

VISUAL 11.1

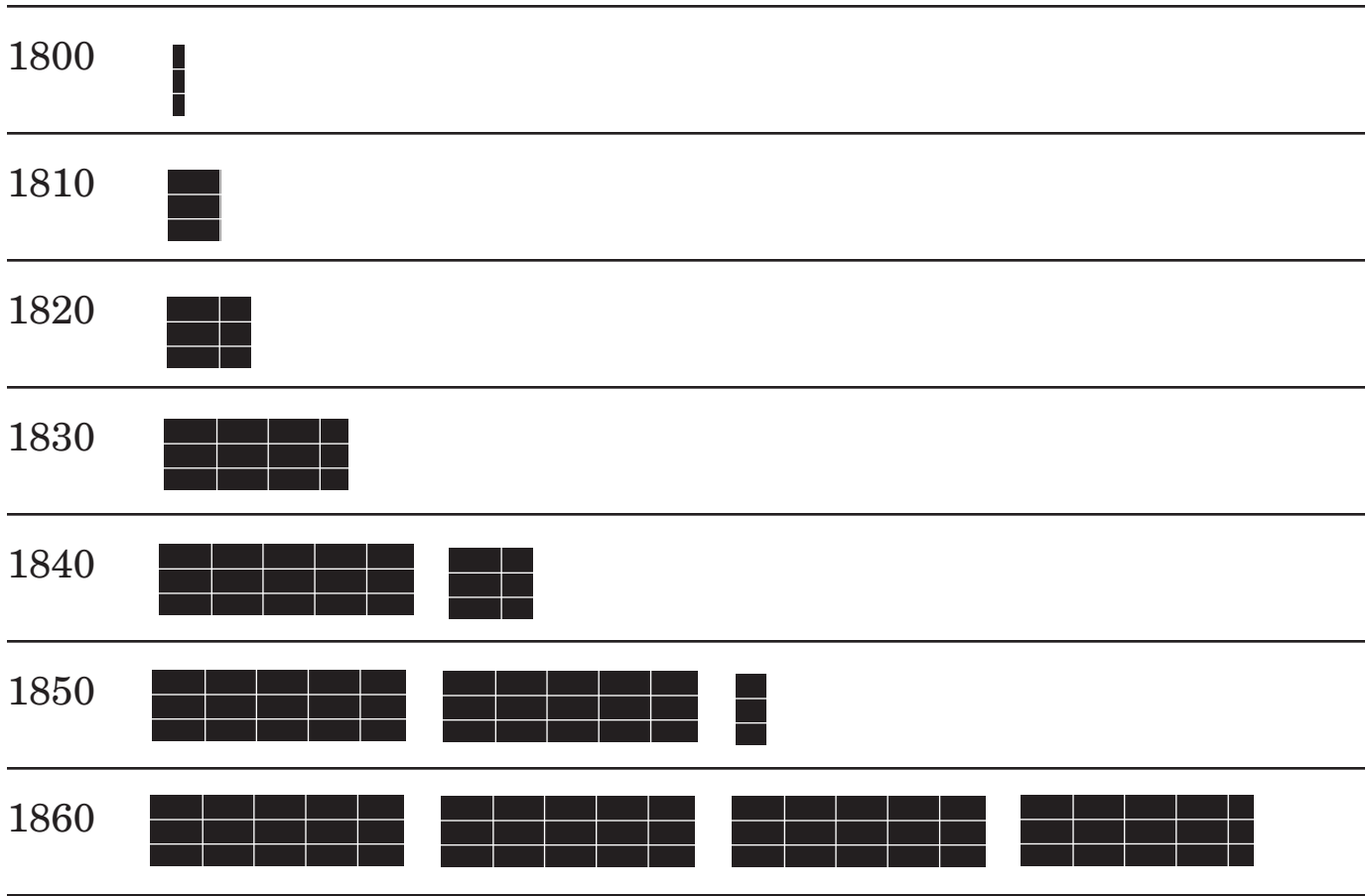
HOW DID COTTON BECOME KING?

1. In the early 1800s, the economy in the American South looked bleak.
 - Normal trade partnerships with Britain, Spain and Portugal had been weakened in the aftermath of the Revolution.
 - Rice prices were declining.
 - The market for tobacco was stagnant.

2. But before long the American South experienced a dramatic change. During the first half of the nineteenth century, cotton production boomed in the South, growing from less than 200,000 bales in 1800 to more than 4,000,000 bales per year just before the Civil War.

