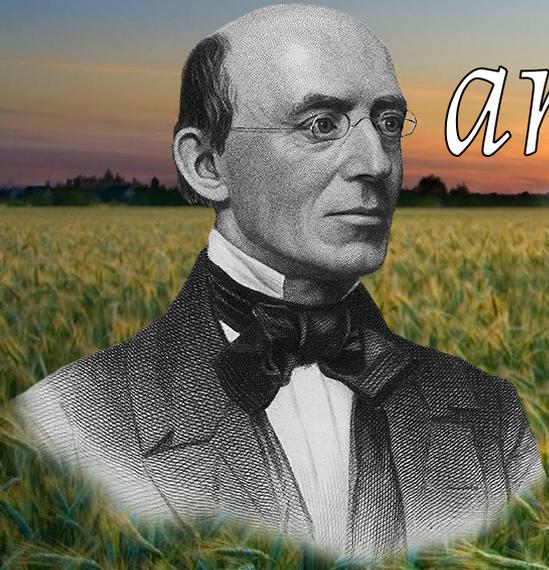


ANTEBELLUM CULTURE AND REFORM



*“Enslave the liberty of
but one human being
and the liberties of the world
are put in peril.”*



- William Lloyd Garrison

Antebellum Culture and Reform

- Many movements arose in an effort to reform the nation
- Americans began to romanticize and protect traditional values, with an emphasis on two major themes:
 1. Optimistic faith in human nature
 2. Desire for order and control



Romantic Impulse

- American art was not viewed highly by Europeans, inspiring an elevation of the American culture
- Americans established a spirit of Romanticism in liberating the human spirit through
 - Literature
 - Art
 - Philosophy
 - Politics
 - Economics
- The Romantic Impulse focused on portraying traditional American virtues



The Romantic Impulse ❤️

- American artists gained popularity because they depicted the nation's natural landscape and showed the power of nature through wild scenes
- Hudson River School was the first great school of American painters

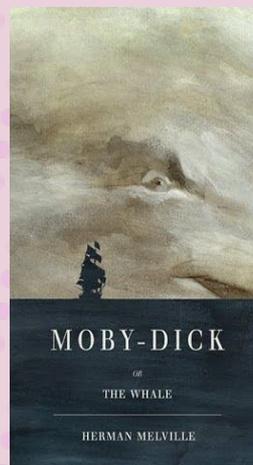
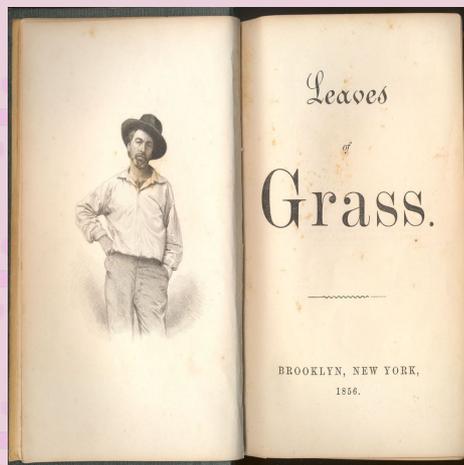
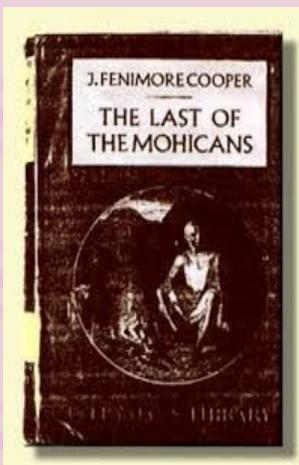


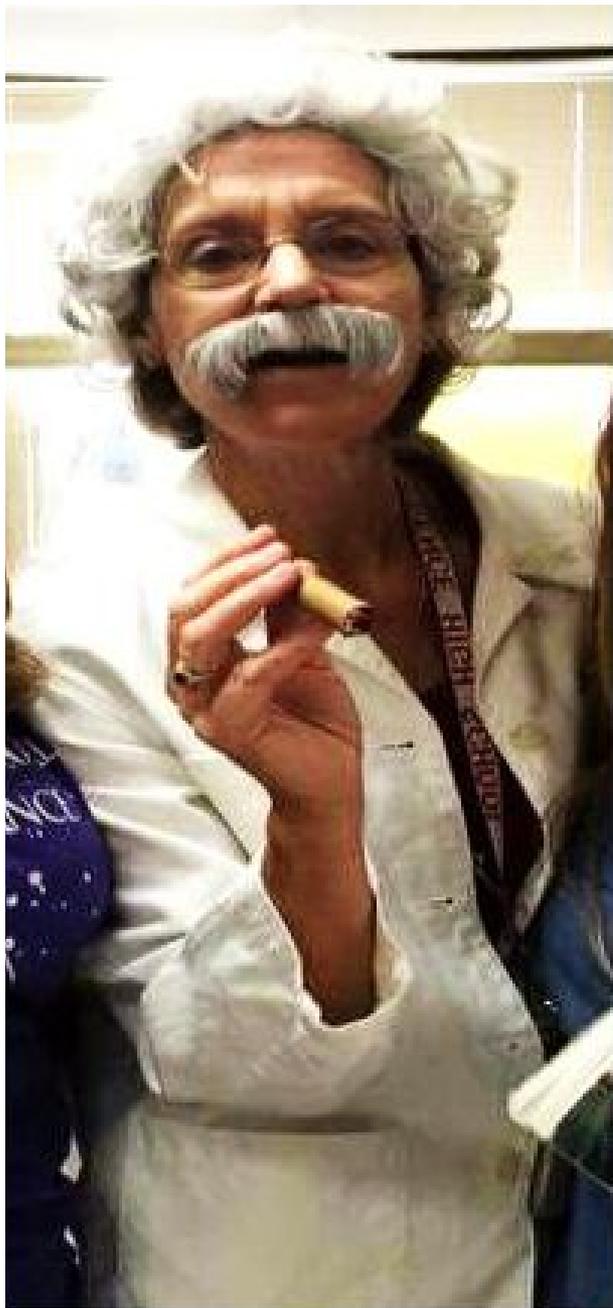


The Romantic Impulse



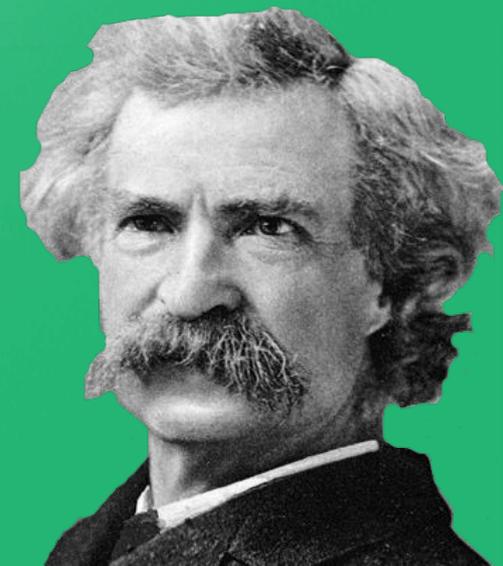
- American literature was unpopular, with the exception of James Fenimore Cooper, who wrote novels of westward expansion and brought up the fear of disorder and the theme of natural inner goodness
 - Last of the Mohicans(1826) and Deerslayer(1841) by James Fenimore Cooper
 - Walt Whitman's Leaves of Grass(1855)
 - Herman Melville's Moby Dick(1851)
 - Edgar Allan Poe's The Raven(1845) showed humans exploring the deeper world of spirit and emotions
 - Southern Antebellum literature defended the southern lifestyle, which led to increased sectionalism



