



LIBERTY LINE. NEW ARRANGEMENT---NIGHT AND DAY.

The improved and splendid Locomotives, Clarkson and Lundy, with their trains fitted up in the best style of accommodation for passengers, will run their regular trips during the present season, between the borders of the Patriarchal Dominion and Libertyville, Upper Canada. Gentlemen and Ladies, who may wish to improve their health or circumstances, by a northern tour, are respectfully invited to give us their patronage.

SEATS FREE, irrespective of color;

Necessary Clothing furnished gratuitously to such as have "fallen among thieves."

"Hide the outcasts—let the oppressed go free."—*Bible.*
☐ For seats apply at any of the trap doors, or to the conductor of the train.

J. CROSS, *Proprietor.*

N. B. For the special benefit of Pro-Slavery Police Officers, an extra heavy wagon for Texas, will be furnished, whenever it may be necessary, in which they will be forwarded as dead freight, to the "Valley of Rascals," always at the risk of the owners.

☐ Extra Overcoats provided for such of them as are afflicted with protracted *chilly-phobia*.



I have never approved of the very public manner in which some of our western friends have conducted what they call the *underground railroad*, but which, I think, by their open declarations, has been made most emphatically the *upperground railroad*. ... I, however, can see very little good resulting from such a course, either to themselves or the slaves escaping... They do nothing towards enlightening the slave, whilst they do much towards enlightening the master.

- Frederick Douglass (1845)

Stage 1: Colonization (1810s-1820s)

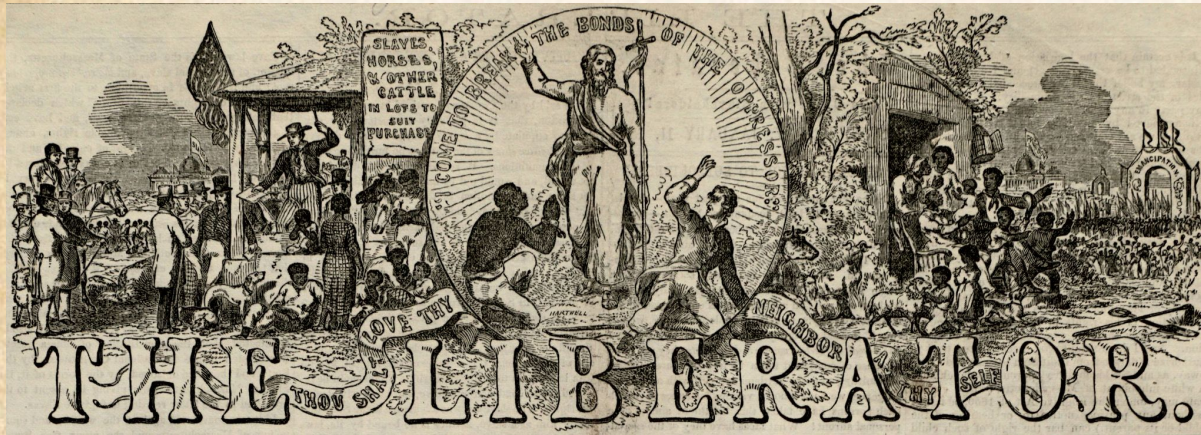
1816: American Colonization Society formed, has Congressional funding

Thomas Jefferson (1820):

“We have the wolf by the ear, and we can neither hold him, nor safely let him go. Justice is in one scale, and self-preservation in the other...”



Stage 2: Immediatism (late 1820s-1830s)



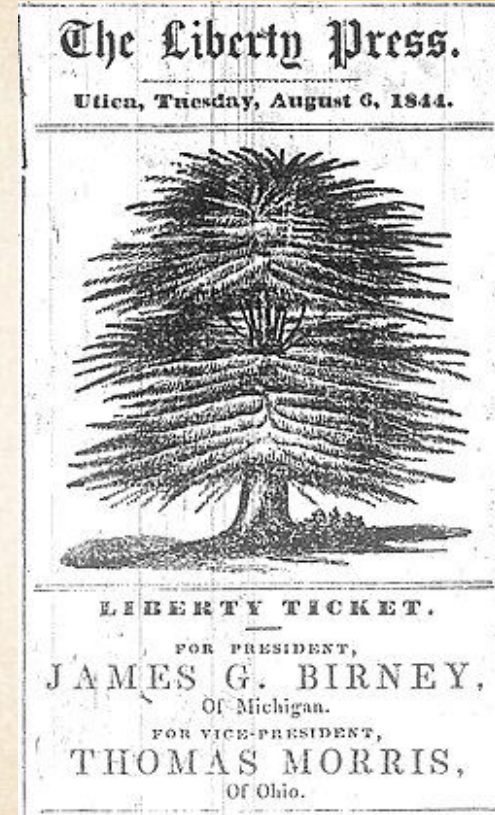
William Lloyd Garrison

Stage 3: Political Antislavery (late 1830s-1840s)

1837: Liberty Party founded

- James G. Birney runs for president as Liberty Party candidate in 1840, 1844. Barely register at polls.

