

Cotton Gin and Southern Expansion

- 1793, new lease on life → gives slavery
- ↑ slave output
- Cotton Exports, 1800-1860
 - S. cotton feeds N. economy
 - of total US exports
- Southerners = New Aristocracy in Cotton Kingdom
 - Economic power =
- Pro-Slavery Arguments:
 - S. Whites find justification in the
 - → slavery = property rights
 - → plantation as a family
 - Slavery = good for slaves and for the nation



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Excerpt from George Fitzhugh, *Cannibals All!, or, Slaves Without Masters*

“The negro slaves of the South are the happiest, and, in some sense, the freest people in the world. The children and the aged and infirm work not at all, and yet have all the comforts and necessities of life provided for them. They enjoy liberty, because they are oppressed neither by care nor labor. The women do little hard work, and are protected from the despotism of their husbands by their masters. The negro men and stout boys work, on the average, in good weather, not more than nine hours a day. The balance of their time is spent in perfect abandon.”

The Evidence

- “A Mississippi Plantation”
 - Is there any evidence that slaves were treated well?
 - Evidence that they were treated poorly?
- “Accounts of Slavery”
 - How does this source differ from/compare to “A Mississippi Plantation?”



Slave Labor & Living

- **Slave Markets**
 - → any slave's identity could be disrupted as easily as a price on paper
 - → transformed to become persons with prices
 - White men can become

