

George W to War 1812

George Washington

1789-1797

Cabinets Installed...

- A. Established 4 cabinet departments to help run the new government (Department of State, War, Treasury, and Office of Attorney General).
- * Secretary of State –Thomas Jefferson, Sec. of War-Henry Knox, Sec. of Treasury- Alexander Hamilton, Attorney-General- Edmund Randolph.

President Washington's Foreign Policy

- the young nation should not get involved in foreign wars (NEUTRALITY)
- Britain & France went to war (1793) with each other, President Washington declared America's neutrality (Proclamation of Neutrality (1793)).

Jay's Treaty (1794)

- Britain was stopping US cargo ships bound for France; to avoid war, Washington sent John Jay to Britain to seek a solution.
- * Jay was forced to agree that the British had a right seize cargo bound for French ports.
- * Jay did not get compensation for American merchants whose cargo had already been seized.
- * Treaty angered many Americans
- *** Significance: temporarily PREVENTED A WAR between America & Britain!

Pinckney's Treaty (1795)

- When America signed Jay's Treaty, Spain worried US & Britain might join forces and take Spain's North American territory. President Washington sent Thomas Pinckney to negotiate with Spain.
- * Treaty gave US the right to navigate the Mississippi River and deposit goods at New Orleans.
- * Judiciary Act 1789- created appeals courts to help US Supreme Court hear cases.

1ST two political parties (Federalists & Democrat-Republicans)

- ** Arguments between Jefferson & Hamilton over Hamilton's Economic Plan led to creation of first two political parties.
- Alexander Hamilton's Economic Plan:
 - components: assumption of state debts, call for a national bank
 - Opposition: to assumption plan & national bank – unconstitutional.
- ** KNOW THAT THE DEBATE OVER HAMILTON'S FINANCIAL PLAN LED TO CREATION OF AMERICA'S FIRST TWO POLITICAL PARTIES.

Federalist

- strong national government, democracy
“dangerous”- wealthy/educated should rule,
trade & manufacturing key to our wealth.
- Loose constructionist- favored a loose
interpretation of the Constitution; used
“necessary & proper clause” to justify creation
of stronger government;
- Leader – Alexander Hamilton.

Democrat-Republicans

- strength of nation in farmers, believed that the wealthy corrupted government, favored more power to state governments.
- Strict Constructionist- favored strict interpretation of Constitution; government may only do something if Constitution specifically says it can.
- Leaders- Thomas Jefferson & James Madison

President Washington's Farewell Address

- three warnings:
 - Avoid sectionalism/regionalism
 - avoid political parties
 - avoid involvement in foreign entanglements (wars)
- Washington set the precedent (tradition) for a president to serve only two terms.

1793- Eli Whitney

- invented the cotton gin- made cotton production more profitable and increased the demand for slaves in the South.
- [Cotton Gin In Action](#)

President JOHN ADAMS-Federalist (1797-1801)

- The French were enraged by America's agreement with Britain (JAY'S TREATY) so they began stopping American cargo ships & seizing cargo bound for Britain.
- *Federalists called for war with France.

The X, Y, Z Affair

- President Adams sent 3 US ambassadors to France to negotiate with the French about seizure of US cargo; 3 French ambassadors (“X, Y, AND Z”) demanded bribes of \$250,000 before they would allow US ambassadors to speak with French officials.
- *Americans call for war with France.

The Quasi War (with France)- (1798)

- Congress voted to intercept armed French ships and suspend US trade with France; an undeclared war.
- * Quasi War angered Democrat-Republicans who intensified criticism of President Adams & Federalists.

Convention of 1800

- US gave up all financial claims against France-
France released the US from a Revolutionary
War treaty with France (Treaty of 1778).