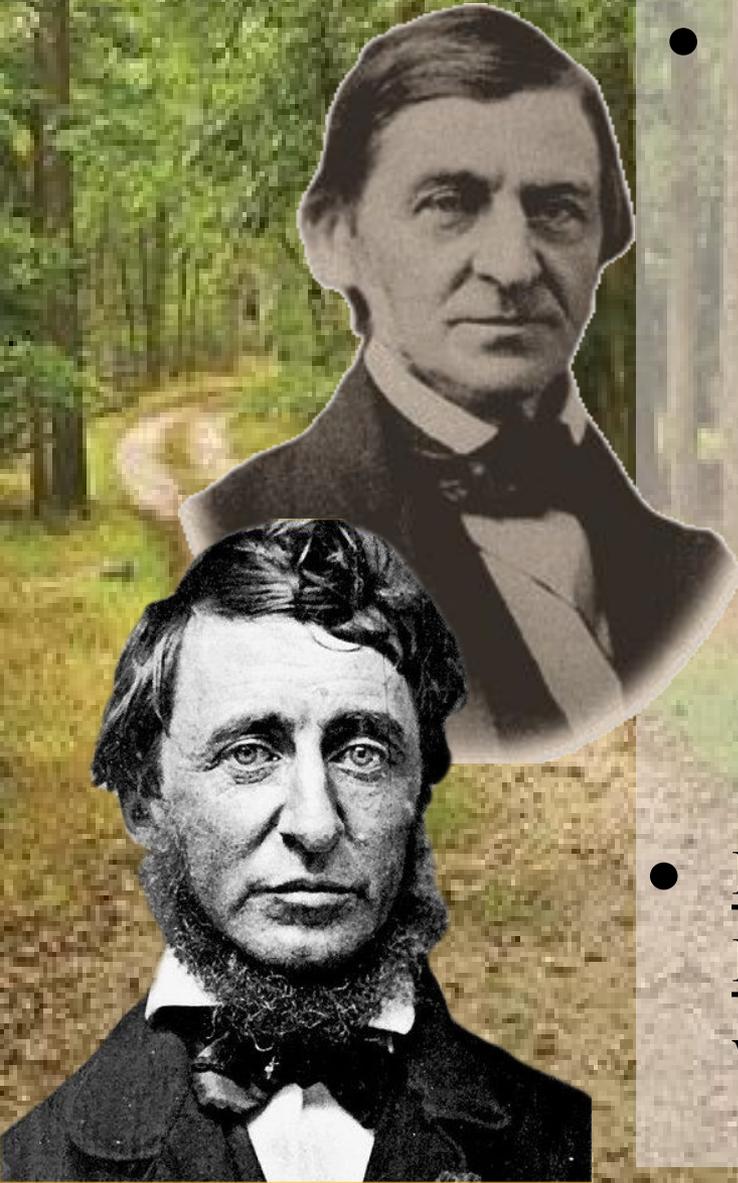


Mark Twain

- Actual name - Samuel Langhorne Clemens
- Best known for *Adventures of Tom Sawyer*(1876) and *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*(1884)
- Twain criticized society's hypocrisies regarding slavery and morals and represented classic American themes in his writing



Transcendentalists



- The transcendentalists were a group of New England writers and philosophers who:
 - used theories based on the difference between reason and understanding
 - Reason - capacity to grasp beauty and truth through full expression of emotions
 - Understanding - use of intellect in the specific ways imposed by society
 - wanted liberation from understanding and triumph of reason
- Henry David Thoreau and Ralph Waldo Emerson were leading transcendentalists who both wanted to live simply



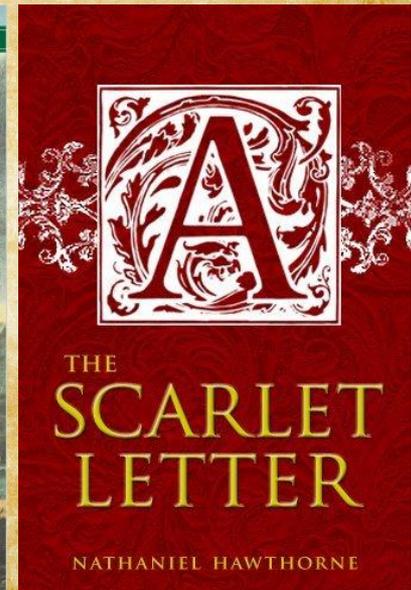
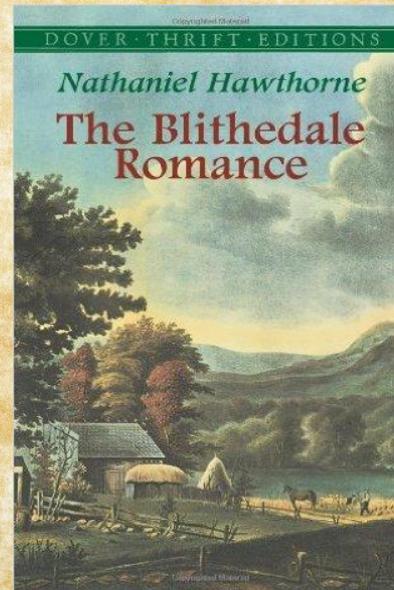
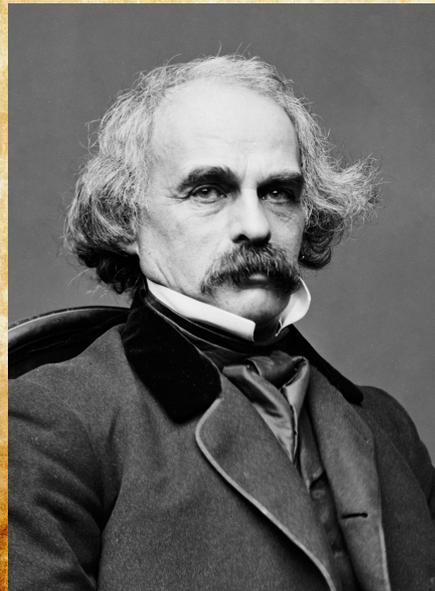
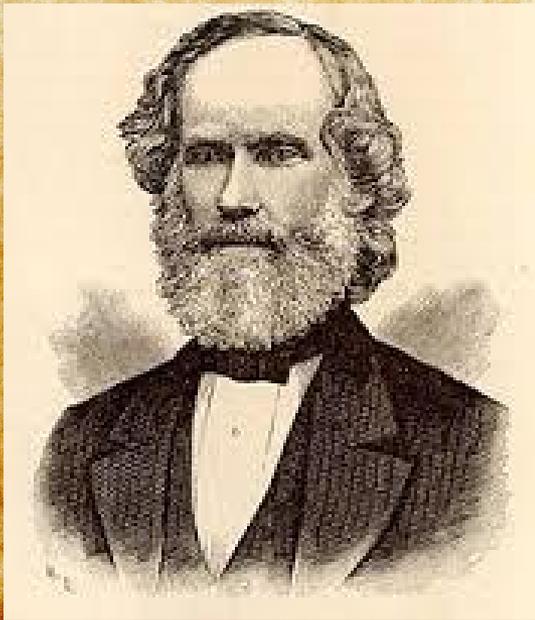
Defense of Nature

- Transcendentalists feared the effects of capitalism on the natural world, as they believed that nature was more than a setting for economic activity or a thing to be studied
 - Source of human inspiration
 - Transcendentalists became some of the first to anticipate the environmental movement
 - Sentiment illustrated by literature and art of the time period



