

## JEFFERSON'S PRESIDENCY

### (Unit 4.1 Notes)

- I. Jefferson as President -- more moderate in tone and policy than in the 1790s
  - A. **"Revolution of 1800"** -- significant for its unprecedented democratic peaceful transfer of power
    1. Inaugural speech:
      - a. **"We are all Republicans, we are all Federalists."**
        - Sought to bring in moderate Federalists into broad Republican coalition (excluding Hamilton & his "High Federalist" followers).
      - b. "Honest friendship with all nations, entangling alliances with none."
    2. First party overturn in the history of the country
      - Significance: Demonstrated the efficacy of a two-party system
  - B. Jefferson surprisingly kept most of Hamilton's financial plan intact
    1. Retained most government servants from the Federalist administration
    2. Kept the Hamiltonian system intact with the exception of excise taxes
      - a. Maintained the Bank of the U.S.
      - b. Retained the tariff
      - c. Did not tamper with Federalist programs for funding national debt at par and assumption of state debts.
    3. As president, Jefferson was more of a pragmatist than an idealist
      - Wanted to heal the political rift between both parties
  - C. Jefferson reversed certain Federalist policies
    1. Pardoned the 10 Republican editors serving sentences under the Sedition Law
      - Government returned many fines.
    2. Congress enacted a new naturalization law in 1802; return of 5 year requirement for citizenship
      - Alien & Sedition Acts had expired in 1801; but parts of those laws that were still in effect were now removed.
    2. Persuaded Congress to repeal Hamilton's excise taxes
    3. Succeeded in substantially reducing the national debt while balancing the budget by cutting government spending.
      - a. **"The government that governs least, governs best."**
      - b. Government *for* the people
      - c. **Secretary of Treasury Albert Gallatin** agreed with Jefferson that the debt was more a curse than a blessing.
        - Debt fell from \$80 million to \$57 including the Louisiana Purchase.
    4. Ended the graduated property tax imposed by "High Federalists" in 1798.
    5. Reduced Hamilton's standing army but upheld need for stronger navy.
      - Some feared that the army was a "High Federalist" center of power

and could become a threat to the government in the future.

6. Emphasized states' rights
7. Encouraged development of an agrarian nation

#### E. **12th Amendment** (1804)

1. Tie vote between presidential candidates of same party could no longer cause confusion as it did in the election of 1800.
2. Provision: electors had to specify that they were voting for one presidential candidate and one vice presidential candidate.
3. Jefferson and his VP candidate, Burr, had tied in the 1800 general election
4. Vote sent to House where Federalists gave Jefferson the presidency.  
-- Hamilton a major force in the decision; Burr never forgave him.

## II. John Marshall and the Supreme Court

### A. **Judiciary Act of 1801**

1. Federalists created 16 new judgeships and other judicial offices
2. One of last important laws passed by the outgoing Federalist Congress.
3. Adams continued on his last day in office signing commissions of the Federalist "midnight judges."
4. Jeffersonians charged the Federalists of packing the judicial branch.
5. Act repealed by the newly elected Republican Congress in 1802.

### B. **John Marshall**

1. Appointed as Chief Justice during last days of Adams' term .
2. Most important Chief Justice in U.S. history; served for about 34 years
3. Maintained Federalist principles in his decisions even after the Federalist

party was out of existence.

### C. ***Marbury vs Madison, 1803***

1. "Midnight judge" William Marbury sued (on the behalf of several other judges) for the delivery of his commission that was being held up by the new

secretary of state, James Madison.

-- Madison was ordered by Jefferson to withhold Adams' appointments

under the Judiciary Act of 1801

2. Marshall knew Jefferson administration would not enforce a writ by the Court to deliver the commission to Marbury.  
-- Case was dismissed, thus avoiding a direct political showdown between the Supreme Court and the Executive branch.

### 3. **Judicial Review**

- a. Marshall ruled that part of the Judiciary Act of 1789, upon which Marbury had based his appeal, was unconstitutional by giving the Court the right to

*enforce* appointments (only the executive branch can enforce the law)

- b. Marshall gave Supreme Court power to rule a law by Congress unconstitutional
- c. Contrasted with the Kentucky Resolutions where Jefferson had claimed states had that right (due to compact theory).
- d. Power of Supreme Court greatly enhanced

### **D. Impeachment of Samuel Chase** -- Jefferson threatens the Supreme Court

1. Jeffersonians outraged that judicial review increased the power of the Federalist-dominated Supreme Court.
2. Jefferson supported congressional Republicans in their desire to remove a Federalist justice **Samuel Chase**
3. Early 1804, impeachment charges against Chase were voted by the House.
4. Senate failed to convict Chase in early 1805
5. Significance: Henceforth, no attempts to reshape the Court by impeachment  
-- Reassured the independence of the judiciary and separation of powers in gov't.

## III. **Tripolitan War** (1801-1805)

- A. Initially, Jefferson reduced the size of the U.S. army due to his distrust of

Hamilton's large standing army.

-- He also reduced the navy.

- B. Attack on U.S. ships by pirates of the North African states forced

Jefferson to again increase the military.

1. North African states included Algiers, Tripoli, Morocco, and Tunis

2. North African states had for years blackmailing and plundered American merchant ships in the Mediterranean Sea.

-- Federalists had been forced to buy protection especially from Algeria.

C. **Pasha of Tripoli** declared war on the U.S. in 1801

D. Jefferson sent small U.S. navy to Tripoli -- led by **Stephen Decatur**.

1. After 4 years of fighting, Tripoli was forced to sign a treaty 1805

2. U.S. attacked other North African corsairs off and on until the War of 1812.

E. Jefferson ordered build up a fleet of small gunboats (later criticized as the "mosquito fleet") as it later proved ineffective during the War of 1812

#### IV. The Louisiana Purchase

A. In 1800, Napoleon induced Spain to cede Louisiana region to France

1. French in 1802 withdrew U.S. right of deposit at New Orleans guaranteed under the Pinckney Treaty of 1795

2. Napoleon seemed to pose a possible military threat to U.S., perhaps forcing the U.S. to make alliances with other European powers for self-defense

B. Jefferson sent James Monroe to Paris (to join U.S. minister **Robert Livingston**)

1. Sought to buy New Orleans and as much land to the east in the Floridas as possible for \$10 million.

2. If negotiations failed, they were to strike up an alliance with Great Britain.

C. Napoleon decided to sell all Louisiana and forego his dream of an American empire.

1. Haitian Rebellion: Napoleon failed to reconquer the island of Santo Domingo

a. **Toussaint L'Ouverture** led ex-slaves in a failed bloody revolt

b. Thousands of French troops died of malaria during the struggle.

