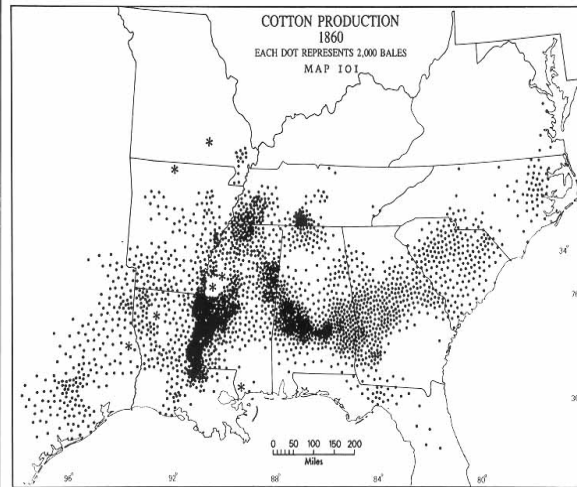


## Invention of the Cotton Gin



Map 21: Georgia and South Carolina were no longer leaders in growing cotton by 1860 when the heaviest production had shifted west to Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana.

<http://memory.loc.gov/service/pnp/cph/3c00000/3c03000/3c03800/3c03801v.jpg>

<http://www.nps.gov/history/seac/beneathweb/ch13/m21.jpg>

Eli Whitney invented the cotton gin in 1794. The machine was able to clean and process cotton at a faster rate than what humans could. However, the invention required the cotton to be picked from the fields at a faster rate increasing the need for slave labor in the south.

### Guiding Questions for Discussion:

What is going on in the first picture?

What information is being displayed on the map?

How did the cotton gin lead to the growth of slave labor in the United States in the 1800s?

Why did the cotton gin cause tension between the Northern and Southern states?