Visions of Utopia

- Transcendentalists inspired utopian living communities based on their beliefs
 - Brook Farm, based on the ideas of George Ripley, promoted shared leisure, equal labor, and self-realization
- Many of the communities failed economically and socially
 - Nathaniel Hawthorne's The Blithedale Romance (1852) and The Scarlet Letter (1850) discussed giving up individual rights for the entire community



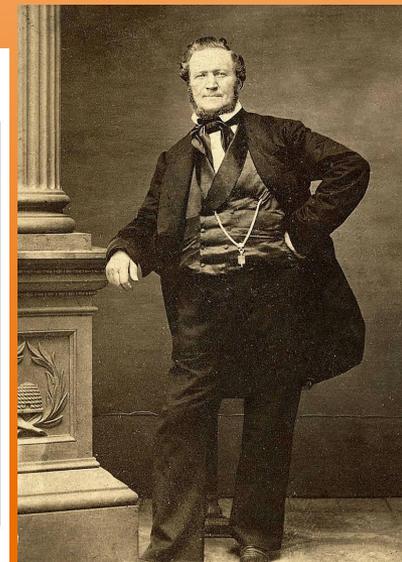
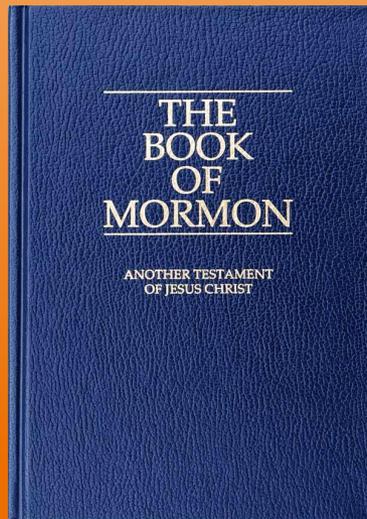
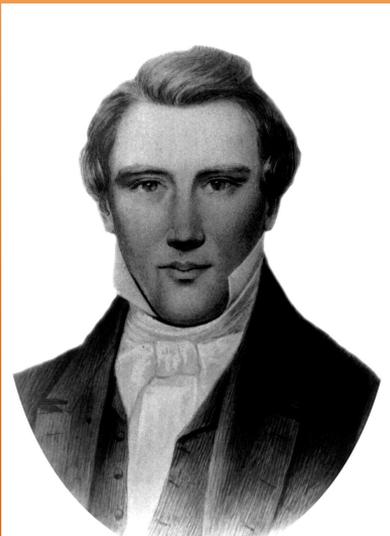
Redefining Gender Roles

- The first instance of feminism emerged when utopian communities worked on the relationship between men and women
 - Margaret Fuller was a leading transcendentalist who questioned traditional gender roles
 - The Oneida Community was established by John Humphrey Noyes in NY and rejected traditional family and marriages
 - The Shakers was a utopian community established in MA that supported gender equality, believed in a genderless God, and women exercised the most power



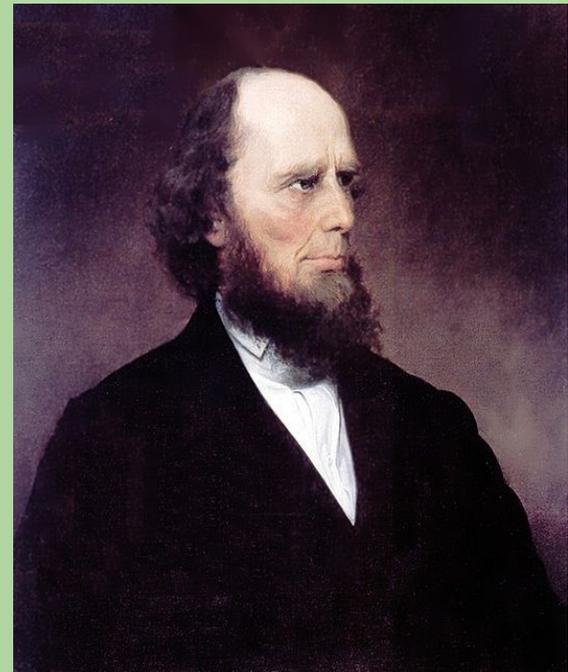
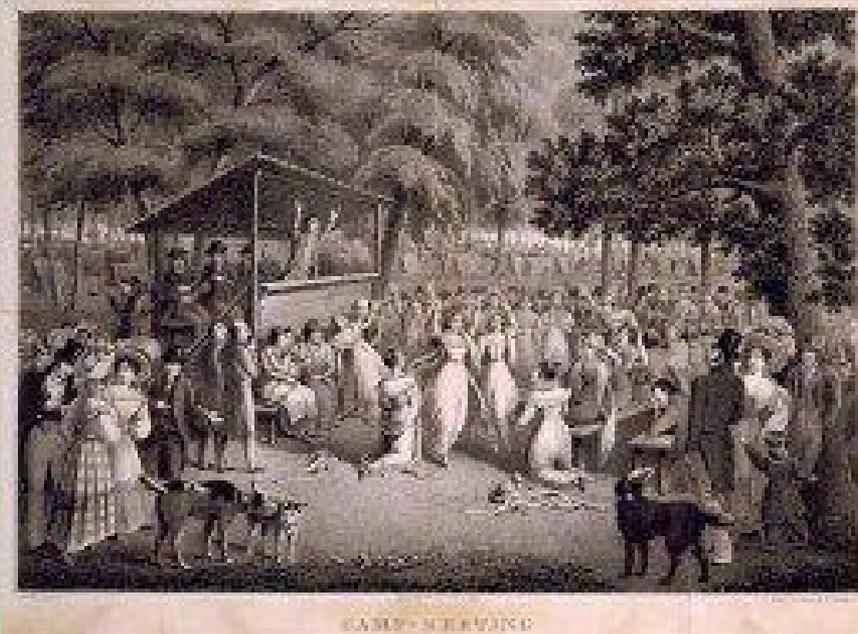
The Mormons

- Joseph Smith started Mormonism in New York and published the Book of Mormon (1830), which told a story of an ancient civilization in America that served as a model for new communities
 - Searched for a sanctuary for their new religion, but met resistance as they migrated to find a safe place
 - Joseph Smith was killed en route, and the Mormons followed Brigham Young to Utah
- Believed in human perfectibility, no focus on individual liberty, emphasis on family structure, established a refuge from the secular world



Remaking Society

- New reform movements took place in America in which new organizations worked to change institutions such as education, women's rights, and treatment of criminals
- Revivalism, morality, and order were major philosophical reforms
 - Protestant Revivalism began in the Second Great Awakening and shared the belief that individuals were capable of salvation
- Charles Grandison Finney was a Presbyterian minister and influential revival leader who went against Calvinist beliefs (predestination, human helplessness) and believed each person had a capacity for spiritual rebirth and salvation



Remaking Society

- As a result of Finney's success in upstate NY, revivals took place along the Erie Canal, which became known as the "Burned-Over District" because it was prone to so many religious awakenings
 - District went through major economic changes that left citizens disoriented
- Finney's Doctrine of Personal Regeneration was a series of emotional religious meetings in Rochester, NY that aroused much of the community, especially women, and gathered a large following
 - Women found liberating message



