

U.S. Treasury Auctions (B)

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Slavery In Action



Were Families Kept Together, Young Children Taken From Their Mother?

- families were not always kept together
- Louisiana, illegal to take kids >11
- most people didn't follow this rule
- families often never see each other again
- the women slaves were mostly remarried
- slaves begged to have keep children



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Introduction

This presentation talks about slave auctions.

- held in the 1700's to 1800's
- slavery dominated Southern States in 1800's
- they were considered as property
- slave auctions were terrifying for slaves

Now presenting how Slave Auctions work

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Slave Auction Block



How Were Slaves Prepared?

- they were washed with tar & grease
- they were placed in a pen
- they were branded with hot iron
- branded, so they could be identified
- they were fed to look healthier
- posters were put up to advertise

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How were slaves examined by the purchasers?

- they were inspected posture, teeth, wounds, etc.
- they will ask them questions (accomplishments)
- healthiest would be bid off first
- would also be inspected by age
- were stripped to see their healthiness
- muscles would be pinched, show strength

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How Was Price Determined?

- less valued: crippled, runaway, sick, vice, etc.
- more valued: artisan, blacksmith, carpenter, cook, etc.
- lower price for elderly and children
- how much can the slaves produce
- higher when hard worker and stronger
- they were sold to the highest bid

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Two types of auctions

1. The grab and go slave auction
 - Pay before, receive ticket, grab & go
 - gates open they grab a slave
2. The people who bid the most price
 - will be examined and then bid
 - sick: low price; healthy: high price

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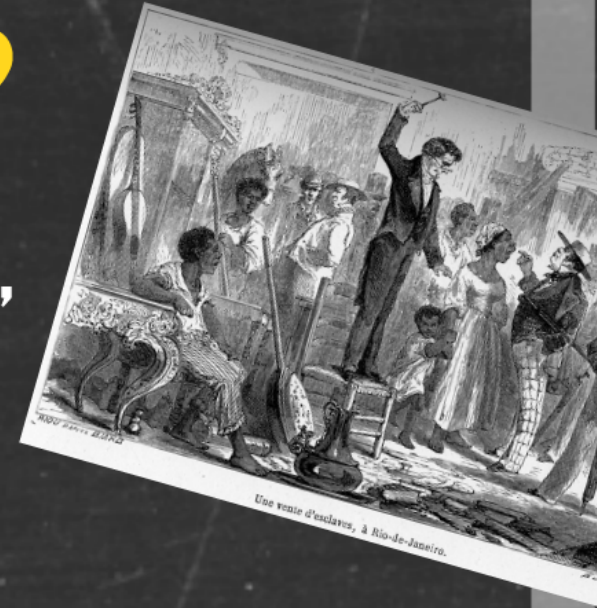
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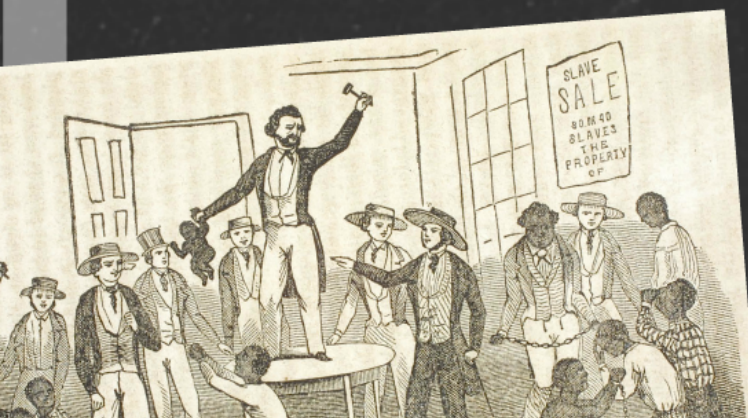
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