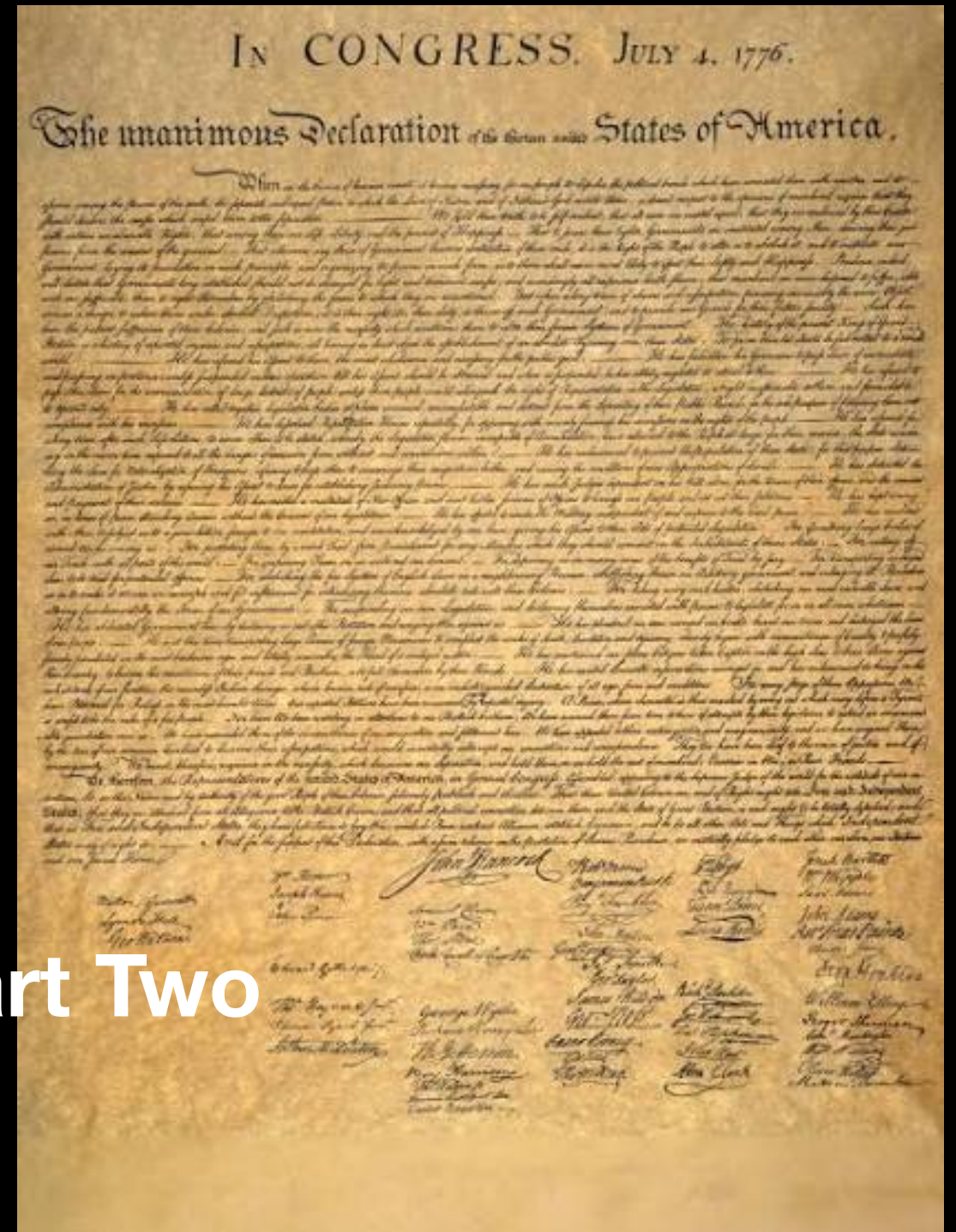
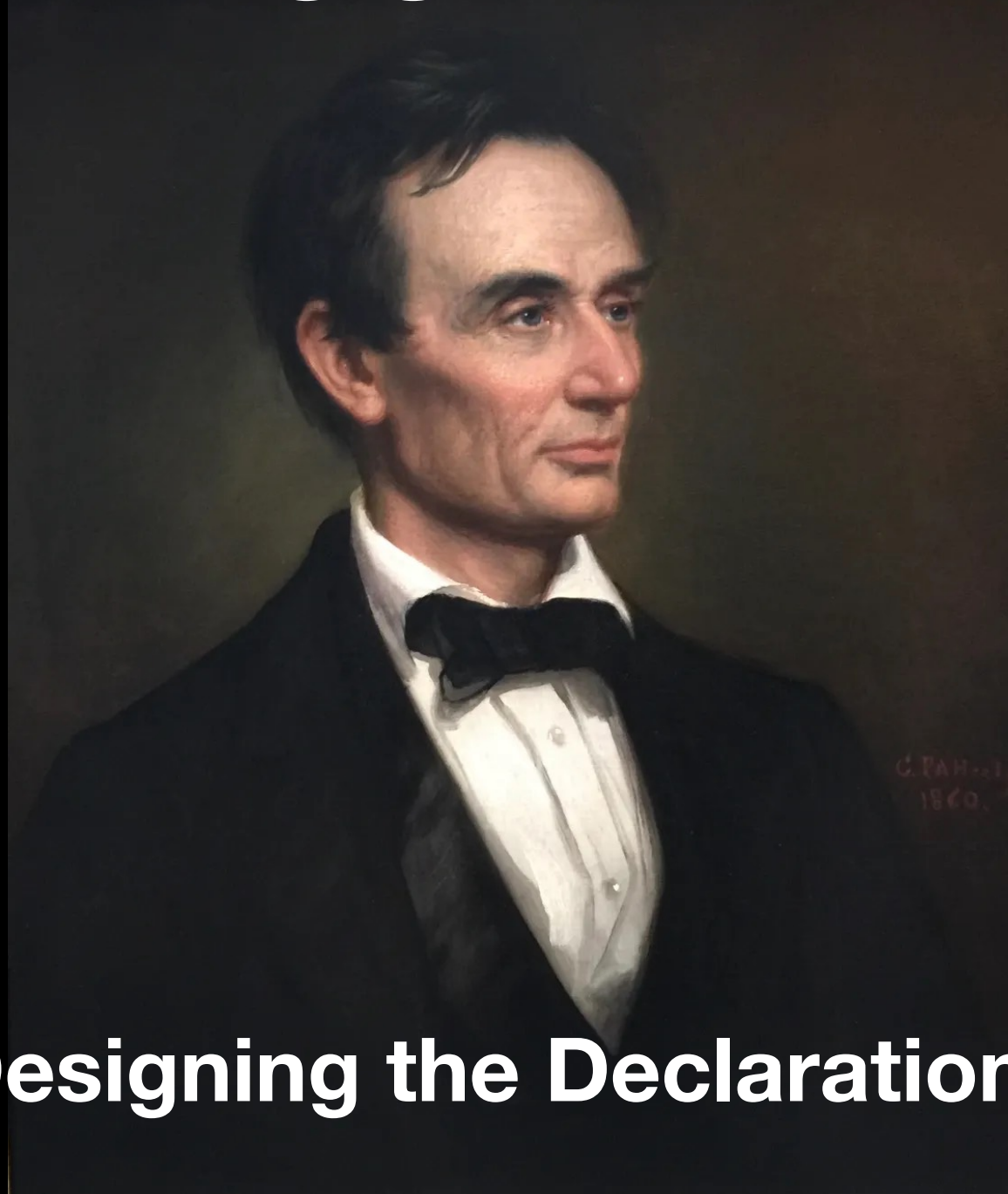
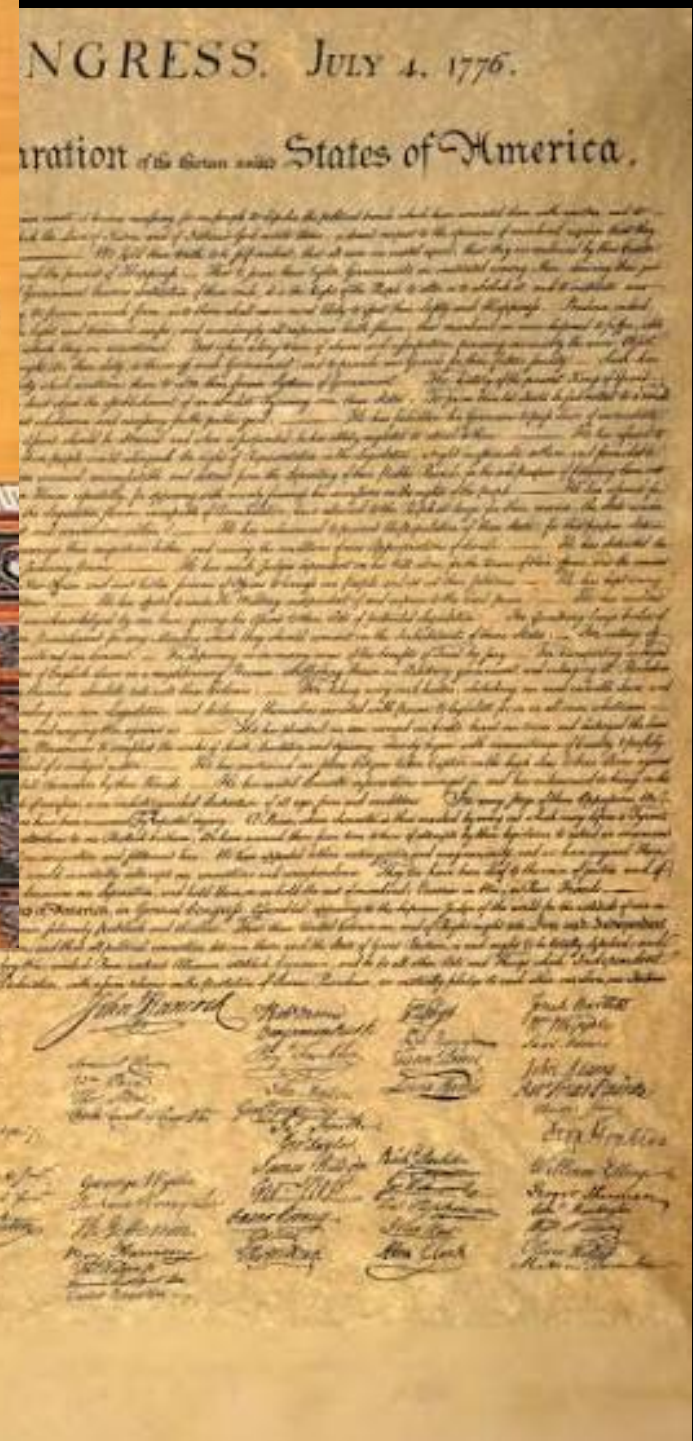


Lincoln and the Declaration



Designing the Declaration, Part Two

Mark Eifler — Summer 2026





CLIMATE CHANGE

And Its Causes



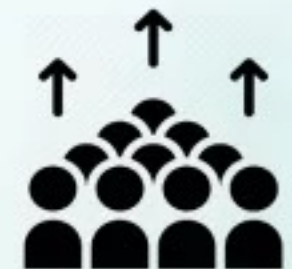
Deforestation



Greenhouse
Effect



Destruction of
Marine Ecosystem



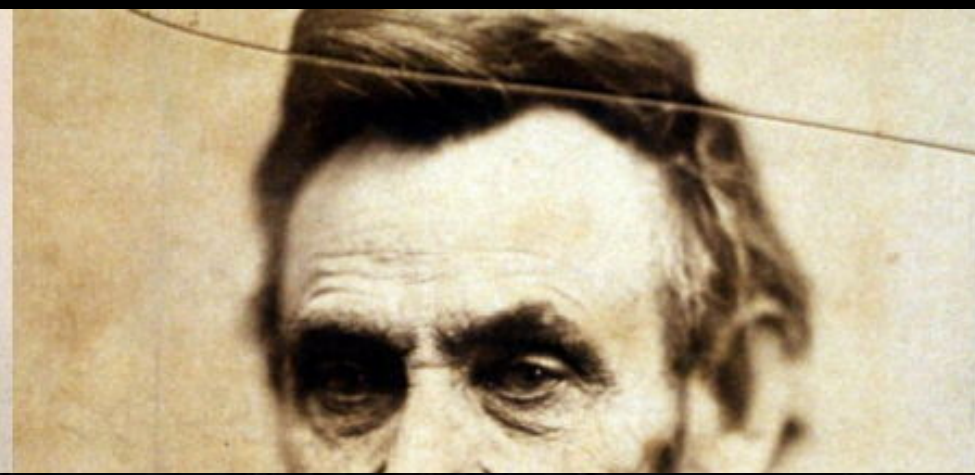
Population
Increase











IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.
A DECLARATION
BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
IN GENERAL CONGRESS ASSEMBLED.

