

# The War of 1812

## America's

## Second War for Independence?

# Causes of the War

- Napoleonic Wars
  - Resumed in 1803



# Causes of the War

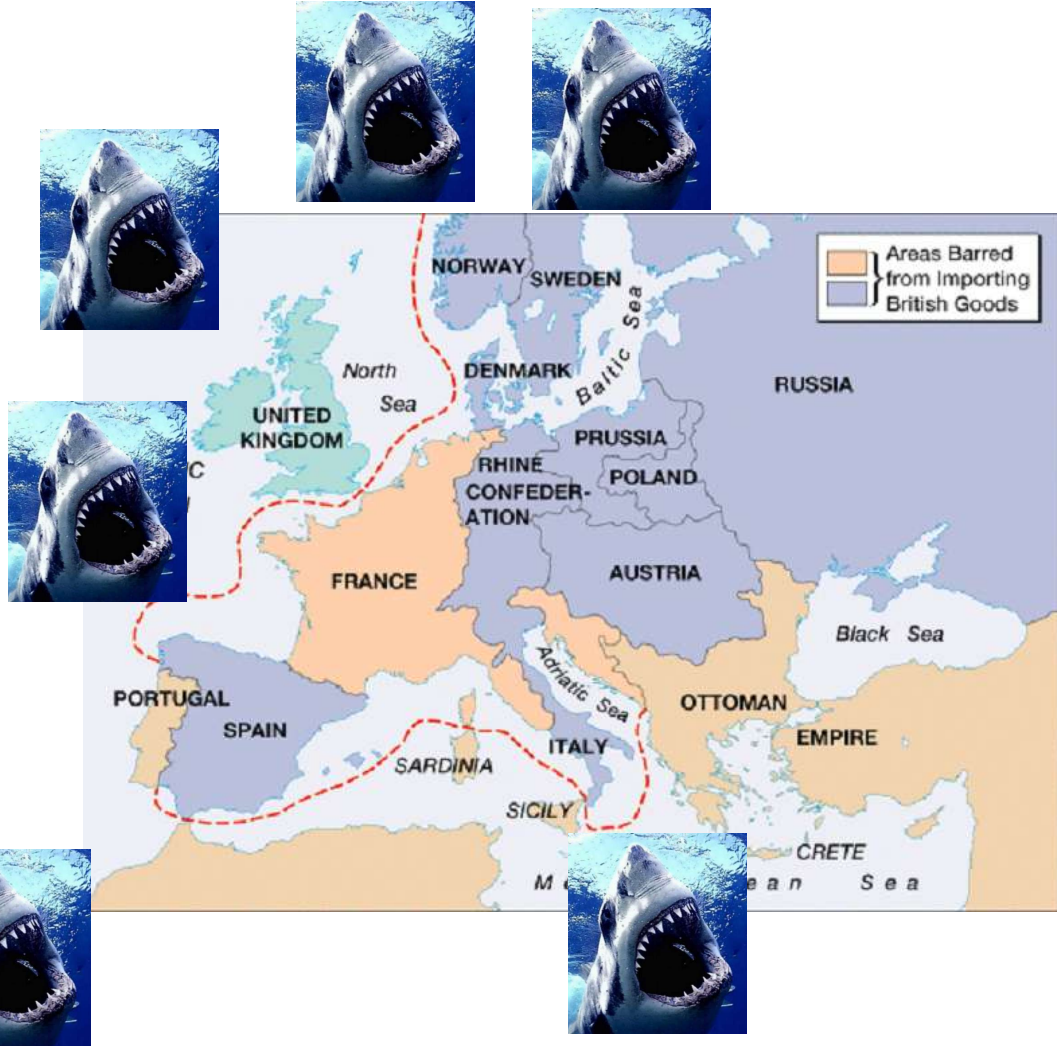
- Economics: 1806-07

- *Berlin & Milan Decrees* issued by Napoleon

- Restricted neutral trade with Britain

- *Orders of Council* issued by Britain

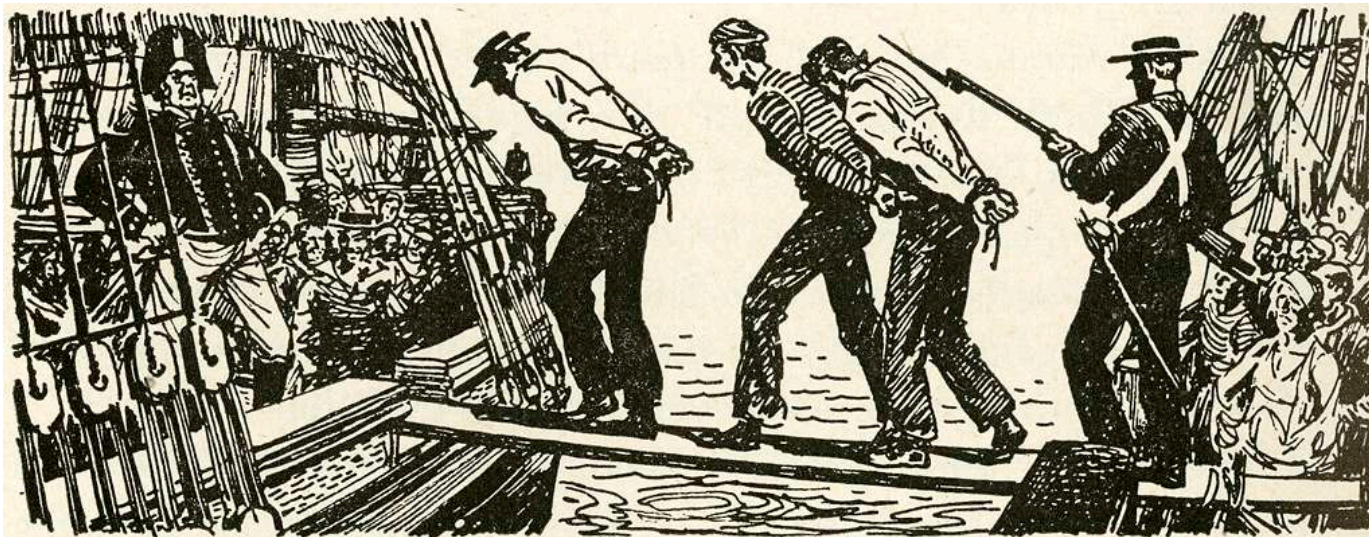
- Restricted trade with continent





# Causes of the War

- Impressment
  - As many as 6,000 Americans impressed by British
  - French tended to confiscate property

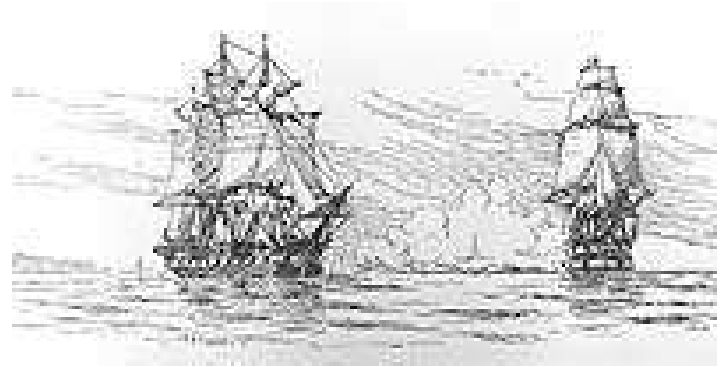


# Causes of the War

- Seizure of US ships and impressment
- Am resentment of Britain
- Am belief that Br were arming Indians and inciting attacks
- Territorial ambitions of US
  - Florida
  - Canada

# Chesapeake-Leopard Affair

- 1807
- Br demanded to board Am naval vessel
- Am refused
- Br opened fire, boarded ship, took 4 “deserters”
  - 3 were American
  - 1 confirmed deserter
- Am people demanded Jefferson respond





The happy Effects of that Grand System of shutting Ports against the English!!

