

SUMMARY OF SLAVERY IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Excerpt from "BETRAYED DESTINED TO REPEAT" eBook by Al Barrs

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Slavery's Impact on the Regions of the United States

• Northern Region

Slavery had very little impact on the northern regions of the new United States, with the exception that the Slave Trade and related Slave Trade support industries in the U.S.A. were formed and run out of the northeastern Atlantic seaboard states, not the southeastern or agriculture or the western states.

While plantation owners in the agriculture states of the southeastern U.S.A. bought African slaves, no states in the agriculture south, late states in the Confederate States of America, participated in the Slave Trade transporting enterprises. 'Slavers' transported African blacks from West Africa to the U.S.A. and other nations in the Americas under the United States 'stars and stripes'. No African blacks were ever transported from Africa to the U.S.A. by any ship flying any flag of the Confederate States of America, and definitely not under the Confederate battle flag the 'stars and bars'!

Any person or group wanting to lay blame for slavery in the U.S.A., for any reason or purpose, on a specific region or group of Americans will need to first admit the truth of the involvement of the people of the northeastern U.S.A., and finally concede to the truth about American history and lay equal blame on the northeastern industrializing states and their citizens for first buying slaves from black West African tribal chiefs, transporting them to the Americas and selling them into slavery in North, South, Central America and the Caribbean Island nations, then they can blame the southeastern agriculture states citizens

for buying and owning the slaves northeastern states transported to the U.S.A. and other American nations...

In the northern region of the United States there was little need for a large unskilled workforce, consequently most slaves were used domestically, on small farms and on the docks of northeastern seaports. In the southeastern region of the U.S.A. there was a need for a large unskilled workforce in Agriculture industries that requiring large numbers workers. Free unskilled labor was at a premium in the southeastern agriculture region. This forced agriculturists in the southeast to turn to the use of unskilled slave labor. At the time and before the Americas nations were colonized slavery had been practiced in all nations of the world for centuries, including Africa where it is still practices today in many regions...

Profitable non-perishable agriculture crops of first tobacco and then cotton did not fare well in the northeastern U.S.A. and could not profitably be grown there. The weather conditions and soil were not suited to tobacco or cotton in the northeastern states as it was in the southeastern states. The only crops suitable for the Northeast region were grains, primarily wheat, which was a perishable crop and could not be shipped overseas to the most profitable markets as tobacco and cotton could, so there would never have been a great need for unskilled labor in the northeastern U.S.A. The same weather soil crop condition existed in the new western states too.

With their failure to emulate the agriculture successes in the south northeastern farmers and businessmen turn out of necessity to searching for an alternative wealth building industry for the northeastern states.

The Northeastern business class eventually set their minds and sight on developing an American Industrial Revolution to rival that of Great Britain, which had begun almost one hundred years earlier the Great Britain. The northeastern American business tycoons' stated objective for their new American Industrial Revolution was to control world commerce from the northeastern U.S.A., and only the U.S.A. Their objective to control world commerce from the northeastern U.S.A. angered businessmen in Great Britain and Continental Europe who had already established their manufacturing industries and were shipping worldwide. This British and Continental European anger and threat to their established industries prevented overseas investment in the new American Industrial Revolution.

The northeastern pro-industry business tycoons never offer to expand their industrial infrastructure into the agriculture south, but they did offer to extend it into the new western states coming into the Union if they would come into the Union as pro-industry states so their U.S. House delegates would be pro-industry delegates. This offer was clearly a bribe by the northeastern business tycoons to pack the U.S. House of Representatives with pro-industry delegates. The northeastern industrial business tycoons needed to control the U.S. Government so that new tariff and duty taxes could be raised on agriculture industries and their overseas trading partners to generate the huge amount of funds they needed to build

their industrial infrastructure in the northeast and western states. Their scheme to pack the U.S. House with pro-industry delegates who would vote with the pro-industry politicians and take control of the legislating process in the Federal Government and shut out the pro-agriculture state delegates while the pro-industry new Republican Party passed multiple tariff and duty tax laws punitive to the agriculture south and their overseas trading partners but was beneficial to the emerging manufacturers in the northeastern U.S.A. If the importation of goods from Great Britain could be slowed or stopped the fledgling northeastern manufacturing enterprises could sell more of their products to Americans at higher prices than the imported products from Great Britain.

