

THE UNION IN PERIL

THE DIVISIVE POLITICS OF SLAVERY

THE COMPROMISE OF 1850

- Slave state Texas claims eastern half of New Mexico Territory
- Southern states threaten secession-withdrawal from Union
- Compromise of 1850 has provisions for both sides
- California becomes free state; tougher fugitive slave law enacted
- Popular sovereignty, or vote, decides slavery issues in NM, Utah



COMPROMISE OF 1850



FUGITIVE SLAVE ACT

- Slaves denied trial by jury; helpers fined and imprisoned
- Northerners defy Act, help send slaves to safety in Canada

CAUTION!!

COLORED PEOPLE

OF BOSTON, ONE & ALL,

You are hereby respectfully **CAUTIONED** and advised, to avoid conversing with the

**Watchmen and Police Officers
of Boston,**

For since the recent **ORDER OF THE MAYOR & ALDERMEN**, they are empowered to act as

KIDNAPPERS

AND

Slave Catchers,

And they have already been actually employed in **KIDNAPPING, CATCHING, AND KEEPING SLAVES**. Therefore, if you value your **LIBERTY**, and the *Welfare of the Fugitives* among you, *Shun* them in every possible manner, as so many **HOUNDS** on the track of the most unfortunate of your race.

**Keep a Sharp Look Out for
KIDNAPPERS, and have
TOP EYE open.**

THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

- Abolitionists develop Underground Railroad—escape routes from South
- Harriet Tubman is conductor on 19 trips to free African-Americans
- *Uncle Tom's Cabin* by Harriet Beecher Stowe increases protests



TENSION IN KANSAS & NEBRASKA

- Kansas, Nebraska territories north of $36^{\circ}30'$ line, closed to slavery
- 1854 Kansas-Nebraska Act allows popular sovereignty on slavery



"BLEEDING KANSAS"

- Proslavery settlers from Missouri cross border to vote in Kansas
- Fraudulent victory leads to violent struggle over slavery in Kansas



VIOLENCE IN THE SENATE



- Charles Sumner verbally attacks slavery, singles out Andrew Butler
- Preston S. Brooks, Butler's nephew, assaults Sumner on Senate floor

