



# **Emancipation**

*Art of the United States of America*

**Rebecca Hinson**

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**Rebecca Hinson**



Dedicated to my dear friend, Keith Kopp  
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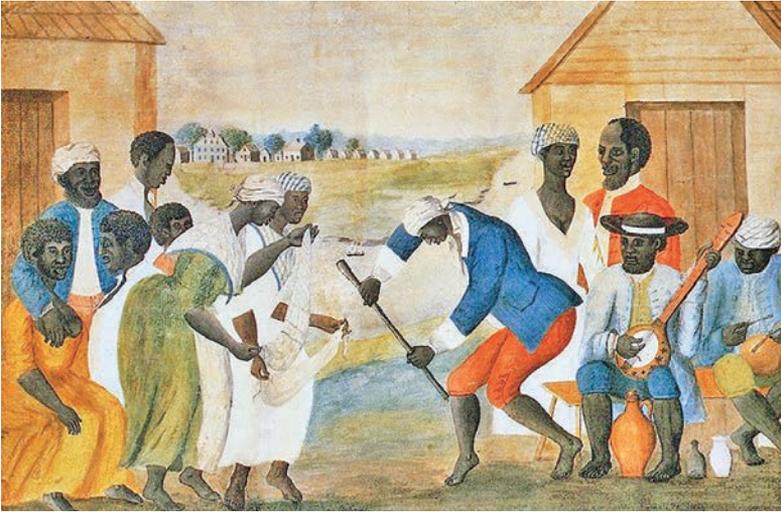
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The first Africans to arrive in British America are shipped to Jamestown, Virginia, in 1619. There they are forced to work as slaves for white farmers, planting and harvesting crops.



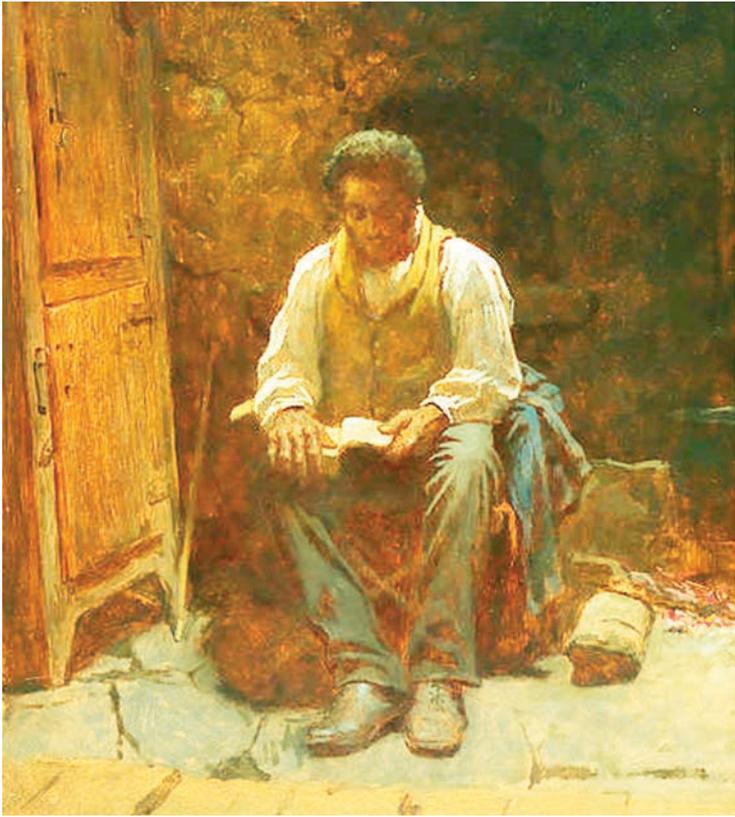
Slavery spreads throughout the American colonies, especially to the southern plantations, which harvest tobacco, indigo, rice, and cotton.



Slaves are sold at auction to the highest bidder, often splitting up families. Some owners withhold adequate food and clothing. Others neglect the elderly after they are too old to work.



Often slaves are overworked and sometimes brutally beaten. By 1804, all Northern states abolish slavery. Abolitionists demand the abolition of slavery in the Southern states.



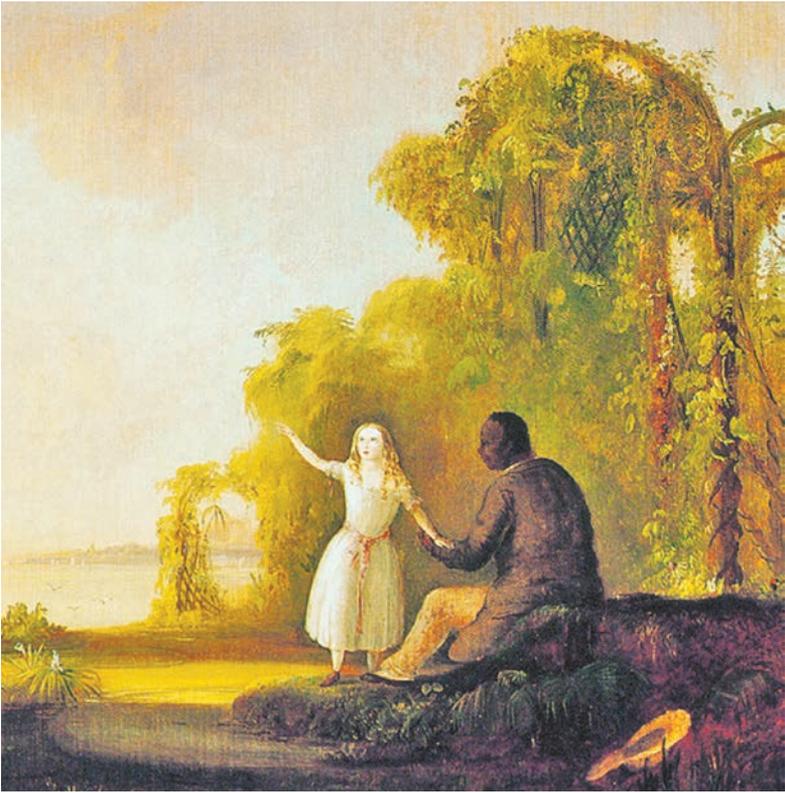
**Some slaves try to escape to the North. Some rebel against their masters. In response, slavery laws in the South become even harsher. Teaching a slave to read or write becomes illegal.**



**Both black and white abolitionists begin working together to end slavery. The memoirs of a former slave, Frederick Douglass, becomes a bestseller that aids the cause.**



Helped by abolitionists, slaves escape to free states and Canada. The network of secret routes, safe houses, and station masters is called the Underground Railroad.



The anti-slavery novel, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, increases Northern anger at the injustices of slavery but enrages Southerners.



After Abraham Lincoln is elected President in 1860, seven slave states break away (secede) to form the Confederate States of America. Lincoln refuses to recognize the Confederacy, declaring secession illegal.



Jefferson Davis is chosen to lead the Confederacy as President. The Confederacy fires on U.S. Fort Sumter in Charleston, S.C., taking it by force, beginning the Civil War.



**Determined to preserve the Union, Abraham Lincoln responds as commander-in-chief to put down the rebellion. He calls on the states for troops. Four more Southern states secede.**