**CHAPTER ONE: American Revolutionary War**

Since their foundation, the thirteen colonies had enjoyed a period of good relations with the mother country; however, that period came to an end when, following the Seven Years’ War , the English Parliament started to impose on the colonists a series of taxes. The main cause behind the American revolution was the [French and Indian War](https://www.history.com/topics/native-american-history/french-and-indian-war), also known as the Seven Years’ War(1756-1763) which marked another chapter in the long imperial struggle between Britain and France in the New World. It started when, by the middle of the 18 th century, a new wave of American colonists started to cross the Appalachians and move into the Ohio valley. They were looking for more fertile lands.The French, who had previously moved there, saw this as a threat to their fur trade with the Indians. They sent an expedition to reinforce their claim to the valley and subsequently established a string of forts there. The British and colonists were forced to respond to the move or suffer the loss of vast interior, long claimed by both British and French . The result was a war fought between Great Britain and France in which Grain Britain triumphed over France.

The financial difficulties incurred by the war and the consequences of victory led the British Parliament to think it fair to make the American colonists pay its expenses and costs. In February 10, 1763, the French- Indian War ended, leaving the British with a massive war debt. The British looked to raise revenue by imposing new taxes in the colonies and reversing its policy of Salutary Neglect. On October 7, 1763 the British imposed the Proclamation Line that introduced a massive boundary to separate white settlements from Indian territories and the Americans believed the British were siding with the Native Indians against them. In fact, the British passed first the Sugar Act of 1764 and then the Stamp Act of 1765; while the former imposed a tax on sugar and molasses imported into the colonies, the latter required a tax on all public documents, newspapers, and every other printed-paper. The measure angered the settlers whose leaders organized a Stamp Act Congress in 1764 in New York in which they expressed their opposition to the tax on the basis of “no taxation without representation”. In August 1764, the Boston Boycotts were imposed by the merchants, and the women of Boston refused to buy British finished goods, especially clothing such as satins, lace and ruffles. This was soon followed by violent opposition, and the reaction to the Stamp Act resulted in the British Parliament repealing the act in 1766. In March 24, 1765,Quartering Act was passed and it was the first of a series of Laws requiring the provision of housing, food and drink to British troops in the American colonies. Then in 1767 the Townshend Acts levied tariffs on many articles imported into the colonies. Colonial resistance led to violence in 1770, when British soldiers fired on a mob of colonists, killing five men. News of the Boston Massacre spread through the colonies. The massacre compelled the British government to repeal all the Townshend duties, and a period of relative calmness followed. However, hostilities were soon revived when Parliament passed Tea Act in 1773 in a move to relieve the financial stresses of the East-India Company. Protests were organized and revolutionary sentiment mounted. In December 1773, some colonists disguised as Indians boarded tea ships in Boston harbor and unloaded the tea into the water. The furious royal government responded to this Boston Tea Party by passing the Coercive Acts in 1774, known as the Intolerable Acts in the colonies.

Virginia moved to support Massachusetts by calling for a meeting of all colonies. The result was the first Continental Congress in Philadelphia in the fall of 1774.It drew up declarations of rights and grievances to be sent to the king George III asking him to redress the situation and to instruct the organization of non-importation of British goods. Despite the beginning of hostilities, leaders in the Continental Congress still hoped to avoid total war and expressed their willingness to remain part of the British Empire. While they prepared for the fighting, they sent the Olive Branch Petition to the king pledging their loyalty and asking him to resolve colonial grievances. In November, they received the answer: the king refused to read the petition and declared the colonies in a state of rebellion; he also closed the colonies to all trade and commanded the American ships be seized. The king’s attitude, together with Thomas Paine’s writings, convinced the delegates that their wellbeing could only be achieved away from the British control. The [American Revolutionary War](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_Revolutionary_War) broke out against [British](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Kingdom) rule in April 1775 with the [Battles of Lexington and Concord](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battles_of_Lexington_and_Concord). The [Second Continental Congress](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Second_Continental_Congress) met in May 1775, and established an army funded by Congress and under the leadership of the Virginian [George Washington](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Washington). On July 4, 1776, the Continental Congress issued the Declaration of Independence. At the beginning of the fighting, the British army achieved some success, defeating Washington and captured both New York and Philadelphia. But on both occasions, he failed to crush the Continental Army preferring to spend the winter in his quarters, giving Washington time to reorganize his troops and even win a significant victory at Trenton and Princeton (New Jersey). Washington’s victory boosted the morale of the Americans who won a major victory at the Battle of Saratoga (New York).This victory was a turning point in the war;it brought the French armies who wanted to take revenge on the British for the defeat at the Seven Years’ War. On October 19, 1781, British troops surrendered to an allied French-American army at Yorktown (Virginia). Peace talks resulted in the Treaty of Paris signed on September 3, 1783, which gave the colonies independence and boundaries that stretched to the Mississippi River. At exactly the same time that Congress declared independence, it also created a committee to draft a new [constitution](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constitution) for the new nation. The resulting constitution, which came to be known as the [Articles of Confederation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Articles_of_Confederation) and Perpetual Union. The first article of the new constitution established a name for the new confederacy – the United States of America.