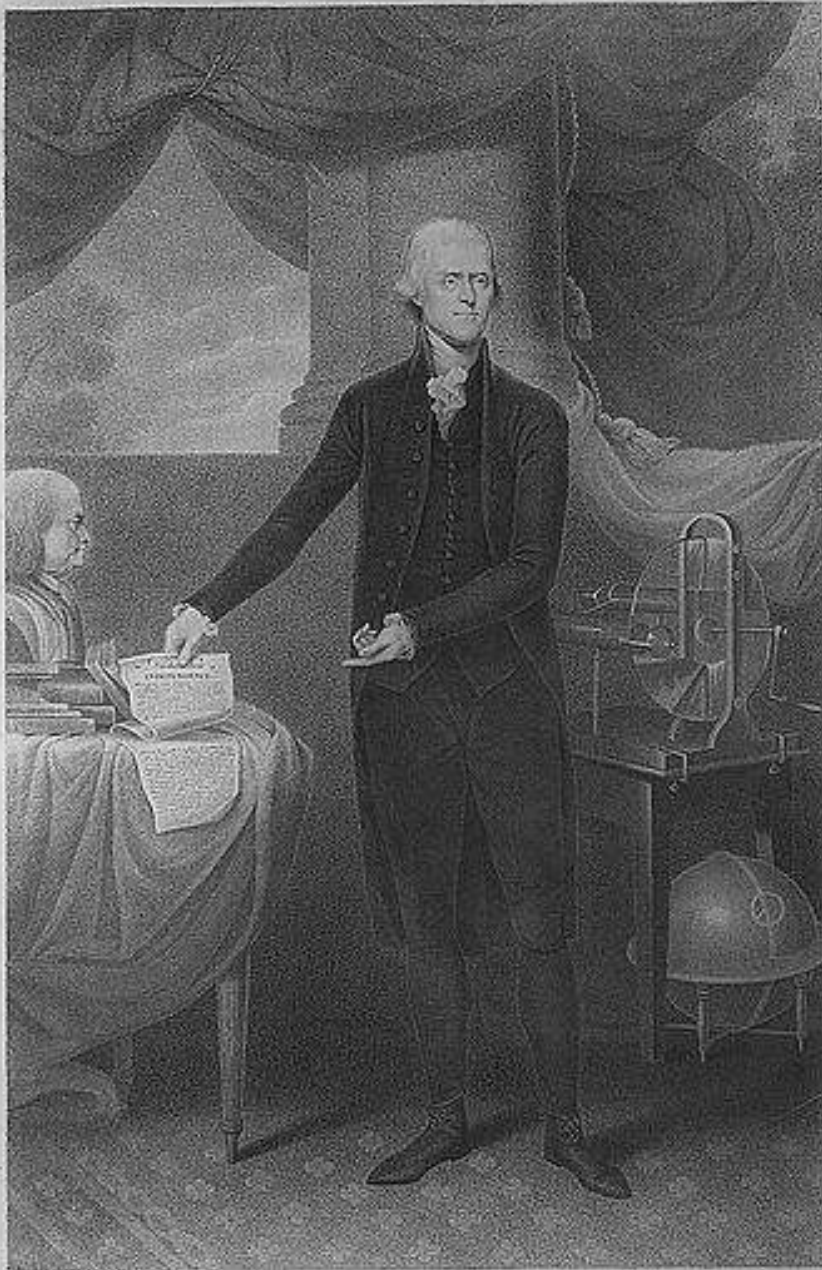
# Jefferson's Response





# Jefferson's Response

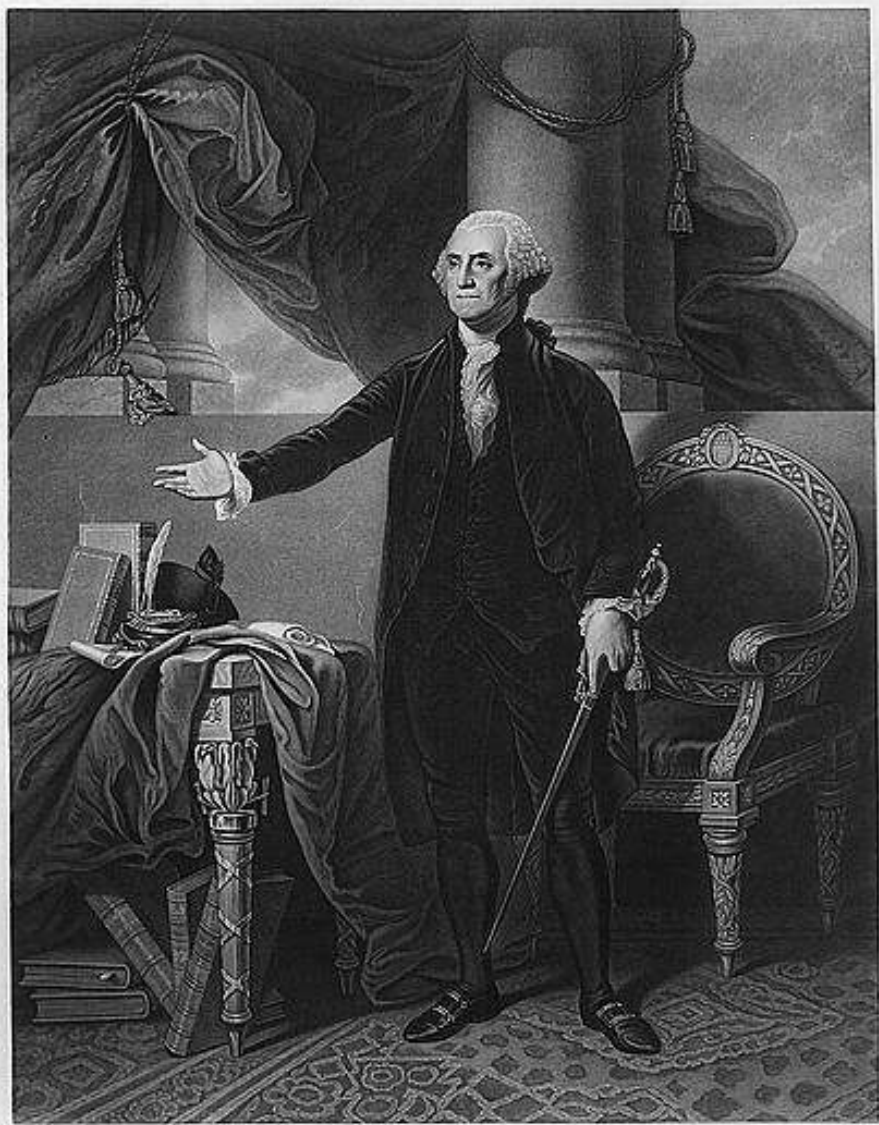
- Embargo Act
  - 1807
  - American ships could not sail to foreign ports/prohibited American exports to foreign ports
  - “peaceable coercion”
- Repealed in 1809\*
  - 3 days before Jefferson left office
- Non-Intercourse Act
  - 1809
  - Only prohibited trade with GB and Fr



Did Jefferson  
outfederalize  
the  
Federalists?

