

Abolitionist Movement

Essential Question: How was the abolitionist movement effective in ending slavery?

Thesis Statement

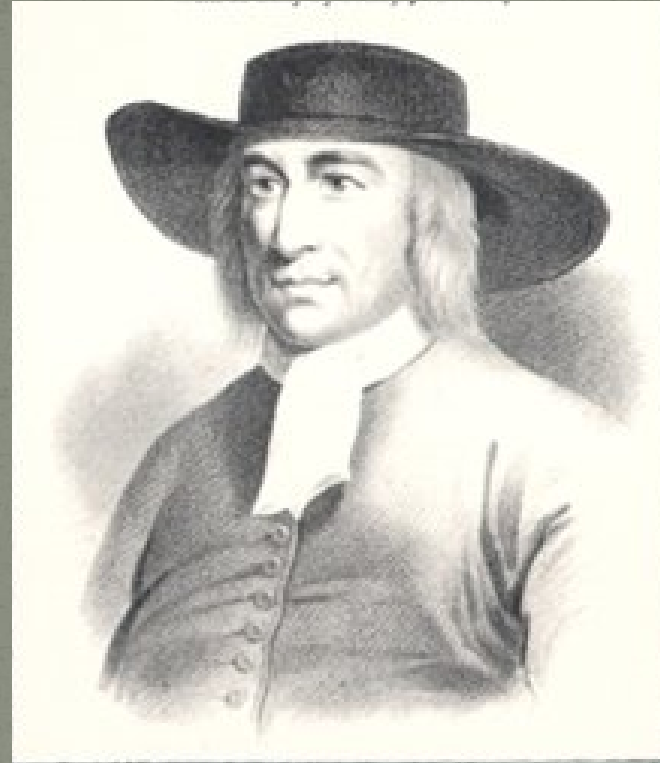
- Even though many people didn't support the abolitionist movement, it was important for the abolitionist to continue to endorse the movement since it promoted the freedom of slaves, the end of discrimination and segregation.

Abolitionist Issues

- Abolitionist wanted to end slavery since they believed it was cruel and unfair.
- Abolitionist desired to reunite the slaves and their families.
- Abolitionist wanted equality for African-Americans in order to give them their rightful place in society.
- Abolitionist sought after legislative changes like amending the constitution since they believed it was proslavery.
- Abolitionist didn't want slavery to be allowed in the new states joining the union.

