

South, it was Buchanan against Fillmore. Buchanan won the election.

Although Frémont lost, he did win 11 Northern states. This showed that the Republican Party was an important force in the North. It also showed that the nation was sharply split over slavery.

**2. Who were the candidates in the 1856 election and what parties did they represent?**

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**The Case of Dred Scott** (pages 451–452)

*Who was Dred Scott?*

Dred Scott was a slave who had been taken by his master into free states. Scott claimed that being in free states had made him a free man. He sued for his freedom.

His case, *Dred Scott v. Sandford*, reached the Supreme Court in 1856. The Supreme Court, under Chief Justice **Roger B. Taney**, ruled that Dred Scott was not a U.S. citizen. As a result, he could not sue in U.S. courts.

The Court also ruled that slaves were property. As such, slaveholders' right to own slaves was protected by the Constitution. Southerners supported the decision. Northerners looked to the Republican Party to stop the growing power of Southern slaveholders.

**3. What was the Supreme Court ruling in the *Dred Scott* case?**

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**Lincoln and Douglas Debate**

(pages 452–453)

*What were the Lincoln–Douglas Debates?*

After the *Dred Scott* decision, the Republicans

charged that the Democrats wanted to make slavery legal in all U.S. states and territories. Senator Stephen A. Douglas, a Democrat from Illinois, was one of their main targets.

In 1858, Stephen Douglas ran for reelection to the Senate. Republican **Abraham Lincoln** ran against him. Lincoln and Douglas held a series of debates about the expansion of slavery. Lincoln argued that slavery should not be expanded. Douglas argued that voters in each territory should decide the slavery issue for themselves.

Douglas won the election. But the Lincoln–Douglas debates made Lincoln a national figure.

**4. What was the main issue in the Lincoln–Douglas debates?**

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**John Brown Attacks Harpers Ferry**

(pages 453–454)

*What happened at Harpers Ferry?*

In 1859, John Brown wanted to inspire slaves to fight for their freedom. He planned to capture the weapons in the U.S. *arsenal* at **Harpers Ferry**, Virginia. He hoped to inspire slaves to rebel against slavery.

On October 16, 1859, Brown and his followers captured the arsenal. He sent out the word to arm local slaves. But no slaves joined to fight with Brown. Brown and his followers were captured by the U.S. Marines. They were tried, convicted, and *executed*.

Brown was praised in the North for his fight against slavery. Southerners were furious at the reaction of Northerners to Brown's execution.

**5. Why did John Brown attack the arsenal at Harpers Ferry?**

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