**The Confederation Era (1781-1789)**

The Confederation Period was the era of [United States](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States) history, which began after the American Revolution in 1781 and ended in 1789 following the ratification of the United States Constitution with a new and more powerful national government.

**1-Congress Creates the Articles of Confederation:** the first draft of the Articles of Confederation, written by [John Dickinson](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Dickinson), was presented to the Second Continental Congress on July 12, 1776, but it did not send the complete and final proposed constitution to the states until November 15, 1777. [Virginia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Virginia) was the first state to ratify the Articles on December 16, 1777; 12 other states had ratified them by February 1779, 14 months into the process. However,   Maryland, refused to go along until the landed states, especially [Virginia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Virginia), had to [cede their claims](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/State_cession) west of the [Ohio River](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ohio_River) to the American Union. It would be two years before the [Maryland General Assembly](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maryland_General_Assembly) became satisfied that the different states would vote to ratify. With Maryland’s ratification of the Articles on February 2, 1781, Congress officially declared the Articles of Confederation to be the law of the land. The Articles of confederation were a league or alliance of states that agreed to work together. Under the leadership of John Dickinson of Pennsylvania, the Congress set a loose and unicameral confederation of 13 states, rather than a strong and centralized nation. The Articles interpreted the principles of the Declaration of Independence and rejected the centralized power of Britain as a threat to liberties. The Articles constituted a war-time confederation of states, with an extremely limited central government. Though the document made official some of the procedures used by the Congress to conduct business, but most the delegates realized the Articles had limitations.

**2-New National Government’s Structure:** the new national government is composed of a congress of delegates, chosen by state legislatures rather than by voters. Although states had the right choose as many as seven delegates, each state—no matter how large or small—had a just one vote. Vast Virginia had no more power than tiny Rhode Island. The powers to make, implement, and enforce the laws were all placed with the Congress. The new national government had neither a President nor executive branch. Instead, executive power was dispersed among many committees of congressional representatives.

**3-National Congress’ Powers:** the Articles conferred certain limited powers to Congress. These powers were predominantly external: to declare and command war and to negotiate peace, to regulate foreign affairs and to run relations with Indian tribes. The Congress had no power to raise money through taxes. Therefore, it relied on states’ contribution, which were insufficient and unreliable. Between 1781 and 1786, the Congress got only one sixth of what it requested from all states. By 1786, it needed $2.5 million to pay its debts ‘interest but had only the amount $400,000 on hand. In fact, the states had bankrupted the nation. On some minor issues, a majority of seven states could issue a law. However, on the major issues, including declaring war and treaties, two thirds of the states (nine) had to ratify. Amending the Articles was almost impossible because all 13 states had to approve any change.

**4-Strengths & Weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation**

**4-1-Strengths & Accomplishments :**government signed a treaty of alliance with France in 1778 and successfully waged a war for independence against the British. It also negotiated an end to the American Revolution in the Treaty of Paris, signed in 1783 and granted the free inhabitants of each state “all the privileges and immunities of free citizens in the several states.” Moreover, it provided for the eventual admission of Canada into the Confederation. Perhaps the most significant accomplishment of the Articles of Confederation was the passage of the Northwest Ordinance of 1787, which allowed the Northwest Territories to organize their own governments. Therefore, it allowed the eventual admission to the Union of no more than five states, and no fewer than three, “on an equal footing with the original states.” The Ordinance also banned slavery from the region. Government established the Departments of Foreign Affairs, War, Marine, and Treasury.

**4-2-Weaknesses:** Congress had no power to coin money, therefore each state developed its own currency (a serious hodgepodge of coins and a bewildering variety of state and national papers, all fast depreciating in value). It was unable to regulate interstate and foreign commerce; some states refused to pay for products they bought from abroad. It lacked sole control of international relations; a number of states had begun their own negotiations with foreign countries. Nine states had organized their own armies and navies. It was also unable to impose taxes (tariffs); it could only borrow money on credit. National court system was not established to protect the rights of U.S. citizens. No executive branch was set to implement laws. Amendments could be added only with the approval of all 13 states. Consent of 9 of 13 states was required to pass a law in Congress. One vote was granted for each state, despite the size of its population. Thus the proposed confederations were little more that what Dickinson called it a “firm league of friendship.”

**5-Foreign Affairs during the Confederation Period**

In the decade after the end of revolution, the United States benefited from a long period of peace in Europe, as no European country presented an immediate threat to the United States. Nevertheless, the weaknesses of the Confederation government extremely hindered diplomacy. During the mid-1780s, the Spanish and British did not take the new United States seriously. To them, the republican Confederation seemed weak to the point of anarchy, or lawlessness.