Slave productivity very often did not justify their high purchase and maintenance cost for Northern slave owners because of the nature of their business endeavors, which in general did not require a large unskilled workforce.

Neither was slave labor very cost effective in the new Western states. Like the Northeast, Western weather and soil conditions was not suited for the growing of tobacco and cotton, but like the Northeastern states they could only grow grain, primarily wheat. Unlike tobacco and cotton which were non-perishable crops wheat and other grain crops were perishable products and could not successfully be shipped long distances. Plus, Cyrus McCormick had invented his mechanical grain harvesting machine, the "Reaper", in 1831, so no large unskilled workforce was needed in the western or northern regions of the U.S.A. And, with time mechanization would have allowed southern agriculturists to become more dependent on mechanization and less on unskilled labor. Like most processes slavery would have eventually played out and would have ended in the agriculture south as more cost effective mechanization entered the agriculture industries of the southeast. Look at farm mechanization today and then think back to its start and growth... Cyrus McCormick after having invented his first piece of farm equipment in 1831 would create a farm equipment manufacturing company named the International Harvester Company.

It was estimated in 1860 that the slave industry would come to an end in the southern agriculture states in 20 years. The U.S. Constitution's Importation clause that ended the transport of African blacks into the U.S.A. by 1808 also motivated southern agriculturists to move toward mechanization to become less dependent on unskilled labor be it slaves or freemen. The age of technology was created and growing by the 1800s... If the northeastern industrialists had been wise businessmen they could have used better judgment and become the designers, developers and manufacturers of wealth building farm machinery factories in the northeast U.S.A. instead of scheming to pack the U.S. House so they could force the southeastern agriculture industries and their overseas trading partners to pay exhorbanant taxes to build their northeastern and western industrial infrastructure, instead they chose the, as poet Robert Frost wrote, "the path less traveled"...and as a result 620,000+ young Americans died and the southeastern agriculture region of the nation was destroyed...

The numbers of slaves in the Northern states were never very large but for many years, going back to their colonial roots, all Northern states had slave owners and slaves. Most agriculture in the north was for subsistence or sold in local markets because it was perishable. Large numbers of unskilled labor was not needed. The northeast would eventually emerge as the strongest industrial region of the new nation but not until 620,000+ young Americans had died to collect the taxes needed to build their northeastern industrial complex.

Slavery in the North never approached the numbers of the South. It was, numerically, a drop in the bucket compared to the South. But the South, comparatively, was itself a drop in the bucket of "New World" slavery (The nations of north, south, central and Caribbean Island nations). Roughly one million slaves were brought from Africa to the "New World" by the Spanish and Portuguese before the first handful accidentally reached Virginia on a storm battered Dutch ship. Some 500,000 slaves were brought to the United States (or the colonies which the U.S.A. became following the Revolutionary War of secession from Great Britain, the first and only 'civil war' in the nation...) in the history of the slave trade, which is a mere fraction of the estimated 10 million Africans transported to the Americas during that period. The first slave owner in America was a black African native named Anthony Johnson.

Every New World colony was, in some sense, a slave colony. French Canada, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Cuba, Brazil, etc. -- all of them made their start in an economic system built upon slavery. In all of the New World nations and territories, slavery was protected by the law and sanctioned by religions. In all of the nations the master class had its moments of doubt, and the slaves plotted to escape or rebel. The African slaves in Haiti were the only slaves in the New World to successfully rebel and win their freedom from the French.

Over time, slavery flourished in the Upper South and failed to do so in the North for reasons already stated. But there were pockets of the North on the eve of The American Revolution where slaves played key roles in the economic and social order: New York City and northern New Jersey, rural Pennsylvania and the shipping towns of Connecticut and Rhode Island.