2. Napoleon used the sale of Louisiana as revenue for his European conquests.

3. He did not want to be distracted by the U.S. as an enemy in North America.

D. Although Livingston initially negotiated for New Orleans, the entire Louisiana Territory was purchased for \$15 million.

E. Jefferson accepted treaty, albeit reluctantly

1. As a strict constructionist, the Constitution did not authorize the president to negotiate treaties incorporating huge new lands into the U.S.

2. Secretly proposed an amendment to the Constitution to provide for such an act.

-- Advisors urged Jefferson to act now before Napoleon changed his mind.

3. Jefferson reluctantly submitted the treaties to the Senate while privately admitting admitting the purchase was unconstitutional.

a. Senate promptly ratified the treaty

b. Westward-looking Americans enthusiastically supported the purchase

F. Federalists opposed the Louisiana Purchase

1. Ironically, argued for strict construction: president did not have power to

purchase Louisiana.

2. Ironically claimed Louisiana would cost too much and cause the U.S. debt to soar.

3. Real reason: worried that new western lands would be loyal to the Republicans.

G. Most important land purchase in U.S. History

1. Doubled the size of the U.S. for only 3 cents an acre
2. U.S. received western half of richest river valley in the world
3. Guaranteed Mississippi waterway to the Gulf of Mexico including New Orleans
4. Paved way for westward expansion
  - a. Accelerated rise of U.S. as economic & political power
  - b. Sadly, by 1890 all remaining Native Americans in the West would be killed or forced onto reservations.
  - c. **John Jacob Astor** formed the American Fur Company in 1808 to tap the newly purchased territory; eventually resulted in U.S. claim to Oregon.
5. Ended European expansion in North America (for the most part)
6. Avoided a possible war with France and an entangling alliance with Britain.
7. Boosted American nationalism
  - a. Federalists now were a mere sectional party in New England
  - b. West was much more loyal to the Union as Jefferson was seen as a hero.

#### H. Exploration of Louisiana Territory (1804-1806)

1. Jefferson interested in exploring the new Louisiana Territory
2. **Meriwether Lewis & William Clark** appointed to explore the region.
  - a. Trail extended from the Missouri River through the Rockies and along the Columbia River to the Pacific Ocean.
  - b. **Sacajawea**, a Shoshoni female, became a scout & translator when the expedition reached Bismark, SD for the winter; crucial to its success.
3. Expedition bolstered U.S. claim to Oregon; further opened West to Indian trade and exploration.
4. **Zebulon M. Pike**
  - a. In 1805-1806, explored territory near headwaters of the Mississippi River.
  - b. 1806-1807, went into Colorado & New Mexico; discovered Pike's Peak
    - Spain concerned over increased U.S. settlement in Spanish territory.

#### V. Essex Junto (1804) & the exploits of Aaron Burr

- A. Burr ran for president in 1796 and 1800 (became Jefferson's vice president in 1801)
- B. Essex Junto: A small group of Federalist extremists plotted New England's secession from the union and the creation of a seven-state northern

confederacy (including NY, NJ, MA, CT, RI, NH, VT)

1. Federalist-dominated New England felt threatened by Jefferson's political dominance & the Louisiana Purchase which would lead to western expansion.
2. Plotters courted Hamilton to run for governor of NY in 1804 and then lead the secessionist movement.
  - Hamilton refused—did not see Louisiana as the problem, only the expansion of democracy.
3. Plotters then courted Vice President Burr.
4. Hamilton defeated Burr in the NY gubernatorial election.
  - a. Hamilton then exposed the plot at a meeting of leading Federalists.

b. Burr promptly challenged him to a duel and killed him in 1804

**C. Burr Conspiracy**

1. 1806, Burr attempted to separate western part of U.S. and unite it with to-be-conquered Spanish territory west of Louisiana Territory
2. Burr initially supported by **James Wilkinson**, military governor of upper

Louisiana, who later exposed the plot to Jefferson  
-- Burr arrested in 1806 and tried the following year.

3. John Marshall dropped the case when 2 witnesses for gov't couldn't be found.

**VI. Yazoo Land Controversy, 1804**

- A. Jefferson's opponents, led by his cousin, John Randolph ("Quids"), accused Jefferson of supporting an illegal land transaction in Georgia.
- B. Georgia wrongfully had sold millions of acres prior to turning land over to the federal gov't.  
-- 4 land companies had bribed GA legislators for land grants
- C. Jefferson and Madison attempted to repay the new (corrupt) land owners for lands ceded to the federal gov't, believing they were entitled to compensation.  
-- Randolph and his followers condemned Jefferson & Madison

D. Significance:

1. Created strife within Republican party and weakened Jefferson during his second term.

**VIII. Napoleonic Wars** (continuing in 1803) led to harassment of U.S. shipping

- A. By 1805, Britain controlled the seas; France controlled the European continent.
- B. British began seizing American ships  
-- Sought to end U.S. practice of importing French goods into U.S. and

shipping them out as neutral cargo.

- C. **Berlin Decree**, 1806: Napoleon decided to starve Britain out by closing the ports of Europe to British commerce and outlawing all trade with British Isles.  
-- American ships trading with Britain would be confiscated by France.

D. England, in response, issued the "order in council" (Beginning in 1806;

continued in 1807)

1. Closed ports under French continental control to foreign shipping
2. Neutrals (e.g. U.S.) might enter Napoleonic ports only if they first stopped in Britain.  
-- Britain forced these ships, including American ships, to be inspected and loaded with British goods before sailing to the Continent.
3. British sought to strangle French trade, not French imports.
4. American ships that didn't stop at Britain prior to entering the Continent

would be confiscated.

