

PERSONAL PROFORMA

Martin Frampton, John Edgar & Ian Mason

DEBATE: Causes of the American Civil War (1)

Bleeding Kansas: Whose side are you on, Butternuts?

Saturday 7th December 2024

Resume of talk:-

The debate is concerned with the events in Kansas after it is opened up to American settlement in 1864. It was a race between the philanthropists of New England and settlers from the Southern States as to what kind of society they wished to create. Kansas became a prelude and dress rehearsal to the Civil War and a pawn in the struggle between Congress, the President and the Territorial Administration. It's an account of daring deeds, heroic figures, such as Jim Lane, crass stupidity, needless violence and interfering bushwhackers from Missouri.

Background:-

This is the 4th debate, based upon research by Martin Frampton, the Programme Officer. It is the second of a series on American conflicts begun during the Covid lockdown. Two conflicting arguments are formulated by the different groups of settlers, nobly represented by John Edgar, the Education Liaison Officer and Ian Mason, the Deputy Chairman. The audience are encouraged to question and vote for the best argument put forward.