The Temperance Crusade



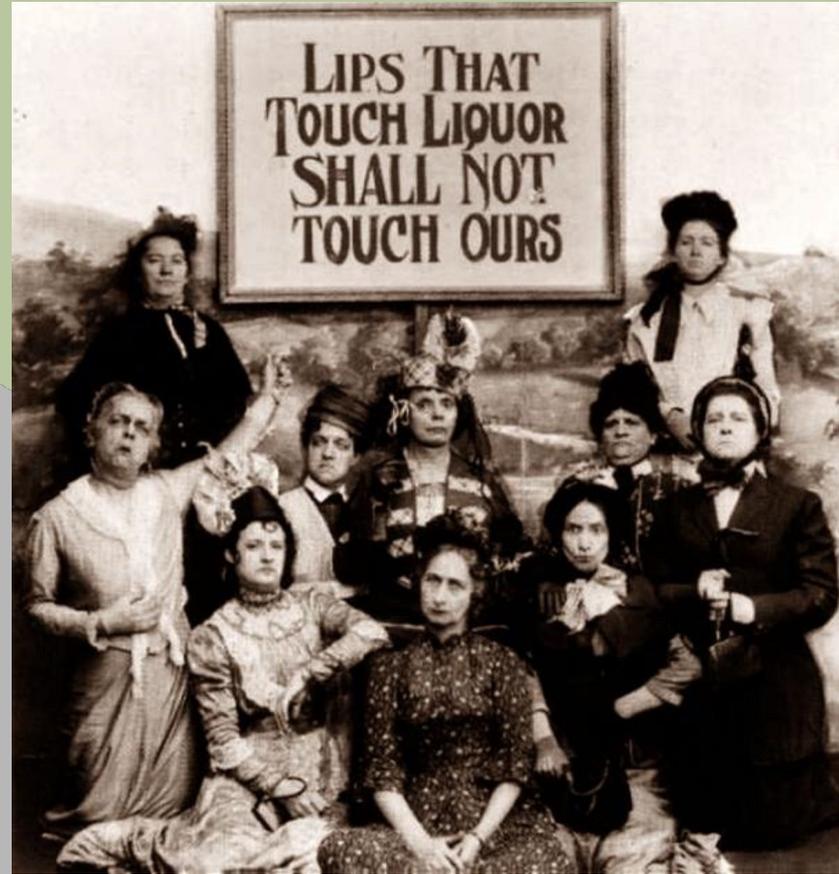
- A crusade of drunkenness was supported by Evangelical Protestantism and blamed alcohol for crime, disorder, and poverty.
- Also believed alcohol placed burden on wives who needed the money their husbands spent on alcohol, and were abused by drunk husbands.
- Wheat overproduced in the West, distilled into whiskey, more consumption



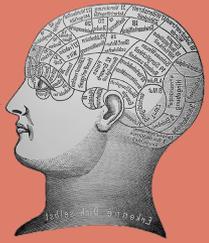
The Temperance Crusade



- The American Society for the Promotion of Temperance united many small groups against alcoholism
- Reformed alcoholics founded the Washington Temperance Society in Baltimore
- The battle over prohibition laws pitted Protestants against Catholic immigrants
 - Drinking was part of Catholic rituals



Health Fads



- The growing search for individual perfection led to interest in health and many turned to non-scientific theories to improve health, such as “water cure” (hot or cold baths or wrapping people in wet sheets)
 - Cholera epidemic added to sense of insecurity that went with reform movements
 - Less than 50% survived the cholera epidemic in the 19th century
 - Sylvester Graham was a Presbyterian minister who supported diet with fruits, vegetables, and bread from coarsely-ground flour instead of meat



NOTICE.

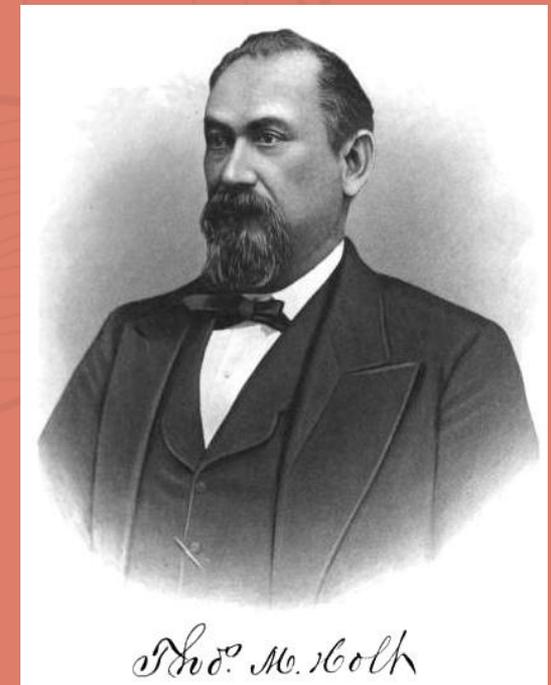
PREVENTIVES OF

CHOLERA!

Published by order of the Sanatory Committee, under the sanction of the Medical Council.

BE TEMPERATE IN EATING & DRINKING!
Avoid Raw Vegetables and Unripe Fruit !.

Abstain from COLD WATER, when heated, and above all from Ardent Spirits, and if habit have rendered them indispensable, take much less than usual.



Health Fads

- Phrenology was the study of the shape of an individual's skull and that it determines personality and intelligence, and was made popular in America by Orson and Lorenzo Fowler, who wrote the *Phrenology Almanac*



Drawn on Stone by E.H.

Engraved by D. W. & Co. 1835.

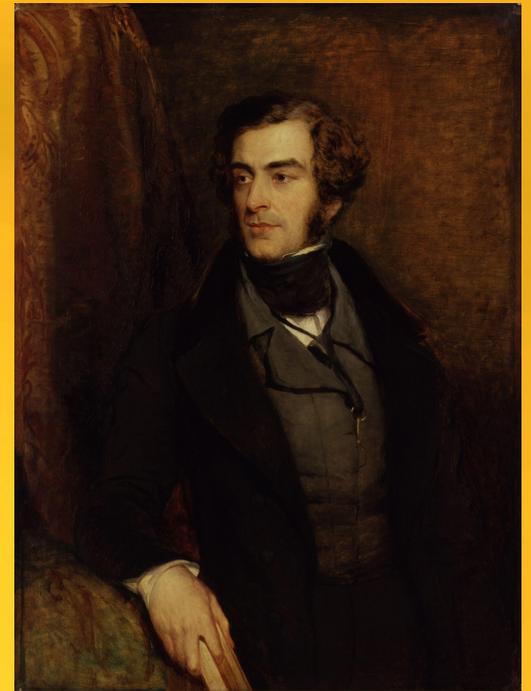
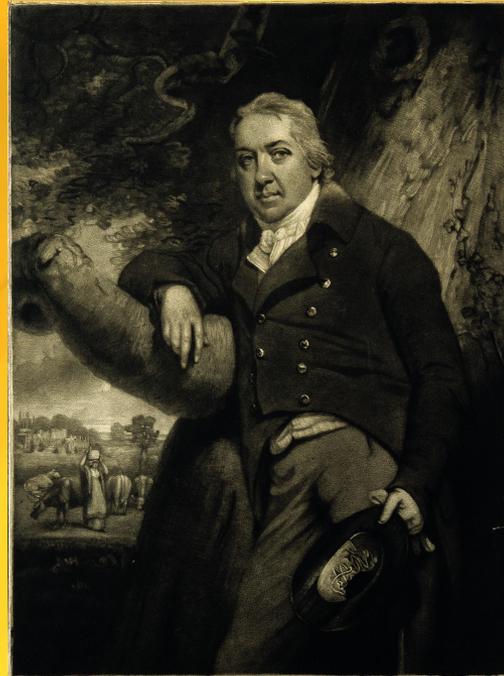
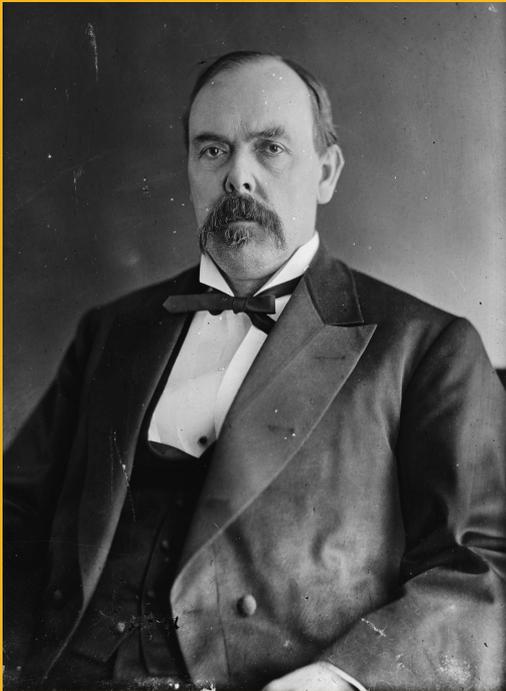
THE PHRENOLOGIST.