- Continued  
BUS
- LA Purchase
- Non-  
Importation Act





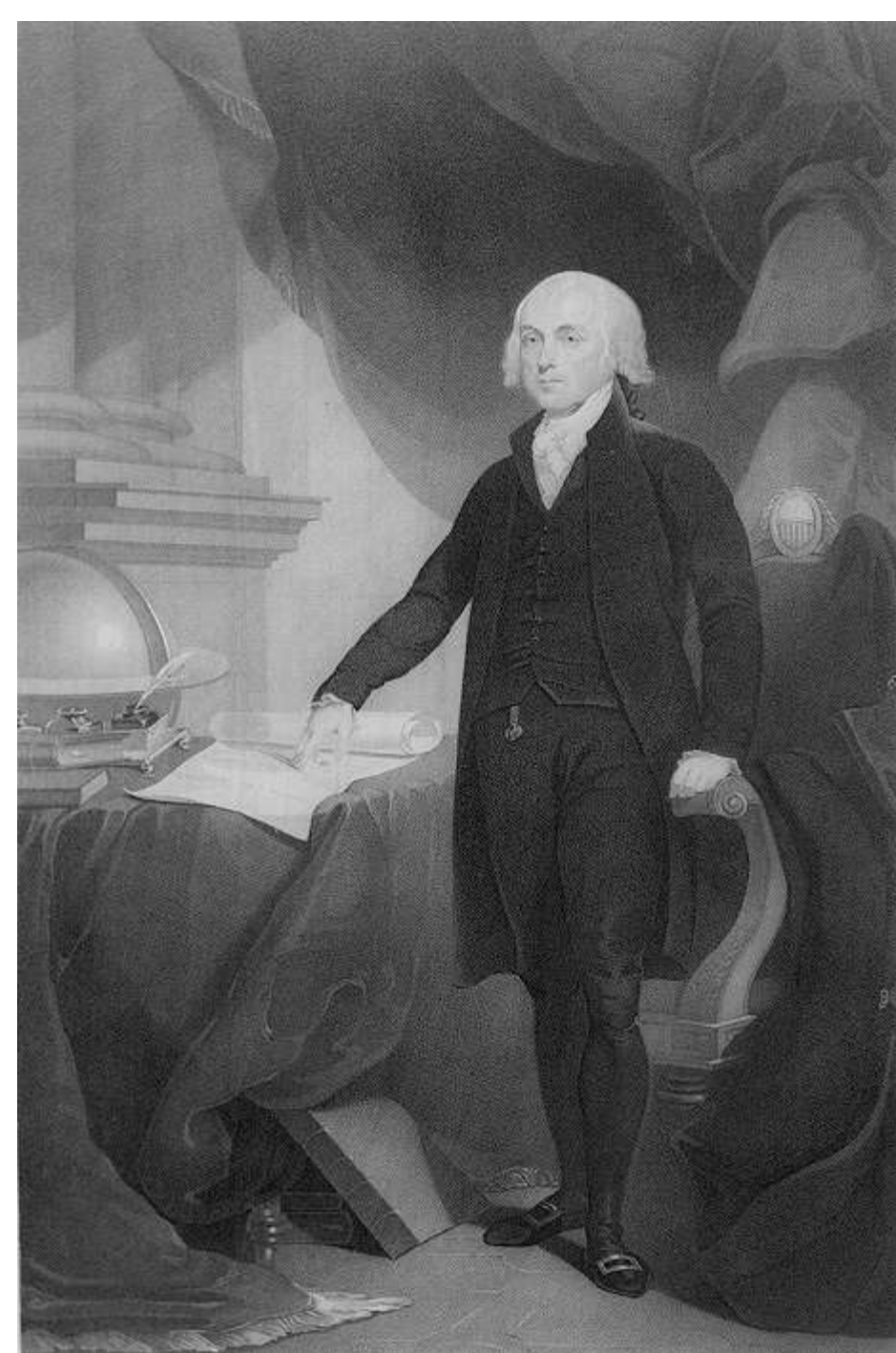
GEORGE WASHINGTON.

*Painted by M. B. S. P. 1796.*



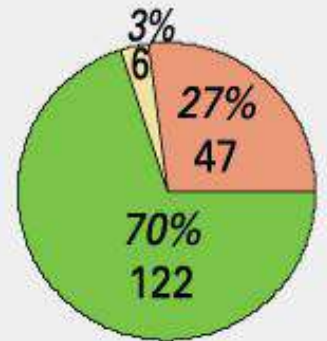
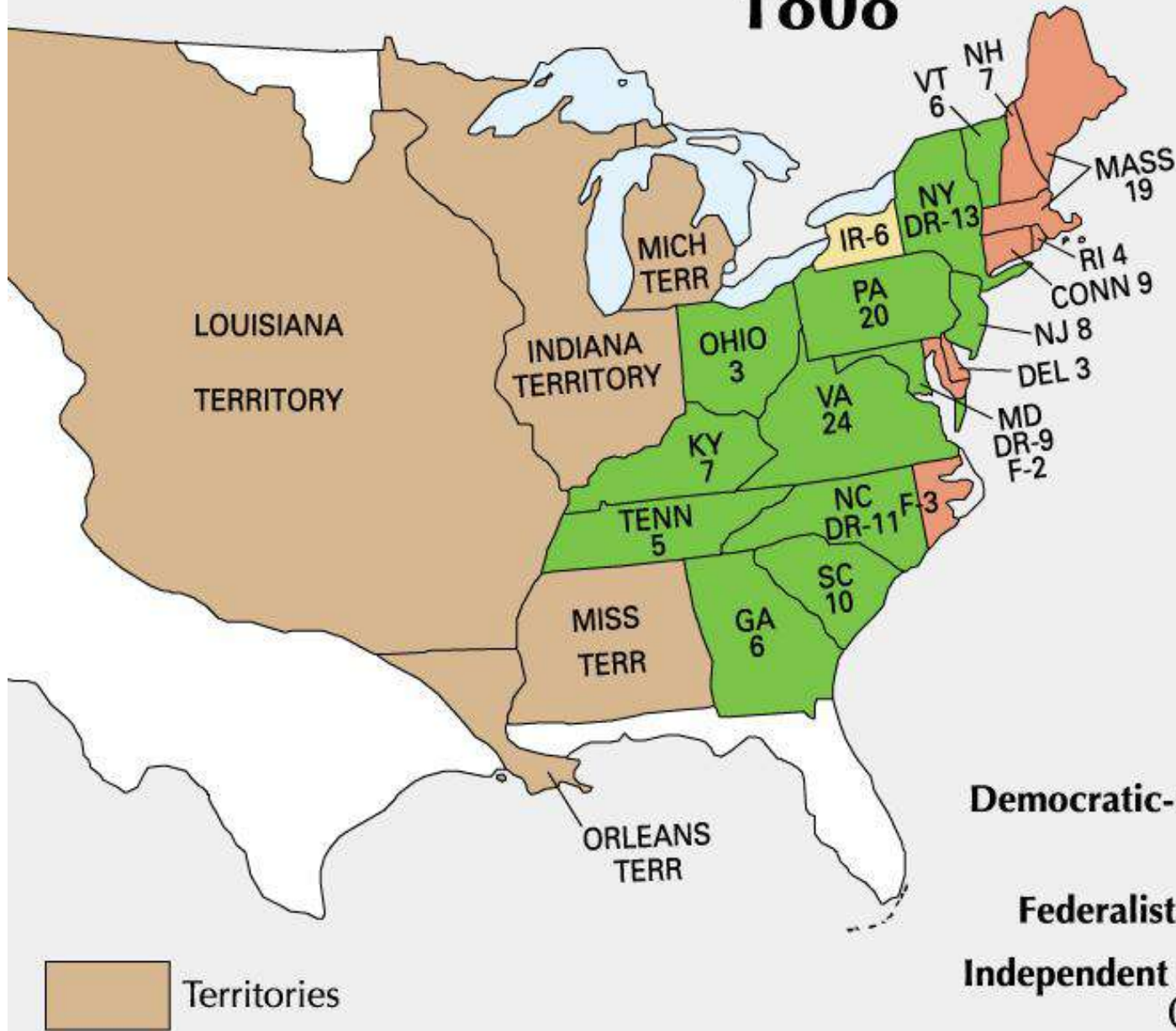
# James Madison

- Clear winner of 1808 election
- Inherits problems:
  - Continues Non-Intercourse Act
    - 1809-1812
    - US would reopen trade with either FR/GB if they repealed restrictions
    - Briefly suspended when Britain agreed to US demands, but then GB repudiated → further angered Americans
  - Macon's Bill No. 2
    - 1810
    - US would reopen trade with country that removed restrictions first and stop trade with their enemy
    - Napoleon manipulated and Madison accepted early in 1811
    - GB repealed restrictions in mid-1812, but US declared war prior to arrival of news