WHEN in the Course of human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the Political Bonds which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the Earth, the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent Respect to the Opinions of Mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the Separation.

We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness—That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Form, as shall seem to them most likely to promote their Happiness—Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient Causes; and according to all Experience hath shewn, that Mankind are more disposed to suffer, while Evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the Forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long Train of Abuses and Usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object, evinces a Design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their Right, it is their Duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future Security. Such has been the patient Sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the Necessity which constrains them to alter their former System of Government. The History of the present King of Great-Britain is a History of repeated Injuries and Usurpations, all having in direct Object the Establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid World.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public Good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing Importance, unless suspended in their Operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other Laws for the Accommodation of large Districts of People, unless those People would relinquish the Right of Representation in the Legislature, a Right unalienable to them, and fatal to Tyranny only.

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He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly Firmness his Invasions on the Rights of the People.

He has refused for a long Time, after such Dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative Powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean Time exposed to all the Dangers of Invasion from without, and Confusion within.

He has endeavored to prevent the Population of these States, for that Purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their Migrations hither, and raising the Conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.

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He has kept among us, in Times of Peace, Standing Armies, without the Consent of our Legislature.

He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil Power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a Jurisdiction foreign to our Constitution, and unacknowledged by our Laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

For quartering large Bodies of Armed Troops among us:

Approaching Lincoln



Self-Made Man

Illinois Lawyer

Party Leader

The Structural Logic of the Declaration



Argument

Evidence

Conclusion



STRUCTURE

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He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil Power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a Jurisdiction foreign to our Constitution, and unacknowledged by our Laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

For quartering large Bodies of Armed Troops among us;

For protecting them, by a mock Trial, from Punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States;

For cutting off our Trade with all Parts of the World;

For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent;

For depriving us, in many Cases, of the Benefits of Trial by Jury;

For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended Offences;

For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an arbitrary Government, and enlarging its Boundaries, so as to render it at once an Example and fit Instrument for introducing the same absolute Rule into these Colonies;

For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments;

For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with Power to legislate for us in all Cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us.

He has plundered our Seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our Towns, and destroyed the Lives of our People.

He is, at this Time, transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to complete the Works of Death, Desolation, and Tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty and Perfidy, scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous Ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized Nation.

He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the Executioners of their Friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.

He has excited domestic Insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the Inhabitants of our Frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known Rule of Warfare, is an undistinguished Destruction, of all Ages, Sexes and Conditions.

In every stage of these Oppressions we have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble Terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated Injury. A Prince, whose Character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the Ruler of a free People.

Nor have we been wanting in Attention to our British Brethren. We have warned them from Time to Time of Attempts by their Legislature to extend an unwarrantable Jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the Circumstances of our Emigration and Settlement here. We have appealed to their native Justice and Magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the Ties of our common Kindred to disavow these Usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our Connections and Correspondence. They too have been deaf to the Voice of Justice and of Consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the Necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of Mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace, Friends.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in GENERAL CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the World for the Rectitude of our Intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly Publish and Declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be, FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES; that they are absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political Connection between them and the State of Great-Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which INDEPENDENT STATES may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm Reliance on the Protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor.

Signed by ORDER and in BEHALF of the CONGRESS.

Logic of the Introduction:

We All Know This is True

All Men created Equal

God gave Them Rights

We have Rights to Life, Liberty, Happiness

Governments are supposed to guard Rights

Governments that take Rights Away Can Be Changed

We MUST Change our Government

STRUCTURE

Argument

Evidence: Complaints against the King

Conclusion

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*...the point to consider
...the hands and feet
...the only way to a
...the situation will be
...the point of view
...the issue of
...the hands and feet
...the only way to a
...the situation will be
...the point of view
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Lincoln *the* Lawyer

*...the hands and feet
...the only way to a
...the situation will be
...the point of view
...the issue of*

Brian Dirck





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FRANK LESLIE'S

ILLUSTRATED

NEWSPAPER

No. 107.—Vol. VIII.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1859.

[PRICE 5 CENTS.]

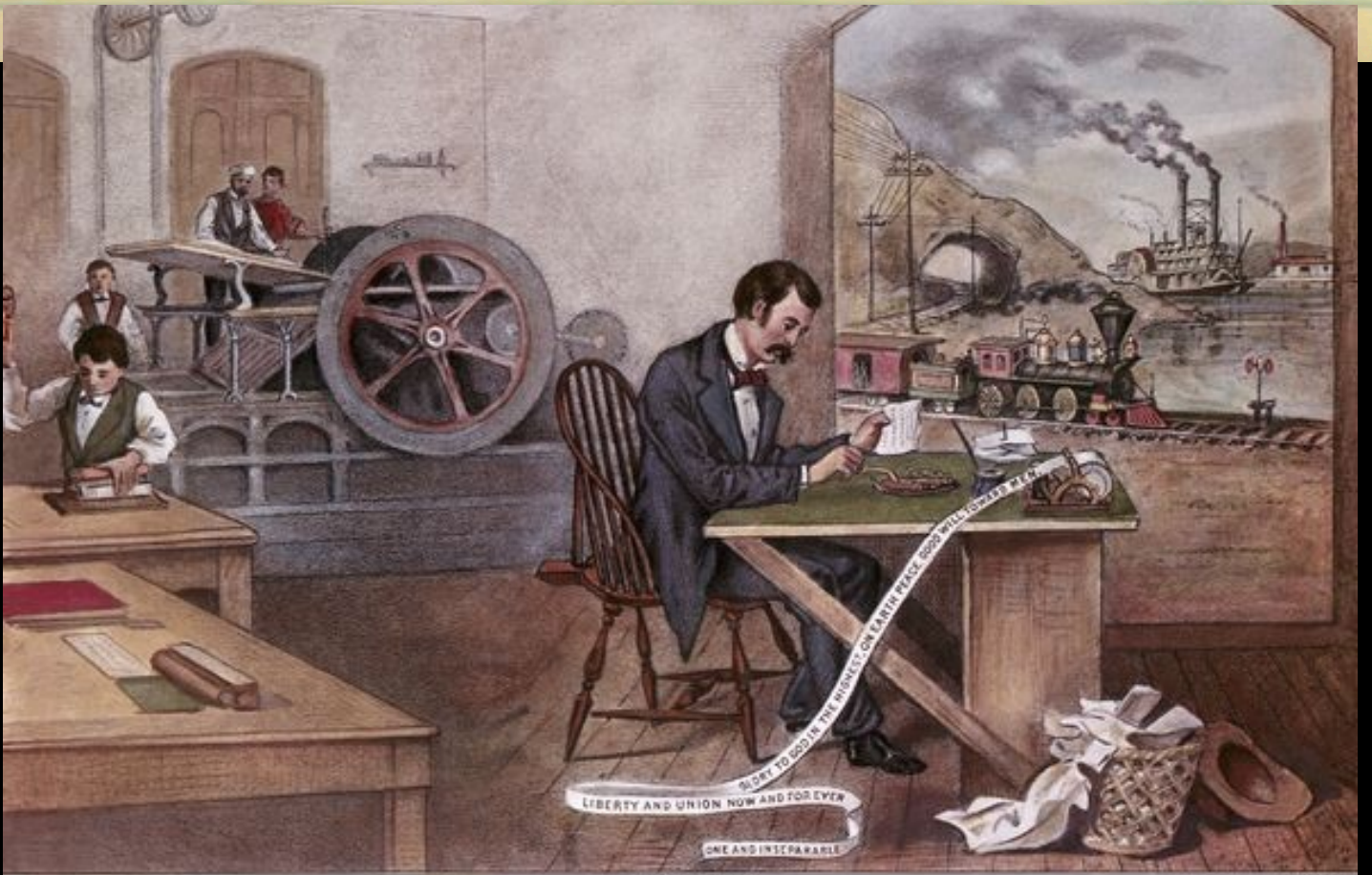
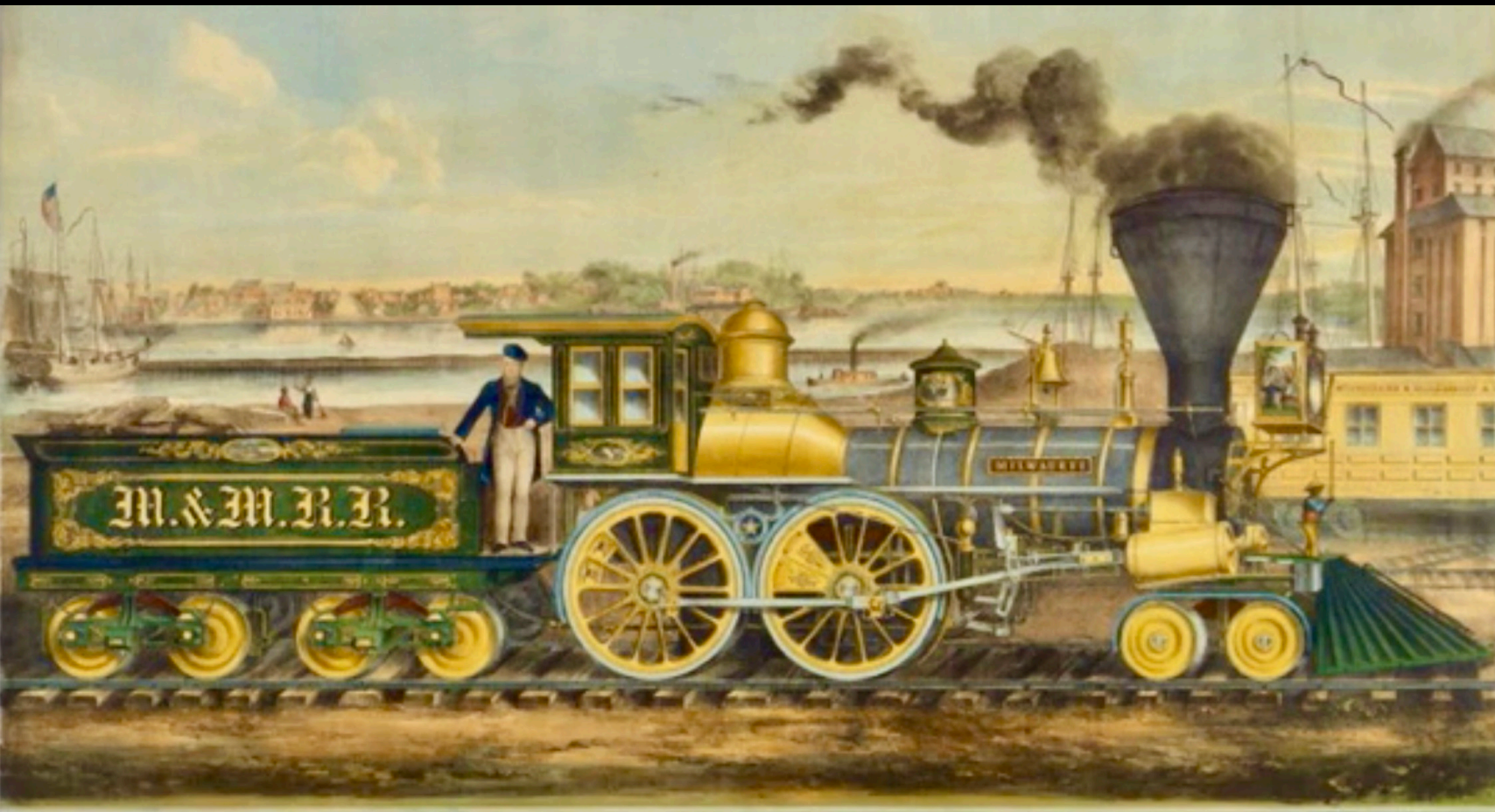
THE HARPER FERRY INSURRECTION.