**5-1-Spain-United States relations:** the Spanish were always against American independence, and they hindered American expansion westward because it posed a real threat to their colonies of Louisiana and Mexico. Perhaps no other problem triggered such sectional division during the Confederation Period than the navigation right of the Mississippi River. The Treaty of Paris (1783) had asserted that the Mississippi would be the western boundary of the United States and that it would be opened to Americans free navigation. To curb settlements west of the Appalachian Mountains, Spain closed the Mississippi river to Americans in 1784, and forbade American trade with New Orleans. American settlers desired to ship their products down the Mississippi River to market in Spanish-held New Orleans. The Congress lost assistance from western settlers when it almost agreed to close New Orleans in exchange of commercial contracts to benefit northeastern merchants.

**5-2-Britain-United States relations:** national problems continued as American merchants were blocked from the British West Indies and the British army persisted to hold posts in the Old Northwest, which was in fact an American territory after the signature the [Treaty of Paris](https://www.history.com/topics/american-revolution/treaty-of-paris). A year later, the British renounced the treaty in order to make the Americans pay for their independence. Refusing the new doctrine of free trade championed by Adam Smith, the British restored their traditional mercantilism as defined by the Navigation Acts. Accordingly, Americans could only trade with the Britain under rules that suited the British interests. They could only import all the British goods, but they could no longer freely send their ships to trade with the British West Indies—the most important market for American fish, lumber, and grains. This restriction greatly affected Massachusetts, which had more ships than any other state and a greater need for the West Indian market for its fish and lumber. As a revenge, Massachusetts barred the British ships from transporting its exports. But, this retaliation failed because the other states did not backup Massachusetts. In addition, the Congress was too vulnerable to orchestrate a strong front against Britain’s mercantile policy. The Britain also disturbed the Confederation by maintaining frontier forts on the American side of the boundaries set by the peace treaty of Paris. To satisfy the Indians, the British kept their forts at Niagara, Detroit, and Michilimackinac. American merchants began to call for a stronger national government.

**6-Shays’ Rebellion and the end the Confederation era**

It was a tax protest by western Massachusetts and Worcester farmers who broke an armed uprising in response to debt crisis and in objection to the state’s governments mounting efforts to collect taxes on both farmers and merchants in 1786 and 1787. Farmers took up arms to shut down the courts to block any foreclosure hearings. As farmers could not pay the higher taxes imposed by the Massachusetts government, they were obliged to lose their property or go to prison. Consequently, [American revolutionary war](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_Revolutionary_War) veteran [Daniel Shays](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Daniel_Shays) responded these economic and civil rights injustices through leading four thousand rebels (called Shaysites). Farmers realized that the central government was too weak to suppress an internal rebellion, and; thus, to protect the perpetual union. With a lack of money ,it had to rely on a state militia sponsored by Boston businessmen. These incidents alarmed the American Founders like George Washington, James Madison and Alexander Hamilton to an extent that delegates from five states met at Annapolis, Maryland in September 1786 to change the Articles of Confederation. The assembly of delegates included Madison, Hamilton and John Dickinson, and it recommended that a meeting of all 13 states be held the next May in Philadelphia. The Confederation Congress agreed and the Constitutional Convention of 1787 effectively ended the era of the Articles of Confederation.

***CHAPTER TWO: The Federalist Era 1789-1801***

The era began with the ratification of the United States Constitution during George Washington’s presidency (1789) and ended with the [Democratic-Republican Party](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Democratic-Republican_Party)'s victory in the [1800 elections](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_elections,_1800). News of the Constitution’s ratification in 1789 was greeted with relief and enthusiasm, and celebrations erupted in the streets of Philadelphia, New York, Boston, and Charleston. All that was needed now was a strong leader to govern the new nation. On April 23, 1789, the new Senate counted the presidential ballots. To no one’s surprise, the votes were unanimous. George Washington was unanimously elected president by the Electoral College and arrived triumphantly in the nation’s capital, New York City. The next week (April 30), he made his way to Federal Hall through streets filled with well-wishers to take the oath of office and deliver his inaugural address to the members of the First Congress as the first president of the United States under the federal Constitution. The new president appeared almost apprehensive; he and the assembled members of Congress realized the awesome task of leading a new nation-to implement the principles of the Constitution into practice and demonstrate that the federalist government could be successful. Washington knew he had to serve both as a political and a symbolic leader because the Constitution provided only a sketch of the president’s responsibilities. As Americans trusted Washington’s leadership during the American revolution, he was aware of the difficulties he faced and knew that the **precedents** , or traditions, he established as the nation’s first president would shape the future of the United States. “No slip will pass unnoticed,” he remarked.