1846: US invades Mexico

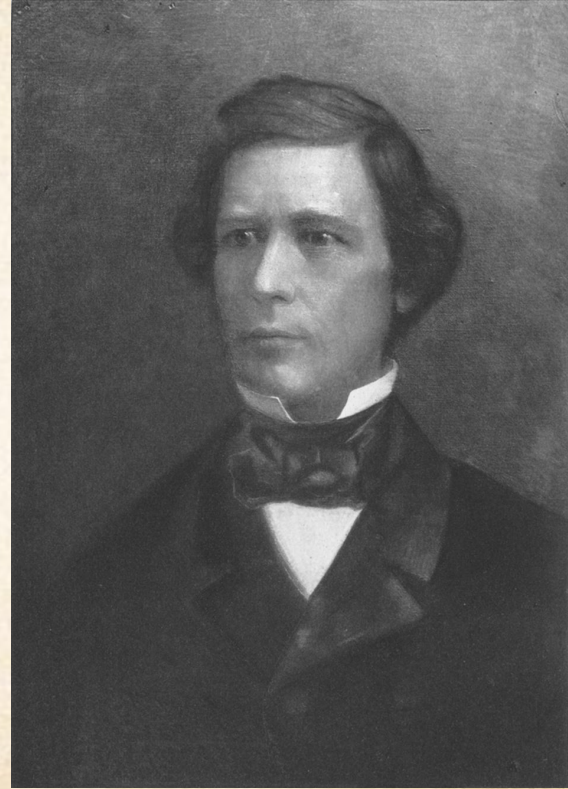




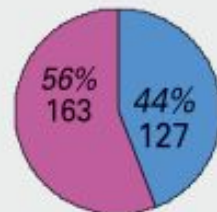
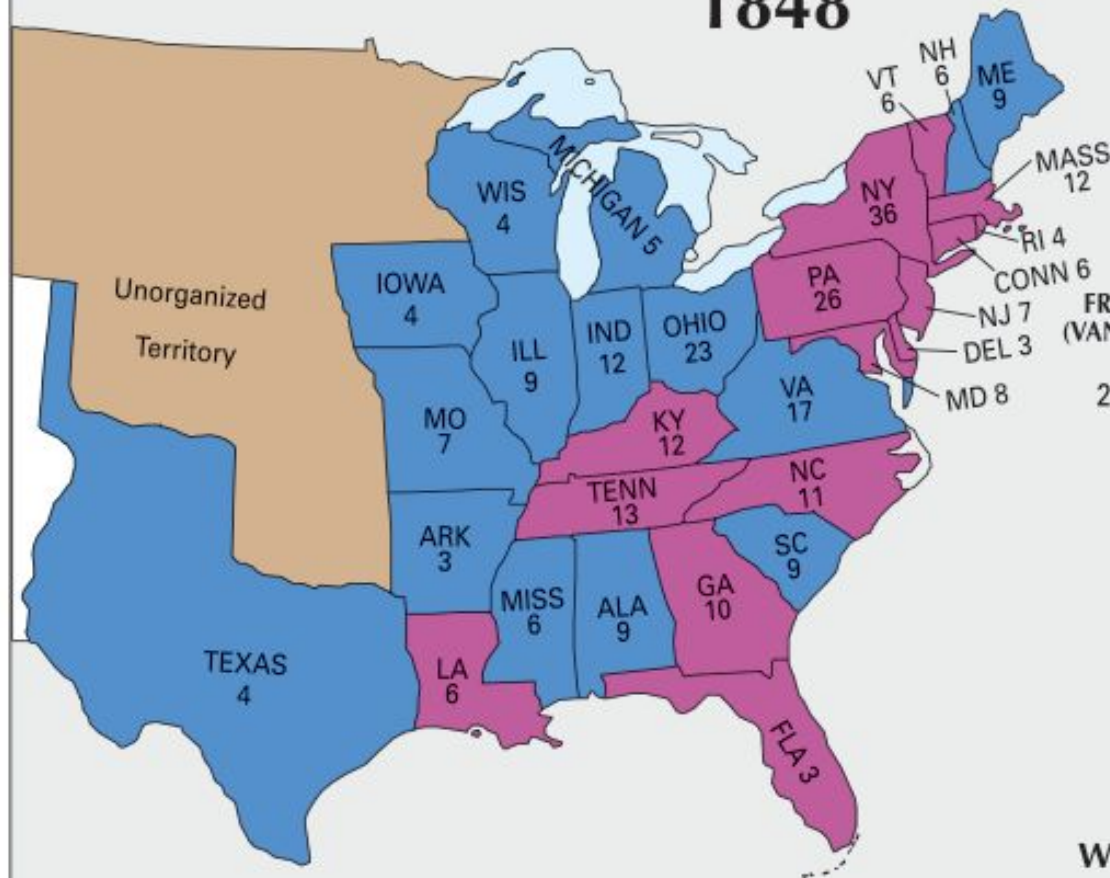
Wilmot Proviso and “Free Soil”

