

The background features a dark blue color with several technical diagrams. On the left, there are circular gauges with scales ranging from 140 to 260. Some gauges have arrows pointing in different directions. There are also dashed lines and other circular patterns scattered across the background.

THE SLAVE TRADE & ITS LEGACY IN THE US

Week 5:
Slavery & “Reconstruction”

OSHER WINTER 2021
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SCHEDULE

- First time: PIRATES! (The 1722 Battle of Cape Lopez)
- Session 2: Slavery in America under the various colonial powers at the time of the battle
- Session 3: The emergence of chattel slavery
- Last time: The spread of chattel slavery
- Today: Slavery, emancipation & reconstruction in the US compared to other places in the Americas
- Feb 16: Legacies

Last Time: Slavery and the Creation of Intergenerational Wealth for White Europeans and Americans

Legacies of British Slave-ownership UCL

HOME SEARCH THE DATABASE LEGACIES ESTATES INVENTORIES MAPS CENTRE CONTRIBUTE

The Centre for the Study of the Legacies of British Slave-ownership has been established at UCL with the generous support of the Hutchins Center at Harvard. The Centre will build on two earlier projects based at UCL tracing the impact of slave-ownership on the formation of modern Britain: the ESRC-funded *Legacies of British Slave-ownership* project (2009-2012), and the ESRC and AHRC-funded *Structure and significance of British Caribbean slave-ownership 1763-1833* (2013-2015).

Colonial slavery shaped modern Britain and we all still live with its legacies. The slave-owners were one very important means by which the fruits of slavery were transmitted to metropolitan Britain. We believe that research and analysis of this group are key to understanding the extent and the limits of slavery's role in shaping British history and leaving lasting legacies that reach into the present. The stories of enslaved men and women, however, are no less important than those of slave-owners, and we hope that the database produced in the first two phases of the project, while at present primarily a resource for studying slave-owners, will also provide information of value to those researching enslaved people.

* Full Project Overview

LATEST NEWS

Search the Database

Individuals Advanced Search SEARCH

Browse the Estates

Explore the ownership of plantations and estates in the British Caribbean.

Browse the Maps

Where possible, the addresses of British slave-owners and of estates in Jamaica, Barbados and Grenada have been located and mapped.