NEW POLITICAL PARTIES EMERGE

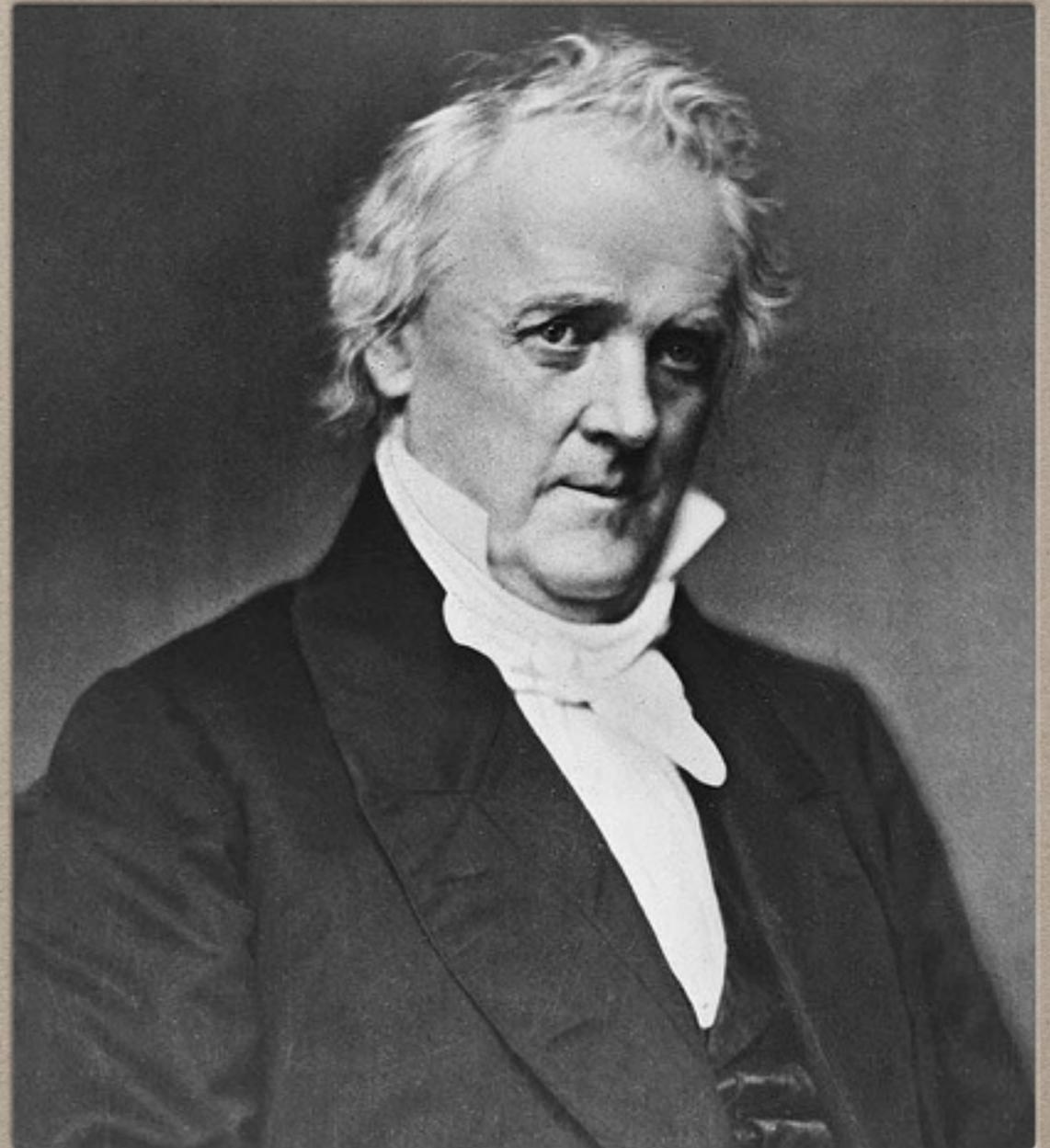
Slavery Divides Whigs

- Democrat Franklin Pierce elected president (1852)
- Northern, Southern Whigs split over slavery in territories



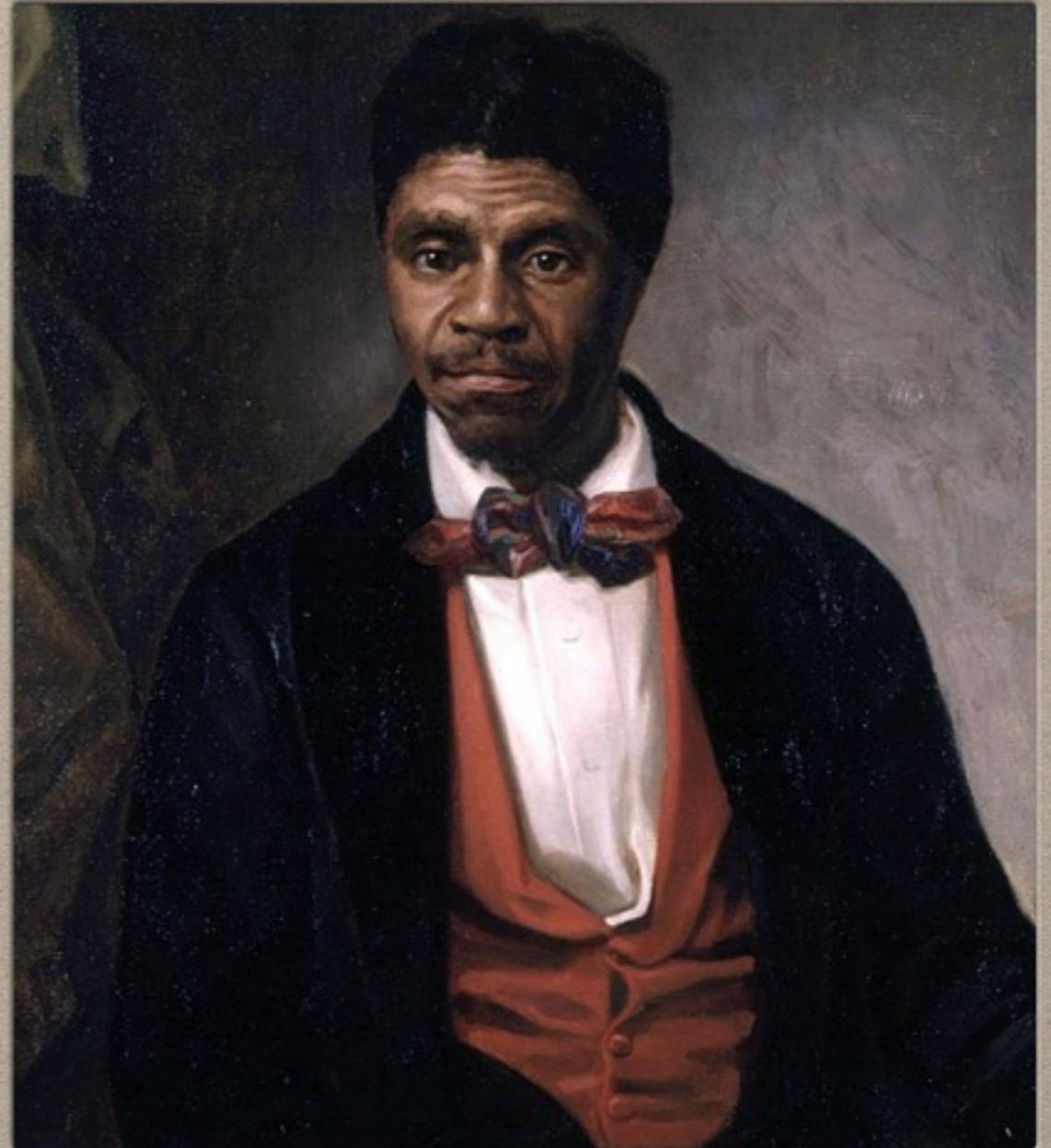
NEW POLITICAL PARTIES EMERGE

- The Free-Soilers' Voice; fear slavery will drive down wages of white workers
- Republican Party forms in 1854; oppose slavery in territories
- Democrat James Buchanan elected president (1856); secession averted



