

RS#09.1

Teacher Guide to the Resources

Document H: The Issue of Slavery

Background Information:

- Even though the Emancipation Proclamation was declared January 1, 1863 it only abolished slavery in those states in rebellion against the Union. Since Maryland was a Border State, the proclamation was not in effect.
- Maryland officially ended slavery in 1864. The vote on the 1864 Maryland State Constitution was extremely close. The deciding factor was the soldier's vote. All the counties except for two in Southern Maryland and the Eastern Shore voted against ratification. Northern Maryland was split three counties each. Baltimore City overwhelmingly voted for ratification. Those counties who moved away from slave labor and towards industry primarily were in favor of the new state constitution.
- The Thirteenth Amendment was ratified in December 6, 1865 and it officially ended slavery in the United States. The Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments granted citizenship and suffrage rights to African Americans.

Guided Questions/Teaching Suggestions:

Ask students:

- When did Maryland abolish slavery?
- Describe the final voting results.
- Analyze the chart and map. Describe the voting pattern.
- When was the Emancipation Proclamation declared? Why was slavery still permitted in Maryland after the proclamation was issued?
- What was the purpose of the Thirteenth Amendment? When was the amendment issued?
- According to the four sources, is Maryland more Northern, more Southern, or represents the middle ground?

All or part of this document could be analyzed using the *Written Document Analysis Resource Sheet* located in the Appendix of this lesson.

Students may want to color code the regions in the *Maryland Counties* map to help analyze the voting pattern concerning the 1864 Maryland State Constitution.