Medical Science

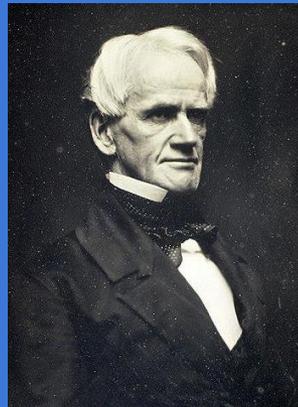


- Medical science was hard to develop due to:
 1. Difficult to experiment
 2. Attracted poorly-educated people
 3. No basic knowledge of disease
- Edward Jenner developed the smallpox vaccination, William Morton was a New England dentist who developed anesthetics (ether), and John Warren was the first surgeon to use ether as an anesthetic



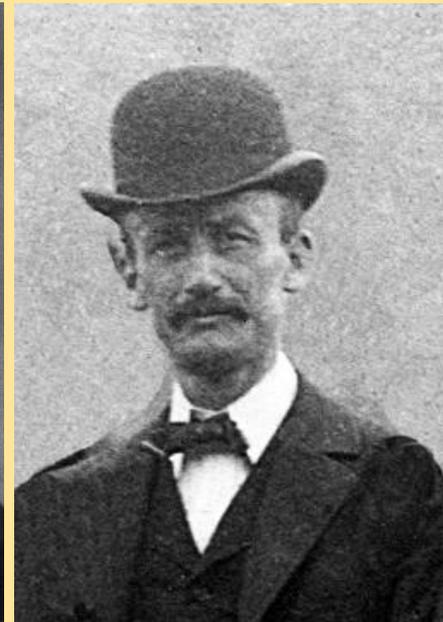
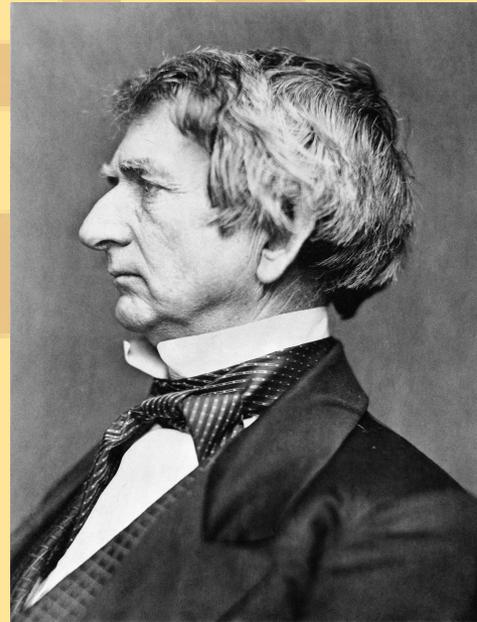
Reforming Education

- Main goal was to create a universal public education system
 - Expose students to social values, society's obligation to help reach full capacity
- Horace Mann was the first secretary of Massachusetts Board of Education, and wanted to create an educated electorate to preserve and protect democracy
 - Led education reform by lengthening the school year to 6 months, raising teachers' salaries, improving curriculum, and making teachers go to school to learn to teach
- Catharine Beecher was a leader in female education



Rapid Growth of Public Education

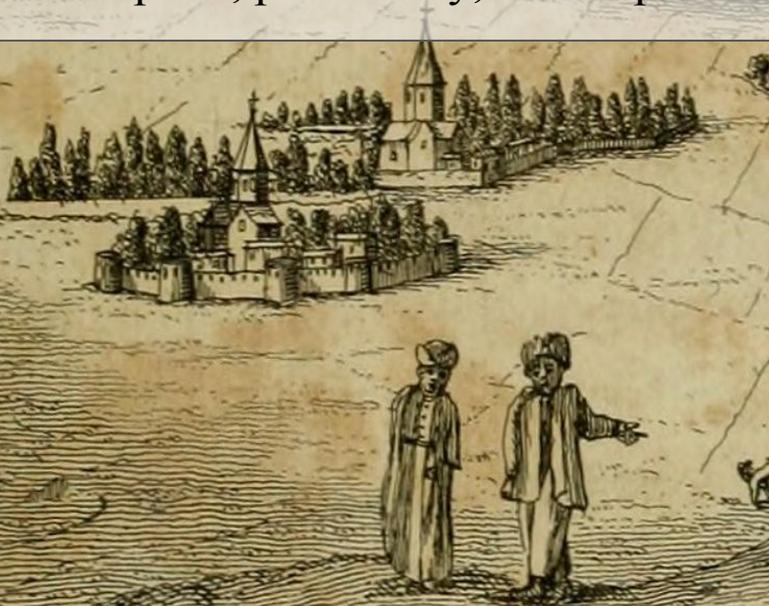
- Henry Barnard produced an education system in Rhode Island and Connecticut
- Governor William Seward (New York) extended public support for education
- Movement to educate Native Americans to teach the way of the white world to “civilize” them
- The quality of education depended on the area
 - Very few in West were educated
 - No blacks
- By the Civil War, 94% of the North was literate and 83% of the white South



A View of Mount ARARAT from Three Churches.

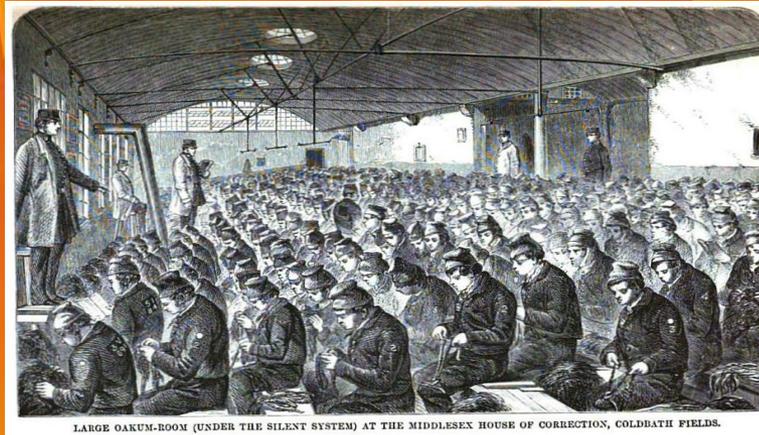
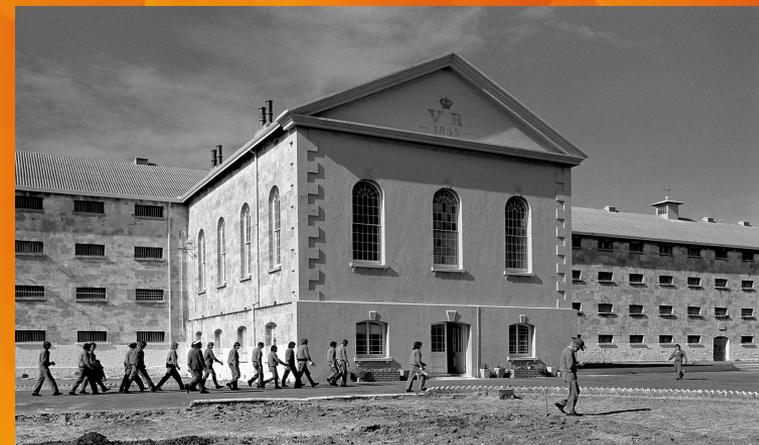
The Benevolent Empire