Black populations in some places were much higher than they would be during the 19th century. More than 3,000 blacks lived in Rhode Island in 1748, amounting to 9.1 percent of the population; 4,600 blacks were in New Jersey in 1745, 7.5 percent of the population; and nearly 20,000 blacks lived in New York in 1771, 12.2 percent of the population.

The North failed to develop large-scale agriculture related slavery, such as later arose in the Deep South, but that had little to do with morality and much to do with climate, the soil and the costs of buying, owning and maintaining slaves was very expensive. Only the richest classes could afford to purchase slaves... Most Americans, including southeastern farmers, never owned any slaves. Actually, of the 6,184,477 white residents, including farmers, in the southeastern states in 1850 only 347,525 slave owners were enumerated in the Federal census report of 1850, less than 6% owned any slaves...

Industrial businesses such as iron products manufacturing, textiles manufacturing and other manufactured products required a trained workforces. Northern industrialists relied primarily on indentured servants and freemen imported from Continental European nations to operate their emerging factories. Men, women and children worked long days, long weeks, long months and long years in substandard, hot in the summer and cold in the winter, factories for 'slave' wages that came to be known as "sweat shops" and were treated no better than African slaves. Many died of job related diseases but little to no safety change occurred. The accepted practice was to just import more Continental laborers...

- **Western Regions**

Slavery had very little impact on the Western regions of the new United States. On April 30, 1803 the nation of France sold 828,000 square miles of land west of the Mississippi River to the young United States of America in a treaty commonly known as the "Louisiana Purchase". President Thomas Jefferson made the unconstitutional purchase of the Louisiana Territory believing the French could block U.S.A. ship passage up and down the Mississippi River drainage. The purchase more than doubled the size of the United States. The regions of the Louisiana Territory began to apply for entry into the Union and the Northeastern business tycoons took advantage of the purchase to pack the U.S. House of Representatives with pro-industry delegates so they could control the U.S. Congress and with the election of pro-industry Abraham Lincoln took control of the Federal Government and began passing tariff and duty tax laws punitive to the agriculture South and their overseas agriculture trading partners while at the same time beneficial to the emerging manufacturing industries in the northeast.

In the western region of the country there was little need for a large unskilled workforce so consequently most slaves were used domestically or on small farms and mining operations as was the case in the Northern states.

Like the Northeastern region of the U.S. the Western regions of the nation were not suited for growing tobacco or cotton, both crops turned out to be exclusively southern state crops. Tobacco and cotton were two of the crops that required large workforces and they were the most profitable crops in the South. Tobacco and cotton were non-perishable crops and could be shipped to lucrative overseas markets. Slavery in these two regions of the U.S.A. would never have amounted anywhere close to the numbers of slaves required on the South's extensive tobacco and cotton plantations and farms.

The western region of the country was only suited for the growing of grains, with wheat being the primary and most productive crop. However, wheat exports were not feasible because of the amount of time needed to ship it to Britain and Continental Europe countries without spoiling.

The growing and harvesting of wheat did not require the large numbers of unskilled laborers that tobacco and cotton required.

With the invention of the combine grain harvester by Cyrus McCormick in 1831 there was no need to bear the expense of buying costly slaves and then having to house, feed, cloth, doctor and sheltering them all year to be used just a few productive months out of each year.

Again, like in the Northern states, slaves were not cost effective for business and industries of the new western states coming into the Union. The industrial revolution had finally caught up with the United States about one hundred years after the British Industrial Revolution had emerged and changed the world forever by ushering in new and better manufacturing equipment and processes, new invented engines to power factories and new more efficient manufacturing equipment that lowered the price of manufactured goods and products.

The Western region of the United States would have never become major slave holding states anyway. But then that was not the problem with Western states entering the Union. The problem was that slave-free or pro-industry states were expected to align with the Northern states because the northern industrialists had the potential and subversive reasons to expand their industrial infrastructure into Western states...to pack the U.S. House.