# 1808



**ELECTORAL VOTE**  
**TOTAL VOTING: 175**  
**NOT VOTING: 1**



# A Scene on the Frontiers as practiced by the Humane British and their Worthy Allies

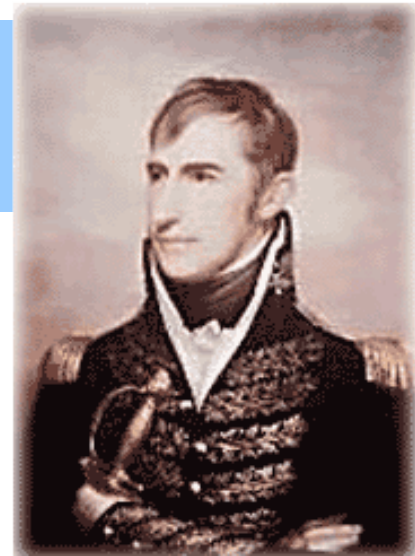


“Bring me the scalps and the King our master will reward you”



# Battle of Tippecanoe

- 1811
- General William Henry Harrison → Governor of Indiana Territory
- Tecumseh organized a confederacy to resist loss of land
- Harrison defeated Tecumseh's forces
  - Burned “Prophetstown”
  - Tecumseh's forces never recovered
- British were blamed for instigating

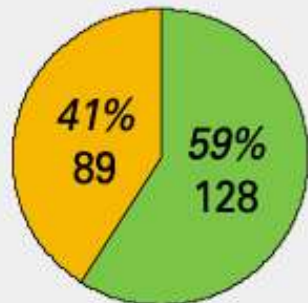
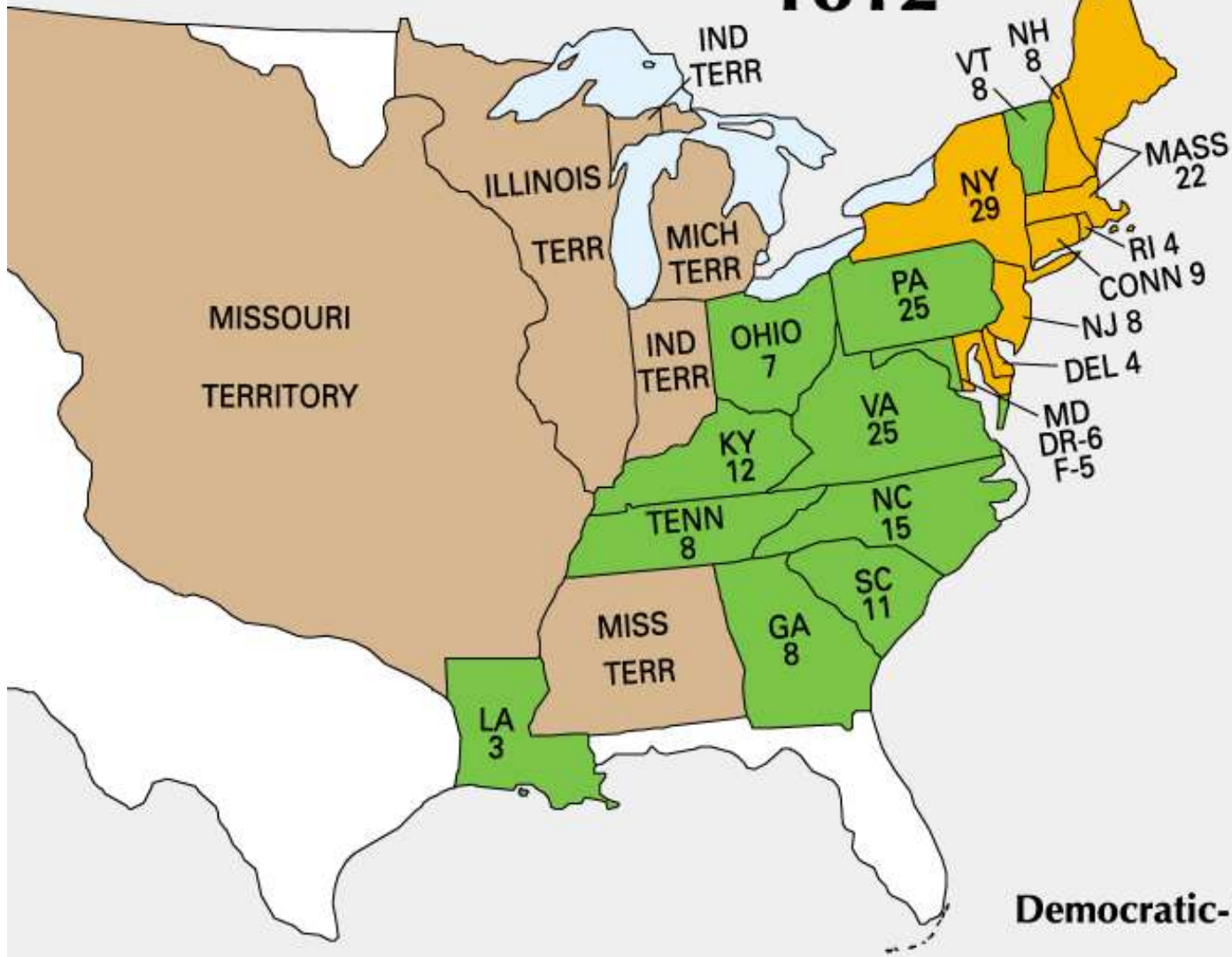


# War Hawks





- Democrat-Republicans
  - Gaining strength in the party
- Advocated going to war with Britain