***1-George Washington’s administration and The First Congress***

During the summer of 1789, Congress established three executive departments: a Department of State to manage of foreign affairs, a Department of the Treasury to handle the nation’s financial matters, and a Department of War to take charge of the military and provide for the nation’s defense. Congress also created the office of attorney general to handle the government’s legal affairs and the office of postmaster general to administer the postal service. To head the executive departments, Washington chose prominent and talented political figures of the day —Thomas Jefferson as secretary of state, Alexander Hamilton as secretary of the treasury, and Henry Knox as secretary of war. He also appointed Edmund Randolph as attorney general. To seek their counsel and divergent views on pivotal issues, Washington met regularly with the three department chiefs and the attorney general, who together became known as the cabinet. Thus, he set the precedent for present-day cabinet meetings.

***2-Hamilton's Financial Program***

During 1780s, serious financial problems—namely the war-related debts incurred by the state and the national governments—plagued the country. The overall national debt- reached $78 million. The United States owed huge amounts of dollars to France and the Netherlands for loans made during and after the American Revolution. The Continental Congress also had borrowed millions of dollars from American citizens. Political leaders were conscious of the necessity of paying public credit in order to gain trust and develop greater respect for the new government. From 1789 to 1795, Alaxander Hamilton’s financial prowess and skills offered the almost insolvent new nation a sound economy, preparing it for the industrial evolvement he envisioned but never witnessed. In 1804 Aaron Burr, a political adversary, killed Hamilton in a duel. In 1790, Hamilton proposed that the new government should pay back money borrowed (debts) from both other countries and individual American citizens. Hamilton also argued that the national government should also pay the cost of the state’s help for the nation’s independence. He realized that the payment of state debts would strengthen states’ interest in their new government. To do so, Hamilton proposed and executed a bold 5-point plan. First, he funded at par full payment of foreign and national DEBTS by selling new U.S. bonds , paper notes promising to repay the money in a certain length of time during the American revolution, at their original value to investors or speculators. While waiting for the payment, many original bondholders, shopkeepers, farmers and soldiers were afraid that they would never be paid back. In order to get some money for their bonds, they had sold their depreciated war bonds to those speculators for less than their value and at discount prices. Madison and others opposed Hamilton’s plan because they believed it would make speculators rich and bold owners would get nothing. Second, he assumed state debts to bind creditors (lenders) to the national government. Southern states (except South Carolina) also objected the plan and complained about the payment of state war debts because they accumulated much less debts than the Northern states. Third, Hamilton also proposed a protective tariff (a tax on goods bought from foreign countries) that would help protect American products and make American companies compete against foreign companies. Fourth, he excised a tax on Whiskey for a source of income to pay the debt. In 1794 Pennsylvania farmers, who took their corn to market more cheaply by turning it into whiskey, rebelled against the tax. Fifth, Hamilton displayed his financial genius with a bold proposal for a national bank, jointly owned and directed by the government (20 percent) and private investors (80 percent). The bank of the united states Would be the depository for federal funds, and 2) receive tax funds paid by the people, thus collecting the nation’s financial resources into one giant pool, from which it could then: 3) lend money to the government and to businessmen, thus aiding the development of roads, bridges, factories, etc. 4) issue sound paper money, backed by its hard coin deposits. Madison and Jefferson opposed fiercely the idea of the bank and charged it as unconstitutional (inconsistent with the constitution) , but Washington agreed with Hamilton and Congress approved the Bank bill and the creation of a national bank of the United States . Concerns over the constitituionality of the bank led to the appearance of political parties, stemming from Jefferson’s and Hamilton’s views of the Constitution .

***3-Rise of Opposing Parties: Federalists (Hamiltonians) and Anti-Federalists or Republicans (Jeffersonians)***

In Washington’s cabinet, Alexander Hamilton and Thomas Jefferson often took opposing sides. They disagreed about the Constitution, economic policy and foreign relations. **Federalists Republicans**

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| --- | --- |
| **Federalists ( Hamiltonians)** | **Anti-Federalists /Republicans (Jeffersonians)** |
| Federalists had a pessimistic view of human nature.Hamilton believed people are basically selfish—thus need the restraint of strong government. Federalists’ leaders were President George Washington (tried to remain neutral but leaned toward the Federalists) and John Adams | Anti-Federalists had an optimistic view of human nature.Jefferson believed people are basically good—thus capable of self-government. Anti-Fedaralist’ leaders were James Madison and Senator James Monroe |
| Hamilton favored the upper-class (the "best people"): a rich and well-born aristocracy, based on birth, wealth, status, and intelligence. He agreed with John Jay that, “Those who own the country ought to govern it.” Federalists distrusted the common people | Jefferson favored the rule of the people; government *for* the people :a natural aristocracy, based on talent and virtue. He believed in the wisdom of the common people and middle class; “teachability” of the masses. |
| Federalists supported strong central government along limited powers to the states (nationalism ).They presented a loose, broad interpretation of the Constitution. | Anti-Federalists supported limited central government along strong states’ rights ( localists). They presented strict and narrow interpretation of the Constitution. They believed government only had powers specifically mentioned in the Constitution |
| Federalists favored industrial economy; manufacturing, and commerce and merchants, manufacturers, & shippers dominated them. They were urban centered and lived in urban areas of the eastern seaboard where commerce & manufacturing flourished. | Anti-Federalists themselves were primarily agrarians who insisted on no special privileges for special classes, especially manufacturers. They were rural centered and farming was their ennobling profession. |
| Federalists were pro-British. Many Federalists were mild Loyalists who welcomed bias in favor of the mother country Britain | Anti- Federalists were basically pro-French. They supported liberal ideas of the French Revolution. |