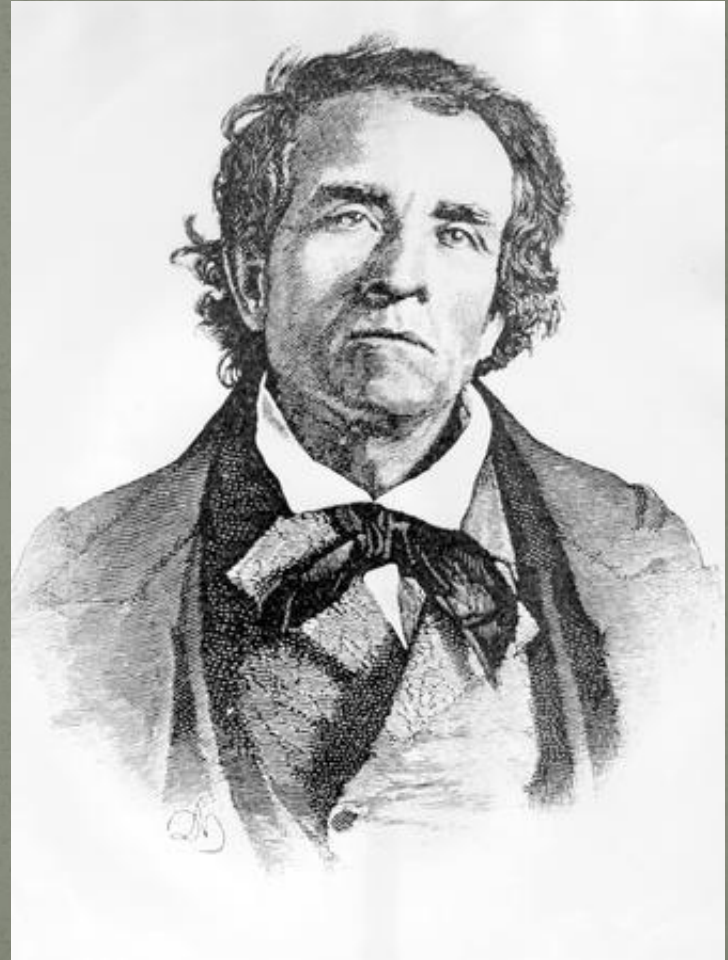
THE QUAKERS

- The first abolitionists were Quakers and free blacks. Quakers believed that all people had the same 'spark of divinity,' making slavery immoral. Quakers were among the first to free their slaves. Some Quakers traveled the countryside urging slave-owners to free their slaves.



THEODORE WELD

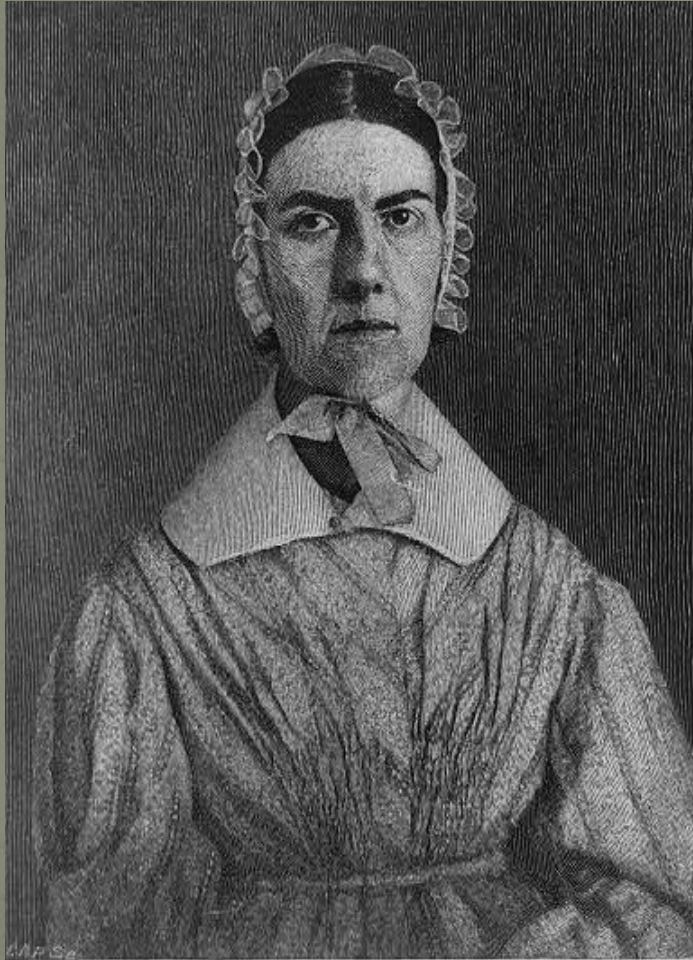
- A more successful abolitionist was Theodore Dwight Weld. He tried to build a large antislavery movement by appealing to the consciences of Midwestern farmers and church groups.



GRIMKE SISTERS

- The Grimke sisters, freed their slaves, became outspoken opponents of slavery even speaking in public at a time when women didn't do so
- Bombarded Congress with petitions.
- Southern dominated House of Representatives actually instituted the gag rule which made it contrary to House rules to debate slavery or mention the word
- Southerners began to use the phrase “our peculiar institution” rather than slavery
- The Grimke sisters of South Carolina were two early female abolitionists and women's rights activists, traveling throughout the North, lecturing about their first-hand experiences with slavery on their family plantation. Receiving abuse and ridicule for their abolitionist activity, as later women active in a range of reform activities would find, they both realized that women would have to create a safe space in the public arena if they wanted to be effective abolitionists and reformers. So in an often to be repeated story, they both became women's rights activists.