- The potential of the individual led institutions to help the handicapped and formed a network of charitable activities known as the Benevolent Empire, including the Perkins School for the Blind
- Schools were used to impose societal values on children, such as thrift, order, discipline, punctuality, and respect for authority



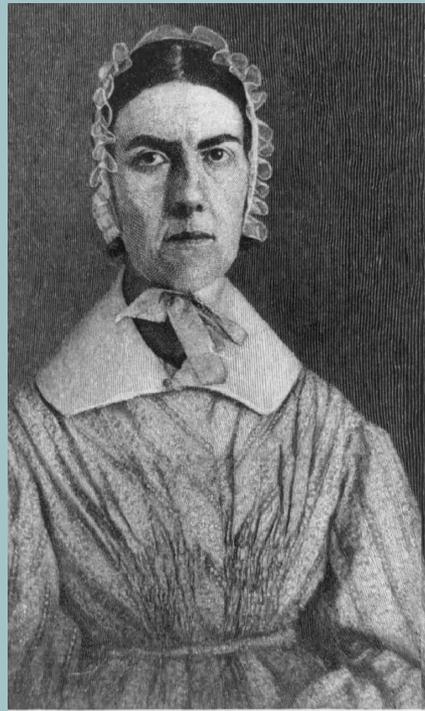
Rehabilitation

- The Asylum Movement
 - Built for criminals and the mentally ill as safer environments than the jails that were being used
 - Imprisonment of debtors and paupers and public hangings ended
 - Led to creation of orphanages as educational institutions
- Prison reform
 - Movement led by Dorothea Dix
 - Prisons soon became overcrowded and original reform motivation was lost
 - Facilities were built as homes for the poor and “friendless” women



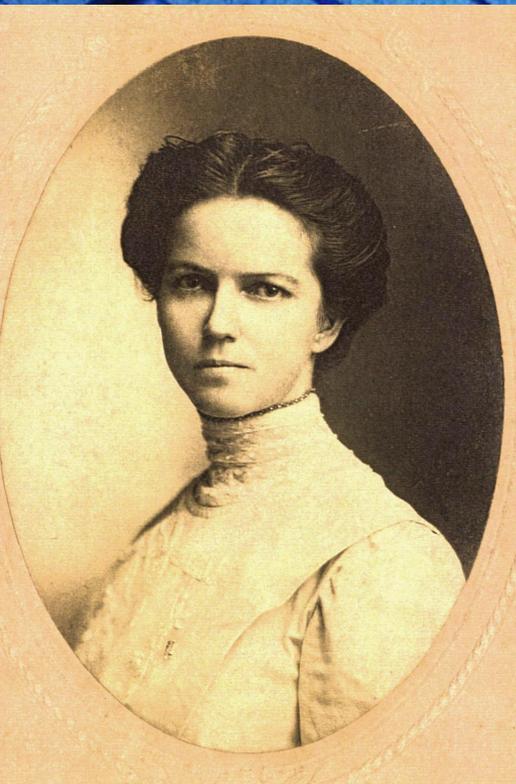
Emergence of Feminism

- Transformation of family in reform movements led to more female restrictions
 - Sarah and Angelina Grimke were active abolitionists who ignored sexist attacks
 - Female reformers did not originally promote the feminist movement but was a result of the success of various reforms
 - Elizabeth Cady Stanton was another leader in the women's rights movement



Emergence of Feminism

- Many feminists were Quakers due to the gender equality in Quaker society.
 - Lucretia Mott was a Quaker and notable feminist
 - Notable figure at the Seneca Falls Convention
 - Helped write the Declaration of Sentiments



Seneca Falls

- Female delegates had attempted to attend an anti-slavery conference but were turned away.
- Formed Seneca Falls Convention and issued the Declaration of Sentiments to elevate the status of women.
 - Drew parallels between treatment of women and treatment of slaves
 - Most notably wanted the right to vote



DÉCLARATION DES DROITS DE LA FEMME ET DE LA CITOYENNE,

A décréter par l'Assemblée nationale dans ses dernières séances ou dans celle de la prochaine législature.

PRÉAMBULE.

Les mères, les filles, les sœurs, représentantes de la nation, demandent d'être constituées en assemblée nationale. Considérant que l'ignorance, l'oubli ou le mépris des droits de la femme, sont les seules causes des malheurs publics et de la corruption des gouvernements, ont résolu d'exposer dans une déclaration solennelle, les droits naturels, inaliénables et sacrés de la femme, afin que cette déclaration, constamment présente à tous les membres du corps social, leur rappelle sans cesse leurs droits et leurs devoirs, afin que les actes du pouvoir des femmes, et ceux du pouvoir des hommes pouvant être à chaque instant comparés avec le but de toute institution politique, en soient plus respectés, afin que les réclamations des citoyennes, fondées désormais sur des principes simples et incontestables, tournent toujours au maintien de la constitution, des bonnes mœurs, et au bonheur de tous.

En conséquence, le sexe supérieur en beauté comme en courage, dans les souffrances maternelles, reconnaît et déclare, en présence

The Indian Reservation

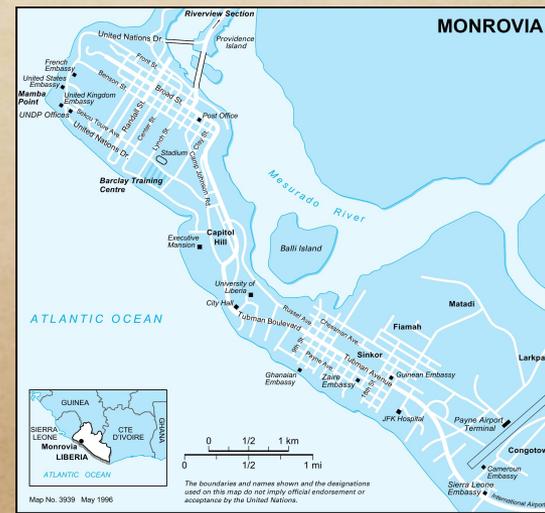
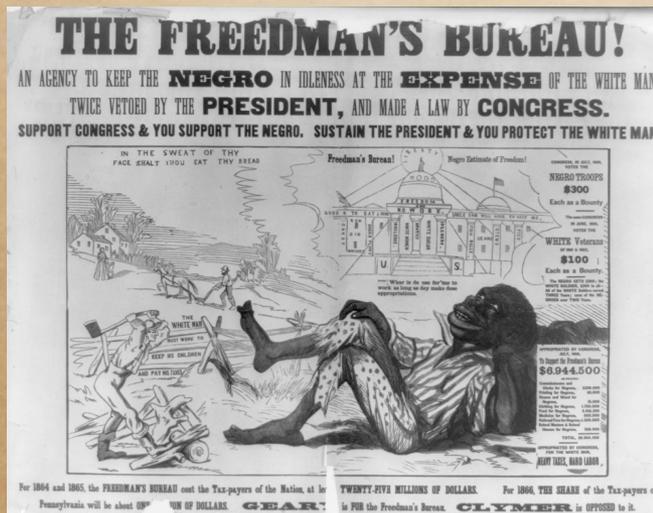
- US federal Indian Policy had been relocation to clear land for expanding white civilization
- Reform movements led to the idea of reservation, in which Native Americans would live in enclosed areas isolated from white society
- Reservation policies benefited the whites
 1. Economically - Natives were moved out of good lands so white settlers could make more money
 2. Culturally - whites attempted to teach their ways to the Natives in a closed setting



