

IT WAS PENNSYLVANIA'S JAMES WILSON WHO SUGGESTED THE **THREE-FIFTHS COMPROMISE**.

REFERRING TO SLAVES IN POLITE CODE AS "OTHER PERSONS," THE CONSTITUTION ORIGINALLY DECREED THAT EACH SLAVE WOULD BE COUNTED AS THREE-FIFTHS—OR 60%—OF A FREE MAN OR WOMAN.

TODAY THIS SEEMS REPUGNANT TO THE IDEAS OF LIBERTY THAT FOUNDED THE NATION...

...BUT AT THE TIME NO ONE SAW ANY OTHER WAY TO UNITE THE STATES INTO ONE COUNTRY.

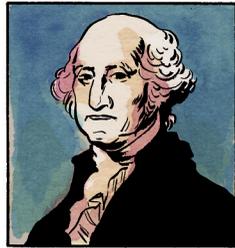
DON'T FORGET, A HORRIFIC **CIVIL WAR** WAS TO BE FOUGHT OVER THIS ISSUE 74 YEARS LATER.

THE THREE-FIFTHS COMPROMISE WOUND UP EMPOWERING SLAVE MASTERS AND THE STATES THEY OFTEN GOVERNED.

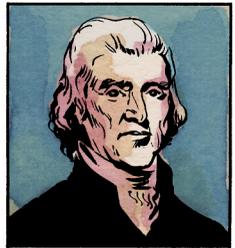
EVEN WITH THE THREE-FIFTHS "DISCOUNT," AS THE SLAVE POPULATION GREW, THE SOUTH BECAME MORE AND MORE POLITICALLY POWERFUL.

VIRGINIA CAME UP THE BIG WINNER. FOR 32 OUT OF THE FIRST 36 YEARS OF THE COUNTRY, THE PRESIDENTS WERE ALL SLAVE-OWNING VIRGINIANS.

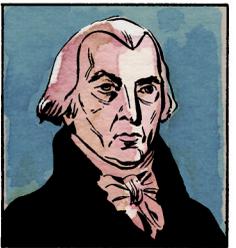
GEORGE WASHINGTON:
1789-1797.



THOMAS JEFFERSON:
1801-1809.



JAMES MADISON:
1809-1817.



JAMES MONROE:
1817-1825.