Browse the Legacies

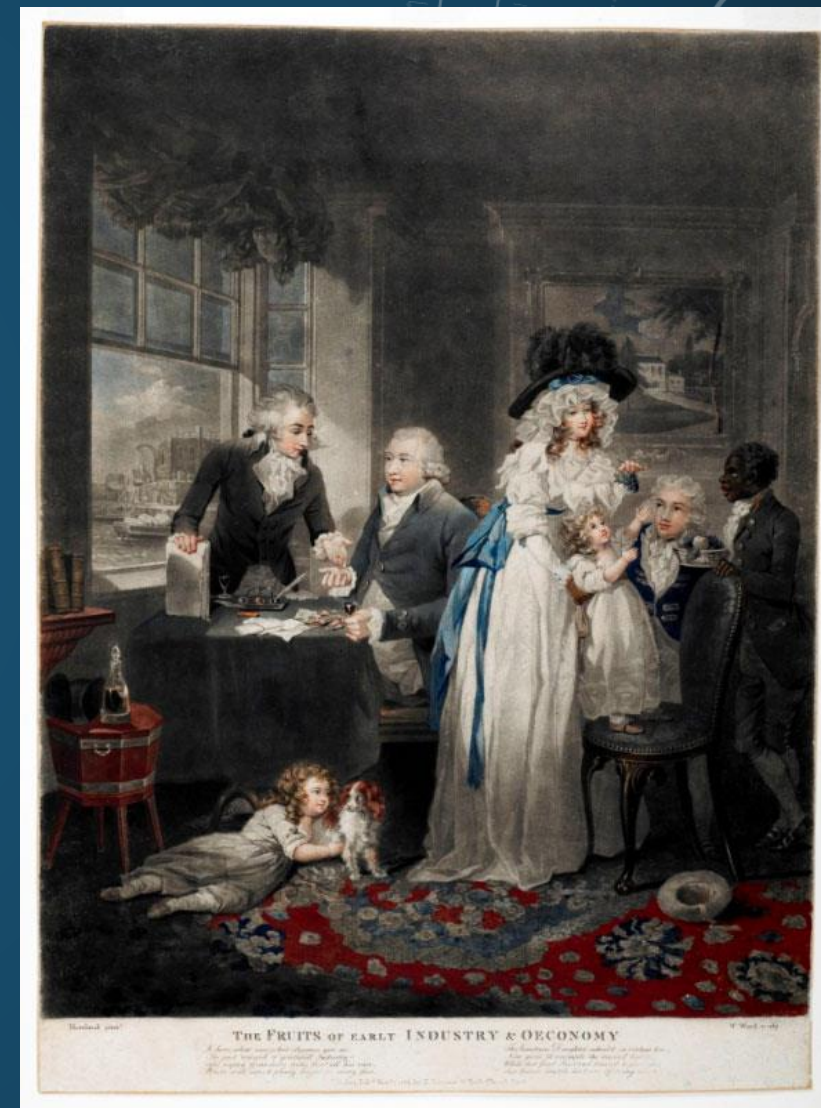
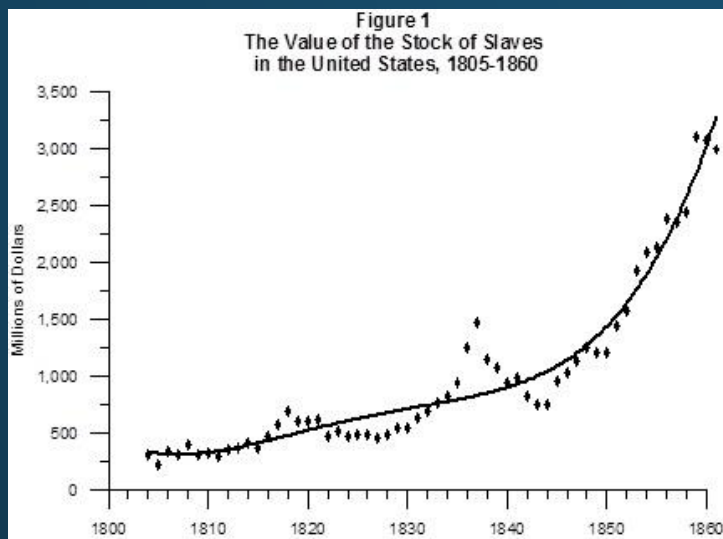
COMMERCIAL

Evolution of firms receiving slave compensation and their redeployment of slave wealth into other investments.

CULTURAL

The role of British slave-owners as connoisseurs and collectors, as philanthropists and as founders or participants in new cultural and social institutions.

Database available: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/lbs/>



COMPARATIVE TIMELINE OF EMANCIPATION

Haiti – 1804 (emancipation taken from France in the Revolution)

Spanish Islands (not Cuba)- 1820s

British Islands – 1833

French Islands – 1848

Spanish mainland – 1850s

Dutch Islands – 1863

US South – 1865

Cuba – 1886

Brazil – 1888 (last one)



AFTER EMANCIPATION, RULING CLASSES IN
FORMER SLAVEHOLDING NATIONS DID
EVERYTHING THEY COULD TO HOLD ONTO
AND GROW THE WEALTH GENERATED BY THE
STOLEN LABOR OF THE FORMERLY ENSLAVED.

Reconstruction everywhere stalled out.