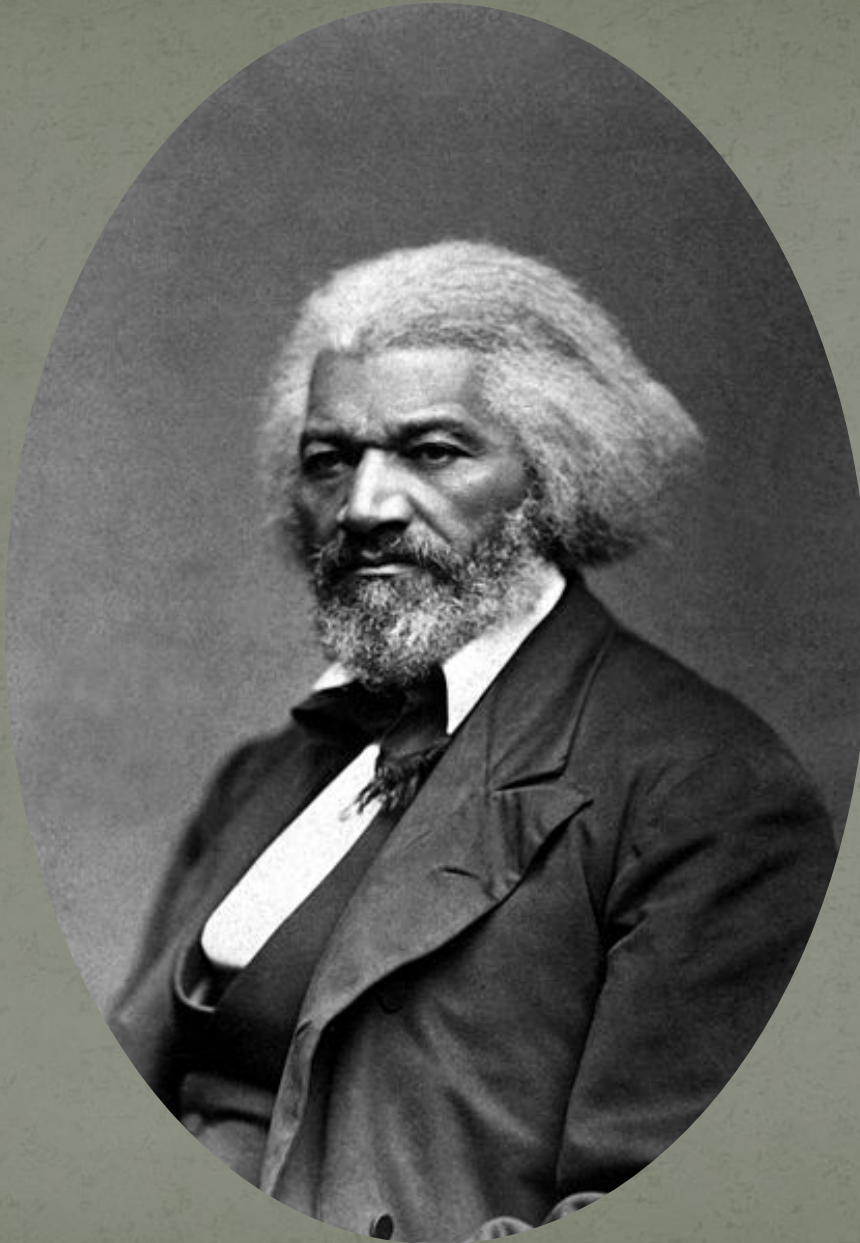


- Weld was married to Angelina Grimke. She and her sister Sarah were from a slaveholding family in South Carolina, but had been converted to abolition by Quakers. Many conventional Americans were shocked by the idea of two women speaking out publicly against slavery.

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS

- Adams was an important antislavery voice In Congress. From 1836-37, Adams presented to Congress the many petitions for the abolition of slavery and the slave trade in the District of Columbia.
- Adams represented the Amistad Africans, in the Supreme Court of the United States. The Amistad Africans had seized control of a Spanish ship, where they were being held illegally as slaves. He successfully argued that the Africans should not be taken to Cuba but should be considered free and have the option to remain within the U.S. or return home as free people.