E. **Milan Decree, 1807** – Napoleon's retaliation to "order in council"

1. Any neutral ship entering a British port, or submitting to a British warship at sea, would be confiscated by if it attempted to enter a Continental port.
2. Many U.S. shippers took chances by continuing trade & earning large profits.

F. **British Impressment (Impressment = forcible enlistment of sailors)**

1. 6,000 Americans impressed between 1808-1811; many died or killed in service.
2. British accused U.S. of enticing British sailors to desert to U.S. ships.

G. **Chesapeake-Leopard Affair** (June 21, 1807)

1. British commander of the *H.M.S. Leopard*, demanded surrender of four alleged British deserters on the *U.S.S. Chesapeake*; American captain refused.
2. *Leopard* fired at the *Chesapeake*: 3 dead; 18 wounded.
3. American reaction was the most hostile since the XYZ Affair 10 years earlier.  
-- British Foreign Office admitted its error
4. Jefferson, nevertheless, used the incident to incite calls for U.S. action.
  - a. Forbade British ships to dock at American ports.
  - b. Ordered state governors to call up as much as 100,000 militiamen.

IX. **Embargo Act -- 1807**

A. Forbade export of all goods from U.S.

1. Jefferson got Congress to hastily pass the act
2. Reasoned that a U.S. embargo would force Britain & France to respect its rights.
3. Loose construction of the Constitution  
-- Congress' power to "regulate commerce" meant it could stop exports.
4. Undermined Jefferson's states' rights philosophy

B. **Embargo Act was a disaster to the U.S. economy**

1. In 1807 U.S. exports = \$108 million ; in 1808 = \$22 million
  - a. New England trade most affected
  - b. South & West: mountains of cotton, tobacco, & grain unsold
2. Embargo probably more damaging to U.S. than the British & French threat
3. Illegal trade mushroomed as a result (especially along Canadian border)

C. Jefferson got Congress to pass harsh enforcement laws.

1. Viewed by many as tyrannical.
2. New England again talked of secession

D. Congress repealed the act in March 1, 1809 (3 days before Jefferson left office)

E. **Non-Intercourse Act of 1809** replaced the Embargo Act

1. Reopened trade with all nations of the world except France and Britain
2. Remained U.S. policy until War of 1812.

G. Reasons for embargo's failure

1. U.S. overestimated British dependence on American trade
2. Embargo not in effect long enough or administered effectively
3. Embargo Act proved to be three times as costly as war  
-- U.S. lost opportunity to build a strong navy
4. Worsened the conflict between Britain & France
  - a. Britain hit harder by the Embargo; France supported it

- b. France seized U.S. ships in French ports that were headed for England.
- 5. Northeastern Federalists undermined the Embargo through smuggling activities.
- F. The Embargo Act inadvertently sparked the Industrial Revolution in America.
  - 1. New England forced to become self-sufficient once again.
    - Textile factories grew dramatically.
  - 2. Ironically, Jefferson, a critic of industrialization, may have contributed more  
  
than Hamilton to its rise in the U.S.
- G. The Embargo eventually hurt Britain
  - 1. British importers and textile manufacturers experienced major losses.
  - 2. Unemployed British workers affected by the embargo petitioned Parliament in 1812 to repeal its Orders in Council.
  - 3. Irony: 2 days before Congress declared war in June 1812, the British foreign secretary announced suspension of the Orders in Council. (no phones!)
- H. **Election of 1808** impacted by the Embargo Act issue
  - 1. Federalists gained ground in the presidential election although the Republican, James Madison, defeated Charles Pinckney
  - 2. Federalists made significant gains in Congress (although still in minority) and gained control of several state legislatures.

## X. Jefferson's legacy

- A. Expansion became prime goal of Jeffersonians



1. Expansion had also been Federalist policy but with limited success
  - a. Orderly expansion in Old Northwest but not in South
  - b. Northwest not subdued until Battle of Fallen Timbers in 1794.
  - c. Southern conquest difficult due to Spanish presence.
2. Louisiana Purchase essentially ended unwanted European expansion in North America.
3. Historically stunning achievement: no society had ever combined indefinite expansion, and supremacy within the hemisphere without building a strong centralized European-style state (big armies, big navy, big taxation)
4. Soft-side of Jeffersonian expansion: invasion of Canada during War of 1812
5. Hard side of Jeffersonian expansion: removal of Indians, blacks, and Spanish (in Florida during Madison and Monroe's presidencies)
  - a. Empire for liberty was for whites only.
    - Jeffersonians believed free blacks should not be allowed to migrate west.
  - b. Failure of gaining Florida in 1810s showed unlimited expansion desires of Jeffersonians.
6. Barbary Wars were an extension of Jefferson's desire to expand his agricultural empire.
7. Jeffersonian contempt for Spain carried over into Manifest Destiny in 1840s and the conquest of ½ of Mexico's territory.

B. Creation of a democratic non-aristocratic government.

1. "Government that governs least, governs best."
  - Lowered debt, balanced budget, promoted states' rights
2. Reduced oppressive aspects of Federalist agenda.
3. The people who owned the state didn't govern it (like in Europe)
4. Jefferson: real father of two-term presidency?
  - a. He feared more than two terms might lead to dictatorship.
  - b. Washington had stepped down because of age and inter-party bickering.
  - c. Jefferson could easily have served several more terms.
  - d. Yet, Madison, his successor, was a strong Jeffersonian.
5. Retained faith in democracy and common people (despite enormous struggles)

C. Total defeat of Federalists by 1816

1. "High Federalists" had been moving toward creation of European-like aristocracy through intermarriage, creation of standing army, and gov't suppression of political opponents.
  - a. Most high-ranking army officers were Federalists.
  - b. Burr tried to get the ranking officer in U.S. Army, James Wilkinson, to support secession of western territory.
2. Jefferson finally gained a loyal officers officer corps in the military in 1807:

a momentous victory for Jeffersonians.