JOHN BROWN.

We give in our present number a sketch of the anti-slavery hero, which, although perhaps not very new, is still a valuable addition to the history of the time. We shall not only give a full and complete account of his life, but also of his death, which was a most heroic and noble one. We shall also give a full and complete account of the Harper Ferry insurrection, which was a most heroic and noble one. We shall also give a full and complete account of the Harper Ferry insurrection, which was a most heroic and noble one.



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Celebrated Race of the Steamers ROBT. E. LEE and HATCHES.

THE PROGRESS OF THE CENTURY.



W. A. Walker, 1853.

PRINTED IN BRISTOL BY CORRIE & PHILIP NASSAU ST. N.Y.

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A COTTON PLANTATION ON THE MISSISSIPPI.



Read and Ponder THE **FUGITIVE SLAVE LAW!**

Which disregards all the ordinary securities of **PERSONAL LIBERTY**, which tramples on the Constitution, by its denial

of the sacred rights of Christianity shall

Fines and Imprisonment

Freemen of Massachusetts
laid Filmore, our

SECTION I. That person
after be, appointed Commis-
of Congress, by the Circuit
and who in consequence
thorized to exercise the po-
powers or other jurisdiction



Cardinal Virtues of
verest penalties,—

this law, that Mil-
nem in this iniquity.

ALS in cases where proof shall
ommissioner, warrant such res-
sive of all services incident to
n, to be paid, in either case,
agent or attorney. The per-
to execute the process to be to

POPULAR SOVEREIGNTY

The FAILURE of POPULAR SOVEREIGNTY

Slavery, Manifest Destiny, and the
Radicalization of Southern Politics

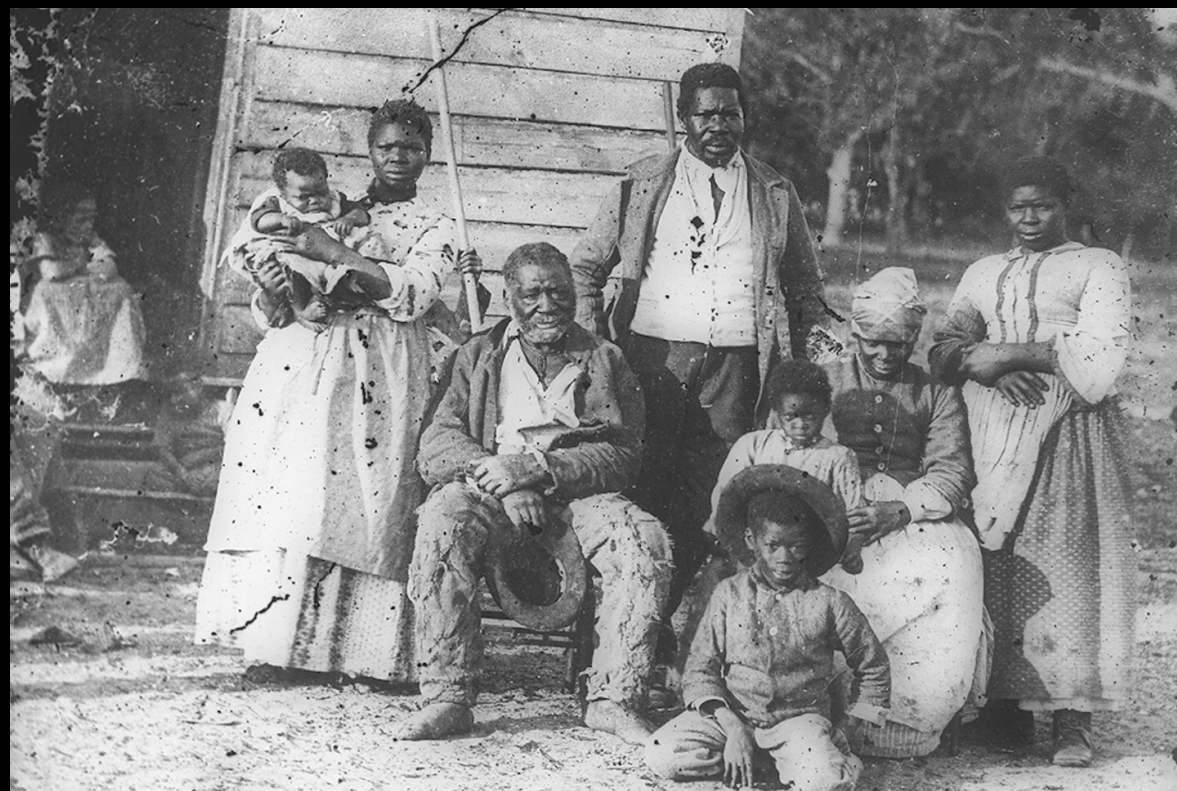
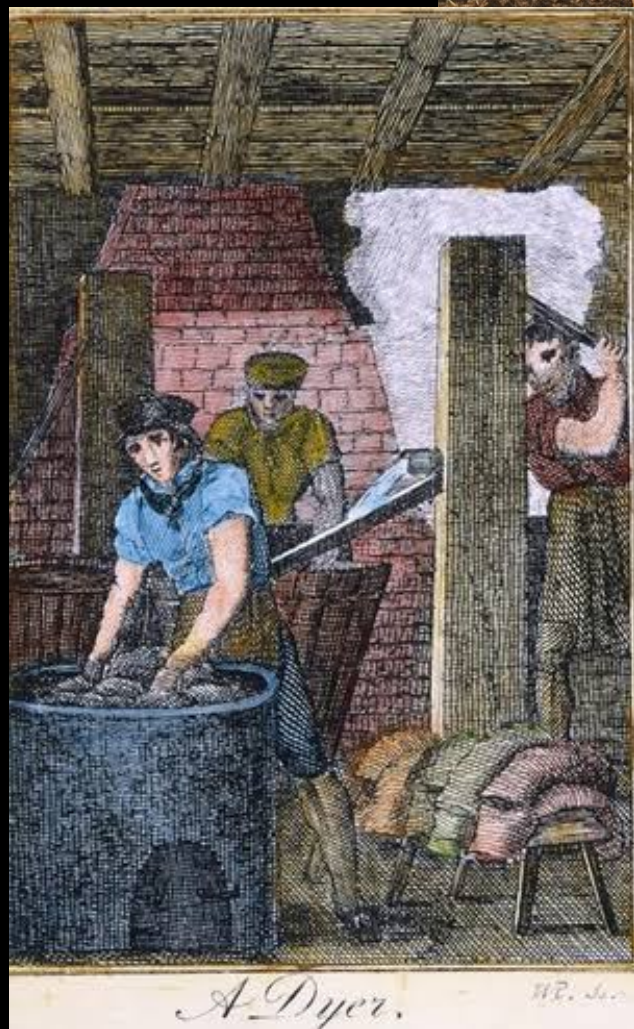
CHRISTOPHER CHILDERS



