

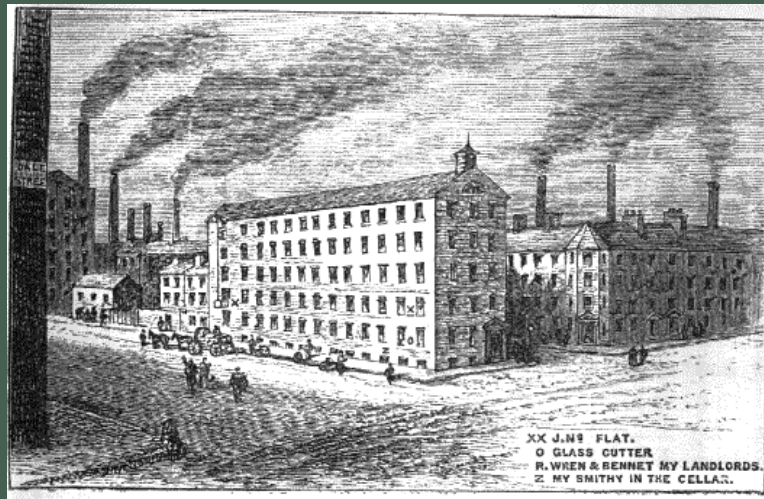


DIVISIVE POLITICS OF SLAVERY

American History I

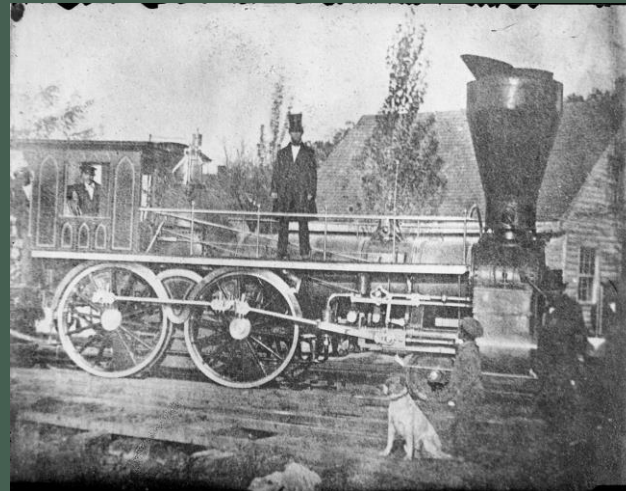
Industry in the North

- The North industrialized quickly as factories turned out more and more productions, from textiles and sewing machines to farm equipment and guns.



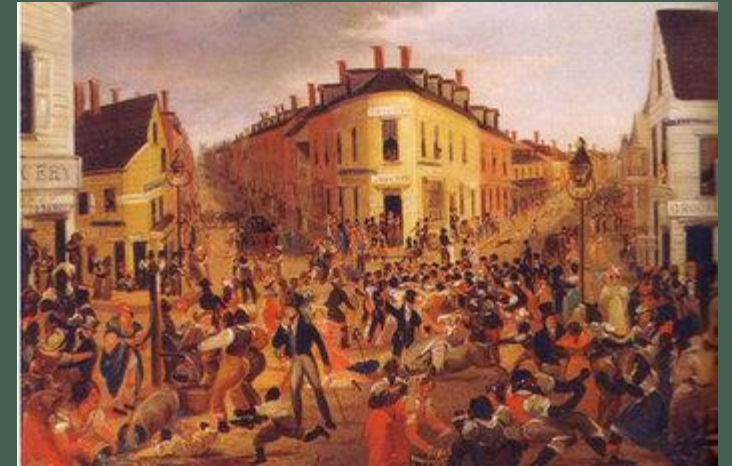
Railroads in the North

- Railroads – with more than 20,000 miles of track laid during the 1850s – carried raw materials eastward and manufactured goods and settlers westward.
- Small towns like Chicago matured into large cities almost overnight due to the sheer volume of goods and people arriving by railroad.



Immigrants in the North

- Immigrants from Europe entered the industrial workplace in growing numbers.
- Many became voters with a strong opposition to slavery
 - They feared that the expansion of slavery would bring slave labor into direct competition with free labor, or people who worked for wages.
 - Immigrants also feared that slavery would threaten to reduce the status of white workers who could not successfully compete with slaves.



Industry in the South

- Unlike the North, the South remained predominantly a rural, agriculture based society.
- The Southern economy relied on staple crops such as cotton.
- Though one-third of the nation's population lived in the South in 1850, the South produced under 10% of the nation's manufactured goods.



Railroads in the South

- Railroads in the South did not gain the same amount of popularity as they did in the North.
- Southern planters still relied on rivers to transport goods.



Immigrants in the South

- Few immigrants settled in the South because African Americans, whether enslaved or free, met most of the available need for artisans, mechanics, and laborers.
- The immigrants who did settle in the South displayed significant opposition to slavery and were vocal about this dissent.