D. Jefferson kept the country out of a damaging European war: War of 1812 not until late in Madison's first term.

XI. Jefferson's Presidency (condensed version)

- A. Peaceful transfer of power in 1801.
- B. Maintained many Federalist programs: Nat'l Bank, tariffs, funding debt at par, kept most public servants from Federalist administrations.
- C. Reversed programs: excise tax, pardoned martyrs from the Sedition Act, new naturalization law (5 yrs), reduced the debt and balanced the budget.
- D. Supreme Court issues: *Marbury v. Madison*, impeachment of Chase
- E. Expansion: Louisiana Purchase
- F. Tripolitan Wars
- G. Embargo Act
- H. "Father of the 2-term presidency"

**MEMORY AID:**

**JEFFERSONIAN DEMOCRACY ("G" I HATE LAMB)**

"G" allatin – secretary of the treasury who reduces the national debt

I mpeachment of Samuel Chase

H amilton's plan kept by Jefferson (except excise taxes)

A grarian empire (westward expansion)

T ripolitan War

E mbargo Act, 1807

L ouisiana Purchase, 1803

A rmy reduced in size (Federalists lose major center of power)

M *arbury vs. Madison*, 1803

B urr Conspiracies (1804 in New York and 1806 in the West)

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## THE WAR OF 1812

- I. President **James Madison** drifts towards war
  - A. Madison inaugurated in March, 1809
    - 1. "Virginia dynasty": Madison was 3rd in a line of 4 Virginia presidents between 1789 and 1829) (after Washington & Jefferson, before Monroe)
    - 2. Strongly Jeffersonian in his views
  - B. **Macon's Bill No. 2** adopted by Congress in 1810 to replace Non-Intercourse Act of 1809.
    - 1. **Non-Intercourse Act of 1809** (passed at end of Jefferson's presidency) due to expire within a year.
      - Provision: U.S. would trade with all other nations except Britain and France.
    - 2. Purpose of Macon's Bill: entice Britain or France to repeal shipping restrictions
      - U.S. would maintain its embargo against the nation that didn't sign on.
    - 3. Napoleon agreed. Secretly hoped that the U.S. would go to war with Britain
    - 4. Madison reluctantly accepted Napoleon's commitment and gave the British 3 months to end restrictions or the U.S. would restore non-importation
      - a. Britain demanded U.S. withdraw restrictions on Britain until France had withdrawn all their restrictions on American shipping.
      - b. Napoleon had no real intention of honoring the agreement.
- B. **War Hawks**
  - 1. Deeply-divided Congress met late in 1811 (Republicans still in control)
    - a. Differed from past Congresses: new young leaders from South & West

- i. Strongly nationalistic
- ii. Wanted to prove themselves through a war with Britain;

-- Sought the same glory their fathers had in the Revolutionary War.

- 2. **Henry Clay** (from Kentucky) elected Speaker of the House
- 3. **John C. Calhoun** elected as a representative of South Carolina.

4. **Battle of Tippecanoe:**

- a. Western war hawks eager to wipe out renewed Indian resistance against white settlers in the western wilderness.
- b. Two Shawnee twins brothers, **Tecumseh** and the **Prophet** organized a confederacy of all the tribes east of the Mississippi.
  - i. Tecumseh a noted warrior and perhaps most gifted organizer of Native Americans in U.S. history. Believed in fairness between tribes vis-à-vis land selling/purchasing. Land belonged to all Indians.
  - ii. Americans thought British were aiding them.
- c. **General William H. Harrison** repelled a surprise Indian attack at

**Tippecanoe** (in present Indiana) on Nov., 1811.

- d. Significance: Essentially ended the Indian threat in the Old Northwest

-- Further spurred westward expansion; Indians pushed further west.

- 5. War Hawks wanted U.S. to attack Canada to remove further Indian threats.
  - Canada seen as vulnerable to attack as Britain preoccupied with Napoleon.
- 6. Southern expansionists desired Spanish Florida, Britain's ally.
- 7. War hawks also outraged at British impressment and Orders in Council
  - Prevented agricultural products from being delivered to Europe.

C. **Daniel Webster**, Federalist from New Hampshire, spoke against entry into the war.

- 1. Spoke eloquently on behalf of New England manufacturing interests.
- 2. Webster had ghost written many of John Marshall's opinions.

D. U.S. declared war on Britain in June, 1812

-- Representatives from pro-British New England as well as the mid-Atlantic states opposed the war.

E. Why did U.S. fight Britain when France had also assaulted American ships?

- 1. Traditional Republican (Jeffersonian) partiality toward France
- 2. Visibility of British impressments and arming of Indians.
- 3. *Chesapeake-Leopard* Affair
- 4. Lure of British Canada: timber, fishing, fur trade.

F. Resentful New Englanders hindered the U.S. war effort.

- 1. Believed British actions were exaggerated; still disliked France
- 2. New England merchants were still profitable before the war.
- 3. Opposed acquisition of Canada which would add agrarian states (Jeffersonian).
- 4. New England investors probably lent more money to Britain than to U.S.
- 5. New England farmers sent huge quantities of supplies and foodstuffs to Canada, helping Britain to invade New York.
- 6. New England states refused to permit their militias to serve outside their states.

## II. War of 1812

### A. Overview

1. Small war -- 6,000 Americans killed or wounded
  - Mostly Canadians fought Americans, very few British.
2. One of America's most poorly-fought wars on land.
  - a. Nation militarily unprepared for war
  - b. Attack on Canada a complete failure.
  - c. Washington, D.C., burned by British
  - d. British nearly won large territories in the New York and New England.
3. National disunity: Federalists undermined war effort (Hartford Convention)
4. American victories
  - a. U.S. Navy out performed the Royal Navy on the Great Lakes
  - b. Andrew Jackson emerged as a national hero for defending New Orleans.
  - c. William H. Harrison a hero and later and also elected President.
5. War ended in a stalemate
6. America gained respect diplomatically and militarily
  - Later dubbed "Second War for Independence"
7. Fall of the Federalists: Reduction of sectionalism
8. Large Native-American losses during war.
  - Relinquished vast areas of forested land north of the Ohio River.
9. American industry was stimulated by less dependence on Br. manufacturing.