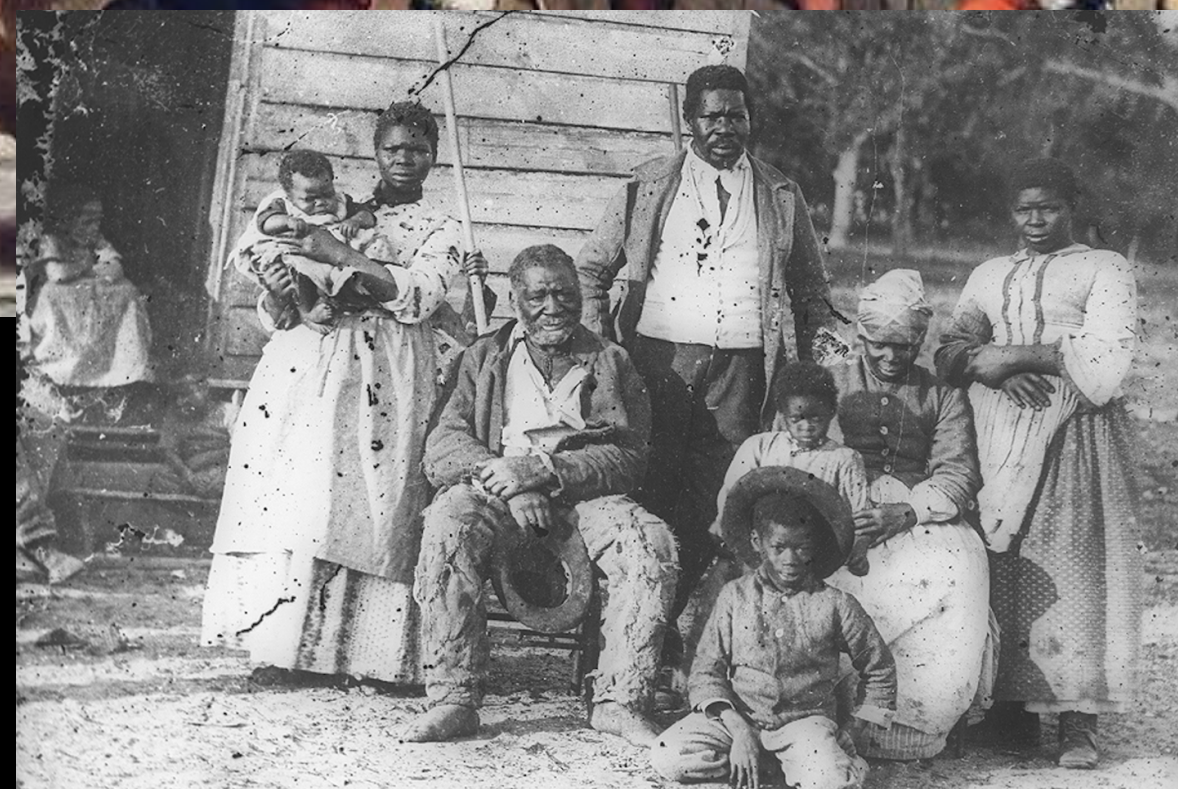


The Problem of Slavery









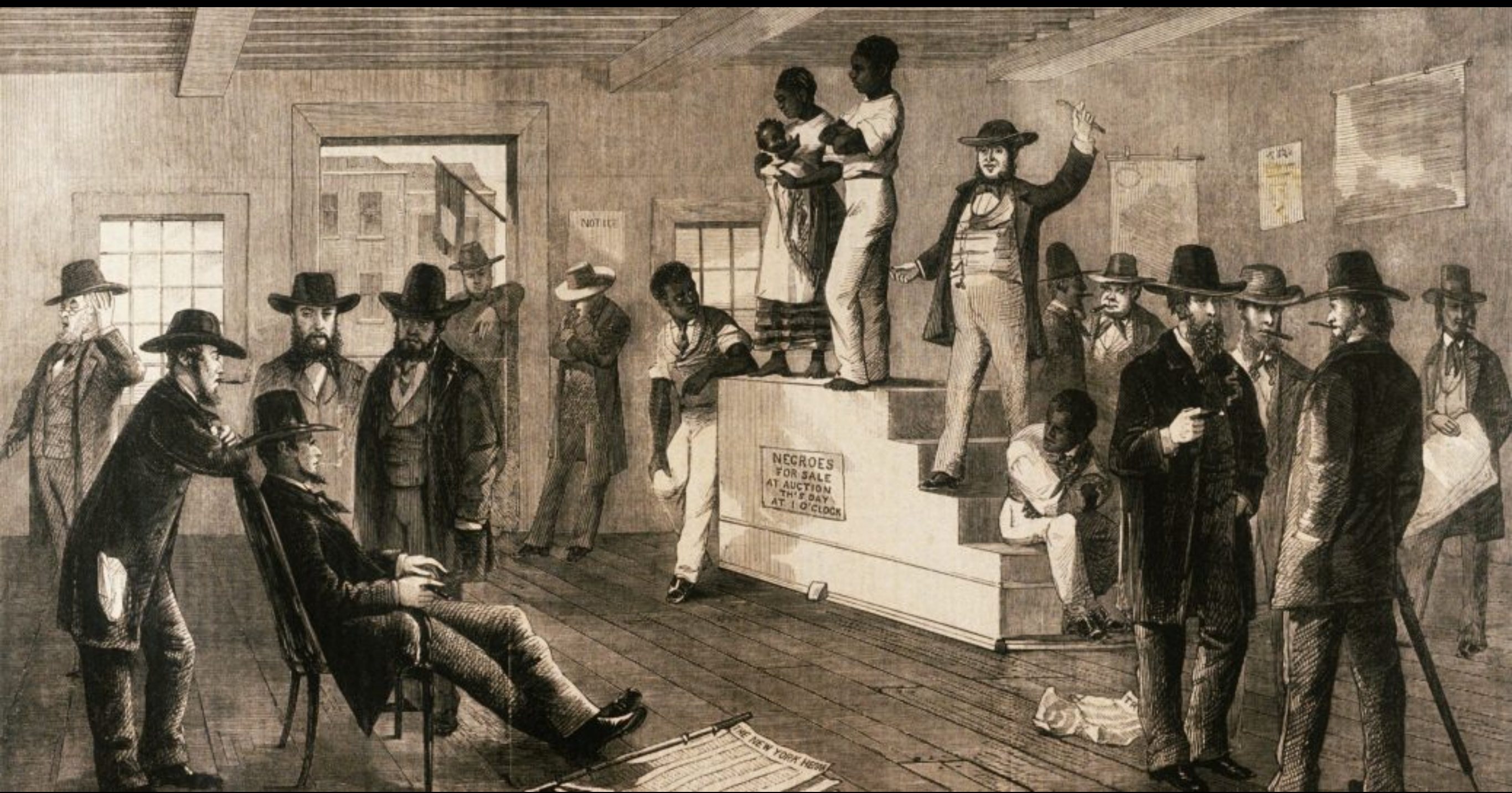






NEGERHYDDOR I. LOUISIANA





Approaching the Problem

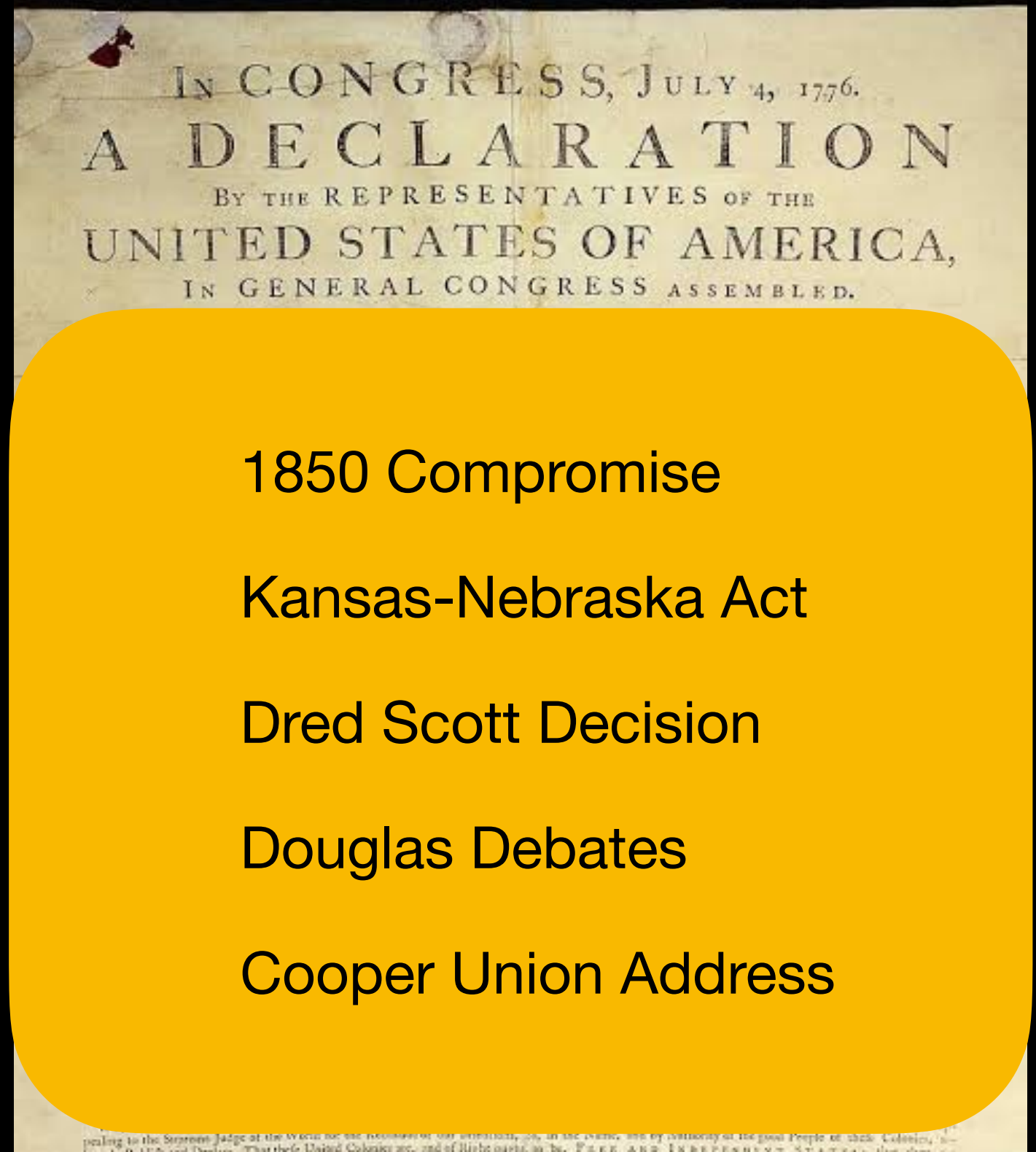


Self-Made Man

Illinois Lawyer

Party Leader

Solving the Problem: The Declaration



1850 Compromise

Kansas-Nebraska Act

Dred Scott Decision

Douglas Debates

Cooper Union Address



Declaration as Universal Principle

Freedom of Labor & Fruits of Labor

Equality cannot be limited to some

Liberty needs redefinition

Slavery must be on road to elimination

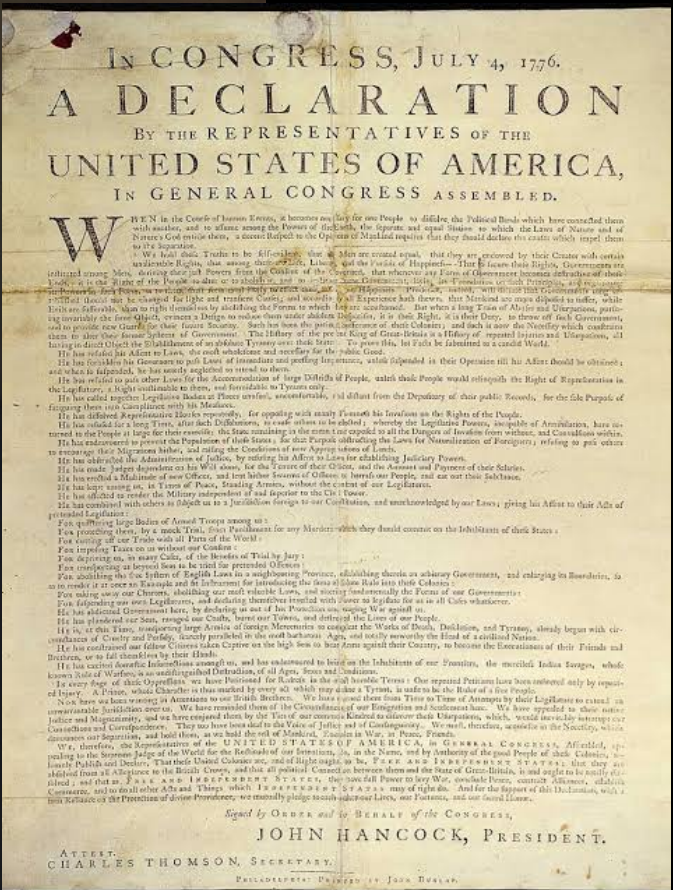


The Republican Party

Free Land

Free Soil

Free Men



A Coalition Party

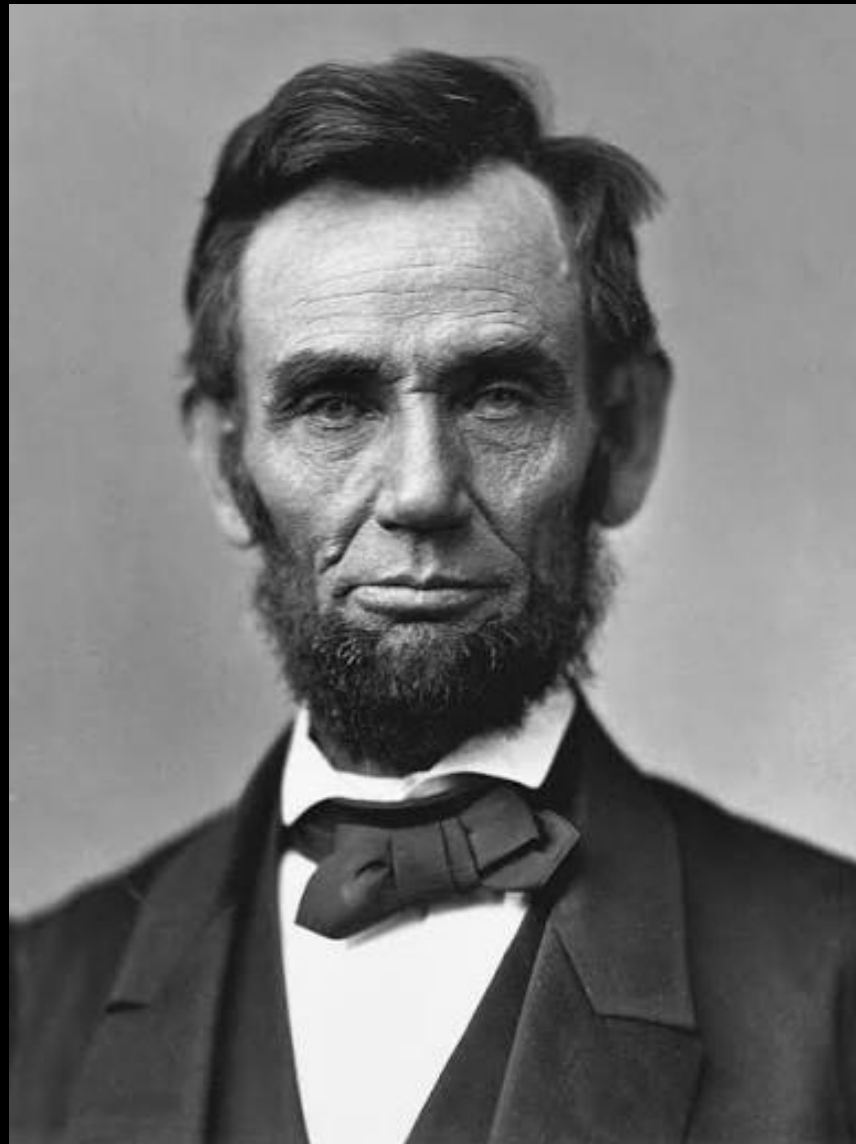
Old Whigs

American Party

Abolitionists

Northern Democrats

Lincoln as President

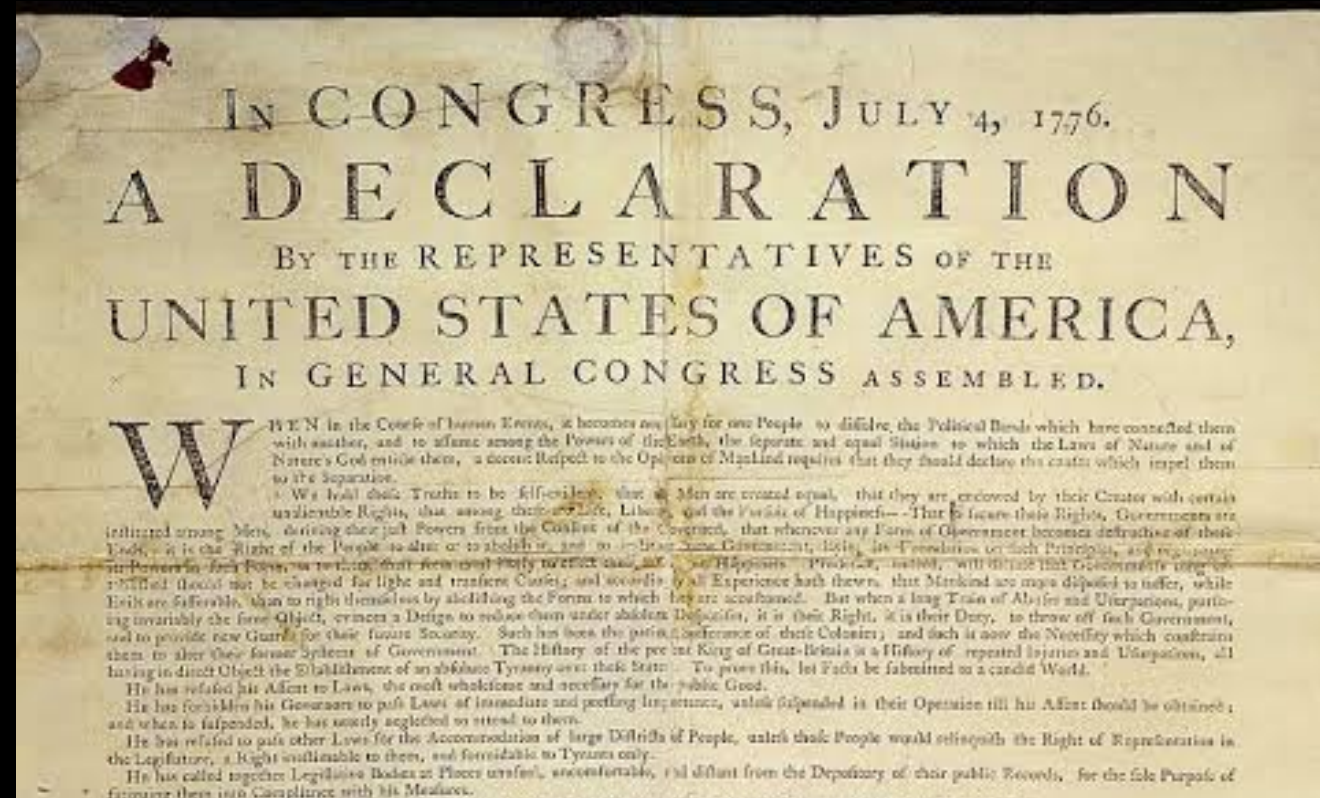


Leave Slavery as it is

Relocation of Slaves