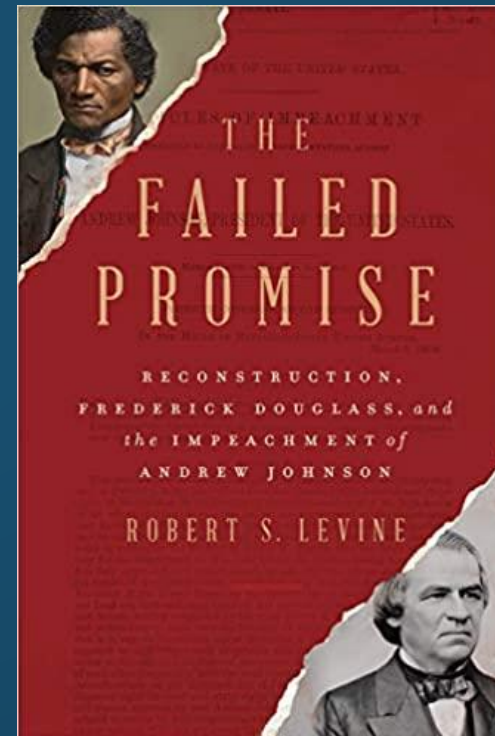
This is in direct conflict with the creation of a free
and just society. This is why all former
slaveholding nations, including the US, struggle
with deep inequality.

RECONSTRUCTION: THE PLAN

1. restoration of the Union as a whole
2. transformation of southern society
3. progressive legislation favoring the rights of the formerly enslaved.

"...With malice toward none, with charity for all"

--Abraham Lincoln, Second Inaugural Address, March 4, 1865



RECONSTRUCTION: THE OVERTHROW

“Northern Democrats flattered the lordly ambition of the aristocratic South, courted its favor, obeyed its behests, and found a satisfactory compensation in being permitted . . . to make it subservient to the selfish and sectional purpose of putting the whole Union at the foot of its slaveholding master.”

– John P. Kennedy, US Secretary of the Navy, 1852

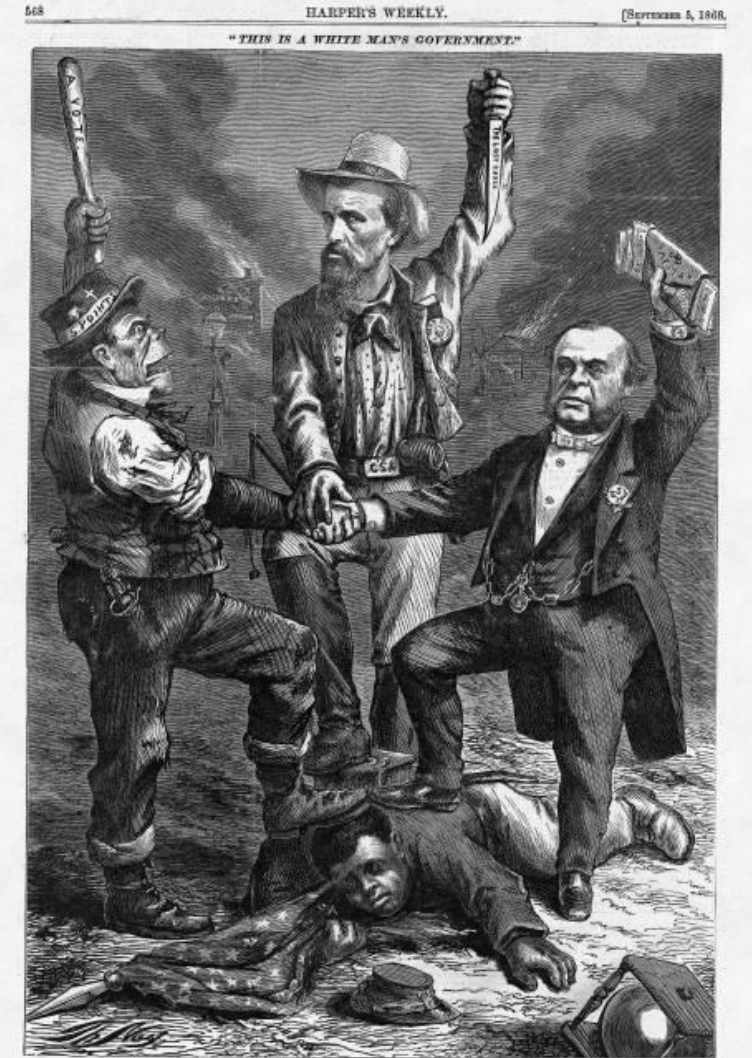
The nation paid reparations to slave holders
—not to slaves.