*Note: Some of the content below pertains to military history. Ask your teacher how much military history you need to be responsible for. Some teachers will require that you know military history. Other teachers may skip over it.*

### B. The U.S. was unprepared for a major war

1. Economy hurt by the Embargo Act and non-intercourse
2. Charter for National Bank expired in 1811, at a time when it was needed.
3. Regular army inadequate; supplemented by poorly trained militia.
4. Britain possessed the best navy in the world.
  - a. British blockaded U.S. Atlantic ports for most of the war which hurt U.S. shipping and caused significant opposition to the war.
  - b. Jefferson's "mosquito fleet" was inadequate.

### C. U.S. attack on Canada was a strategic failure

1. Americans falsely believed Canadians would easily crumble.
  - 80% of Canadians in Ontario were post-Revolution Loyalists.
2. If U.S. had concentrated on Montreal, Canada would have fallen

### D. Fight for the Great Lakes

1. British navy couldn't penetrate past Niagara Falls; naval arms race resulted

in Great Lakes.

2. **Oliver Hazard Perry** built a fleet of ships on the shores of Lake Erie in 1813.
3. Captured a British fleet in the Battle for Lake Erie in September, 1813.
4. Retreating British army defeated by **General William Henry Harrison** at

Battle of Thames in October.

-- British Brigadier General Tecumseh killed

- E. By 1814, Napoleon was defeated and Britain concentrated on North America.
1. British prepared for an invasion of New York along Hudson River Valley.
  2. Thomas Macdonough defeated a stronger British fleet near Plattsburg on Sept. 11, 1814. (Similar to Saratoga during Revolutionary War)
  3. British forced to withdraw back to Quebec.
  4. Profoundly affected the ongoing negotiations in Europe to end the war.
- F. Washington, D.C. burned in August 1814.
1. British set fire to most public buildings including Capitol and White House.  
-- Retaliation for U.S. burning the Canadian capital at York.
  2. Madison and his aides forced to flee into the surrounding hills.
- G. British fleet driven off at Fort McHenry near Baltimore
1. Attacking British army also forced to withdraw.
  2. Baltimore was a center for U.S. privateers.
  3. **Francis Scott Key**, watching bombardment of Baltimore as a prisoner aboard a British ship, composed the **Star Spangled Banner**
- I. Jackson victorious in the Southwest and at New Orleans
1. British strategy in addition to Canada and the Atlantic coast was to take the U.S. Gulf Coast and New Orleans.
    - a. Mississippi Creek Indians (faction known as Red Sticks) launched a preliminary campaign by attacking Fort Mims, near Mobile, Alabama.  
-- 400 Americans killed
    - b. **General Andrew Jackson** retaliated by attacking a Creek village and killing 300 warriors in the **Battle of Horseshoe Bend**.  
-- Largest Indian massacre in U.S. history.

2. A British naval force of 47 ships defeated an American force of five ships in a naval battle preceding the Battle of New Orleans.

-- Significance: Bought time for Jackson's army to fortify New Orleans.

3. **Battle of New Orleans**, Jan 1815: British launched a foolish frontal assault.
  - a. Jackson commanded 7,000-man force of sailors, regulars, pirates, Frenchmen, free blacks & militiamen from LA, KY and TN.
  - b. Over 2,000 British casualties in 1/2 hour compared to about 70 Americans.
  - c. Ironically, battle was needless: Treaty of Ghent had been signed two weeks earlier but the two armies didn't get word until after the battle.  
-- A British victory in the battle most likely would have resulted in Britain changing the terms of the treaty to the detriment of U.S.

4. Battle of New Orleans resulted in tremendous American pride and nationalism.
  - a. Jackson became the hero of the West (elected president 13 years later)
  - b. Most Americans believed New Orleans campaign had won the war.

#### J. Naval Battles

1. Only fleet battles fought on the interior lakes
  - Americans didn't have enough large warships to challenge Britain at sea.
2. American ships more skillfully manned.
3. In a few months, British lost more warships against U.S. than against combined French and Spanish forces.
4. U.S. privateers more effective than the U.S. Navy (as in Revolutionary War)
5. British manufacturers, merchants, & shippers put strong pressure on Parliament to end the war due to U.S. privateers' damage of Br. shipping.
6. British responded with a crushing blockade along America's coast and by landing raiding parties almost at will.
  - a. U.S. economy was crippled.
  - b. U.S. treasury was bankrupt.

#### K. Treaty of Ghent (1814)

1. Agreement essentially an armistice
2. Both sides agreed to stop fighting and to restore conquered territory.
3. No mention of pre-war U.S. grievances: impressment, Indian menace, Orders in Council, search and seizure, confiscations.
4. Americans retained right to fish off Canadian coast.

### III. Hartford Convention

- A. New England Federalists and some Republicans adamantly opposed to the war.
  1. Almost succeeded in defeating Madison in 1812 election.
  2. As war dragged on, New England extremists became more vocal.

#### B. Hartford Convention (Dec., 1814 -- Jan., 1815)

1. Attended by MA, CT, RI, and partially by NH, & VT.
2. Purpose: Discuss their complaints and seek compensation for losses

- during the war.
- Immediate goal was to secure financial assistance from Washington  
due to British blockading menace on New England shores.
  - 3. A minority of radical delegates urged secession
    - Outvoted by moderate Federalists
  - 4. Convention recommended amendments to the Constitution
    - a. End 3/5 Compromise to reduce Southern influence in House.
    - b. Require 2/3 vote for an embargo, admission of western states to the union, and declaration of war.
    - c. Limit the term of the President (to avoid Jeffersonian dynasty)
    - d. Deny naturalized citizens (usually Republicans) right to hold office
- C. 3 delegates from Massachusetts traveled to Washington with Hartford demands.  
-- Battle of New Orleans and Treaty of Ghent made their pleas moot.
- D. Hartford resolutions were the death knell of the Federalist party.
  - 1. 1816, Jeffersonian candidate James Monroe crushed his Federalist opponent.
  - 2. Exaggerated rumors of treason hurt the Federalist party.
  - 3. Until 1815, more talk of nullification and secession in New England than in any other section, including the South.
    - Flouting of the Jeffersonian embargo and the later crippling of the war effort were the two most damaging acts of nullification in U.S. prior to the events leading up to the Civil War.