# 1812



**ELECTORAL VOTE**  
**TOTAL VOTING: 217**  
**NOT VOTING: 1**

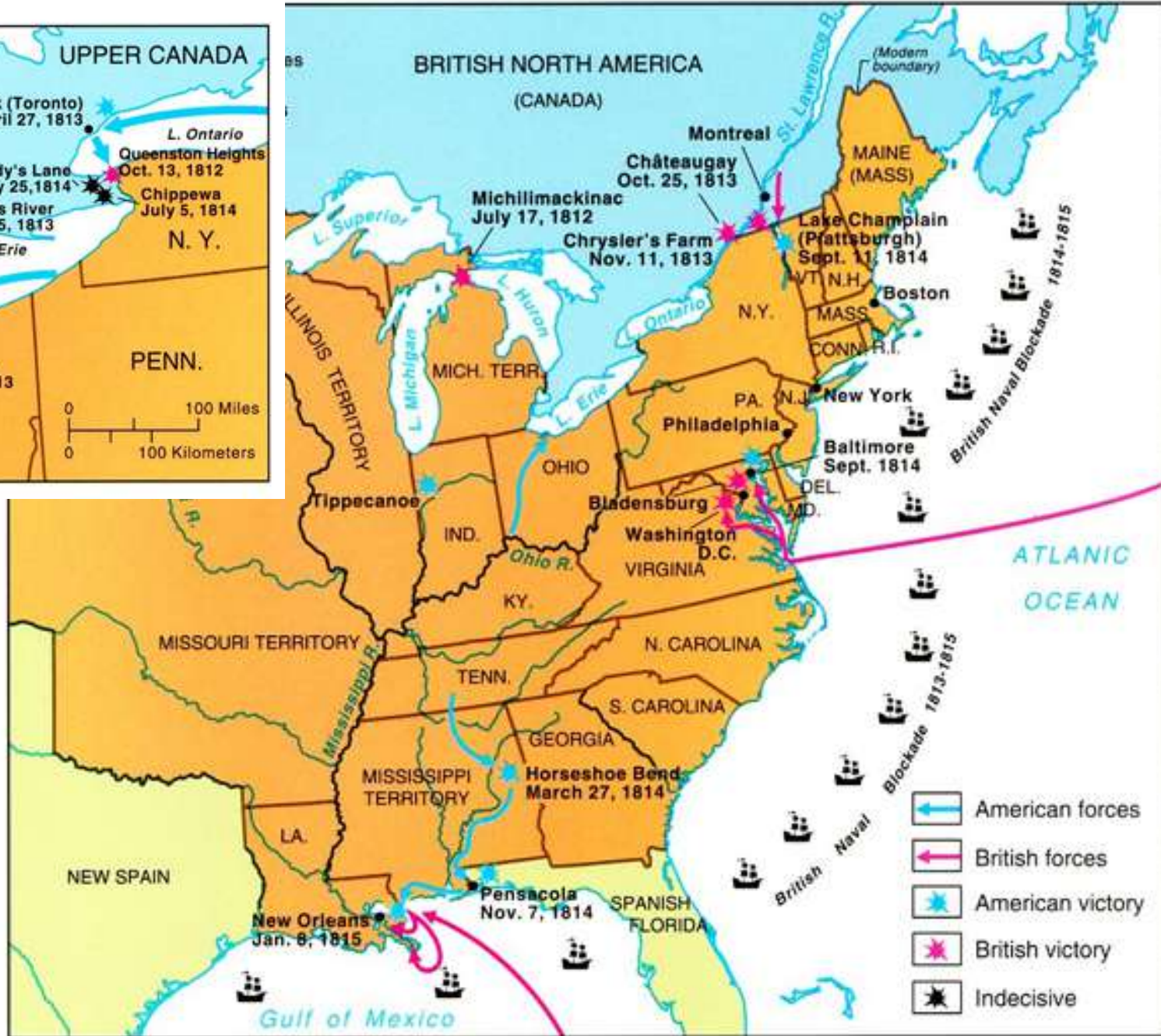
 Territories

**Democratic-Republican (Madison)**   
**Fusion (De W. Clinton)** 



# The War(s) of 1812

- The second "War of Independence" was really three wars:
- On Indians
- To annex Canada
- To assert America's rights at sea



# War Asked For and Declared

- Article I, Section 8:
  - “Congress shall have power to ...declare War”
- War of 1812
  - House of Rep → 79-49
  - Senate → 19-13

US has formally  
declared war 5 times:

War of 1812	Mex-Am War		
Sp-Am War	WWI	WWII	

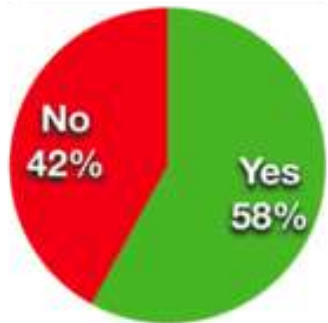
# Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq

## Resolution of 2002

Senate	Yes	No	NV
Rep	48	1	0
Dem	29	21	0
Ind	0	1	0
Total	77	23	0

House	Yes	No	NV
Rep	215	6	2
Dem	81	126	1
Ind	0	1	0
Total	296	133	3

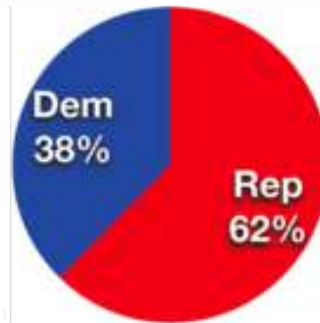
Senate Democrats



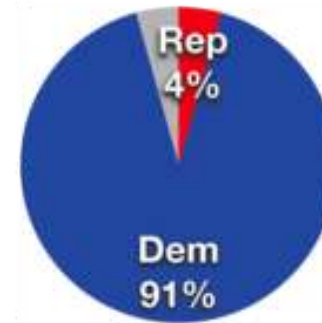
Senate Republicans



Senate Yea



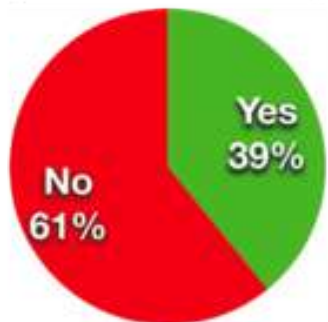
Senate Nay



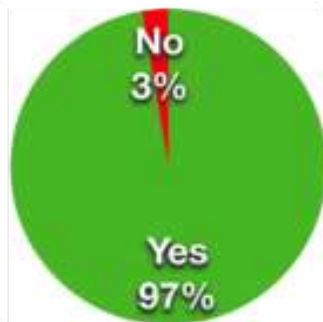
Senate NV



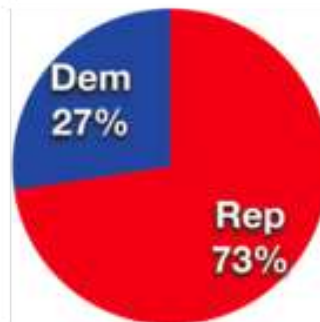
House Democrats



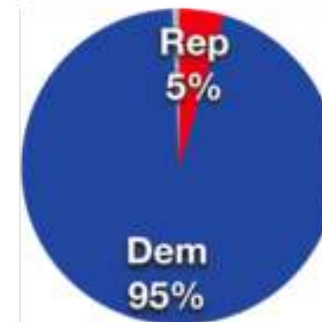
House Republicans



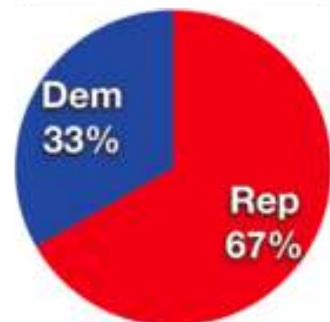
House Yea



House Nay



House NV





**BY THE PRESIDENT**  
**OF THE**  
*United States of America,*  
**A PROCLAMATION.**

**W**HEREAS the Congress of the United States, by virtue of the Constituted Authority vested in them, have declared by their act, bearing date the eighteenth day of the present month, that WAR exists between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the dependencies thereof, and the United States of America and their territories; Now, therefore, I, JAMES MADISON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the same to all whom it may concern: and I do specially enjoin on all persons holding offices, civil or military, under the authority of the United States, that they be vigilant and zealous, in discharging the duties respectively incident thereto: And I do moreover exhort all the good people of the United States, as they love their country; as they value the precious heritage derived from the virtue and valor of their fathers; as they feel the wrongs which have forced on them the last resort of injured nations; and as they consult the best means, under the blessing of Divine Providence, of abridging its calamities; that they exert themselves in preserving order, in promoting concord, in maintaining the authority and the efficacy of the laws, and in supporting and invigorating all the measures which may be adopted by the Constituted Authorities, for obtaining a speedy, a just, and an honorable peace.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed to these presents.

(SEAL.)

DONE at the City of Washington, the nineteenth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and twelve, and of the Independence of the United States the thirty-sixth.

(Signed)

JAMES MADISON.

By the President,  
(Signed)

JAMES MONROE, Secretary of State.



# American Lack of Preparedness

- US navy about 12 warships vs. GB 800
- Lacked soldiers and able officers
  - Am preferred enlisting in militia
- Revenue
  - Trade stoppages had limited tariffs
  - Resorted to internal revenue taxes

# Invasions of Canada

- 3 attempts → all fail
  - Detroit
  - Niagara
  - Lake Champlain

Former President Jefferson optimistically referred to the conquest of Canada as **"a matter of marching."**



# National Intelligencer Office,

Tuesday, September 21st, (noon.)

## MOST GLORIOUS NEWS.

Copy of a letter from Com. PERRY to the Secretary of the Navy.