**4-*Domestic Tensions during the Federalist era***

***4-1-The Whisky Rebellion***

The Whiskey Rebellion  was a [tax protest](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tax_protest) in the United States between 1791 and 1794 during the [tenure of George Washington](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Presidency_of_George_Washington). In 1791 both houses of Congress placed a special tax on whiskey and other alcoholic beverages and it was considered as the first tax imposed on a domestic product by the newly formed federal government. Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton’s objective behind the whiskey tax was to generate revenue for the national debt incurred during the American revolution. In western Pennsylvania , the tax received fierce objection . In july 1794, a large armed mob of farmers attacked federal tax collectors and burned down building. Such an armed protest worried government leaders as had Shays’s Rebellion in 1786. But, President Washington and his advisers realized the necessity to repress the challenge using the army in order to send a message that The federal government is still strong and capable to ensure domestic tranquility and maintain order.

***4-2-The Northwest Indian War***

**The Northwest Indian War** (1785–1795), also known as **Little Turtle's War** , was a war between the United States and a numerous Native tribes, with minor help from the British, for control of the Northwest Territory. Native Americans, living between the Appalachian Mountains and the Mississippi River, fought American settlers who were moving west and declared that the United States had no authority over them. President Washington previously signed several treaties with the Natives, hoping to keep them free of British or Spanish influence. But, American settlers violated the treaties and moved into lands promised to Indians. Armed to defend their lands and supported by the British and the Spanish, the Natives waged a fighting and battled settlers over frontier land. Hundreds of Americans were killed. As a reaction, Washington sent an army under the command of General Arthur St. Clair to restore order in the Northwest Territory, but his forces were defeated by Little Turtle, chief of the Miami people in November 1971. Because Britain was afraid that the United States would take sides with its enemy France, it asked Native Americans to launch raids against American settlers west of the Appalachian Mountains, asking them to leave north of the Ohio River territory. Washington sent another army headed by the former revolutionary general Anthony Wayne to challenge the Indians’ demands. In August 1794, his army defeated more than 1,000 Native Americans at the Battle of Fallen Timbers (near present-day Toledo, Ohio) which broke the Native Americans’ hopes of maintaining their lands. In 1795, the Natives signed the Treaty of Greenville, agreeing to surrender most of their territories in what is now Ohio.

***5-Foreign Affairs during the Federalist era: 1793-1801***

***5-1- Neutrality***

Shortly after Washington was inaugurated a president in 1789, the French Revolution broke out against French monarcks due to increasing [social](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_inequality) and [economic inequalit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Economic_inequality)ies of the ancient régime. At first most Americans rejoiced and pleased in hearing the news, particularly jeffersonians. The French had previously supported the Americans in their struggle for independence, and their revolution seemed to mirror many of the American Revolution’s ideals. By 1793, the French Revolution had turned bloody with the execution by guillotine of the French King Louis XVI & his wife, Mary Antoinette along thousands of French conservatives & anti-revolutionaries.In fact, the French Revolution created a severe ideological and political division in U.S. public opinion. The violence of the French Revolution offended many Americans who saw it as the second chapter of the American Revolution.When Great Britain and France went to war in 1793, Washington hoped that the American nation, dependent on trade with each, could valiantly maintain its neutrality—that is, it would champion neither France nor Britain.As The French tried to get American volunteers to British Ships, The United States issued its Neutraliy Proclamation of 1793, prohibited American citizens from participating in the war, warned them to be impartial to both countries, and even forbade French and British warships from American ports. As time went on, however keeping neutrality became increasingly difficult. Angred by the French raids at sea, the British navy began harassing and seizing 300 American ships that traded with the French in the West Indies . The British also captured American merchant ships and forced hundreds of Americans into service on British vessels while others were imprisoned. These practices, known as **i**mpressment **,** infuriated the Americans.