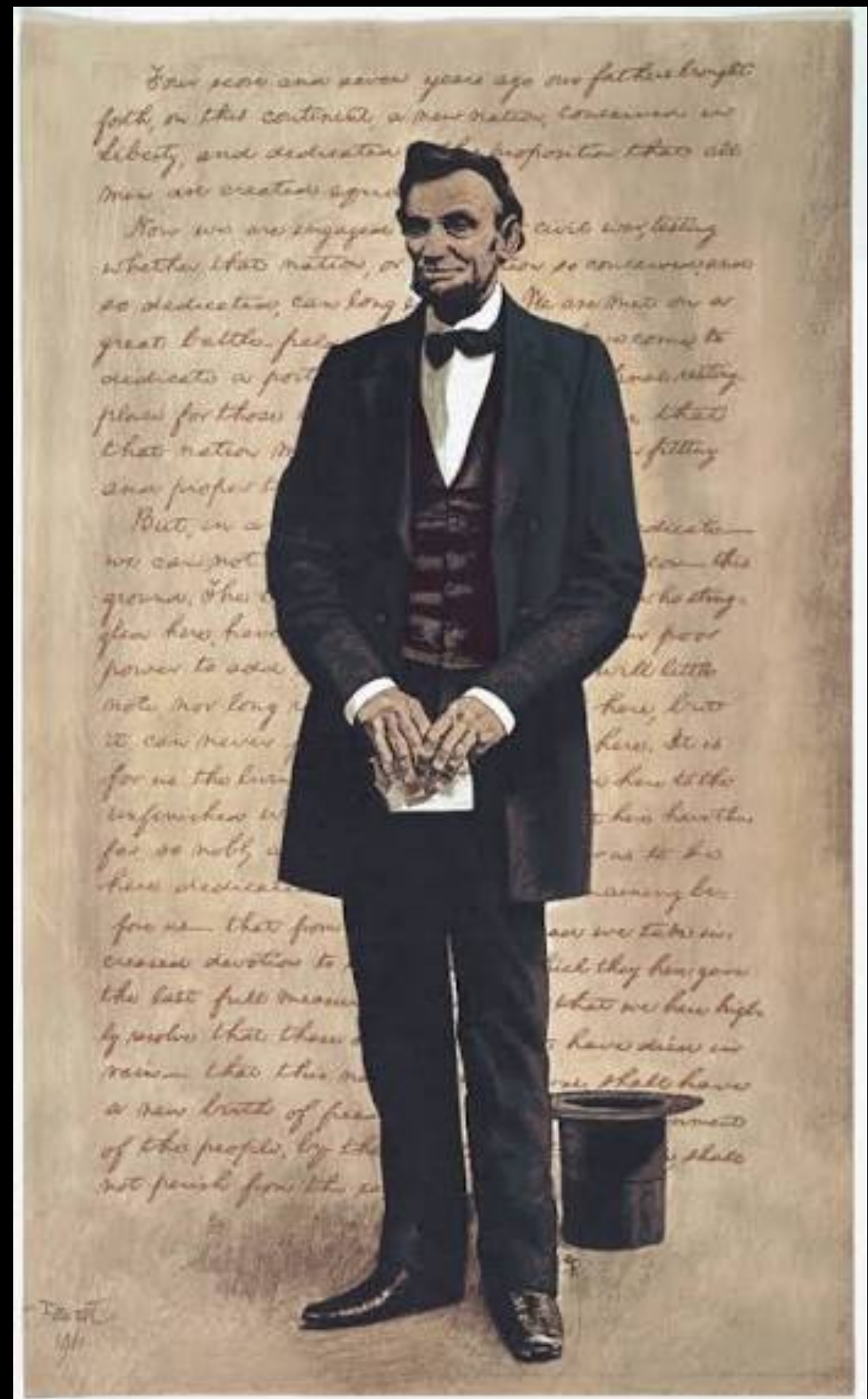
Gradual Abolition

Sudden Abolition in some areas



Gettysburg Address

Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. *** Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. * * We are met on a great battle-field of that war. * We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. * * It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. * * But in a larger sense we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. * The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember, what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. * * It is for us, the living, rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us, that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion; * that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom, and that the government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth.