*U. S. Brig Niagara, off the Western Sister, Head of Lake Erie, Sept. 10, 1813, 4, P. M.*

SIR,

It has pleased the Almighty to give to the arms of the United States a signal victory over their enemies on this Lake. The British Squadron, consisting of two Ships, two Brigs, one Schooner and one Sloop, have this moment surrendered to the force under my command, after a sharp conflict.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Very Respectfully,

Your obdt. Servant,

O. H. PERRY.

*The hon. Wm. Jones,  
Secretary of the Navy.*

## SOME PARTICULARS.

*Chillicothe, September 14.*

Late last evening an express arrived in town from gen. Harrison's head-quar-

ters, bringing the highly gratifying intelligence of the capture of the whole of the British fleet on Lake Erie by Commodore Perry. The subjoined extracts of letters from two gentlemen at headquarters, contain the most essential particulars relative to that brilliant affair.

*Camp Seneca, Sept. 12.*

"An express has this moment arrived from Commodore Perry, dated the 10th inst. at 4 P. M. Head of Lake Erie, with the pleasing intelligence of the British fleet, consisting of two ships, two brigs and two schooners, being in our possession, with more prisoners on board than we had men to conquer them. A great many were killed on both sides"

*Camp Seneca, Sept. 12.*

"Victory perches on our Naval Standard! Commodore Perry has captured nearly if not all the enemy's fleet; two ships, two brigs, one sloop, and one schooner; and taken more prisoners than he had men on board."

# Lake Erie

- Battle of Put-in-Bay
- Sept 10, 1813
- Decisive victory for Americans
  - Allowed for recapture of Detroit and attacks against Indians



# Oliver H. Perry's Erie Success



GENERAL HALL    CAPTAIN HULL    CAPTAIN HULL    CAPTAIN HULL    CAPTAIN HULL    CAPTAIN HULL    CAPTAIN HULL    CAPTAIN HULL    CAPTAIN HULL    CAPTAIN HULL    CAPTAIN HULL

THE BATTLE OF LAKE ERIE, COMMODORE O. PERRY'S VICTORY.

WALLACE & GORTON'S LITHO. CO. N.Y.



STATE NO. 12-2001-11



Stop, Stop, Stop Brother Jonathan,  
and halt full with the tide of blood—  
I thought to have been too heavy  
for you — But I must acknowledge  
your superior skill — Two blows to  
my nose! — And so well directed too!  
Merry merry on me, how does  
this happen!!!

Ha, Mr. Johnny you thought yourself a *Boxer* did  
you! — I'll let you know we are an *Enterprising*  
*Nation*, and ready to meet you with equal force  
any day.



A BOXING MATCH, or Another Bloody Nose for JOHN BULL.

“Art is an  
instrument  
of war.”

Picasso

*THE TAKING OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON IN AMERICA*



See the British Army  
 Landing at the City of  
 Washington

*THE CITY OF WASHINGTON THE CAPITAL OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WAS TAKEN BY THE BRITISH BUCKS UNDER MAJOR GEN. ROSS  
 ON AUGUST 24 1814 WHEN THE BARRIERS AND BARRICADES WERE DESTROYED AND THE CITY SET ON FIRE BY THE BRITISH SOLDIERS AND THE GREAT BRIDGE  
 WAS BURNED AND THE CITY WAS BURNED TO THE GROUND*

See the British Army  
 Landing at the City of  
 Washington



# Dolley Madison



friends; but, alas, I can know only groups of  
military wandering in all directions, as if  
there was a lack of arms, or of wish to  
fight for their own firesides!

Three o'clock. — Will you believe it, my  
sister? We have had a battle or skirmish  
near Bladensburg, and I am still here,  
within sound of the cannon! Mr. Madison  
comes not; may God protect him! Two  
magnificent covered with dash come to bid  
me fly; but I wait for him. \* \* \*

At this late hour, a wagon has been procured.  
I have had it filled with the plate and  
most valuable portable articles belonging to  
the house; whether it will reach its  
destination, the Bank of Maryland, or fall  
into the hands of British soldiers, remains  
much uncertain.

Our kind friend, Mr. Carroll, has come  
to hasten my departure, and is in a very  
bad humor with me because I insist  
on waiting until the large picture of  
Gen. Washington is removed, and it  
requires to be answered from the wall.  
This process was found too tedious for this





# The fall of Washington--or Maddy in full flight



# The fall of Washington--or Maddy in full flight

Jonathan  
where thinkest  
thou our  
President will  
run to now!

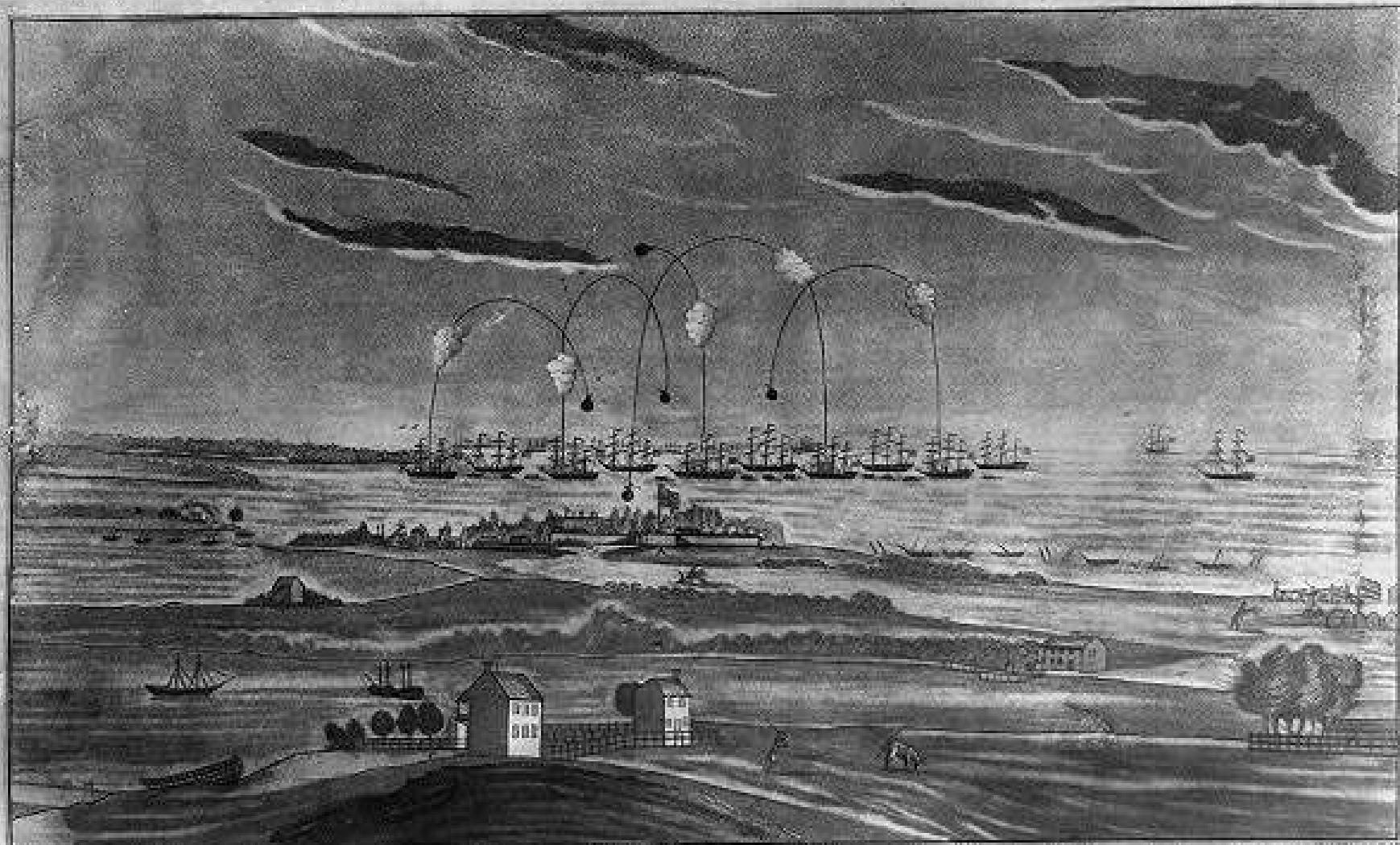
Why verily to  
Elba to his  
bosom friend!