Bicameral Legislature

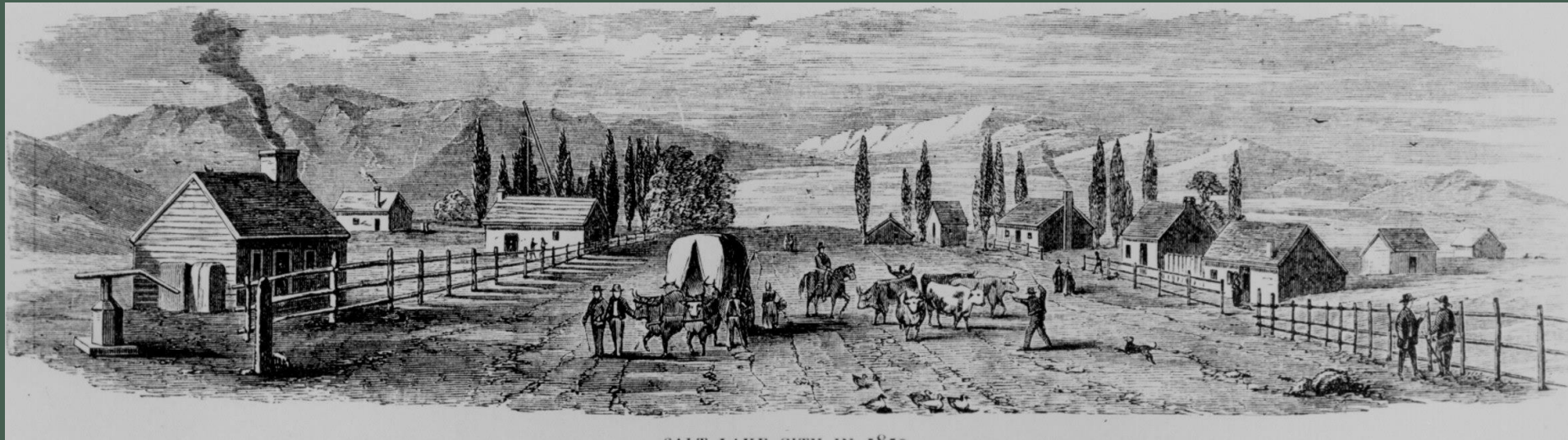
There are two houses of Congress:

- 1) House of Representatives
- 2) Senate



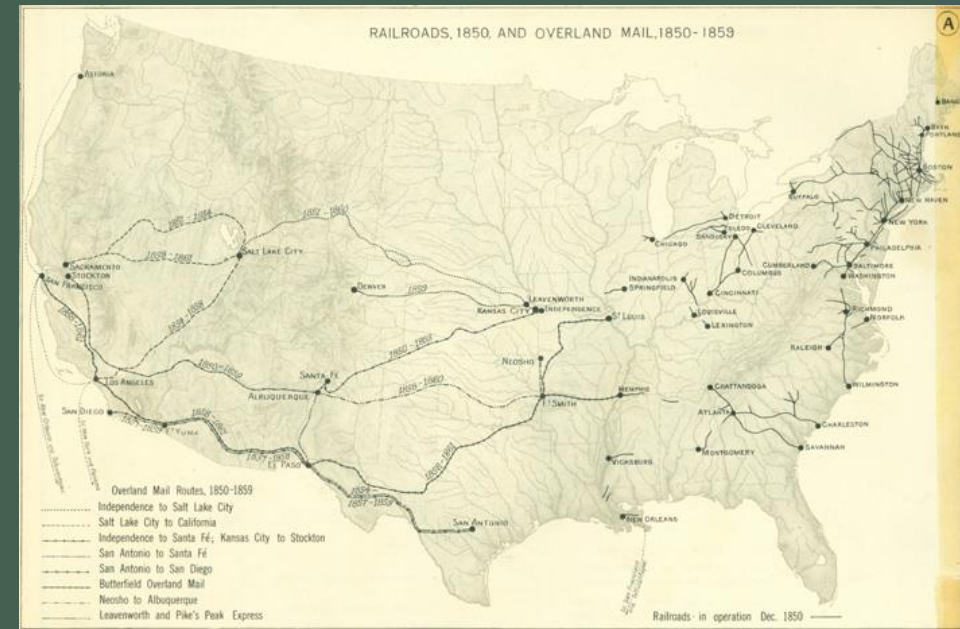
How might adding new states have an important impact on voting power in Congress?

- If you have more free or slave states—the balance will be disrupted and the vote could swing one way or another.



How is westward expansion driving sectionalist feelings?

- As we add new territories/ states, the nation is struggling to determine how they can best keep the slave and free state balance in Congress.



Wilmot Proviso

- Proposed by **Pennsylvania Democrat, David Wilmot**, the Wilmot Proviso heightened tensions between the North and South.
- The Wilmot Proviso stated, “neither slavery nor involuntary servitude shall ever exist” in any territory the United States might acquire as a result of the war with Mexico.
- In practical terms, the **Wilmot Proviso meant that California, as well as the territories of Utah and New Mexico,** would be closed to slavery forever.