North-South Differences

ISSUE	NORTH	SOUTH
Slavery	Wanted to abolish slavery.	Supported slavery.
States' rights	Believed in a strong national government.	Believed that states had the right to rule themselves.
Economy	Based on factories, mining, banks, stores, and railroads.	Based on agriculture, including cotton, tobacco, and rice. Cotton was shipped north to make cloth and thread.
Tariffs	Favored high tariffs on goods from other countries so goods manufactured in North cost less and would outsell foreign goods.	Favored low tariffs because they bought so many goods from other countries.
Culture	Had a number of large cities offering museums, opera, lectures, theaters.	Had few large cities other than Richmond, Charleston, Savannah, Augusta.
Education	Many private schools, including church- sponsored schools, accepted both boys and girls. Some public schools were open to both. Private universities such as Brown, Harvard, Yale were opening.	No formal educational system in the South. Private tutors or school abroad were options for upper class. Some community schools but teachers were not usually trained. Some state- chartered universities such as University of Georgia, University of North Carolina, and some private schools such as Suwanee (University of the South).
Sectionalism	Northern states believed that their stand against slavery and their concerns over tariffs, culture and lifestyle made them the favored, and therefore best, section of the country.	Southern states believed that their stand on slavery was just, their concerns over tariffs were fair, and their culture and lifestyle were to be treasured. They believed in the rights of states to determine their own destiny. They knew their section of the country was best.