Crusade Against Slavery

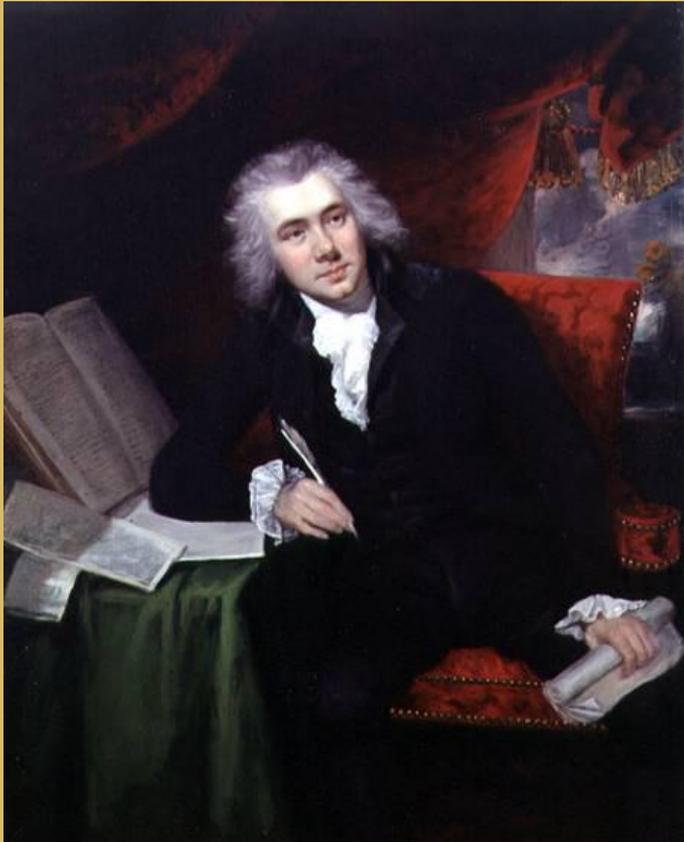
Early opposition to slavery

- American Colonization Society (ACS) was an antislavery movement centered on colonization by resettling African Americans in Africa or the Caribbean
 - Virginian organization that challenged slavery without challenging property rights or southern beliefs
 - Proposed a gradual freeing of slaves with masters being compensated
 - Shipped several groups of African Americans to Liberia
 - Did not have enough funding to be successful
 - Met resistance from African Americans who had generations in America



Crusade Against Slavery

- William Wilberforce led the reform movement in Britain to end the slave trade
- By 1830, the antislavery movement was dying down due to the cotton boom resulting from the invention of the cotton gin and meant the labor force was needed



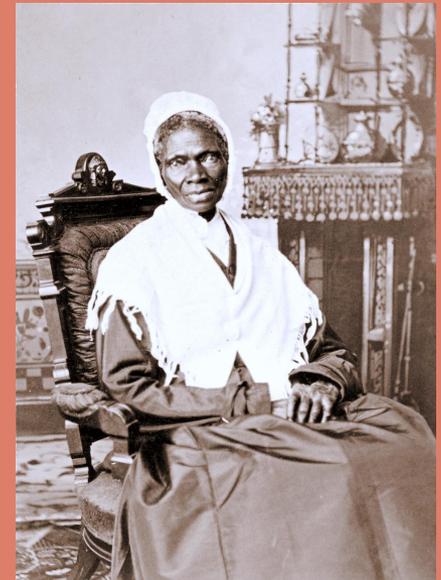
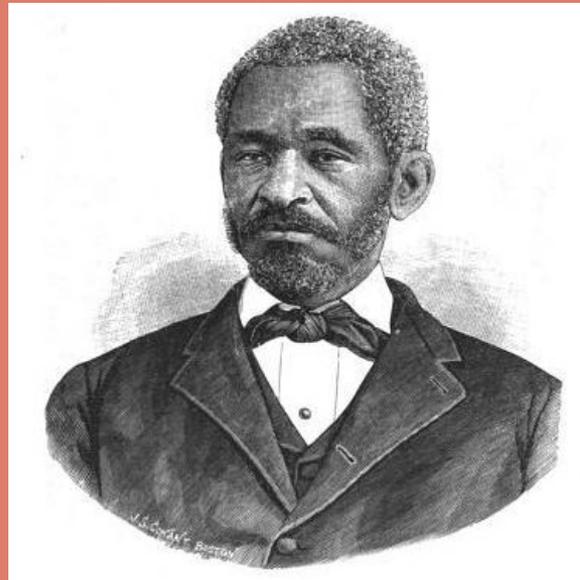
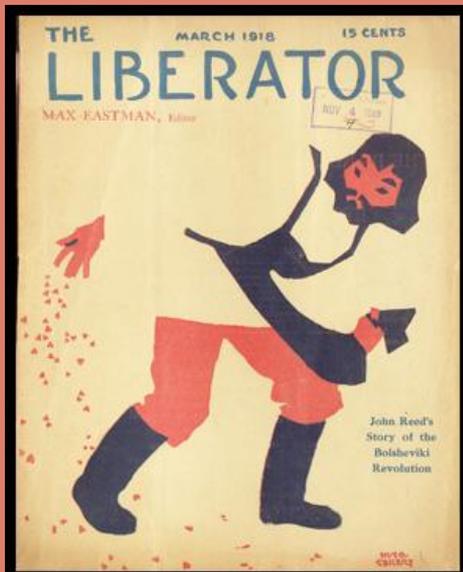
Garrison and Abolitionism

- William Lloyd Garrison founded The Liberator, an antislavery newspaper in Boston in 1831
 - Wrote of the damage slavery did to African Americans and not how it hurt white society
 - Wanted African Americans to have all the rights of American citizens
 - He was an opponent of gradualism (wanted immediate freedom of slaves)
- The New England Anti Slavery Society was founded by Garrison in 1832, and the American Anti Slavery Society was founded in 1833