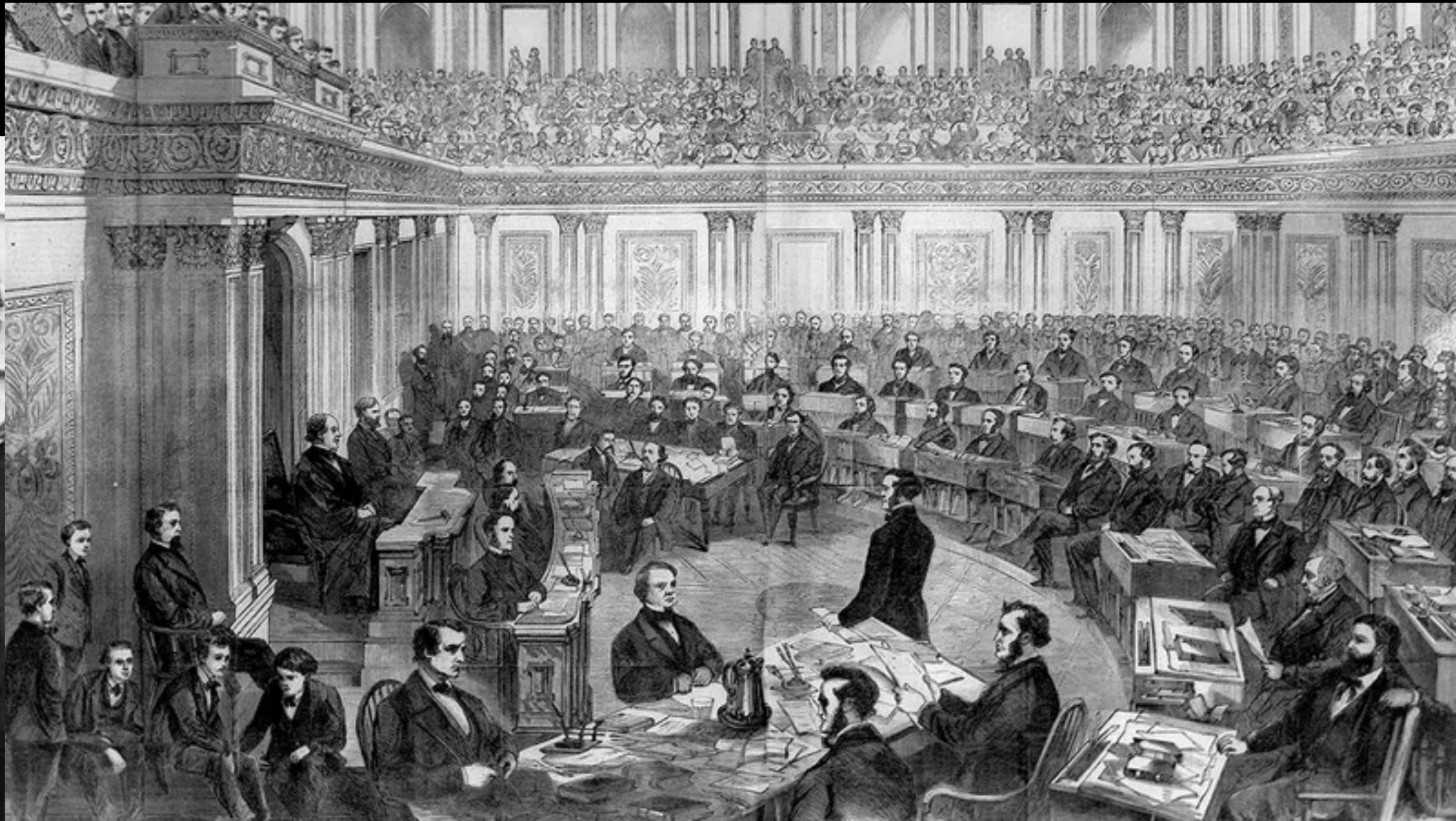
The Logical Demands of the Declaration

Constitutional Amendment



The Logical Demands of the Declaration

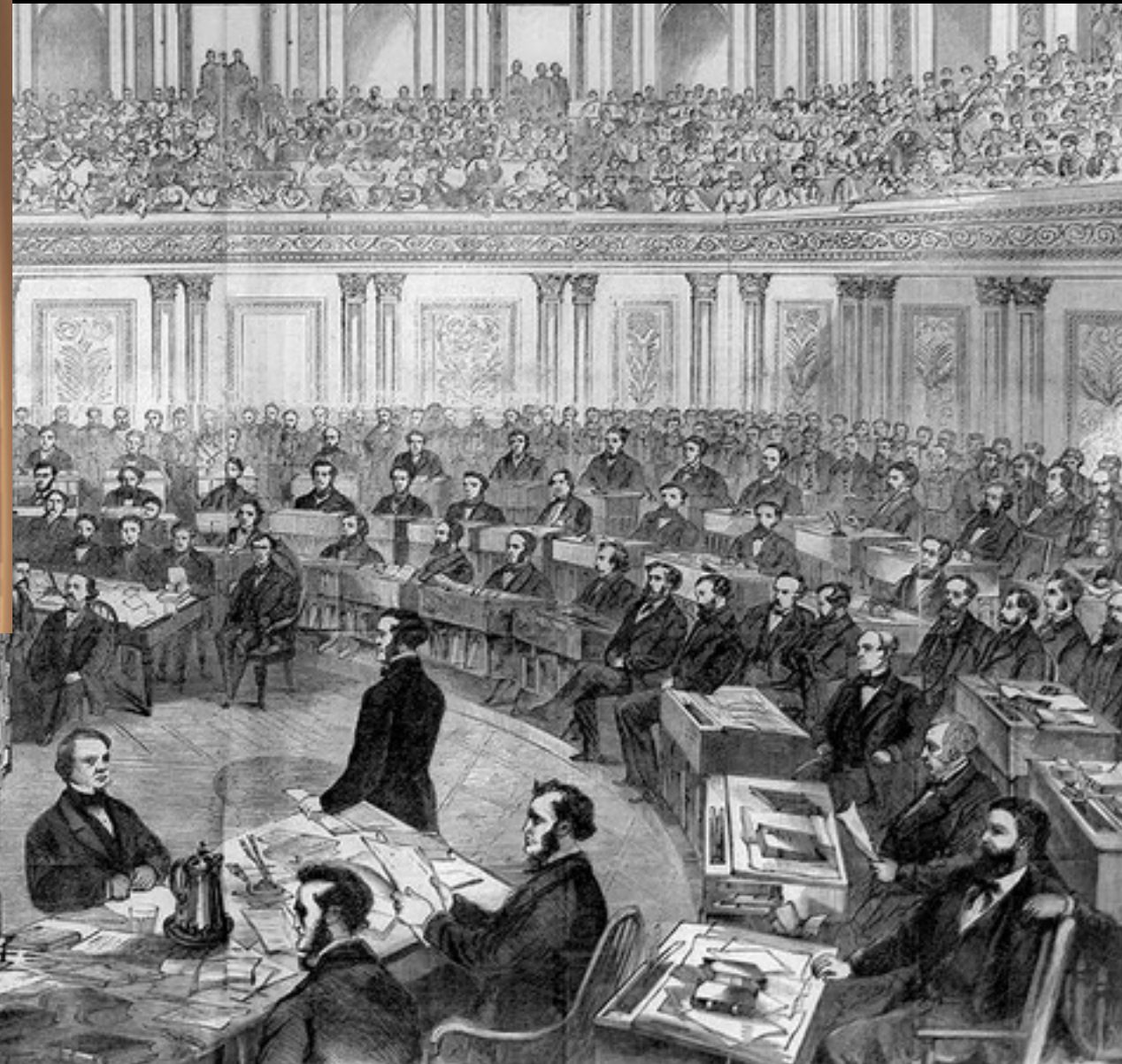
Constitutional Amendment



The Logical Demands of the Declaration

THE 14TH AMENDMENT

aimed at
granting all its people
the right to
American citizenship,
irrespective of their
ethnic differences.



“The Second American Revolution”

We the People of the United States, in order to provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

Section 1. All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Section 2. The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States, and the Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite for Electors in that State.

Section 3. The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the Legislature of the State for which they are elected, and they shall hold their Offices for six Years; and each Senator shall have the Qualifications requisite for Senators in that State.

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.
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BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
IN GENERAL CONGRESS ASSEMBLED.

When in the Course of human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the Political Bonds which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the Earth, the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent Respect to the Opinions of Mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the Separation.

We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Form, as shall seem to them best for their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient Causes; and accordingly we have experienced the same Sentiments, when we have viewed the miseries of the British Colonies, than to right themselves by abolishing the Forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long Train of Abuses and Usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object, evinces a Design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their Right, it is their Duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future Security. Such has been the patient Sufferance of these Colonies, and such is now the Necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The History of the present King of Great-Britain is a History of repeated Injuries and Oppressions, all having in direct Object the Establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid World.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public Good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing Importance, unless suspended in their Operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other Laws for the Accommodation of large Districts of People, unless those People would relinquish the Right of Representation in the Legislature, a Right inalienable to them, and inseparable to Tyranny only.

He has called together legislative Bodies at Places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the Depository of their public Records, for the sole Purpose of fatiguing them into Compliance with his Measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly Firmness his Invasions on the Rights of the People.

He has refused for a long Time, after such Dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative Powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean Time exposed to all the Dangers of Invasion from without, and Confusion within.

He has endeavored to prevent the Population of these States, for that Purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their Migration hither, and raising the Conditions of new Appropriations of Land.

He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary Powers.

He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the Tenure of their Offices, and the Amount and Payment of their Salaries.

He has erected a Multitude of new Offices, and sent hither Swarms of Officers to harass our People, and eat out their Substance.

He has kept among us, in Times of Peace, Standing Armies, without the Consent of our Legislature.

He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil Power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a Jurisdiction foreign to our Constitution, and unacknowledged by our Laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

For quartering large Bodies of Armed Troops among us;

For granting them, by a mock Trial, from Parliament for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States;

For cutting off our Trade with all Parts of the World;

For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent;

For depriving us, in many Cases, of the Benefits of Trial by Jury;

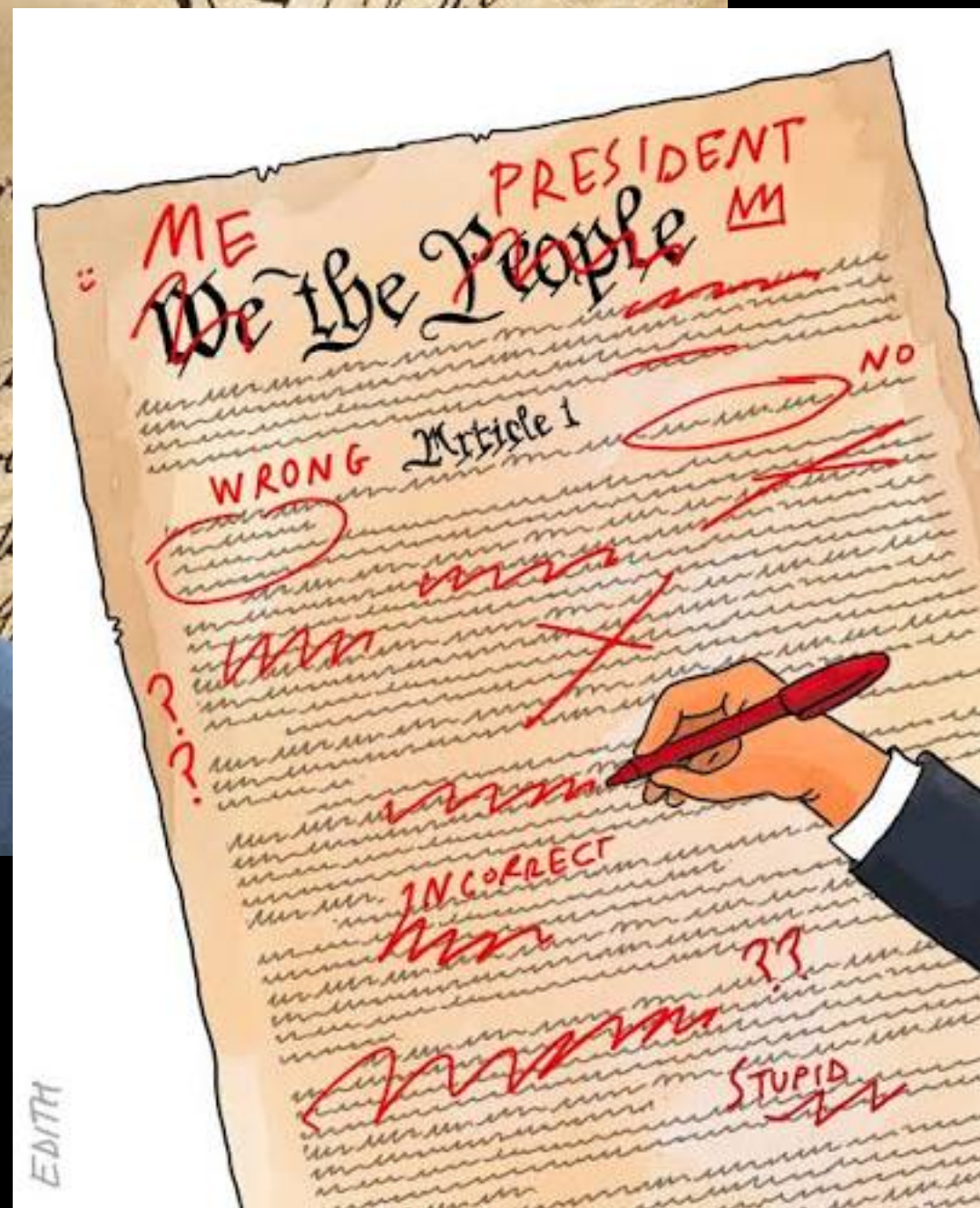
For transporting us beyond Sea to be tried for pretended Offences;