***5-2-John Jay Treaty***

Washington sent John Jay to work out a peaceful solution with Britain. Jay proposed a treaty named in honor of him. In fact, the treaty did not deal with the problems of British impressment and their interference in the American trade, but it was rather intended to resolve numerous difficulties related to boundary tensions, debts owed in each direction, and the permanent presence of British in the Territory. Though, Jay’s Treaty gained less popularity, it was approved by the Senate, compelling the British to evacuate the western forts, open their West Indies ports to American ships, and allow small vessels to trade with the French West Indies.

***5-3-Pinckney’s Treaty***

Fearing that Spain might successfully instigate insurgence against the U.S. in case of failure to open trade on the Mississipi, Washington sent the envoy Thomas Pinckney to Madrid with the intention to settle the differences between the United States and Spain. At the same time, fearing the union of the U.S. and Britain to take the Spanish territory, Spain decided to sign the [Pinckney's Treaty](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pinckney%27s_Treaty), officially named The Treaty of San Lorenzo in 1795, establishing intentions of friendship between the two countries. It marked the end of Spanish hostility and expansion. Therefore, it gave the Americans the right to navigate in Mississippi River and trade in New Orleans.

***6- Federal John Adams as President***

In the election of 1796, the American nation faced for the first time a contested and problematic presidential election in which the Federalist John Adams defeated the Anti-Fedralist Thomas Jefferson. It was the only presidential election in which a president and his vice-president were elected from opposing parties.

***6-1-XYZ Affair 1797***

When Adams became president, France and the United States were still in perpetual tensions. The French were displeased about the John Jay friendship Treaty between the U.S. and Britain. As a revenge, the French began to harass and seize the American ships that carried goods to Britain. In 1797 Adams sent a team of negociators to Paris with the intention to settle down the conflict. The French foreign minister refused to meet with the Americans envoys. Instead, he sent three agents who asked for a $250,000 bribe to negociate with America. They also demanded a loan for France. When the news reached Adams, he was angry and called the three French agents “X, Y, and Z.” Adams urged Congress to prepare for war. The incident became known as the XYZ affair.

***6-2-Alien and Sedition Acts***

Hostility to France has led the Congress to pass Alien and Sedition Acts which had severe impacts on American libersties. It changed the requirement of citizenship from 5 years to 14 years; this act was in fact targeting the Irish and French immigrants. The Republicans (Jeffersonians) asserted that the act was unconstitutional.It is worthy to mention that Adam Alien and Sedition Acts led to popular American opposition, and were all a bad luck for Adam in the election of 1800 which marked the fall of the Federalists and the rise of the Anti-Fedaralists (Republicans) with Thomas Jeffesron as a new President.

**CHAPTER THREE /The Anti-Federalist /Democratic Republican Era 1800-1824**

1**-Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions**

The two main Democratic- Republican leaders, Jefferson and James Madison, viewed the Alien and Sedition Acts as a tyranny and a serious misuse of the Federalist power. They determined to organize opposition to the Alien and Sedition Acts by looking to the states to respond and protect people liberties. Both wrote statements of protest that the Virginia and Kentucky legislatures passed as resolutions. Madison wrote a set of resolutions that were adopted by the Virginia legislature, while Jefferson drew up resolutions that were approved in Kentucky. The Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions of 1798 and 1799 claimed that the Alien and Sedition Acts violated the Constitution and declared that the states should not put them into effect . Accordingly, the states emphasized the principle of nullification—that states had the right to nullify and legally overrun , or consider void and invalid, any Congress laws they thought were unconstitutional. Virginia and Kentucky saw the Alien and Sedition Acts as unconstitutional violations of First Amendment citizens rights, and warned of the threats that the Alien and Sedition Acts posed to a government of checks and balances guaranteed by the Constitution.

**2-The Election of 1800**

The Federalist and Republican parties fought a bitter Presidential election campaign in 1800. Federalists supported President Adams for a second term and Charles Pinckney of South Carolina for vice president. Republicans nominated Thomas Jefferson for president and Aaron Burr of New York as his running mate. The election campaign of 1800 was totally different from nowadays campaigns as both Adams nor Jefferson didn’t travel around the U.S.A. delivering speeches about their electoral agenda. Instead the candidates and their allies wrote hundreds of letters to leading citizens and friendly newspapers to present their views. The letter-writing campaign, however, was harsh and derogatory. Each party pelted wild charges at the other. Federalists charged the Republican Jefferson, who believed in freedom of religion, as a dangerous supporter of revolutionary France and an atheist “godless” bent on destroying organized religion. Republicans warned that the Federalist Adams was a tool of the wealthy people who wanted to turn the executive branch into a British-style monarchy.