The great Washington  
fought for liberty, but we  
are fighting for shadows,  
which if obtained could  
do us no Earthly good,  
but this is the blasted  
effects of it!

D-n his notes! What are they  
good for now! We should get  
nothing but Iron, he hasn't any of  
his stock of Brass left, and some  
of that would have helped us  
through this business---

Who would have  
thought of this! To  
oblige us to run from  
the best Cabinet  
supper I ever  
ordered – I Hope  
you have taken  
more of Bankers'  
promissory notes,  
the people will stand  
any thing after this.

THE FALL OF WASHINGTON -- or Maddy in full flight.



**A VIEW** of the **BOMBARDMENT** of Fort M'Henry, near Baltimore, by the British fleet taken from the Chesapeake since the Capture of M'Henry, Cockburn, & Cockburn, on the morning of the 24th of Sept. 1814, which had 24 hours, & threw from 140 to 150 shells in the night with rapid success by force of a puffing up the fire of which the fort was repulsed with great loss.

Printed and Sold by  
 J. M. Smith, No. 10, N. York St.  
 & by the Author, at the  
 Office of the Editor, No. 10, N. York St.

# The Star Spangled Banner







# Hartford Convention

- Report and resolutions:
- New England had a "duty" to assert its authority over unconstitutional infringements on its sovereignty
  - Echoed the policy of Jefferson and Madison in 1798 (in the KY and VA Resolutions)
    - Later reappears as "nullification"
- Amendments to the US Constitution.
  - Prohibiting any trade embargo lasting over 60 days
  - Requiring a 2/3 Congressional majority for declaration of offensive war, admission of a new state, or interdiction of foreign commerce
  - Removing the 3/5 representation advantage of the South
  - Limiting future Presidents to one term
  - Requiring each President to be from a different state than his predecessor

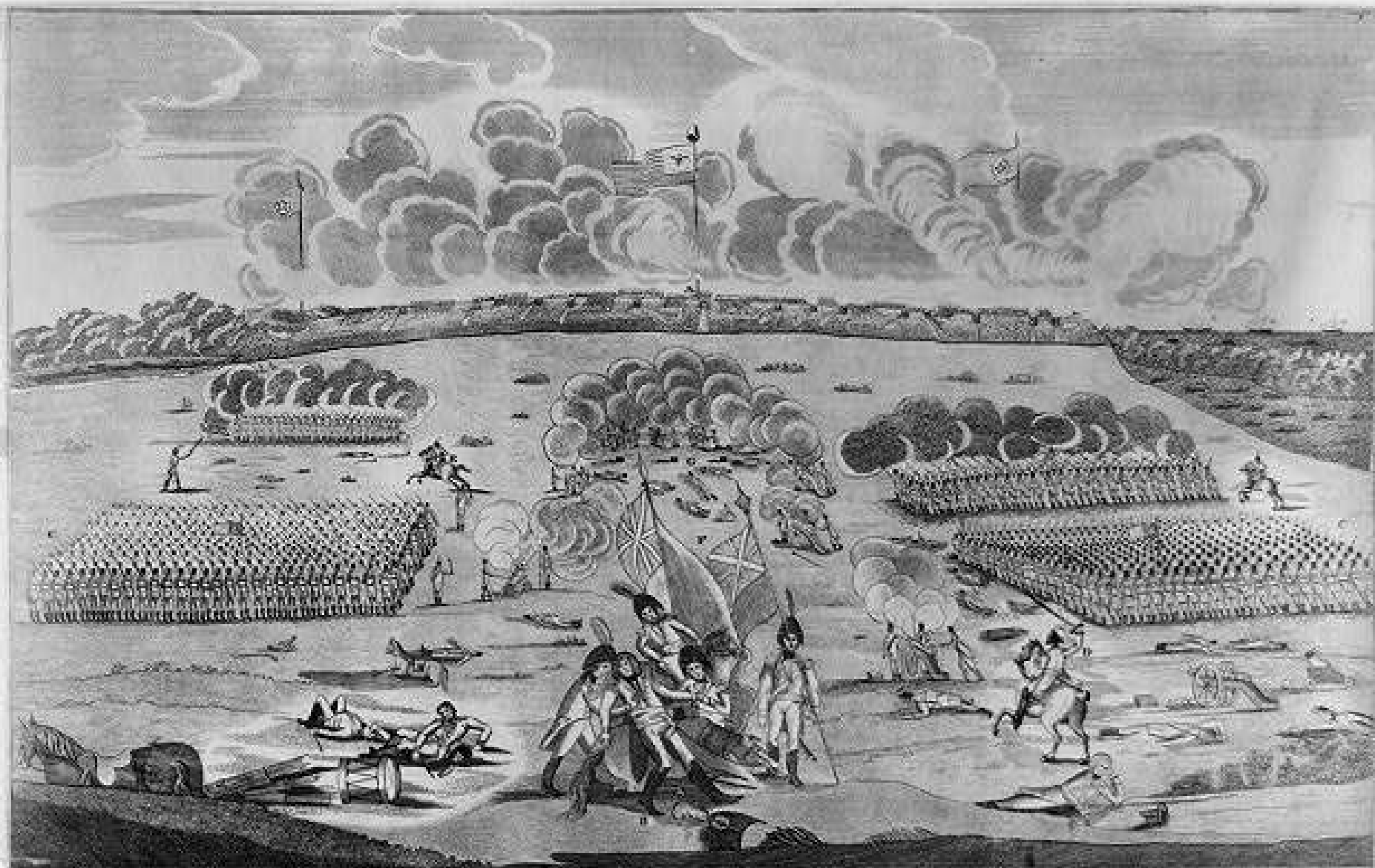


The Hartford Convention or *LEAP NO LEAP.*



- On December 24, the Treaty of Ghent is signed ending the war
- The war in the field continues until mid-February





**A CORRECT VIEW** of the **BATTLE** *Near the City of NEW ORLEANS, on the*  
*Eighth of January, 1815, Under the Command of*  
*Genl. And<sup>r</sup> Jackson, Over 10,000 British Troops, in*  
*which 3 of their most distinguished Generals were killed &*  
*several wounded and upwards of 3,000 of their choicest*  
*Soldiers were killed, wounded, and made Prisoners &c.*



# Glorious News

FROM NEW ORLEANS!

Splendid Victory over the British forces!

ESSEX REGISTER OFFICE, Feb. 9.  
The New-York papers by this morning's mail, furnished us with the following most glorious intelligence from New-Orleans. Gen. JACKSON will be immortalized—the bravery of the Kentuckians, the Tennesseeans, &c. shall be handed down to the latest posterity.—If there ever was a slain upon "rose militia," it was wiped away on the 8th of January. The result of this day's event is of more importance in a national point of view, than any occurrence since the war.

The following is a letter from Mr. La Bine, a French merchant at New-Orleans, to a gentleman of New-York.

New-Orleans, Jan. 9—7 1/2 a.  
The battle of the 8th of January was one of the hottest that we have hitherto had, and has happily terminated in our favor. The enemy at break of day appeared in a body principally upon our left, in order to make a passage and turn our line in that direction—he had for that purpose prepared falling battalions and faucones to fill up the ditch. For nearly two hours the battle was contested with the greatest fury. The enemy was for five minutes in possession of one of our batteries. Not one of those who attempted the assault escaped—they all fell under our cannon and faucones; the greater part of whom we mortally wounded, from 8 to 1000 were killed on the field of battle. The enemy on their retreat carried off as many wounded as they could, and we believe that that day cost them more than 2000 men killed, wounded & prisoners.