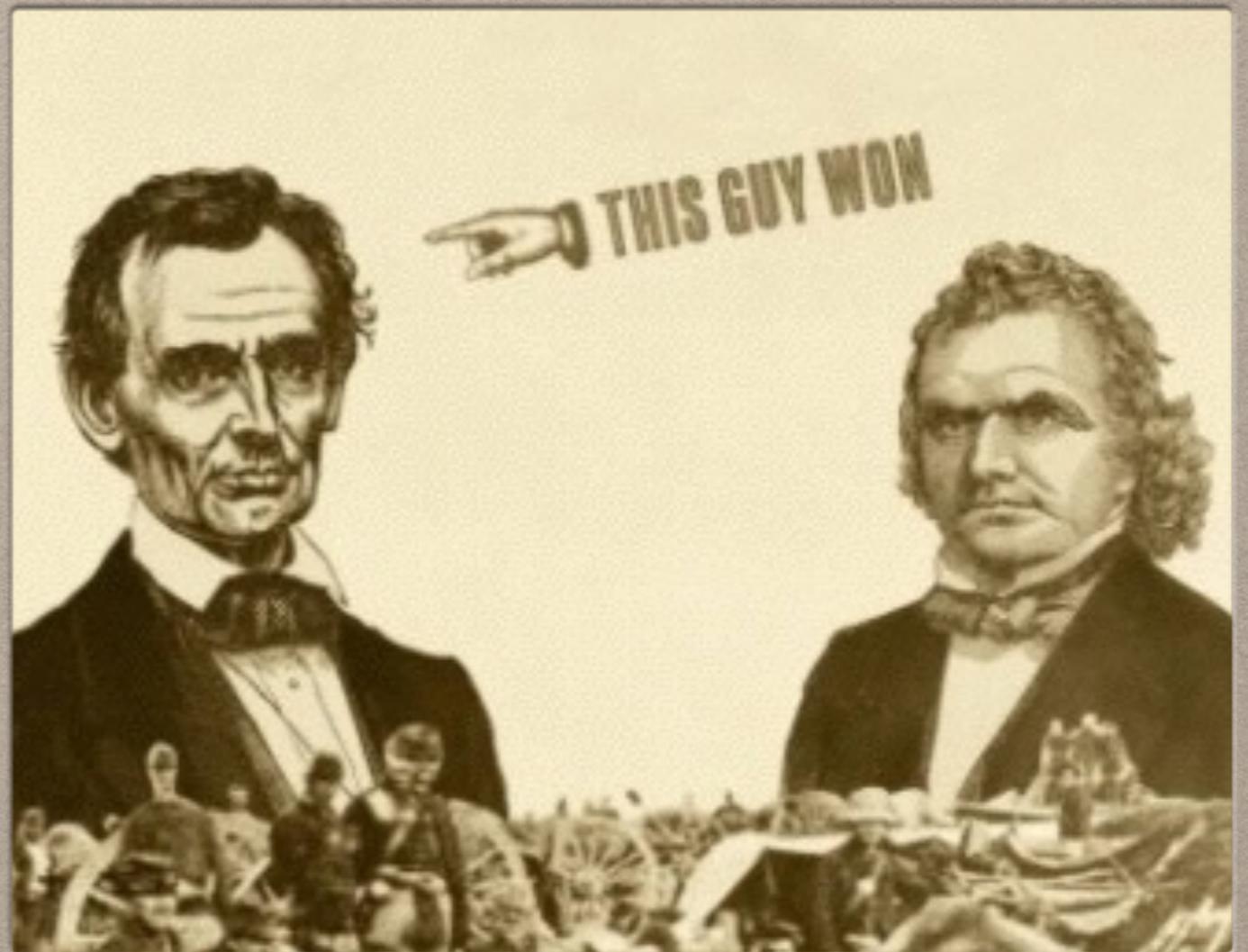
THE DRED SCOTT DECISION

- Dred Scott, a slave taken to free territory by owner, claims freedom
- Supreme Court denies appeal; Scott has no legal rights, not a citizen
- North angry; South reads ruling as guaranteed extension of slavery



LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATES

- 1858 Senate race between Senator Stephen Douglas and Abraham Lincoln
- Douglas wants popular sovereignty to decide if state is free or slave
- Lincoln considers slavery immoral; wants constitutional amendment



HARPER'S FERRY

- John Brown leads group to arsenal to start slave uprising (1859)
- Troops put down rebellion; Brown is tried, executed







LINCOLN IS ELECTED PRESIDENT

- 1860, Lincoln beats 3 candidates, wins no southern electoral votes
- Southern Succession; 7 states secede after Lincoln's victory; form Confederacy in 1861
- Former senator Jefferson Davis elected president of Confederacy