“I make no war upon the South nor upon slavery in the South. I have no squeamish sensitiveness upon the subject of slavery, nor morbid sympathy for the slave. I plead the cause of the rights of white freemen. I would preserve for free white labor a fair country, a rich inheritance, where the sons of toil, of my own race and own color, can live without the disgrace which association with... slavery slavery brings upon free free labor.....”

– David Wilmot (Pennsylvania congressman), 1847

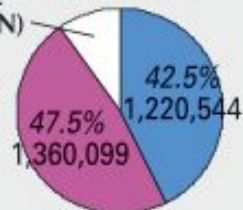


1848



ELECTORAL VOTE TOTAL: 290

FREE SOIL
(VAN BUREN)
10%
291,263



POPULAR VOTE TOTAL: 2,871,906

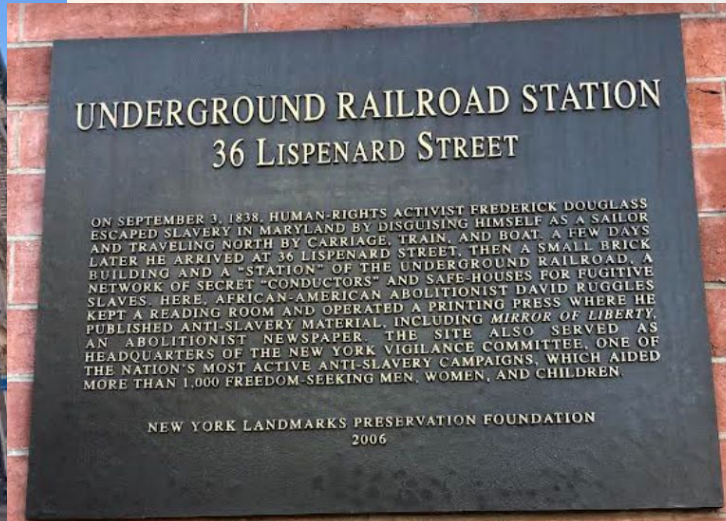
Territories

Whig (Taylor)

Democratic (Cass)

David Ruggles

“Practical Abolition”



Vigilance Committees

Networks of Black and white
activists who coordinated aid to
runaway slaves, powered the
Underground Railroad



Vigilance Committee Records

Nov 10th [1855] Harriet with her five children youngest about 3 yrs of age & oldest about 17 all slaves of John Dewar, living near Chestertown, Md.... borrowed two carriages & a pair of horses... & started on the night of Oct 26th for a free country... loitered about for a while till they met a colored man whom they asked to direct them to a Quaker... took them to Thos. Garrett

(Sydney Howard Gay, Record of Fugitives, Columbia University)

Nov. 10th. Harriett, with her five ^{children} & youngest about 3 yrs. of age, & eldest about 17. all slaves of John Dewar, living near Chester-town Md. with her brother, & two other colored men, borrowed two carriages, & a pair of horses to each of their respective masters, & started on y night of Oct. 26th. for a free country, & arrived at 9 o'clock y next morning at Wilmington Del. & tied up y horses at a store-door, went in & bought some cakes. Leaving y store they loitered about for a while till they met a colored man, whom they asked to direct them to a Quaker, & they took them to Thos. Garrett. Garrett, & already had seen them in y West

Express.

\$ 18.50. -

Nov. 17th.

Catherine Pitts (alias Ann Dickinson, of Durham, Md. arrived from Philadelphia with one child, an infant in arms. Her master, John Pitts, a knacker & doctor, was, she understood, about to sell her, & her husband & brother advised her, she says to 'cut sticks'. Her husband took them in a wagon to Baltimore Hundred, thence she walked

Vigilance Committee Records

List of “Runaway Negroes” in Michigan farmer Zachariah Shugart’s Farm Book (Huntington Library)