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## PRESIDENT MONROE AND THE ERA OF GOOD FEELINGS

- I. U.S. emerged from the War of 1812 with a heightened sense of nationalism
  - A. Madison more popular when leaving office in 1817 than in 1809
  - B. Causes
    1. Victories in War of 1812, especially Battle of New Orleans
      - Americans now capable of defending itself against a world power.
    2. Death of Federalist party; reduced sectionalism & states' rights sentiment
    3. Decline of economic and political dependence on Europe
    4. Westward expansion and optimism about the future
  - C. Americans began to see themselves as Americans first and state citizens second.
- II. Henry Clay's **American System**: BUS, tariffs, internal improvements
  - A. **Second National Bank** voted by Congress in 1816.
    1. Lack of national bank during the War of 1812 hurt the economy.
      - a. Local banks sprung up all over the country
      - b. Country flooded by depreciated bank notes that hurt the war effort.
    2. Modeled after the first National Bank but with 3 1/2 times more capital.
    3. Jeffersonians supported the new BUS.
      - a. Used same arguments that Hamilton had used in 1791.
      - b. Ironically, Federalists denounced it as unconstitutional.
  - B. **Tariff of 1816**
    1. Purpose: protection of U.S. manufacturing from British competition.
      - a. After the war, Britain flooded U.S. with cheap goods, often below cost
        - to undercut new U.S. industries.
        - Americans saw this as British attempt to crush U.S. factories.
      - b. First protective tariff in U.S. History
        - i. Imposed roughly 20-25% duties on imports
        - ii. Not really high enough to provide effective protection.
      - c. Started a protective trend in U.S. trade.
    2. Sectional battle over the tariff represented by the three great Congressional leaders of the era: Calhoun, Webster, and Clay (the "Great Triumvirate")
      - a. **John C. Calhoun** (from South Carolina) represented southern views.
        - i. Recent war hawk and strong nationalist.
        - ii. After initially supporting 1816 tariff, he opposed it claiming it was enriching New England manufacturers at the expense of the South.
      - b. **Daniel Webster** (from New Hampshire) represented northern views.
        - i. Opposed the 1816 tariff.

- ii. Shippers in NH feared tariff would affect their shipping industry.
- iii. New England not completely industrial yet.

- 3. **Henry Clay** saw tariffs as a way to develop a strong domestic market.
  - a. Eastern trade would flourish under tariff protection.
  - b. Tariff revenues would fund roads & canals in the West, esp. Ohio Valley
    - Frontier settlers criticized the horrible road system..
  - c. Foodstuffs & raw materials from the South and West would flow into the North and East

C. Internal Improvements (failed to pass)

- 1. Congress passed Calhoun's Bonus Bill in 1817; would have given funds to states for internal improvements.
  - a. Madison vetoed it claiming it was unconstitutional
  - b. His successor, James Monroe, also vetoed the legislation.
  - c. Jeffersonians opposed direct federal support of intrastate internal improvements; saw it as a states' rights issue
  - d. New England opposed federally built roads & canals; feared it would drain away population and create competing states in the West.
- 2. Prior to Civil War, most internal improvements (except railroads) were done at the expense of state and local governments.
  - The **Erie Canal** in New York (1826) is a good example

III. **Era of Good Feelings** (1817-1825)

A. **James Monroe** elected President in 1816

- 1. Continued Virginia dynasty (4 of 5 initial presidents Virginian; 32 of first 36 yrs)
- 2. Death of Federalist party resulted after the election.
  - a. Federalist liabilities
    - i. "Disloyalty" during the War of 1812
    - ii. Became extremely sectional regarding the interests of New England
    - iii. Jefferson had adopted many of their most important ideas (e.g. Hamilton's

financial plan, expansion, loose construction in certain cases)

- b. Ironically, Federalists reversed many of their initial positions
  - i. Originally nationalistic; now opposed to Republican nationalism
  - ii. Became strict constructionists especially regarding internal improvements
- 3. "Era of Good Feelings" was a term coined by a newspaper writer while

following Monroe on his 1817 inspection tour of military bases

B. "Era of Good Feelings" somewhat of a misnomer; serious issues divided the nation.

- 1. Emerging sectionalism (east, west and south)
- 2. Tariff issue (east and south opposed; west in favor)
- 3. Internal improvements (east and south opposed; west in favor)

4. Bank of U.S. (BUS) (west and south opposed; eastern bankers in favor)
5. Sale of public lands (east opposed; west and south in favor)
6. Panic of 1819 resulted in western hostility toward eastern bankers.
7. Issue of slavery in Missouri created increased sectionalism (north vs. south)
8. Republican party enjoying 1-party rule began developing factions eventually  
 leading to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Party System in the 1830s.  
 -- Clay, Calhoun, Jackson, John Quincy Adams

C. Monroe's presidency oversaw two major events:

1. Panic of 1819
2. Missouri Compromise of 1820

**IV. Panic of 1819**

- A. Economic panic and depression hit in 1819
  1. First financial panic since the "Critical Period" of the 1780s under Articles of Confederation.  
 -- Henceforth, panics and depressions would occur about every 20 years.
  2. Causes of 1819 panic:
    - a. Immediate cause: Overspeculation on frontier lands by banks (especially BUS)
    - b. Inflation from 1812 war + economic drop-off after war (especially cotton) = vulnerable economy
    - c. Significant deficit in balance of trade with Britain = U.S. drained of vital specie
    - d. BUS forced "wildcat" western banks to foreclose on western farms
      - i. BUS stopped allowing payment in paper; now demanded payment in specie  
 (hard money, such as gold and silver coin)
      - ii. State banks affected & called in loans in specie
      - iii. Many farmers didn't have specie so they lost their farms.
  3. Resulted in calls for reform and pressure for increased democracy.
    - a. Western farmers viewed the bank as an evil financial monster.
    - b. Hard hit poor classes looking for more responsive gov't (beginnings of Jacksonian democracy)
    - c. New land legislation resulted in smaller parcels being sold for lower prices.  
 -- By the Civil War, western land would be given away nearly for free.
    - d. Widespread sentiment to end horrible practice of imprisoning debtors.  
 -- Some states passed legislation reducing debtor prisons.