Frederick Douglass

February 17, 1818-February 20, 1895

Frederick Douglass was an American Social reformer, orator, writer, and statesman. After he escaped from slavery he became a leader of the abolitionist movement. He was inspired by William Lloyd Garrison's newspaper called *The Liberator*. After a speech that Douglass gave, Garrison hired Douglass as a traveling lecturer for the society. Frederick Douglass thought the constitution was a proslavery document because it allowed slavery.



John Brown

May 9, 1800–December 2, 1859

John Brown supported and practiced armed rebellion. He led the Pottawatomie massacre in 1856. His attempt to start a liberation movement for slaves in 1859 excited the nation. He believed that violence was necessary in order to end slavery. He wanted a lot of slaves to rise up against their masters in an armed rebellion.



Harriet Tubman

c. 1820 or 1821 – March 10, 1913

Harriet Tubman escaped from slavery but returned to the south to get her sister and her sister's family. Over the next 12 years she returned about 18 or 19 more times and brought over 300 slaves to the north. She was one of the individuals that was part of the Underground Railroad. Many people said that Harriet Tubman was fearless and she was known for carrying a gun around with her to threaten runaway slaves that were thinking of going back.



William Lloyd Garrison

December 12, 1805-May 24, 1879

William Lloyd Garrison was an important abolitionist, journalist, and social reformer. He was best known as the editor of the abolitionist newspaper , *The Liberator*. He was also the founder of the American Anti-Slavery society.

Harriet Beecher Stowe

- Harriet Beecher-Stowe is most famous for her controversial anti-slavery novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. The impact of her novel is summed up in a commonly quoted statement attributed to Abraham Lincoln. When he met Stowe, it is claimed that he said, "So you're the little woman who wrote the book that made this great war!"
- The book was influential because of its timing, and the fact that it exposed people to horrors of slavery, often referred to as "the most cussed and discussed book of its time."



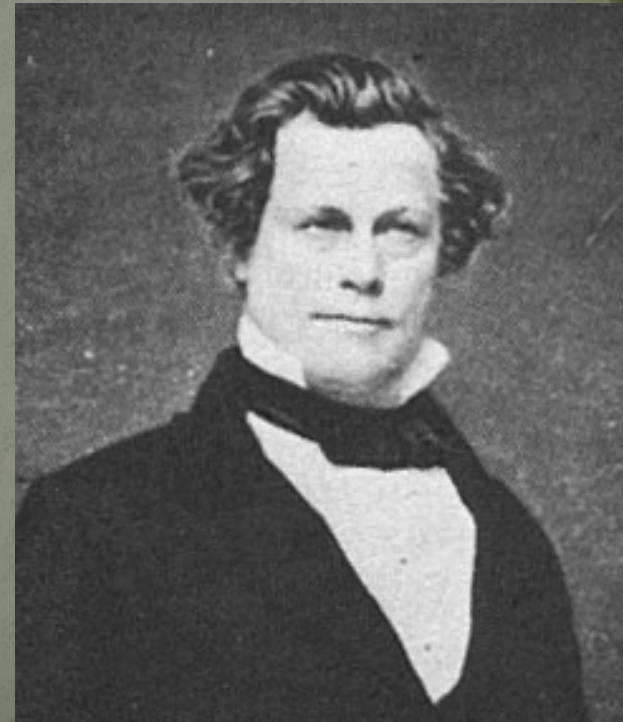
Sojourner Truth

- BORN INTO SLAVERY
- SHE WAS ILLITERATE,
BUT HER WORDS INSPIRED
CROWDS OF PEOPLE
- SHE BECAME A POWERFUL
VOICE ON BEHALF OF
ENSLAVED AFRICAN
AMERICANS AND WOMEN
- In 1854, at the Ohio Woman's Rights
Convention, she gave her most
famous speech -- with the legendary
phrase, "AINT I A WOMAN?"



