Bell Ringer: Division in the Antebellum Era

Instructions: Read the background information. Examine the map. Answer the questions.

Background: During the Antebellum Era, the Northern economy became heavily industrialized. Yet, the states in the South were based on agriculture. Above, you see the areas highlighted where slavery was prevalent.

1. Why do you think slavery was dominantly present in the South?
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2. How were the different economies in the North and South impacting the perspectives of the different regions in terms of slavery?
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ANSWERS:
1. Why do you think slavery was dominantly present in the South?
The Southern economy was agrarian. Therefore, they used forced human labor to keep their economy thriving.

2. How were the different economies in the North and South impacting the perspectives of the different regions in terms of slavery?
The Northern economy was based on industry and was not directly dependent on slavery. Though, the North was indirectly dependent upon the resources of the South. The South needed slavery to keep their economy going. Therefore, many in the North became sympathetic toward slaves and wanted them free. Yet, many in the South justified slavery to accomplish their own goals.