- B. Monroe reelected in 1820 with all but one electoral vote (nearly unanimous)
  - Only president in history to be elected after a major panic.

## V. The Growing West

### A. New states' characteristics

1. Were not focused states' rights issues (like the South and East)
2. Depended heavily on federal gov't where it had received most of its land.
3. Contained a wide diversity of peoples immigrating from the east.

### B. 9 new western states joined the union between 1791 & 1819

1. Most had been admitted alternately free and slave.
2. Maintaining a sectional balance in Congress was a supreme goal.

### C. Reasons for westward expansion

1. Westward movement had been significant since colonial era.
2. Cheap lands in the Ohio territory attracted thousands of European immigrants.
3. Land exhaustion in older tobacco states drove people westward.
4. Speculators accepted small down payments & made purchase of land easier.
5. Economic depression during the embargo years sparked migration westward.
6. Defeat of Indians in previous decades cleared away much of the frontier.
  - a. Battle of Fallen Timbers (1794)
  - b. Battle of Tippecanoe (1811)
7. Transportation Revolution improved land routes to Ohio Valley.
  - a. **Cumberland Road** begun in 1811; ran from Maryland to Illinois.
  - b. Emergence of the **steamboat** in 1811 made upstream travel possible.
  - c. Canals beginning in 1826 allowed for increased trade between west and east.

### D. West still remained weak in population and influence

1. Allied itself with other sections regarding national political issues.
2. Demanded land reform & cheap transportation, cheap money, created its own "wildcat" banks, & fought the BUS.

## VI. Missouri Compromise of 1820

### A. Missouri asked Congress to enter the union in 1819

1. **Tallmadge Amendment** passed by House of Representatives in response.
  - a. No more slaves could be brought into Missouri
  - b. Gradual emancipation of children born to slave parents already there.

### B. Southerners viewed Tallmadge Amendment as huge threat to sectional balance.

1. Jefferson: The crisis rang like "**a firebell in the night.**"
2. Concerned by fast increase in northern population and economy; and political balance in the House of Representatives.
  - Senate still balanced 11 free to 11 slave states; parity had to be maintained
3. Future of the slave system intensely concerned southerners
  - a. Missouri first state entirely west of Mississippi made from Louisiana Territory.

- b. Tallmadge Amendment might set a precedent for rest of the region to be free.
  - c. If Congress could abolish slavery in Missouri, it might try in southern states.
  - d. Small group of abolitionists in the North used the occasion to protest
4. The Senate refused to pass the amendment and a crisis hung over the nation.

### C. Missouri Compromise of 1820

1. Henry Clay led the mediation of a compromise
2. Provisions:
  - a. Congress agreed to admit Missouri as a slave state.
  - b. Maine was admitted as a free state.
    - Balance kept at 12 to 12 for the next 15 years.
  - c. Future slavery prohibited north of 36° 30' line, the southern border of Missouri.
    - Ironically, Missouri was north of the 36-30 line.
3. Compromise was largely accepted by both sides
  - a. South got Missouri
  - b. North won concession that it could forbid slavery in the remaining territories above the 36° 30' line
    - i. North had an advantage because Spanish territory in southwest prevented significant southern expansion westward.
    - ii. Southerners not too concerned about lands north of 36° 30' as the climate was not conducive to cash crop agriculture requiring slave labor.

### D. Legacy of the Compromise

1. Lasted 34 years and preserved the union (until Kansas-Nebraska Act in 1854)
2. Henceforth, slavery became a dominant issue in American politics.
  - Serious setback to national unity
3. South began to develop a sectional nationalism of its own.
  - Looked to the western states who were seeking allies as well.
4. Clay was later criticized unfairly by Northerners as an "appeaser"

## VII. John Marshall and Judicial Nationalism

### A. Marshall most important chief justice in U.S. history (1801-1835)

1. Significantly strengthened the Supreme Court in *Marbury v. Madison* (1803) and other cases.
2. His decisions greatly increased power of the federal government over the states.
  - a. Strengthened the federal gov't and helped create a stable, nationally uniform environment for business.
  - b. Checked the excesses of the popularly elected state legislatures.
  - c. Yet, his decisions at times hampered democracy at a time when America

was becoming much more democratic during the Jacksonian era.

3. Examined cases from a Federalist philosophy and found legal precedents to support his Hamiltonian views.
  - a. Jeffersonian attempts to balance the Court with Republicans failed.
  - b. Republicans came to accept the Federalist ideal of strong central gov't.
- B. **Fletcher v. Peck (1810)** (protection of property rights against popular pressures)
  1. Issue: new Georgia legislature canceled a contract which granted 35 million acres in the Yazoo River country (Miss.) to land speculators as a form of graft.
    - Previous legislature had made the grant in what was called "Yazoo Land Controversy" during Jefferson's presidency.
  2. Significance: Court ruled Constitution forbids state from "impairing contracts".
    - a. One of earliest examples of Court asserting its right to invalidate state laws.
    - b. Court stated the legislative grant was a contract (albeit fraudulently secured)

C. **Martin v. Hunter's Lessee** (1816)

1. Issue: Did Supreme Court (as stated in Judiciary Act of 1789) have the right to review decisions of state supreme courts where federal statutes or treaties were involved or when state laws had been upheld under the federal Constitution?
  - Virginia sought to disregard Treaty of Paris (1783) and Jay's Treaty (1794) regarding confiscation of Loyalist lands.
2. Decision: Supreme Court rejected "compact theory" and state claims that they were equally sovereign with the federal gov't.
3. Significance: Upheld Supremacy Clause of the Constitution and federal judicial supremacy over the states.

D. **McCulloch v. Maryland** (1819) (Blow to states' rights)

1. Issue: Maryland tried to destroy its branch of the BUS by taxing its notes.
2. Marshall declared BUS constitutional invoking Hamilton's doctrine of implied powers (elastic clause of the constitution -- "necessary & proper").
  - a. "Loose construction" given major boost.
  - b. Argued the Constitution derived from the consent of the people and thus permitted the gov't to act for their benefit.
3. Denied Maryland the right to tax the bank: "the power to tax involves the power to destroy" and "that a power to create implies the power to preserve."

