

# Reform Movements of the 1800s

Reform means to make changes or  
improvements in Society

# Temperance Movement

- Reformers worked to prevent alcohol abuse and urged people to stop drinking hard liquor.
- Believed that Americans drank too Much and that alcohol abuse caused social problems
- Problems like poverty, family violence, and criminal behavior.



Hi-lite:

What did alcohol abuse cause?

# Treatment of Prisoners and the Mentally Ill

- Main reformer: Dorothea Dix of Massachusetts
- Witnessed the horrors of debtors' prisons and the cruel treatment of the mentally ill.
- Informed state governments of the shocking treatment and helped pass laws against debtors' prisons and to help the mentally ill.

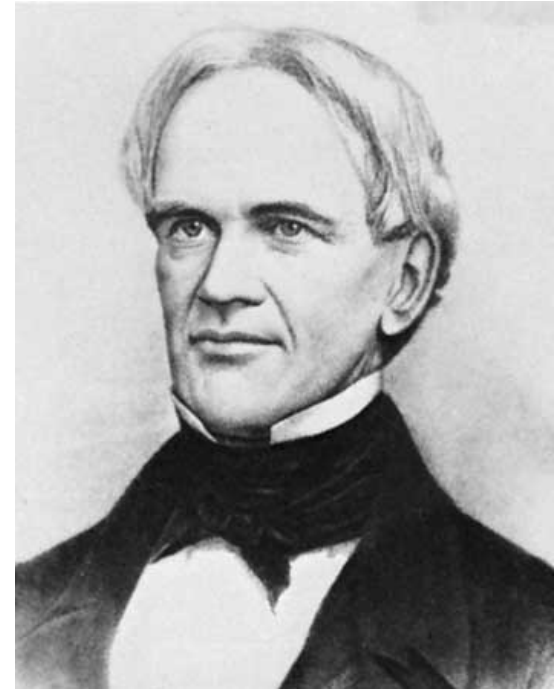


Hi-lite:

How did Dorothea Dix help to reform prisons and treatment of the mentally ill?

# Improving Education

- Main reformer: Horace Mann
- Most American children in the 1800s had little education.
- The expansion of education began in the Northern cities to help fight crime and poverty.
- Public schools started to educate white boys, and later included girls.
- African Americans and other minority groups were discriminated against in schools for many years.

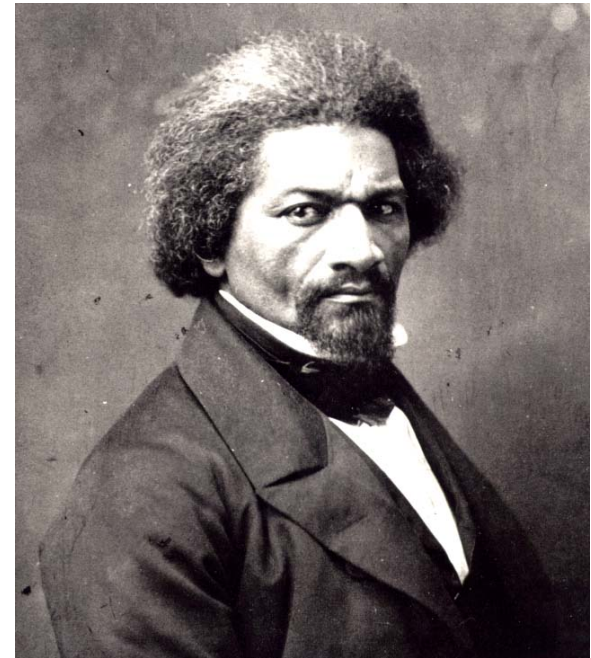


Hi-lite:

Why did Horace Mann want to expand education, starting in Northern cities?

# Fighting Slavery

- Main reformers: Abolitionists
- Many Northern and Southern Americans accepted slavery for its cheap labor and cheap cotton.
- Northern states began to end slavery in the early 1800s when the slave trade ended.
- Reformers in the 1800s began the movement to end slavery throughout the country.



Hi-lite:  
Why did many Americans  
accept slavery?

# Equal Rights for Women

- Main reformers: Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony
- Women faced unequal treatment in education, work, and the law
- Advocates for women fought for the right to vote and equal treatment.
- The Seneca Falls Convention marked the beginning of the Women's Movement.



Hi-lite:  
What began the women's movement?

# Women in the 1800s

- A Woman was considered the property of her husband. Women could not own their own property.
- Husbands had the right to “discipline” their wives.
- After marriage, women could not own property, control their wages, or sign a contract.
- Women could not serve on a jury, bring a lawsuit or sue in court.
- Women could not attend most colleges and universities.
- Women could not vote or hold elective offices.

