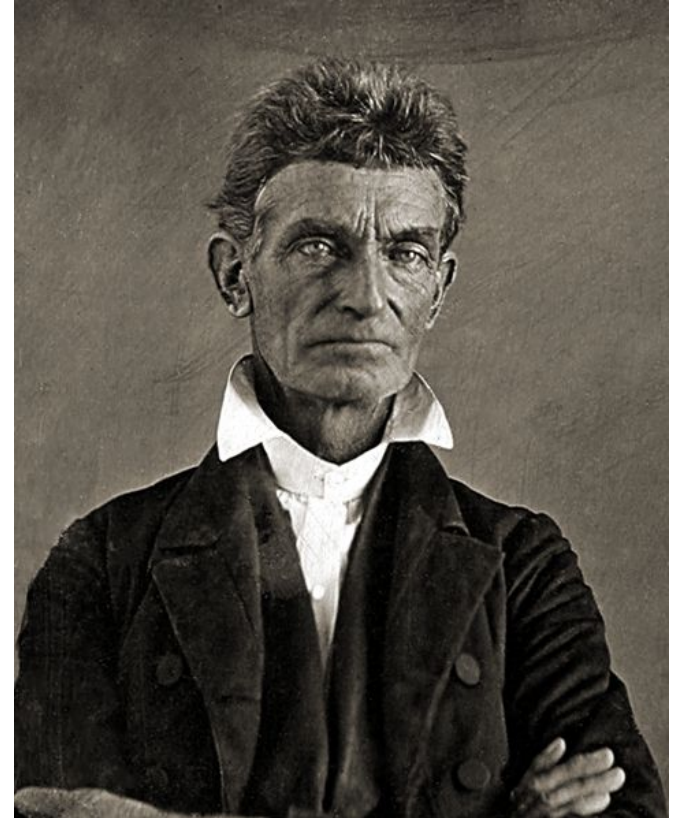
The Republican Party won 11 northern states in its first ever election.

Dred Scott



and

John Brown



Paragraph 1

In 1857, the supreme court made a decision on the case of Dred Scott.

Dred Scott was a slave to a Dr. John Emerson (a military doctor). Scott was suing for his freedom based on the fact that his owner had taken him to live in a territory where slavery was prohibited (illegal)

Why did Dred Scott Feel He Should be Freed ?

He felt that being taken to an area where slavery was illegal made him contraband property (something that it is illegal to own....like drugs). He believed this instantly dissolve his bond to his master and returning him to the south after being in Wisconsin was kidnapping.

Paragraph 2

Chief Justice Roger Taney ruled Scott should **remain a slave**. This was a massive blow to the anti-slavery movement.

Taney stated, “members of the Negro african race” were **not citizens** and thus **not entitled to use the courts**.

Furthermore, **slavery is protected by the 4th amendment** under property and thus it is **unconstitutional to deny someone their property** without due process of federal law. Essentially, slave owners can move anywhere in the country.

Slavery is now legal in all states.

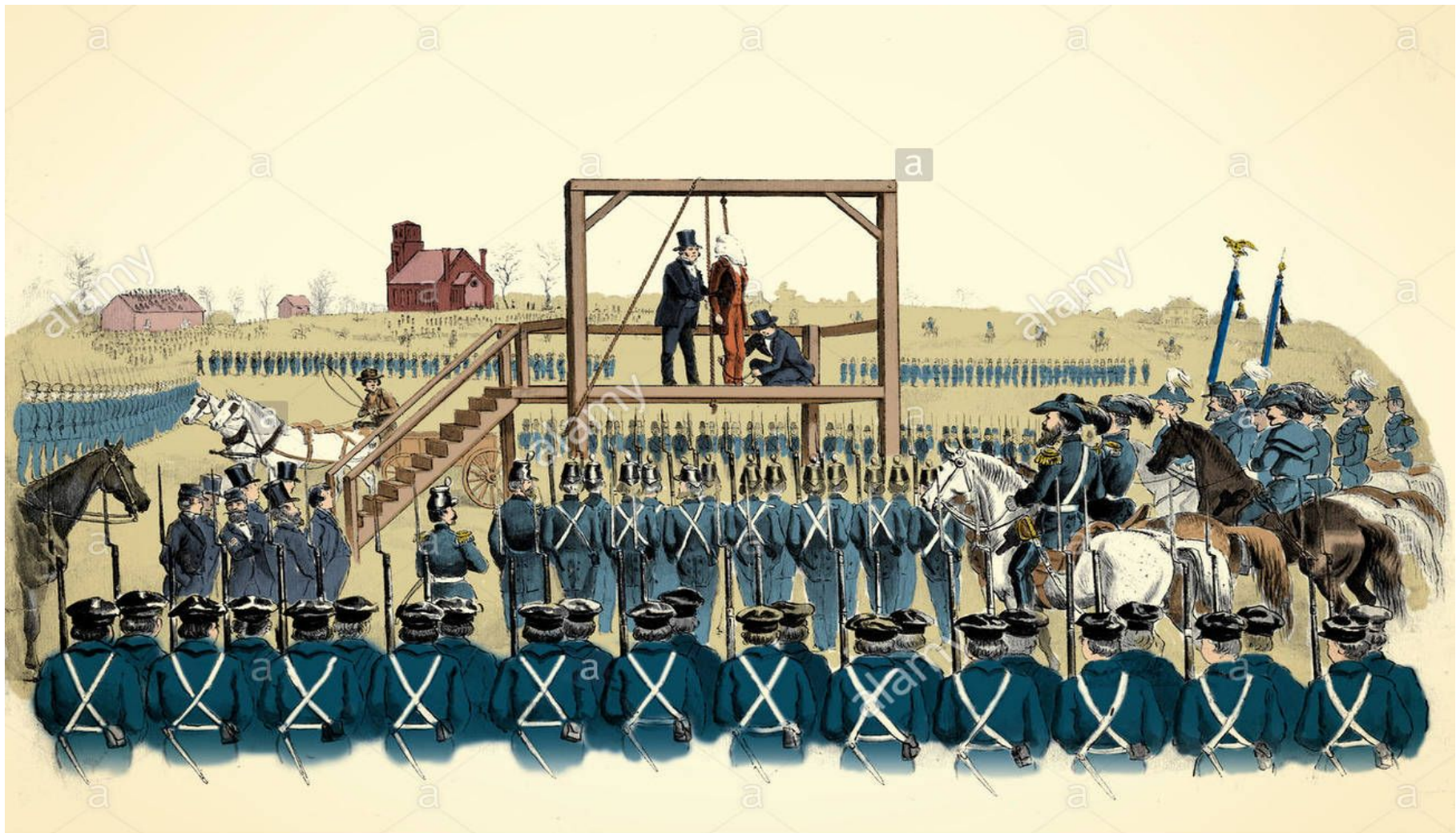
Paragraph 3

1859, John Brown and 21 men led an attack on a federal arsenal (military depot) at Harpers Ferry.

The goal was to secure weapons, arm local slaves, and start a nationwide slave revolution.

After killing dozens. He was captured by the military and sentenced to death. **His actions are considered the catalyst for the civil war.**





What political Ideas led to the formation of the
Republican Party?

The abolition of slavery.

Federal rights.

Is Roger Taney's assertion that "members of the negro African race" were not actually citizens of the United States fact or opinion? Explain?