No
40 ACRES AND A MULE

President Andrew Johnson overturned Gen. Sherman's famous promise, which would have redistributed roughly 400,000 acres to newly freed black families.

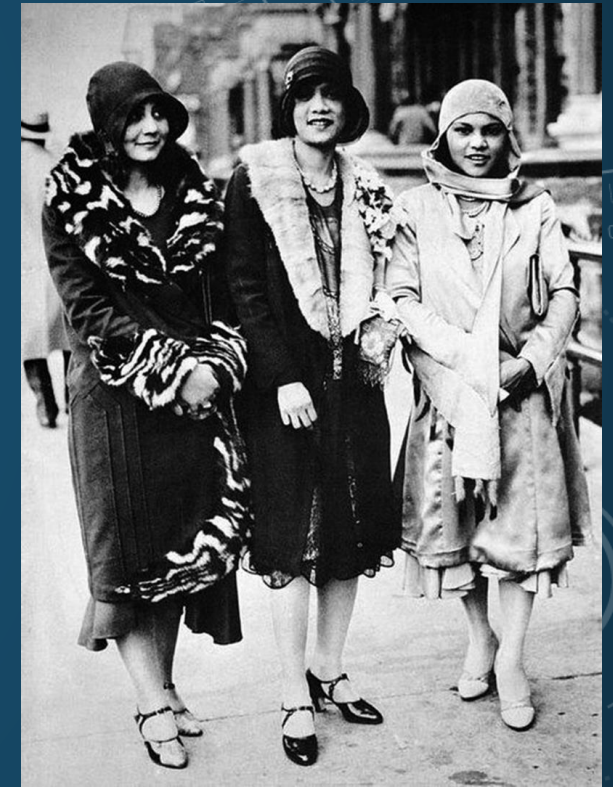
\$300
PER FREED SLAVE

On April 16, 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed a bill ending slavery in the District of Columbia, providing for compensation to former owners.