**2-1-Electoral Deadlock**

In the balloting, Jefferson defeated Adams by eight electoral votes. However, Jefferson and his running mate Aaron Burr received the same numbers of 73 votes when members of the Electoral College voted. Because of this tie, the House of Representatives had to decide the election. At the time, the electors voted for each presidential and vice-presidential candidate individually instead of voting for a party’s candidates as a team. In the House, Federalists seized the opportunity to prevent the election of Jefferson by supporting Burr. For six feverish days, the House took one ballot after another—35 ballots and the election remained tied. Finally, at Alexander Hamilton’s urging and despite his opposition to Jefferson’s philosophy of government, one Federalist decided not to vote for Burr because Jefferson was regarded as much more qualified for the presidency than Burr. Jefferson became president, and Burr became vice president. To prevent another showdown between a presidential and a vice-presidential candidate, Congress passed the Twelfth Amendment to the Constitution in 1803, which required electors to vote for the president and vice president on separate ballots. This system is still in effect today.

**3-Thomas Jefferson’s Democratis-Republicanism and cabinet**

Thomas Jefferson ‘s election was considred as the “Revolution of 1800.” When Jefferson became president , he had chosen men who shared his Republican principles. His secretary of state was his friend and fellow Virginian, James Madison. For secretary of the treasury, he appointed the Pennsylvanian Albert Gallatin who had a grasp of financial matters that emulated Alexander Hamilton’s. He believed that Federals had governed too much like monarcks ;thus, he tried to create a less formal style for presidency with less powers of the government. His philosophy, often Know as Jeffersonian republicanism, held that the people should control the government and that a simple government best suited people’s needs He was quite simple to a further extent that he rode horseback rather than traveling in carriages. During formal receptions, he enjoyed more intimate dinners around a circular table so that, as he said, “When brought together in society, all are perfectly equal.” Although Jefferson adopted new style for the presidency, he did not overtake all of the Federalists’ policies. Rather he endeavored to integrate Republican ideas into the Federalists ‘ achievements . As strong believer in small government, Jefferson limited the federalists’ powers and sought to end their programs. He repealed the Alien and Sedition Acts and released prisoners convicted under them. Congress began paying off the federal debt, cut government spending whenever possible, and ended many taxes, such as the unpopular and hated whiskey tax. It also shrunk the size of the army by one third, curbed a planned expansion of the navy and reduced it from 25 to 7 ships. Many Federalists were afraid that Jefferson would dismantle the national bank. However, Jefferson’s good choice of the skillful financier Albert Gallatin, as secretary of the treasury , helped to bolster Hamilton’s system.

**4-Marshall and the Judiciary (Supreme Court)**

Although Jefferson canceled many Federalist programs, he had little power over the courts as they continued to exert considerable impact in the judicial branch. Before Jefferson took office, the Federalists passed the Judiciary Act of 1801. Under this act, Adams set up regional courts for the United States with 16 Ferderal judges and appointed as many judicial officials as he could between the election of 1800 and Jefferson’s inauguration in 1801. In his final days as president, John Adams made hundreds of appointments to these positions, and the Federalist-controlled Congress.These last-minute appointments, called midnight judges, meant that the new Democratic-Republican president would confront a firm Federalist judiciary. Because judges were appointed for life, Jefferson often felt frustrated as could do little about Federalist control of the courts. Before he left office in 1801, President Adams also designated a 45-year-old Federalist, John Marshall as new Chief Justice of the Supreme Court with the intention to strengthen the federal courts. By these actions Adams and Marshal ensured that the Fedralist would check the power of the Democratic-Republicans through shutting President-elect Jefferson out of the appointment process. One of the most significant decisions of the Marshall Court was *Marbury* v. *Madison,* (1803), which asserted the principle of judicial review with the final authority of the Supreme Court on the meaning of the Constitution.In fact, As Adams’s last-minute or midnight appointment, William Marbury was refused his position as justice of the peace for the District of Columbia by Adams. Marbury sued to enforce this provision and his case went to the Supreme Court, which ruled that the law under which Marbury sued was unconstitutional. Justice Marshall decided that this provision of the act was unconstitutional because the Constitution did not empower the Supreme Court to issue such orders.Although the Court denied Marbury’s claim, it did establish the principle of judicial review through which the Supreme Court has the final say in interpreting the Constitution in case of unconstitutional acts . Jefferson and Madison were extremely enraged when Marshall took advantage of this new power for the Supreme Court, but they could hardly fight his decision. After all, he had decided *Marbury* v. *Madison* in their favor.

**5-The United States Expands West**

One of Jefferson’s strongest beliefs was that the success of the republic could only be achieved through expanding the country farther west.