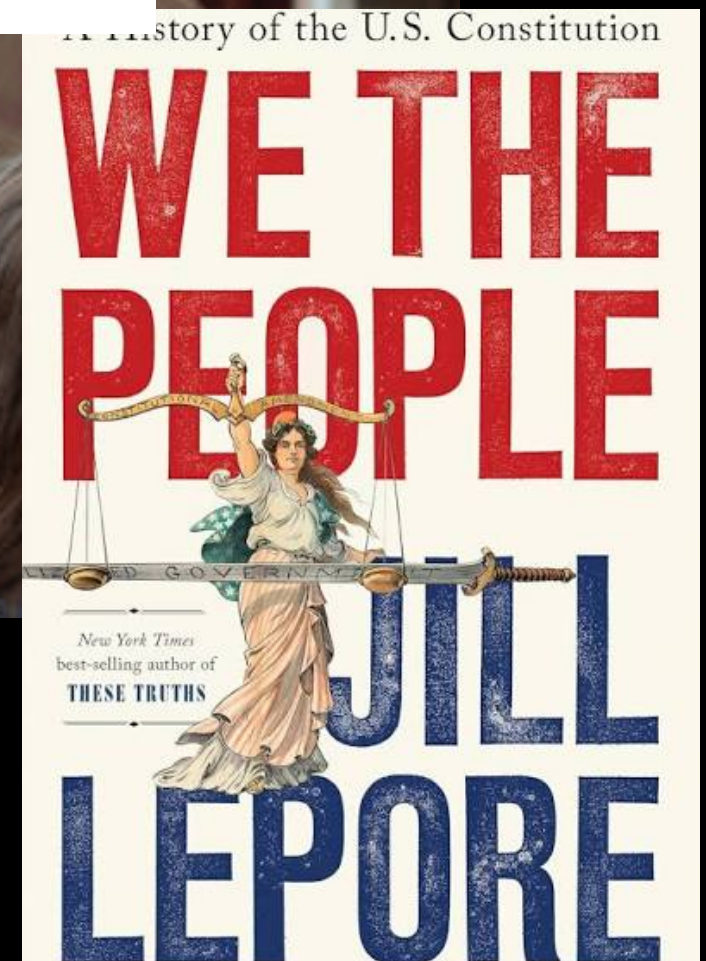
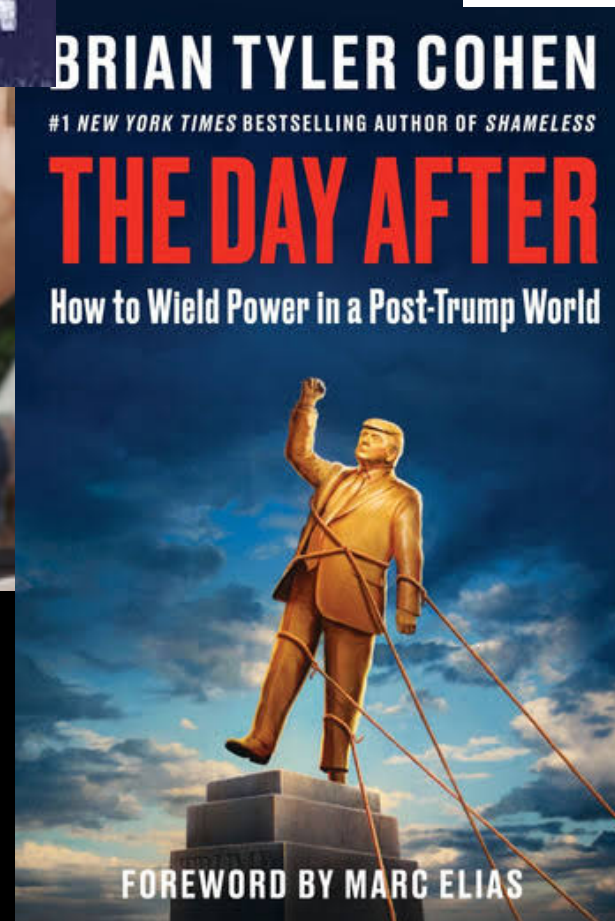
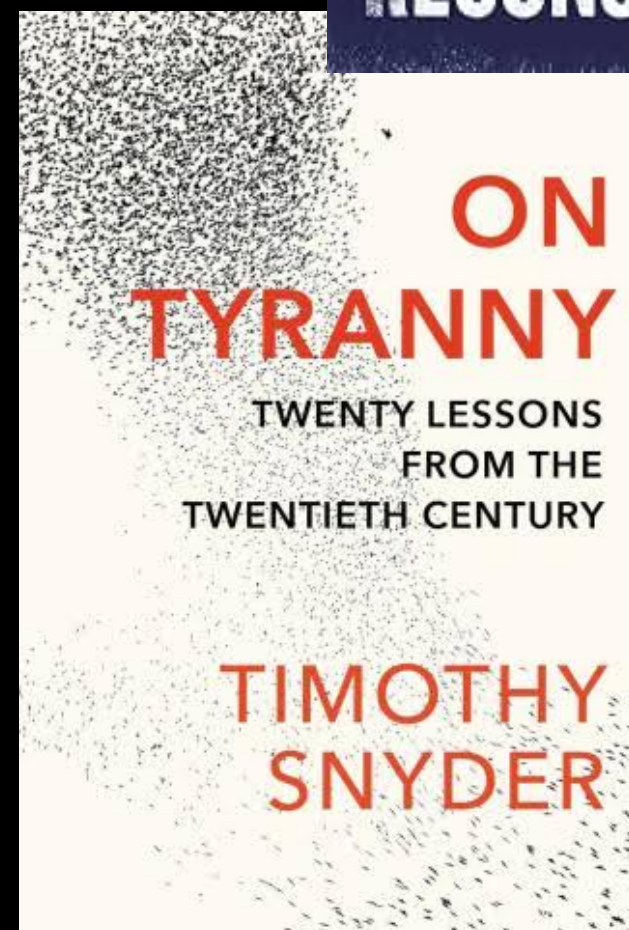
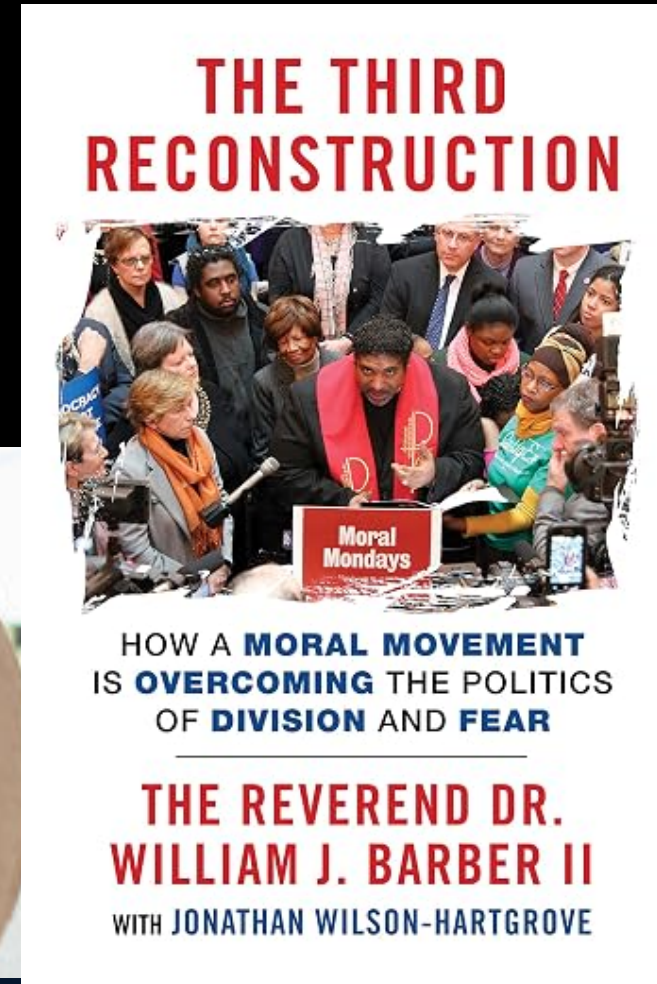
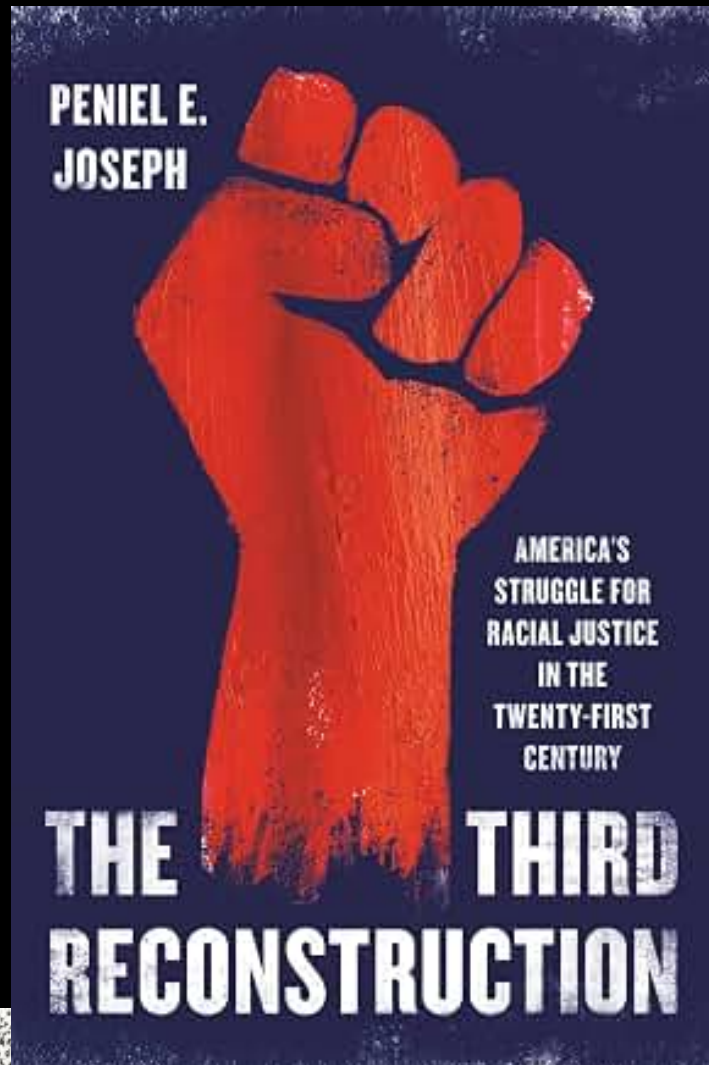
For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an arbitrary Government, and enlarging its Boundaries, so as to render it at once an Example and fit Instrument for introducing the same bad Rule into these Colonies;

For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments;

For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with Power to legislate for us in all Cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us.