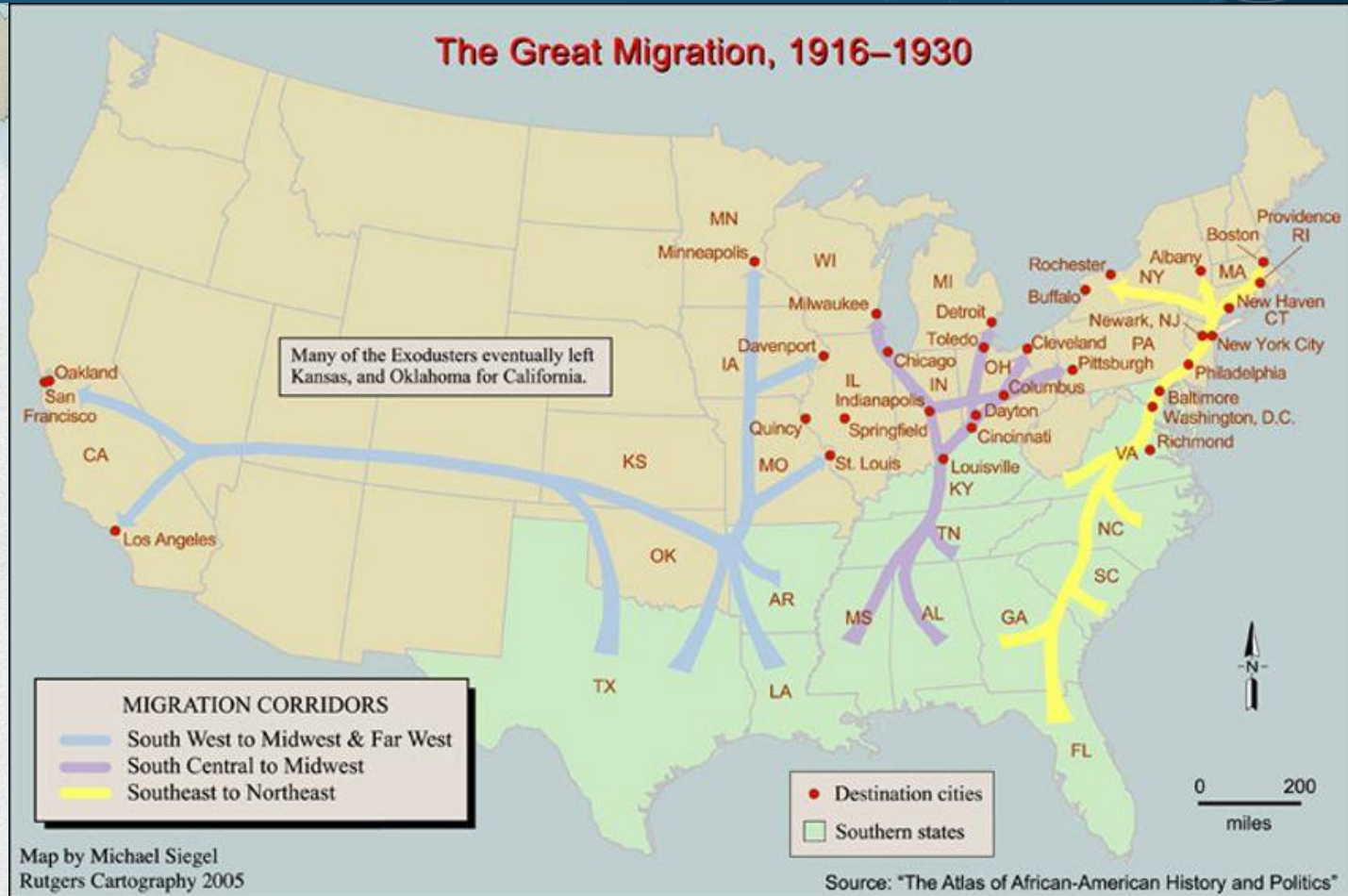
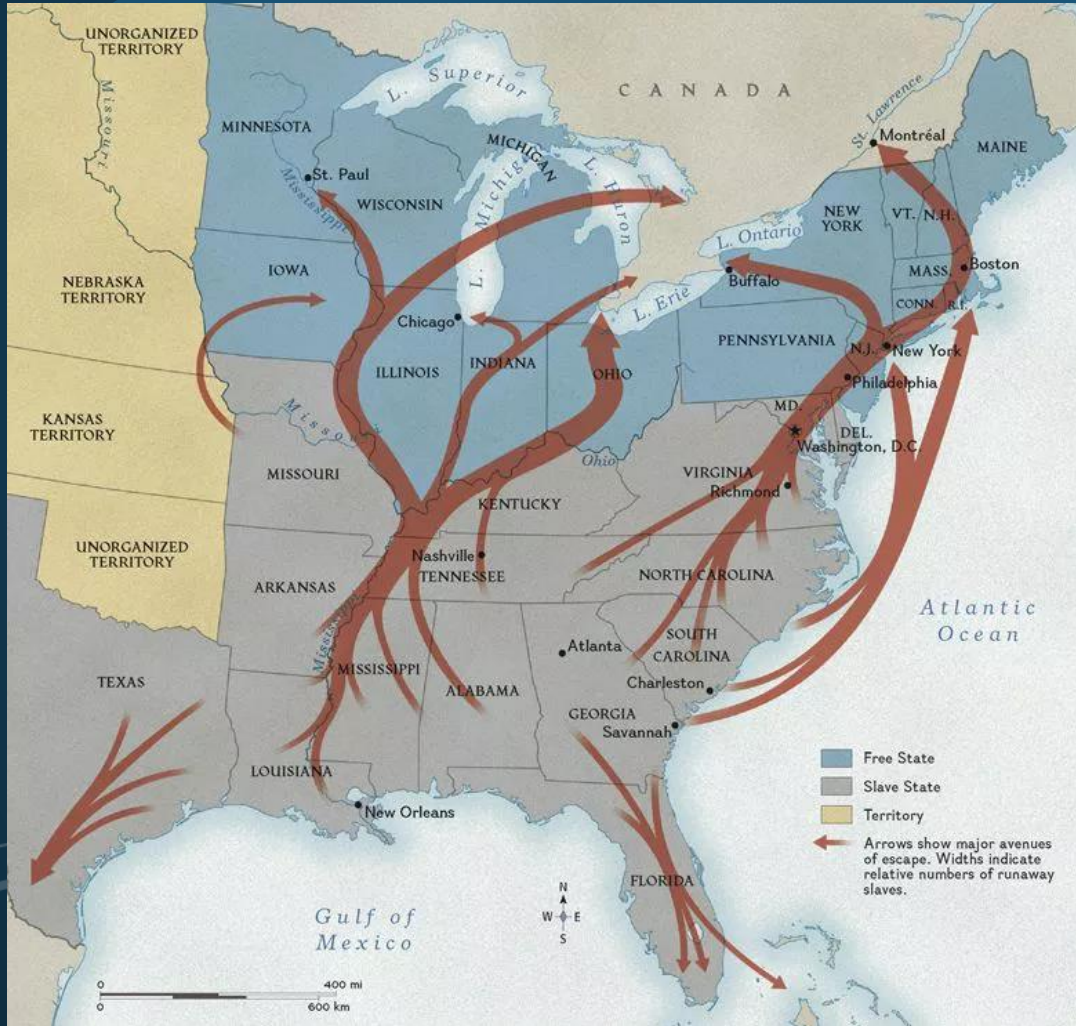
(right) Political cartoon by Thomas Nast, 1868. It shows three figures (an Irish working-class man depicted with an apeline face, Nathan Bedford Forrest, and August Belmont, chair of the Democratic party) stomping on the body of a Black Union Soldier while an orphanage for Black children burns in the background. It accuses three groups of American whites of having vested interests in overthrowing Reconstruction.