Elijah Lovejoy

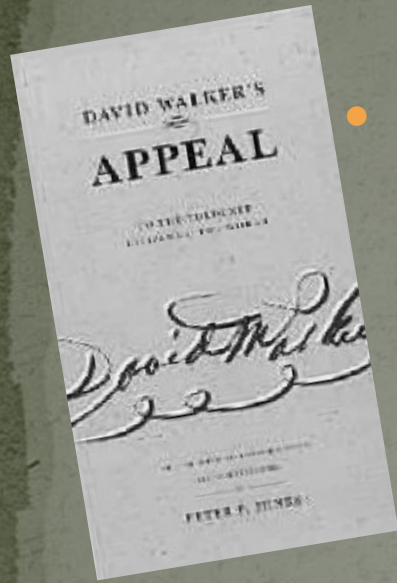
- In 1832, caught up in the powerful religious revival movement, Lovejoy was recruited to in St. Louis as editor of a new paper, *The Saint Louis Observer*, designed to promote religious and moral education. He wrote anti-slavery editorials. Over time, Lovejoy's writing against slavery and in support of abolition became more strongly worded.
- On November 7, 1837, Elijah Parish Lovejoy was killed by a pro-slavery mob while defending the site of his anti-slavery newspaper, *The Saint Louis Observer*. His death deeply affected many Northerners and greatly strengthened the abolitionist (anti-slavery) cause.



Literature

- The literature that came out of the abolitionist movement were *The Liberator* a newspaper written by William Lloyd Garrison. Garrison published the newspaper in 1851. *The Liberator* focused on the abolitionist movement and discussed different perspectives on the subject which helped people understand the movement better. There is only one copy of *The Liberator* today and it is not available to everyone. However, you can find copies of The Liberator Files online at www.theliberatorfiles.com.

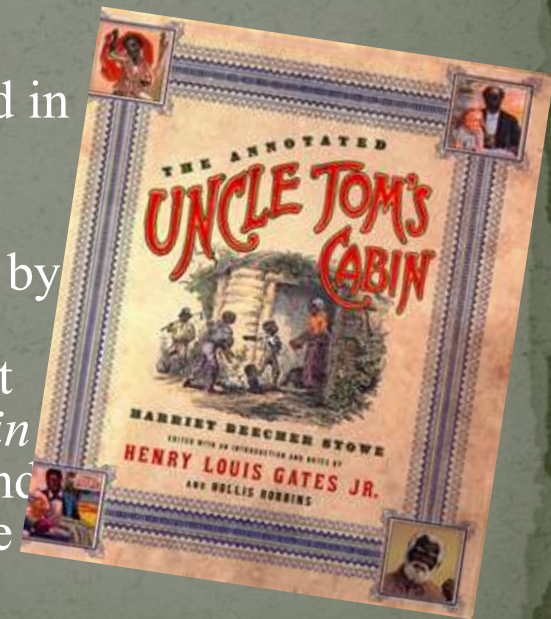




- Additional literature from the abolitionist movement were *Uncle Tom's Cabin* and *Appeal: To the Coloured Citizens of the World*.

David Walker wrote the booklet *Appeal: To the Coloured Citizens of the World*. He intended to persuade slaves to fight for their freedom. Many slave owners feared his booklet and tried hard for their slaves not to get a hold of the booklet. The booklet *Appeal: To The Coloured Citizens of the World* is still around and can also be found in a library or you can purchase it on Amazon.com

- The book *Uncle Tom's Cabin* was written by Harriet Beecher Stowe. The book was an anti-slavery book and has been a great part of American literature. *Uncle Tom's Cabin* can be found today in our local libraries and book stores. The book has also been made into a movie.



Abolitionist Movement

- William Lloyd Garrison's newspaper, *The Liberator*, helped persuade and recruit many followers for the movement. David Walker's booklet, *Appeal: To The Coloured People of the World* also helped many slaves to revolt against their masters. The speeches of Frederick Douglass were also encouraging and motivating. They encouraged people to fight for the equality and freedom of African Americans.
- The abolition movement was a success because African Americans are no longer slaves. The abolitionist goal was to bring equality and end segregation towards African Americans and they did. Thanks to the abolitionist and the Civil War African Americans are now treated equal and have the same rights as other Americans.