E. **Dartmouth College v. Woodward** (1819) (protection of property rights

from the states)

1. Issue: New Hampshire had changed a charter granted to the college by the British king in 1769. Republicans sought to remove "private" aspect of school & make it a state institution.
  - Dartmouth appealed; defended by **Daniel Webster**, an alumnus.
2. Ruling: Charter was a contract; states could not invalidate it.
3. Significance:
  - a. Positive: safeguarded business from domination by the states.
  - b. Negative: set precedent giving corporations ability to escape gov't control.

F. **Cohens v. Virginia** (1821) (Blow to states' rights)

1. Significance: Supreme Court had the power to review decisions of the state supreme courts in issues involving powers of the federal gov't.  
-- Similar to *Martin v. Hunter's Lessee* case (above)
2. Issue: Virginia courts convicted Cohens for selling lottery tickets illegally.
  - a. State supreme court upheld the decision
  - b. Marshall overturned it.

G. **Gibbons v. Ogden** -- 1824 ("steamboat case") (Blow to states' rights)

1. Significance: Only Congress had the right to regulate interstate commerce.
2. Issue: NY tried to grant a monopoly of river commerce between NY & NJ to a private company (owned by Ogden). Gibbons had congressional approval to conduct business on the same river.
3. Court ruled interstate rivers were to be regulated by Congress, not individual states.

H. **Daniel Webster** was an important influence in Marshall's decisions.

1. Argued Federalist and nationalist views before the Supreme Court.  
-- He actually "ghost wrote" some of the Marshall's opinions.
2. Classic speeches in the Senate, challenging states' rights and nullification, were similar to arguments he earlier made to the Supreme Court.

VIII. Foreign Policy after the War of 1812

A. **Rush-Bagot Treaty** (1817) – during Madison's presidency

1. Significantly limited naval armament on the Great Lakes.
2. By 1870, U.S. & Canada shared longest unfortified border in the world (5,500 mi)

B. **Treaty of 1818 (Convention of 1818)** with England (during Madison's presidency)

1. Negotiated by John Quincy Adams, one of the nation's great sec. of states.
2. Provisions:
  - a. Fixed the American-Canadian border at the 49th parallel from Lake of the Woods to the Rocky Mountains.
  - b. 10-year joint occupation of Oregon Territory w/o surrender of claims.
  - c. Americans could share Newfoundland fisheries with Canada.

C. U.S. gains Spanish Florida

1. U.S. already claimed West Florida where settlers forcibly arrived in 1810 and Congress ratified the conquest during War of 1812.
2. Revolutions in South America forced Spain to move its troops out from Florida.
  - a. Indians, runaway slaves, and white outcasts poured across the border into U.S. territory to attack settlers and then retreat south of the border.
  - b. Monroe ordered Andrew Jackson to attack the Indians and, if necessary, pursue them back into Florida.  
-- He was to respect all Spanish posts.

3. Jackson swept through central and eastern Florida during the First Seminole

War (1816-1818).

- a. Captured Spanish cities and deposed the Spanish Governor (thus disobeying Monroe's orders)
  - b. Jackson executed 2 Indian chiefs and British supporters of Spain.
4. John Quincy Adams convinced Monroe's cabinet to offer an ultimatum to Spain.

- a. Control the outlaws of Florida (which Spain was not equipped to do) or cede Florida to the U.S.
  - b. Spain realized it would lose Florida in any case; decided to negotiate.
5. **Adams-Onis Treaty (Florida Purchase Treaty) of 1819**
- a. Spain Ceded Florida as well as claims to Oregon to the U.S.
  - b. U.S. abandoned claims to Texas (later become part of Mexico).

#### D. **Monroe Doctrine -- John Quincy Adams: Secretary of State**

1. Certain European monarchies were concerned about Latin America's democratic revolutions and Europe's emerging democratic movements.
  - a. Saw democracy as a threat to absolute monarchy.
  - b. Sought to restore newly independent Latin American republics to Spanish rule.
2. Americans alarmed at European hostility to democracy in Western Hemisphere
3. Great Britain sought an alliance with U.S. to protect its interests in Latin America
  - a. 1823, British foreign secretary, **George Canning**, proposed a joint declaration to warn European despots to stay away from Latin American Republics.
4. Secretary of State John Quincy Adams believed Britain wanted alliance to keep U.S. from taking Latin American territory and jeopardizing Britain's territories in the Caribbean.
  - a. Believed alliance would hamper U.S. expansion and was unnecessary.
  - b. Realized Europeans did not really pose an immediate threat to region.
5. **Monroe Doctrine** (1823) -- written by John Quincy Adams
  - a. President's annual message to Congress warned Europeans
    - i. Colonial powers could keep existing colonies but gain no new ones.
    - ii. Leave America alone; let new republics govern themselves
    - iii. Directed primarily at Russia, whom had designs on the Pacific coast
  - b. Nationalistic Americans widely supported it..
    - Maintained Washington's tradition of avoiding an "entangling alliances."
  - c. Foreign reaction
    - i. British reaction mixed.
      - Canning concerned Monroe Doctrine aimed at Britain as well.
      - British press favored protection of Latin American markets.
    - ii. European monarchs angered and offended at U.S. position
    - iii. Latin American countries saw the U.S. merely protecting its own interests.
  - e. Immediate impact of Monroe Doctrine was small
    - i. U.S. army and navy remained small and relatively weak
    - ii. Not until 1845 did Polk revive it and did it become more important
  - f. Long-term impact: Monroe Doctrine became cornerstone of U.S. foreign policy during last half of 19th century and throughout 20th century.
6. **John Quincy Adams** one of most significant secretaries of state in U.S. history.
  - a. Oversaw Convention of 1818 establishing U.S.-Canadian Border



- b. Adams-Onis Treaty resulted in acquisition of Florida from Spain
- c. Monroe Doctrine

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