

Chapter 16: *The South and the Slavery Controversy, 1793—1860* (Pages 350—369)

I. Introduction: Importance and impact of **Eli Whitney's cotton gin**

II. "**Cotton is King**"

A. The way in which the prosperity of both the North and South depended upon slavery

B. Facts that demonstrate the importance of cotton to the U.S. economy

C. Britain's relationship to the South

III. The Planter Aristocracy

A. Explanation of how the South was an "oligarchy"

B. The lifestyle and contributions of the plantation owners

C. How the aristocratic nature of southern society impacted: gap between rich and poor, education, women's lifestyles

IV. Slaves of the Slave System:--**Negative effects** of the slave system in the South

A. Effect on land and land use

B. Effect on financial stability of the South

C. One-crop economy—why a negative effect

D. Effect on immigration

V. The White Majority

A. In 1850, number of southerners owning large plantations with 100 or more slaves

B. In 1850, number of slaves owned by most slave owners

C. By 1860, the percentage of southern whites who owned no slaves/how these southerners made a living

D. **Reasons why whites without slaves defended slavery**

E. **Mountain whites:** where they lived and type of lifestyle/the role of mountain whites in the Civil War

VI. **Free Blacks:** Slaves Without Masters

A. Free blacks in the North: when they were freed

B. Free blacks in the South: why/how they gained freedom

C. Status of free blacks in the South

D. Status of free blacks in the North

E. **Irish/black conflict:** why

F. Antiblack feelings perhaps were stronger in the North than in the South: examples

VII. Plantation Slavery

A. Number of slaves in the U.S. by 1860

B. End of U.S. slave trade—when?

C. Value of slaves in South/how their value was reflected in the type of work they did

D. Probably the greatest psychological cruelty of slavery—explain/novel that explores this theme

VIII. Life Under the Lash

A. General characteristics of daily life as a slave

B. Why savage beatings of slaves might not have been very frequent

C. Major problem for a slave on a small plantation

D. Family life in the slave community: characteristics

E. Religious practice of slaves/what they stressed/"responsorial style of preaching"

IX. The Burdens of Bondage

A. Slavery and education

B. How slaves "got even" with their masters in subtle ways

C. Slave rebellions: **Denmark Vesey, Nat Turner**

D. Problems the slave society presented to whites

X. Early Abolitionism

A. The first abolitionists

B. Goals of the **American Colonization Society**

C. Forces which encouraged the abolitionist movement in the 1830s

D. Importance of **Theodore Dwight Weld** and his pamphlet

XI. Radical Abolitionism

A. Importance of **William Lloyd Garrison**

B. Importance of **David Walker**

C. Importance of **Sojourner Truth**

D. Importance of **Frederick Douglass**

E. Comparison of Garrison and Douglass: different methods they used to get the abolitionist message across

F. Three political parties that were attractive to abolitionists

XII. The South Lashes Back

A. Why the South tightened up laws against abolitionists and passed stricter slave codes in 1831-2

B. Arguments that the proslavery whites used to defend slavery as a positive good (3 types of defenses)

C. How the slavery controversy endangered free speech: Explain **Gag Resolution**

D. Government ruling regarding abolitionist literature in the South

XIII. The Abolitionist Impact in the North

A. Economic reason behind northern dislike of abolitionists

B. Actions taken by northerners against abolitionists—an example

C. **The view of most northerners regarding slavery by 1860**

XIV. Varying Viewpoints: *What was the true nature of slavery?*

A. What are the three assertions made by Phillips in his early study of slavery which are still being debated today?

B. What are the different interpretations of the question of the nature of American slavery and/or how the slaves were treated?