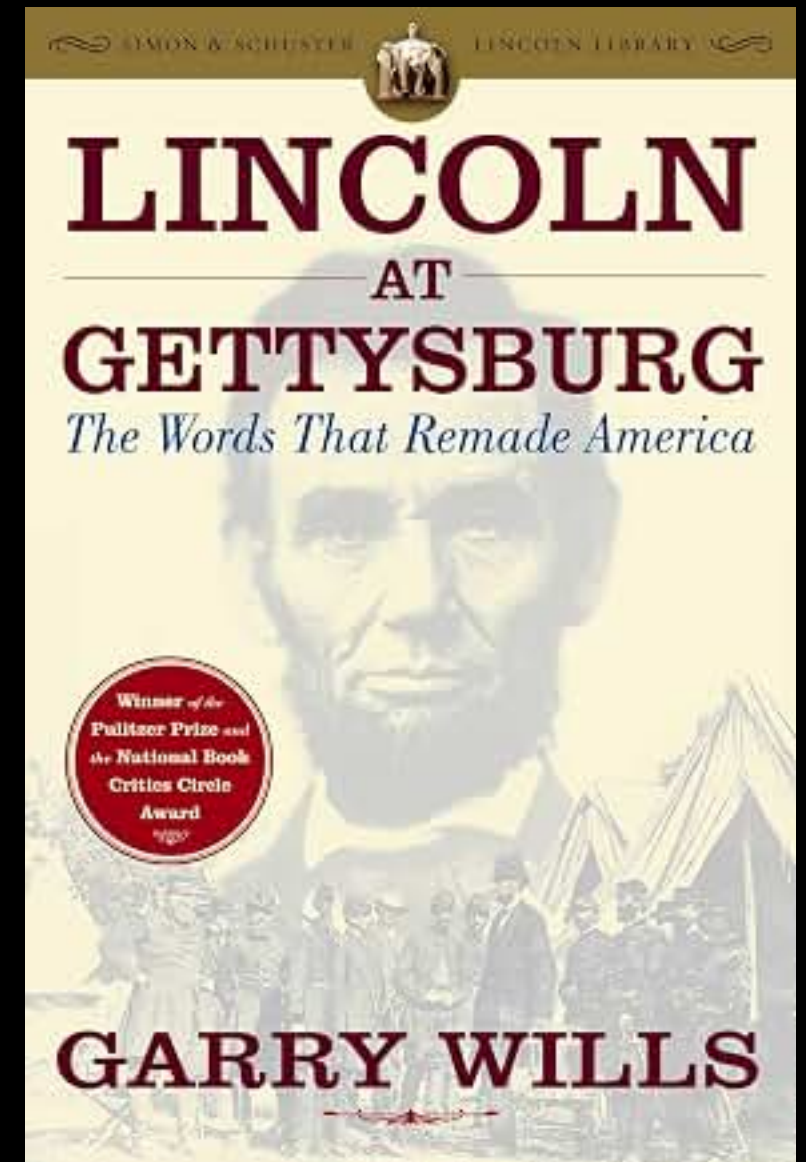
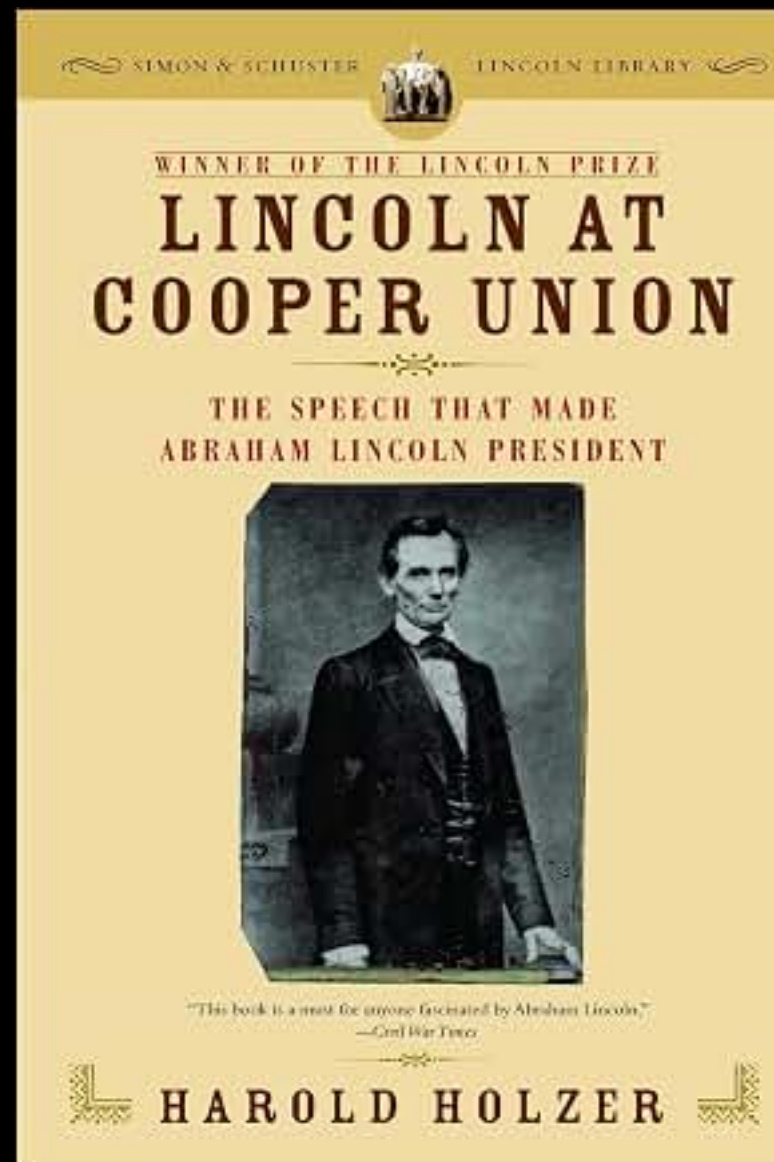
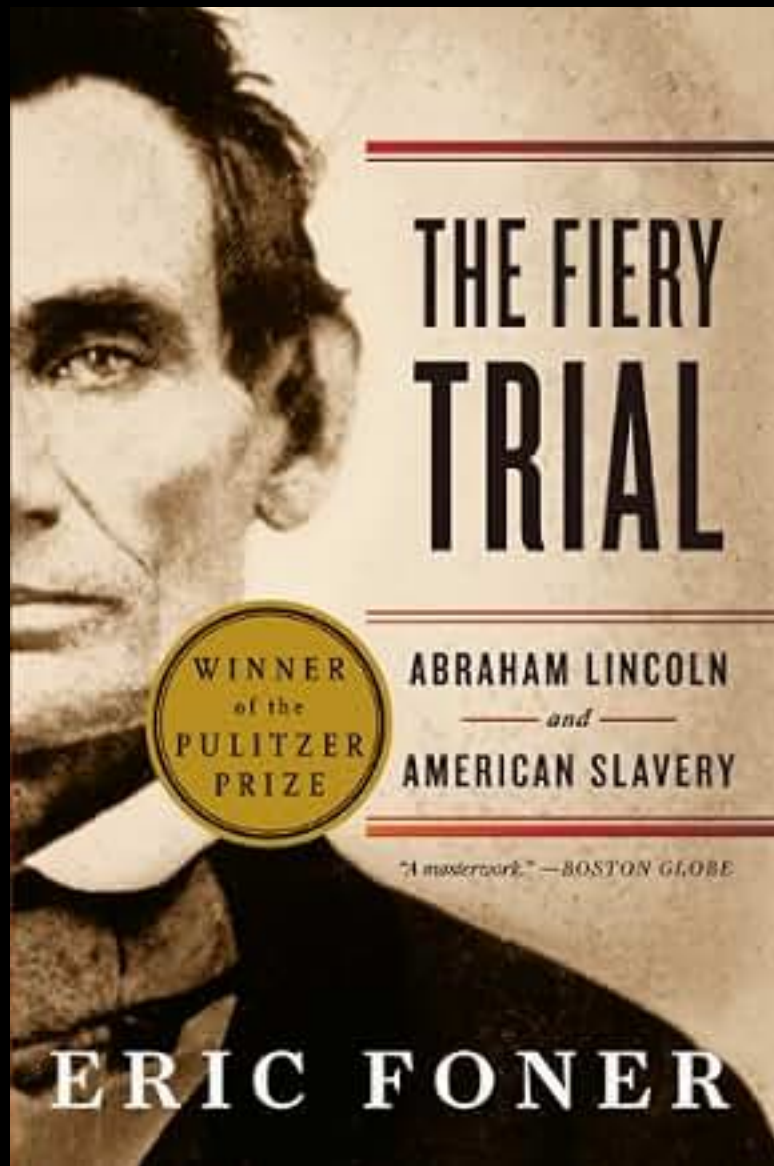
Next: Designing the Declaration, part three



From Reconstruction to MAGA and beyond

Saturday August 22, 2026 1:30 pm

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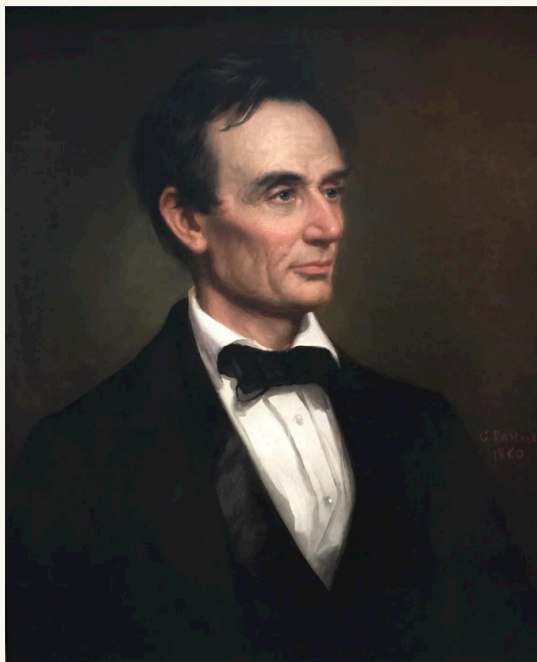
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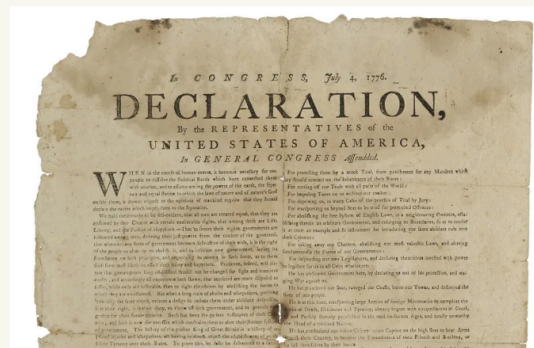
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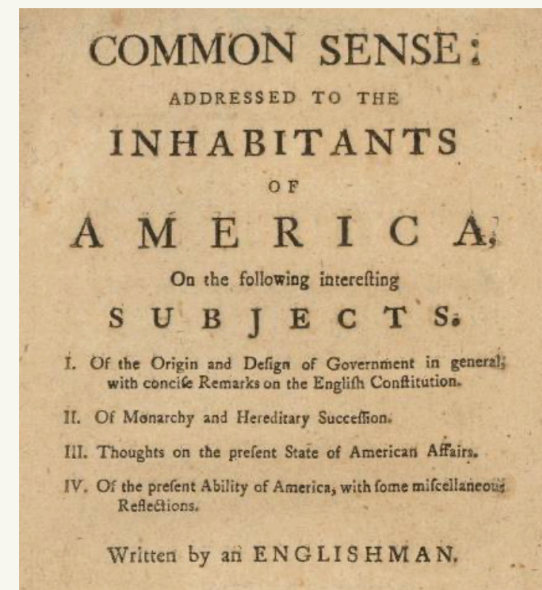
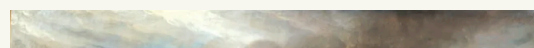
Lincoln and the Declaration

Abraham Lincoln did more than any



Designing the Declaration: A Guide

June 27, 2026. 1:30 pm. Northwest
Place. The Declaration of Independence
is one of the most important pieces of
writing...



A Guide to Common Sense

Study Guide for Common Sense:
Common Sense is best understood by