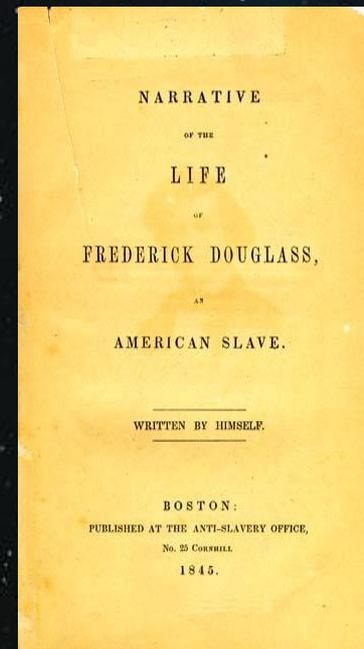
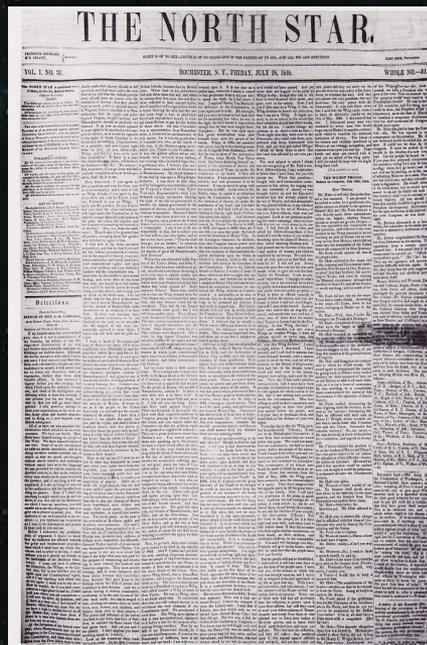
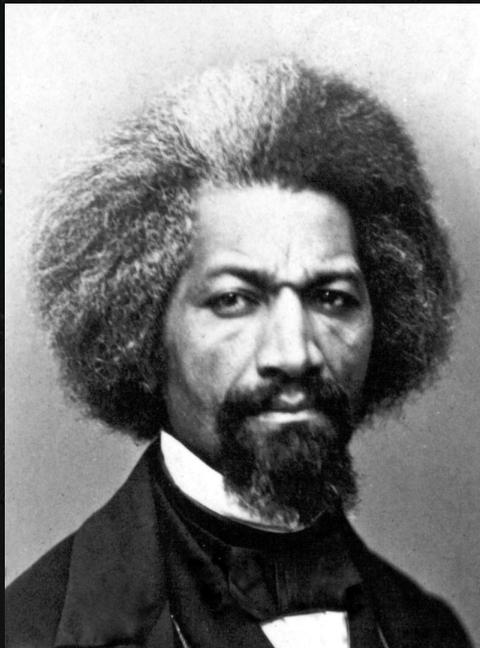
Black Abolitionists

- Abolitionism appealed to free blacks in the North
 - Lived in conditions of poverty and oppression worse than slaves in the South
- Free blacks were especially committed to abolitionism as a result of *The Liberator* because they knew their condition would not improve until slavery was abolished
 - David Walker was a free black from Boston who wrote *Walker's Appeal ... to the Colored Citizens* (1829) and was a violent leader and supporter of abolition
 - Sojourner Truth was a free black woman who was a spokeswoman for the abolition of slavery



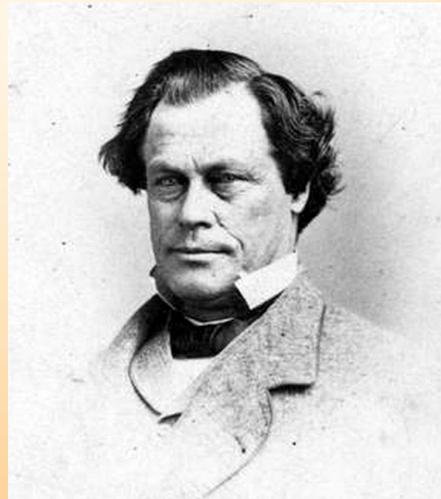
Black Abolitionists

- Frederick Douglass was the greatest African American abolitionist who was born a slave, purchased his freedom, founded the North Star, an antislavery newspaper, in New York in 1847, and wrote the autobiography, Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass(1845)
 - Demanded social and economic equality along with freedom
 - Held a national convention in 1830 and formed alliances with white antislavery leaders



Anti-Abolitionism

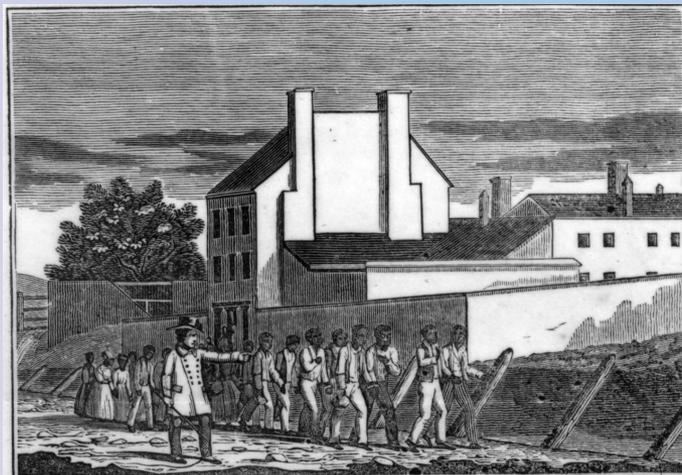
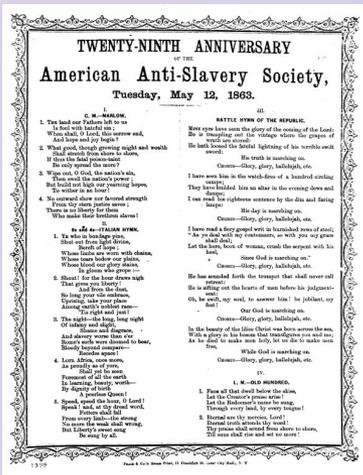
- Opponents saw abolitionism as a threat to society's order and feared war and too many blacks coming to North, which would be a threat to trade
 - Increased violence was directed at abolitionists
 - Philadelphia mob attacked abolitionist headquarters "Temple of Liberty" in 1834
 - A mob seized William Lloyd Garrison and threatened to hang him in 1835
 - Elijah Lovejoy, an editor of an abolitionist newspaper in Illinois was a repeated victim of mob violence, and was eventually shot and killed



Abolitionism Divided

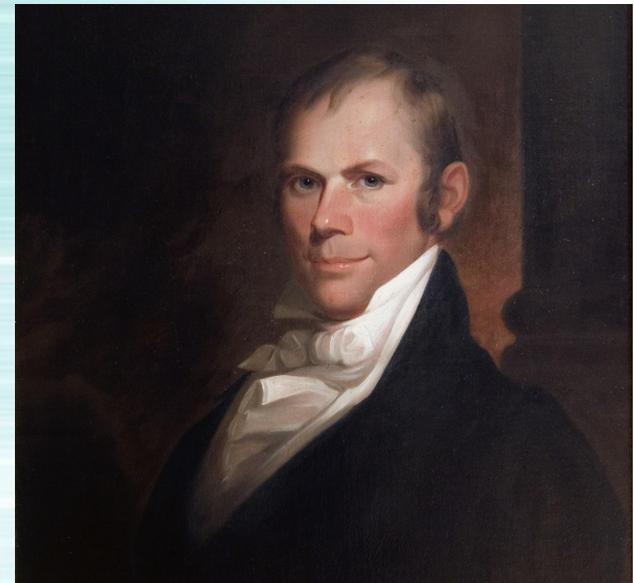
Moderates vs. Extremists

- Violence of anti-abolitionists convinced some abolitionists to become more moderate
- Garrison became more radical
 - Attacked the government, as well as slavery
 - Allowed women full equality in the movement, which led to division in the American Anti Slavery Society
 - Called for Northern disunion from the South
- Some said abolitionism could only be obtained with a long, peaceful struggle
 - Helped runaway slaves find refuge in the North and Canada



Abolitionism Divided

- The Supreme Court ruled in *Prigg v. Pennsylvania* in 1842 that states didn't need to aid in requiring the return of fugitive slaves to owners
 - Abolitionists got personal liberty laws passed that forbade state officials to help capture runaway slaves
- Liberty Party under James Birney was antislavery, but never campaigned for outright abolitionism (supported keeping slavery out of territories)
 - Abolitionists had no true party
- Frustration in political abolitionism led to increased violence
 - Gave John Brown money and weapons for his antislavery uprisings in Virginia and Kentucky
 - Used propaganda to generate widespread anger



Abolitionism Divided

- Harriet Beecher Stowe wrote Uncle Tom's Cabin in 1851 and was the most powerful abolitionist propaganda
 - Combined ideas of abolition movement with parts of female novels, which created a wider audience
 - Helped inflame sectional tensions
- The enduring influence of abolitionism showed how divided the country was on such an important issue.