We had opposite to the enemy's camp upon the right bank of the river 3 batteries containing altogether 23 pieces of heavy ordnance, which played upon them in flank—their batteries were attacked at the same time as our line, by a party which the enemy landed by means of barges and doops, which were sent down the camp for that purpose. Our batteries being freely guarded, were obliged to be evacuated after spiking all the guns.—We learn this afternoon that the enemy not being able to hold that position and make use of our guns, had contented himself with burning the cargoes, and had crossed the river to return to their camp.

The English General sent yesterday at noon a flag of truce to demand a suspension of arms for 24 hours, to bury the dead and carry away the wounded, which was agreed to by Gen. Jackson.

What will appear to you astonishing and surprising after so hot an affair is, that we have had but 18 or 20 men killed, and from 20 to 60 wounded in that engagement. I hope in my next to inform you of their retreat.

P.S. One of our posts upon Lake Borgne has captured an enemy's brig laden with provisions, which has been burned, and 10 men made prisoners.

Another letter—Jan. 13.  
On Sunday the 8th, the enemy made a very bold attempt by advancing in three columns.—One on the levee, one in the centre, and the other on our left. Their advance was discovered when it was just sufficiently light in the morning to distinguish a man from a horse, at a distance of one hundred yards; when two rockets gave the alarm. Their troops on the levee reached and had in possession our right battery, but fortunately not to hold it long. Their officers, Col. Keane, who had mounted the ramparts, was ordering the 1000 Yankees to surrender, when one of our soldiers shot him dead, and all his men shared his fate or were made prisoners.

The centre and left column that was flanked by the woods, were halted within 400 yards of our lines as soon as they were discovered, our battery opened the most destructive fire perhaps ever witnessed.—The British then attempted the charge, but as soon as they came within reach of our sharpshooters, were obliged to retreat; they made two other attempts to carry

ry their points, but were equally unsuccessful. Such an advice the writer thinks, who was present, was never before heard of.

The enemy lost in killed more than 1000, wounded brought in by our men near 4000—Those who were only slightly wounded got off to their camp. They lost 40 officers, killed, wounded & prisoners, (25 of them prisoners.) Among the killed was Lieut. Gen. Pakenham, Maj. Gen. Gibbs, & Gen. Keane badly wounded.

There was not more than 1000 or 1200 of our men engaged. The centre did not fire a shot, and one half no men it was not regular for both in the rear to fill up. They were engaged in loading the guns of the front line. So rapid was the enemy's movement, and dark night, that several of them came within our picket guards. There was never more determined bravery on both sides than on this occasion. On the opposite side of the river, where we had a small force and a battery, the enemy landed from 4 to 600 men, & by some unaccountable error in our officers, they retreated after spiking their guns.—The enemy however did not long remain, but retreated to the main army again.

Another letter—Jan. 13.  
Their fleet has entered the river, and has been bombarding Fort Plaquemine. The result is most anxiously expected.

Troops are daily arriving, and I fondly hope the enemy will fail in his attempts on this city. Their force originally 3000 men, but they have lost at least 2000 men since they landed. The defence of this place will no doubt astonish you as the North, it has the enemy, by their own confession.

It is reported that the fort at Plaquemine received no injury the first day's bombardment. If the result has been favourable on the 14 day, we have nothing to fear. The enemy must be off.

A Postscript to a letter of the 13th, to Mr. La Bine, says, "It is reported that an express had arrived with the news of the British being repulsed at Plaquemine with the loss of the ship of war Herald and two other vessels."

Other letters say, that Gen. Pakenham has brought out his wife and family, and was to be Governor-General of New-Orleans and its territorial dependencies—that a Major and Colonel of the post of N Orleans had also come on in the expedition.

The Kentucky riflemen did great execution. One letter says 1500 hands of arms were taken.

Another letter dated 13th inst, "The enemy sent a flag for permission to bury the dead which was granted.—The enemy sent 90 men for that purpose, and 40 of the men deserted." [Numerous other letters are given, giving particulars similar to the foregoing.]

[PRESUMED OFFICIAL.]

The following List of killed and wounded, forwarded in a letter from David Oliver, Esq, under date of the 13th, to Wm. Neilson and Son, of this city.

KILLED. Lieut. Gen. Pakenham, commander in chief, Major Gen. Gibbs, 2d in command; Regnier, commander of the artillery; Col. Ryan, of the 21st reg. of Royal Fusiliers, and Maj. Whitmore, of the 21st. Wounded, Capt. Wilkinson, of the 4th, and Capt. Simpson of do. and FIFTEEN Lieutenants.

Privates found dead in our lines, and delivered over to the enemy, 482, wounded in our positions, 456; prisoners, 178, and more than 10 officers.—Total 1146.

The number of officers and privates, killed and wounded in the British entrenchments are not known, but may be computed at 200. Our loss does not exceed 10 killed and 30 wounded.

The loss which the British sustained in capturing our Gun boats, in the engagement of the 11th inst. and in that of the 8th, may be calculated at least at THREE THOUSAND which is probably one third of their army.

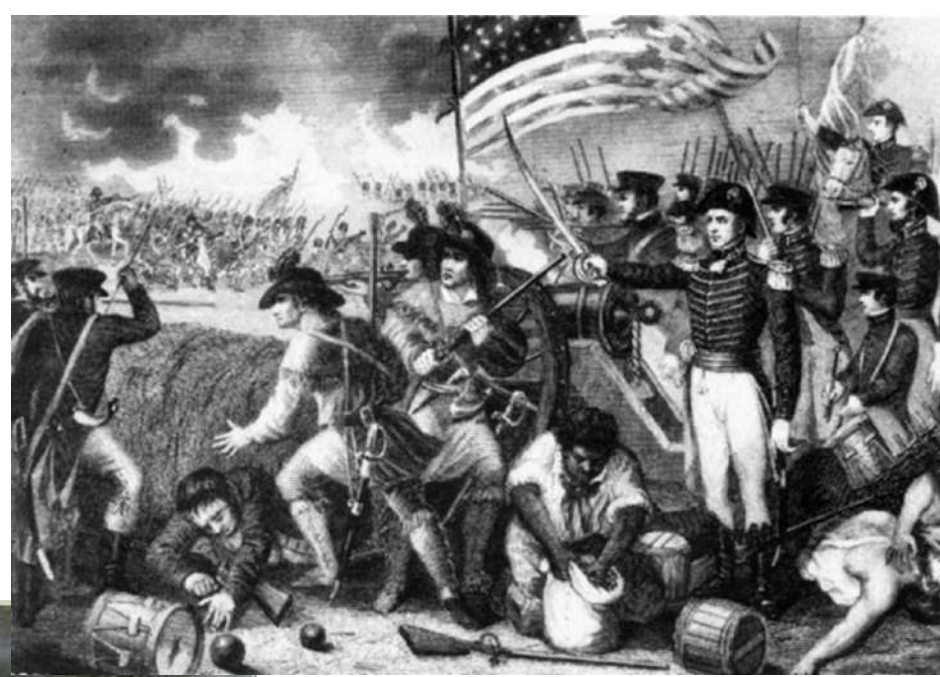
# New Orleans

- December 23, 1814 to January 26, 1815
  - Series of battles
  - Largest battle was on 1/8/15
- Strength
  - US forces → 4,000
  - British → 11,000
- Casualties:
  - US → 333
  - British → 2459
- No impact on peace treaty
  - (Already signed)
- Impact
  - British would abide by treaty
  - AJ as hero



Jackson as  
war hero

-President:  
1829-1837





# Treaty of Ghent

- 12/24/1814
- Restored land to pre-war owners
- Commissions were to be created to deal with other problems
  - Trade
  - Boundaries





# Results of War of 1812

- British respect
  - Diplomats
  - Military
- Defeat of Indian tribes opened territory east of Mississippi
- Peace in Europe allowed US to focus on internal issues
- Increase in nationalism
  - Sectionalism decreased
- American manufacturing increased during the war