Yet that was not the greatest problem the southern states faced and feared either.

Already the northern states, because of an earlier effort to import large numbers of indentured servants and Freemen from overseas Continental European nations, had accumulated a large enough population to give the northern state a majority voting bloc in the U.S. House of Representative and a decisive veto proof voting advantage over the Southern state representatives. The population in the South had actually stabilized with the implementation of the Importation clause in the U.S. Constitution in 1808. And, the northern House delegates had used their voting majority advantage, encouraged and backed by the northern industrialist business tycoons' partners, to punish the south with high tariff legislation designed to siphon off southern agriculture related profits to pass them through the corrupt U.S. Government, in the form of industrial infrastructure land and construction grants to Northern industrialists for infrastructure expansion in the Northeast industrial belt and a promise to expand their industrial complex infrastructure into the new Western territories as they became pro-industry states of the Union. If more new states came into the Union as slave free states, code for pro-industry states, the Southern states would fair even worse than before and the Northern U.S. House delegation would have the voting majority to dictate terms and legislative bills to the South's delegation and deny any supportive or friendly legislation to the South's agriculture industries or their overseas trading partners. With that northeastern business tycoon's scheme the South and their overseas trading partners were locked out of the legislating process of the U.S. Government for the foreseeable future and perhaps more fearful forever...

The abolitionists became the militant group that joined with the northern industrialists and the pro-industry new Republican Party to ensure Western states comes into the Union as

slave-free states, i.e. pro-industry states. New Western state's coming into the Union had nothing to do with slavery only political power to manipulate and control the U.S. Government and its treasury department and aid the emerging industries in the northeast.

When a western territory came into the Union as a state of the United States it immediately came under the egis of the U.S. Constitution, and the U.S. Constitution protected the institution of slavery in the states of the United States of America!

The South was struggling to gain back a balanced vote in the U.S. House of Representatives so that legislative bills in Congress would once again have to pass Congress on their merits instead of sectional and Political strength. However their efforts failed...

- **Southern Regions**

Slavery in the South became the foundation for their early broad agriculture based industries.

Slaves were used on farms and plantations because there was a large shortage of unskilled free labor available to hire in the South, which would have been much less costly than buying and maintaining slave workforces.

The crops that could be grown in the southern states were two of the crops that developed the highest demand and generated the largest profits around the World. Tobacco became a major crop during the 1600s in Virginia and North Carolina. Colonial plantations virtually exploded with the large scale production of tobacco and then the cotton gin technology and the invention of labor saving farm machinery entered the agriculture picture in the U.S.A.

Tobacco was even used as money in the U.S.A. early on. Debts and church tithings were paid in tobacco. The demand for tobacco and cotton products exploded in Britain and Continental Europe. Neither Tobacco nor Cotton were subject to easy spoilage and could therefore be shipped and profitably sold overseas.

Fortunes were made in the South in agriculture by growers and processors, as well as agriculture related overseas shipping, businesses. Agriculture products were shipped from Southern seaports. Charleston, South Carolina was the largest agriculture shipping seaport in the South. Manufactured goods from Great Britain and household products were shipped from Britain to the South.

Then in 1794 Eli Whitney invented the cotton gin. It could be used to extract the slippery seed of the American strand of cotton more easily than by hand. The introduction of the cotton gin allowed a massive jump in cotton production and the cotton industry exploded into a second major profitable agriculture crop for the Southern states.

Markets in Great Britain and Continental Europe, as well as the northeastern U.S. textile

manufacturers developed a high demand for southern cotton. While cotton was also produced in Egypt the southern region of the United States produced a longer staple cotton better suited to automated machinery invented by the industrial revolution and this allowed the South to quickly take over the cotton market from Egypt. And the American agriculturist could produce cotton cheaper than the Egyptians. American land was virgin and more fertile, and there was an abundance of water in America, which the Egyptians did not have available.

Cotton would become king in the South...until Abraham Lincoln was elected President in 1861...

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