What Runaway Negroes		1831	5 Mo 27	What
Julias Washington 1	Ex	w	Willis Rix 1	
Frances Johnson 1	Ex	w	Silly Rix 2 Ch	
George Smith 1	s		Henty garnes 1	
William Williams 1	s		Martiny garnes 1	
Peter Dene 1	s		Georg What 1	
Samuel Strawther 1	w		Harriett What 1 and 3 Ch	
William Cole 1	w		Washington goet 1	
Thomas Something 1	w		goet 1	
Mary Mills 1	s		goet 1	
Hannah Kirkwood 3 Ch	s		John Wesley 1	
Jurden Johnson 1	w		Lazette Wesley 1	
Ellen Something 1	w		12 Mo 11 John Robertson 1	
Emily Strawther 1	w		Christopher Richardson 1	
Albert Wilson 1	w		Charles Spottford Lafayette 1	
Isaac Johnson 1	w		1 Mo 23 Snow Bush 1	
Obed What 1	w		Hatch Davis 1	
Andrew Davis 1	s		Reetum 1	
Addison Davis 1	s		4 Mo 6 Lewis Brown 1	
George Harry 1	s		Mary Brown Children 1	
			Charles B. Lunkin 1	
			4 Mo 25 Elias Carl 1	

Vigilance Committees: Public-Facing Side

- 1838: New York City's Vigilance Committee (led by Ruggles) reports that it had aided 522 runaways over the past three years
- 1859: the "ladies of Syracuse" announce that Jermain Loguen "has been appointed to this work of Superintending the affairs of the Underground Railroad in this part of the State, and his house the Depot where he and his family have cared and found homes for between one and two hundred fugitives during the last year."

Underground Railroad.

The ladies of Syracuse and vicinity, deeply sympathizing with the fugitive slaves who are constantly arriving in our city from the land of their bondage, and wishing to share a part of this work with others, in feeding the hungry and clothing the naked, and taking in the stranger ; and as by common consent of the friends of liberty in our city and vicinity, the Rev. J. W. Loguen has been appointed to this work of Superintending the affairs of the Underground Railroad in this part of the State, and his house the Depot where he and his family have cared and found homes for between one and two hundred fugitives during the last year. To reward, in part, Mr. Loguen and his family for their services and sacrifices in behalf of said fugitives—acting the part of the good Samaritan to them—we do most respectfully invite the friends of religion and humani-

Douglass' Monthly (February 1859)

Slave's Refuge Society
(Gettysburg, PA, 1841)

“We feel it our indispensable duty to assist such of our brethren as shall come among us for the purpose of liberating themselves, and to raise all the means in our power to effect our object, which is to give liberty to our brethren groaning under the tyrannical yoke of oppression.”

For the Pennsylvania Freeman.

SLAVE'S REFUGE SOCIETY.

At a meeting of citizens of Gettysburg, held at the African Methodist Episcopal Church, in December last, Mr. Chiler was appointed Chairman, and Mr. Thomas Brown, Secretary. Mr. James C. Burton stated the object of the meeting, and after appropriate remarks from him and others, the following resolution was unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That we feel it our indispensable duty to assist such of our brethren as shall come among us for the purpose of liberating themselves, and to raise all the means in our power to effect our object, which is to give liberty to our brethren groaning under the tyrannical yoke of oppression.

It being resolved to form a society to prosecute this object, a committee of five was ap-

Personal Liberty Laws

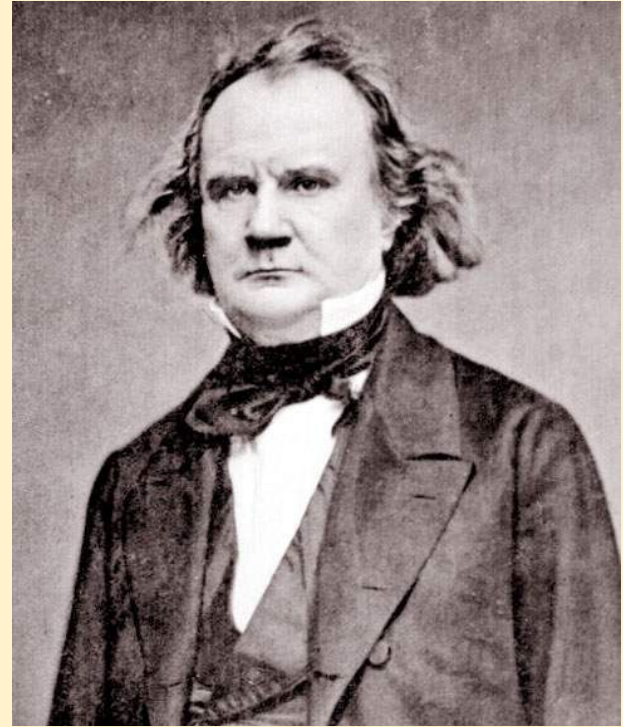
Northern state laws designed
to protect free Black residents,
and make it difficult for slave
owners to recapture runaways
in the North



1850 Fugitive Slave Act: part of Compromise of 1850; **best understood as a proslavery Southern response to Northern states' personal liberty laws and the successes of the vigilance movement/Underground Railroad.**

Made federal government responsible for recapturing and returning enslaved people.

Special hearings, rulings not subject to appeal.



Virginia senator James Mason
author of the 1850 Fugitive Slave Act