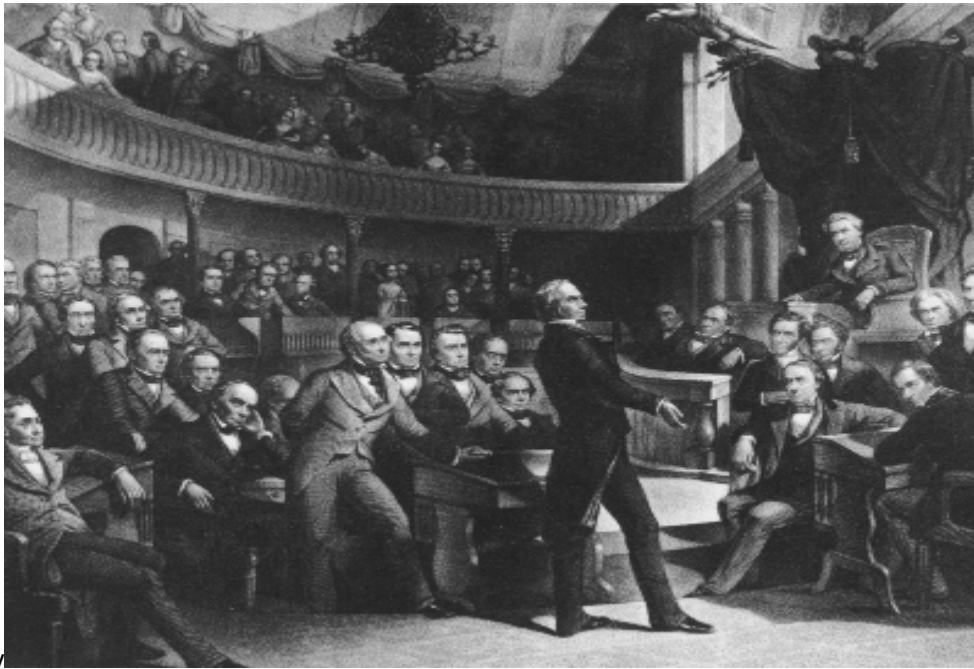


Compromise of 1850: Henry



Clay

http://teachpol.tcnj.edu/amer_pol_hist/thumbnail171.html

The Compromise of 1850 was a series of bills that intended to reduce tension from growing between the North and South. Both the North and South did not want an unequal amount of Slave and Free States in Congress. When United States gained a large amount of land in the west after the Mexican-American War, tensions grew when California wanted to enter the Union as a Free State.

1. California was admitted as a Free State.
2. New Mexico and Utah were each allowed to use popular sovereignty on the issue of slavery. In other words, the people would vote on whether their state would be free or slave.
3. The slave trade was abolished in the District of Columbia.
4. The [Fugitive Slave Act](#) made any federal official who did not arrest a runaway slave liable to pay a fine. This was the most controversial part of the Compromise of 1850 and caused many abolitionists to increase their efforts against slavery.

Guiding Questions for Discussion:

What angered Northerners about the Missouri Compromise?

What angered the Southerners about the Missouri Compromise?

What impact did the Missouri Compromise have on slaves?

Why did the Missouri Compromise actually cause more tension between the Northern and Southern states?