Alien and Sedition Acts

- Federalist law aimed to hurt Democrat-Republican party whose supporters tended to be immigrants.
- * Alien Act-prevented immigrants from becoming US citizens for 14 years; this hurt Democrat-Republicans because immigrants usually joined Democrat-Republican Party in big numbers.
- * Sedition Act- law passed by the Federalists in Congress and signed by John Adams; made it illegal to say anything that might be “scandalous, false or that might incite “rebellion”; meant to stop all criticism of Federalist Party & Adams.
- ** Purpose: SHUTDOWN ANY OPPOSITION TO FEDERALISTS AND JOHN ADAMS & WEAKEN THE DEMOCRAT-REPUBLICAN PARTY.
- ** The Alien & Seditious Acts enraged many citizens- Republican controlled legislatures in Kentucky & Virginia passed resolutions written secretly by Jefferson & Madison.

Kentucky & Virginia Resolutions (Resolves)

- Written secretly by Thomas Jefferson and James Madison; was written because of the outrage over the Alien and Sedition Acts.
 - Virginia Resolution- Jefferson & Madison argue that a state may interpose between the federal government and the people to stop an action (INTERPOSITION).
 - Kentucky Resolution- argued that if the federal government passed an unconstitutional law, the states can nullify (declare it invalid) THEORY OF NULLIFICATION.

Thomas Jefferson Presidency- Republican (1801-1809)

- Election of 1800 (Federalist John Adams v. Republican Thomas Jefferson)
- * Thomas Jefferson named winner.
- * “Revolution of 1800” ; first time in US history that presidential power is passed from one party to another- peaceful transfer of power is the tradition.
- * “Midnight Judges” – President John Adams spent his last days in office up until his last night in office giving federal judgeship jobs to Federalists; led to case Marbury v. Madison.

Marbury v. Madison (1803)

- William Marbury demands that Supreme Court force President Thomas Jefferson & Sec. of State James Madison give him his judge job; Court rules that an act of Congress is unconstitutional for the first time = “judicial review”

Louisiana Purchase

(nearly doubled size of US)

- Jefferson bought land in North America from France (Napoleon) even though he did not believe that the Constitution gave him the power to do so.
- Lewis & Clark Expedition (“Corps of Discovery”) – sent by Jefferson & Congress to explore Louisiana Purchase territory; explored trans-Mississippi west; crossed Rockies and entered Oregon; traced Columbia River to Pacific Ocean.
 - Led by Meriwether Lewis & William Clark
 - Remember Sacagawea.

Essex Junto

- Massachusetts Federalists plotted to take New England states out of the Union because they feared that the Louisiana Purchase will made the South & West more powerful than North East.

Embargo Act of 1807-

- British & French were at war and were seizing US cargo ships; the British were kidnapping US sailors (IMPRESSMENTS); President Jefferson wanted to avoid war so Congress passed law halting all trade between US & Europe.
- Embargo Act of 1807- The US halted all trade with Europe; embargo hurt US manufacturers much more than it hurt Europe- Congress repealed the law in 1809.

Presidency of James Madison- Republican (1809-1817)

- The War of 1812 (US vs. Britain) Round II
- Causes: the British were still seizing American cargo ships; the British were kidnapping US cargo ship sailors (IMPRESSMENTS)
 - War Hawks – Congressmen from South & West who tended to be Democrat-Republicans who resented Britain; wanted war BECAUSE: Britain's cargo seizure hurt farmers & British were stirring up Native Americans against settlers in the western & southern frontier.

Major Battles/Event of the War:

- 1. During the war, the British invaded and burned the White House.
- 2. During the bombardment of Fort McHenry-Francis Scott Key wrote the Star Spangled Banner.
- 3. Battle of New Orleans- actually fought after a peace treaty had been signed in Belgium; Andrew Jackson led American victory against a superior British force; made Jackson a hero in the US.
 - Hartford Convention- New England Federalists met to show opposition to the War of 1812; led to the eventual decline of Federalist Party in America== DEATH OF THE FEDERALIST PARTY!
- * Our victory in the War and the Hartford Protest made Federalist Party look unpatriotic.

Treaty of Ghent

- peace treaty signed in Belgium; ENDED THE WAR of 1812.
- Effects of the war:
 - last war US & Britain fight against each other, ***built US nationalism***
- 1817-Rush-Bagot Treaty- fixed border between US & Canada.
- Convention 1818- US & Britain agree to jointly occupy Oregon territory for 10 years (end up being 20 years).