THE FAILURES OF RECONSTRUCTION CONTINUED THE HORRORS OF SLAVERY, SO MANY FORMERLY ENSLAVED LEFT IN THE "GREAT MIGRATION"



Jim Crow era roadside signs the migrants would have seen as they made their way north, a family leaving for the "Up-South," and Black flappers in Harlem during the 1920s.

MAP OF RUNAWAYS (DURING SLAVERY) AND MAP OF THE GREAT MIGRATION (AFTER)



SLAVECATCHERS → SHERIFFS

CAUTION!!

COLORED PEOPLE

OF BOSTON, ONE & ALL,

You are hereby respectfully CAUTIONED and advised, to avoid conversing with the **Watchmen and Police Officers of Boston,**

For since the recent **ORDER OF THE MAYOR & ALDERMEN,** they are empowered to act as

KIDNAPPERS
AND

Slave Catchers,

And they have already been actually employed in **KIDNAPPING, CATCHING, AND KEEPING SLAVES.** Therefore, if you value your **LIBERTY,** and the *Welfare of the Fugitives* among you, *Shun* them in every possible manner, as so many **HOUNDS** on the track of the most unfortunate of your race.

Keep a Sharp Look Out for **KIDNAPPERS,** and have **TOP EYE** open.

APRIL 24, 1851.



Slavecatcher notice from Boston, Slave patrol badge from South Carolina 1858, Enslaved families on their way to the Contraband Camp in Hampton, VA,

FIELD SLAVERY → SHARECROPPING

A way to ensure Black croppers remained locked to the land and unable to purchase their own.

Freedmen's Bureau oversaw the contracts and documented white supremacist terror intimidation in the events of disputes



The Freedmen's Bureau Online
Records of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands

Murders and Outrages | Freedmen's Labor Records | Marriage Records

Navigation

Search

Search this site: Search

Home > States

The Freedmen's Bureau Online

Tennessee

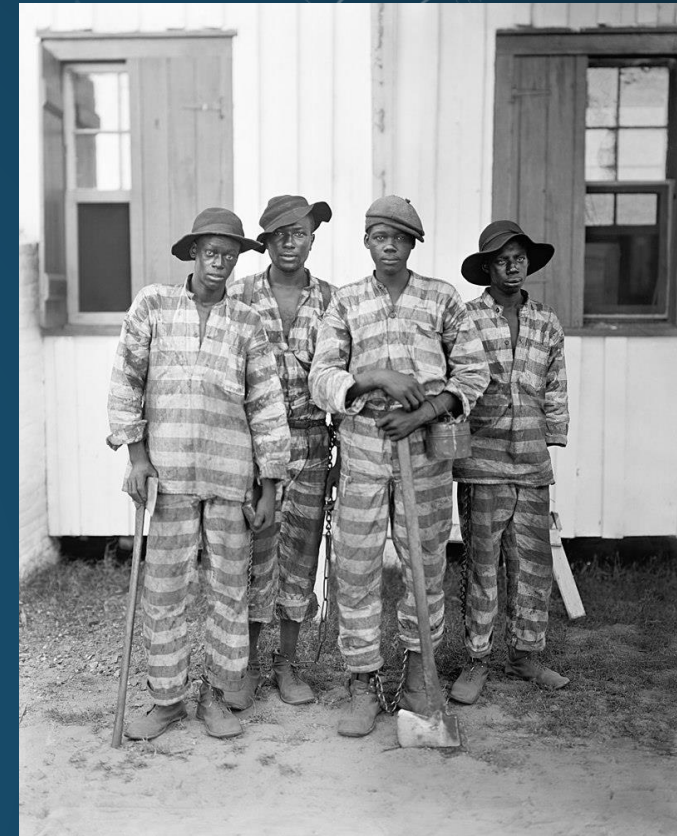
Records Relating to Outrages

- [Special Report on the late riot at Franklin, Tennessee, July 6, 1867](#)
- [Report of Outrages in Sub-District of Chattanooga](#) from July 1st/67 to July 1st/68
- [List of Murders](#) in Counties of Maury and Marshall, Tenn. from July 1st, 1867 to July 1st, 1868
- [Report of Outrages](#) Committed by Whites on Freedmen in the Memphis Sub District, Bureau R. F. A. L. For the month of May 1867
- [Affidavits related to the 1866 Memphis, Tennessee Riot](#)
- [Affidavits Related to Outrages in Tennessee](#)
- [Freedmen's Bureau Report](#) of the 1866 Memphis, Tennessee Riot
- [Freedmen's Bureau Report](#) of the 1868 Pulaski, Tennessee Riot
- Freedmen's Bureau [Report of Conditions](#) in Trenton, Tennessee
- Freedmen's Bureau [Report of Conditions](#) in LaGrange, Tennessee
- Freedmen's Bureau [Report of Conditions](#) in Centreville, Tennessee
- [Freedmen's Bureau Report of Outrages from the Chattanooga Sub-District](#)
- [Freedmen's Bureau Report of Outrages in Murfreesboro, Tennessee](#)
- [Freedmen's Bureau - Tennessee Register of Outrages Oct. 1865 - July 1868](#)
- [List of Outrages Perpetrated by the Whites Upon The Freedmen in the State of Tennessee from April 1865 to March 1866](#)

<https://www.freedmensbureau.com/tennessee/index.htm>

FROM PLANTATION TO PRISON

- 13th Amendment- Jan 31, 1865
- Civil Rights Act of 1866 – Black people in the US first allowed to use legal system
- Convict Lease Programs to plantations in the South
- Chain Gangs
- “Vagrancy” Laws



MANY RAN NORTH, BUT SOME ALSO CAME BACK DOWN TO THE SOUTH

In slavery, people ran down South to help free others at great personal cost.



In Reconstruction, they did the same



Harriet Tubman (19 trips to slaveholding states to escort over 300 to freedom), the genesis of Fisk University 6 months after the Civil War, and Fisk University today.

THE US IS AN EXPERIMENT IN FREEDOM

Common Errors in these Graphics

*1526 – First Enslaved people brought to the US (Spanish Florida counts!)

*1964 – Civil Rights Act

*1965 – Voting Rights Act

*1967- Loving v. Virginia



IN OTHER FORMER SLAVEHOLDING NATIONS

- Brazil's Free Womb Law (1871)
- Tutelage in Spanish America & Brazil
- French Colonial Code Noir
- Vagrancy Laws & Prisons Everywhere (just like in US)

