Media Chart (Answer Key)

|  | How did abolitionists use the media to fight for the end of slavery?  *(Consider how the ideas presented by Douglass and Garrison supported the goals of the Abolition Movement.)* |
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| Frederick Douglass*The Meaning of the Fourth of July for the Slave,* Speech*Our Paper and Its Prospects,* Editorial in *The North Star* | * The North Star was the first newspaper with an all-black staff. This gave black people a stronger voice in the abolitionist movement to fight for their own freedoms. A newspaper with an all-black staff also challenged the racist stereotype that black people were not as intelligent as white people. The belief that black people were inferior to white people was fundamental to justifying slavery, and The North Star undermined this idea. * Douglass’ reasoning for why slavery should be abolished was that it was dehumanizing and unjust because it treated people like property. * Further, the U.S. celebrated freedom and the voice of the people in government, yet denied freedom and rights to black people. Therefore, Douglass argued, slavery was hypocritical and stood against the values on which the U.S. was founded. |
| William L. Garrison*Defense of His Positions,* Speech*To The Public,* Editorial in *The Liberator* | * Garrison argued that, if we believe all men are created equal and have certain inalienable rights, then slavery must be abolished. In other words, Americans had a moral responsibility to be abolitionists, because slavery and the racism that enabled it actively denied equality and rights to many people. * Garrison argued that the laws making slavery legal were not valid and had to be repealed. * Further, Garrison said, because slavery and freedom are opposed, and freedom is an inherent American value, slavery was a national emergency that needed to be immediately addressed and abolished. |