3. What encouraged such rapid growth in the production of a single crop throughout the American South?

VISUAL 11.2 COTTON PRODUCTION, 1800-1860



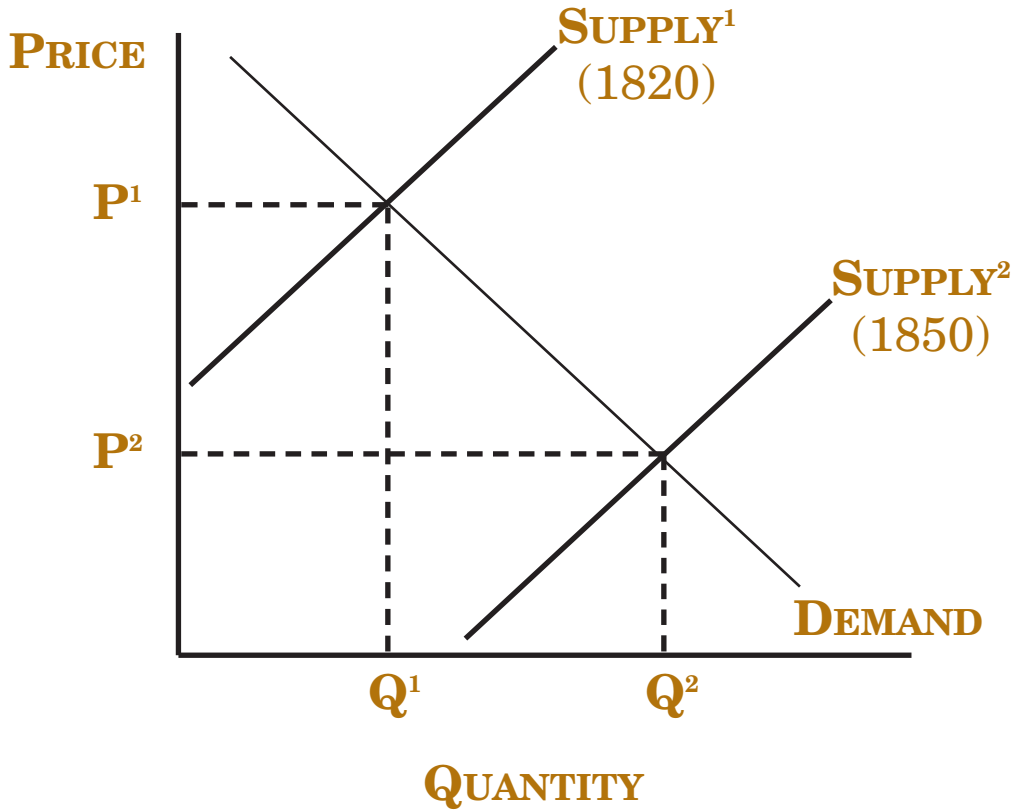
 = 200,000 bales of cotton

VISUAL 11.3
COTTON PRODUCTION AND PRICES

1820 120,000 bales of cotton sold at a market price of 18 cents

1850 2,100,000 bales of cotton sold at a market price of 13 cents

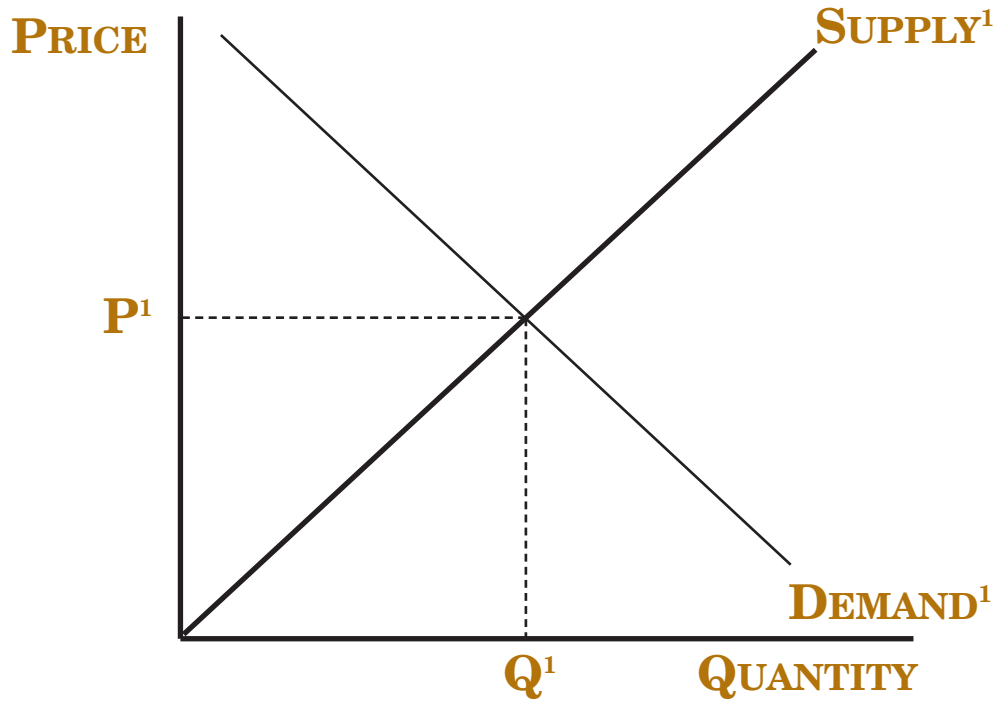
VISUAL 11.4
COTTON PRODUCTION AND PRICES



SUPPLY OF COTTON INCREASES, 1820-1850

VISUAL 11.5

SUPPLY AND DEMAND FOR BEAVER PELTS, EARLY 1800S



VISUAL 11.6

SUPPLY AND DEMAND FOR BEAVER PELTS, EARLY 1800S
ANSWERS