**5-1-The Louisiana Purchase**

It was called the sale of Louisiana through, which a territory of 828 thousand square miles, including Canadian promises and some American states, were acquired by the U.S. from France in 1803. It was considered as the most significant Republicans’ achievement during Jefferson’s presidency. In 1800, French leader Napoleon Bonaparte persuaded Spain to return back Louisiana, a French territory ceded previously to Spanish in 1762, to France in exchange for helping Spain dominate part of Italy. When news of the secret transfer leaked out Americans responded with fear. Napoleon’s deal with the Spanish worried Jefferson , because it gave France a strong presence and control of the lower Mississippi and the midcontinent. Jefferson believed that France return back in North America would threaten the security of America and force the United States into an alliance with the British, whom Jefferson detested. At the beginning, Jefferson sought to resolve the problem by purchasing New Orleans and western Florida from the French. To do so, he sent James Monroe to join American ambassador Robert Livingston in Paris to prevent the deal or gain concessions for the United States. Before Monroe’s arrival, however, Napoleon had abandoned his hopes for an American empire, particularly when he failed to reconquer France’s most important island colony, Saint Domingue (now known as Haiti).Livingston arrived in Paris in the spring of 1801, but his negotiations ended little until 1803. By 1803, Napoleon had turned his interests to conquer Europe. If France continued its war against Britain, the last thing the French really hated was an alliance between the United States and Great Britain. Furthermore, France’s government lacked money and was short on funds due to wars. All these circumstances, therefore, pushed Napoleon to sell all of the Louisiana Territory, as well as New Orleans, to the United States.Suprised by the offer and with no time to consult their government, Monroe and Livingston immediately accepted and closed the deal for $15 million. Though Jefferson was not certain that the purchase was constitutional, he unexpectedly made negotiations and signed the Louisiana purchase on April 13, 1803. The purchase doubled the size of the American territory, blocked French and British imperial expansion in North America; thus, it facilitated both their Westward expansion as well as free navigation in the Mississippi river.

**5-2-Lewis and Clark Expedition**

Jefferson was eager to explore the mysterious lands west of the Mississippi. Even before the Louisiana Purchase was accomplished In 1803, he convinced Congress to finance an expedition to know more about the new territory as a scientific venture. He appointed his private secretary Meriwether Lewis and his co-leader William Clark to lead a two years and four months expedition, known as the Corps of Discovery from St. Louis to the Pacific coast. Jefferson asked the Corps to collect scientific information about unknown plants and animals in their way to the Pacific and to learn about the Native American tribes encountered along the route. Thanks to the Native American guide Sacajawea, both Lewis and Clark were knowledgeable amateur scientists who had proceeded business with Native Americans and gathered invaluable information about the American western territories.

**6-The war of 1812**

Following Washington’s precedent, Jefferson made it clear in mid-1808 that he would not be a candidate for a third term. With Jefferson’s approval the Republicans chose James Madison as their candidate for president. With Jefferson’s approval, the Republicans chose James Madison as their candidate for president. The Federalists nominated Charles Pinckney .In the presidential election of 1808, Madison won with 122 electoral votes to Pinckney’s 47 votes. James Madison did not take office as president under the most favorable conditions. At home and abroad, the nation was mired in the embargo crisis. Meanwhile Britain continued to claim the right to halt American ships, and cries for war with Britain grew louder.

America declared war on Great Britain because it had violated American sovereignty by refusing to surrender western ports as promised in the Treaty of Paris of 1783. It began stopping American sea vessels and forcing American sailors on those vessels to enter the British Navy. Besides, it imposed trade embargoes (prohibits trades between countries) , resulting in the seizing of American ships. President Madison also wanted to prevent Native Americans tribes from creating alliance with Great Britain against the U.S. on the American frontiers. Americans in the West and South, who hoped to increase the size of the United States by seizing control of both Canada and Florida and to expel the British from North America , influenced his decision .

This was propelled by a new spirit of nationalism and the influence of a powerful new group of Republican leaders, known as “War Hawks”, who demanded war.Critics called the War of 1812 "Mr. Madison's War," but others saw it as a "second war of independence," an opportunity for Americans to protect their freedom and honor in the face of European disrespect. Neither Britain nor the United States was particularly well prepared to fight this war, and the conflict eventually ended in a stalemate.

England and America had tried to start peace negotiations as early as 1813, but without much success. In August 1814, the British selected commissioners to meet with the American negotiators at Ghent. Both countries signed the peace treaty, known as the Treaty of Ghent, on December 24, 1814. The Battle of New Orleans, fought after the two sides had already signed the peace treaty, ironically became the war's most famous incident. Almost overnight the War of 1812 became a glorious success. Because America had managed to bring the world’s greatest super power to a standstill (again), it gained international respect. It also gave a greater sense of nationalism among its citizens. The period of U.S. immediately following the war was known as the “The Era of Good Feeling”, with James Madison as a president.

**The War of 1812**

Madison and the War of 1812 Jefferson easily won reelection in 1804 but a crisis clouded his second administration. Renewed fighting between Britain and France threatened American shipping. The crisis continued into the administration of James Madison, who was elected president in 1808. Some four years later, Madison led the nation into the War of 1812 against Great Britain.

**THE CAUSES OF THE WAR**

1-Although France and Britain both threatened U.S. ships between 1805 and 1814, Americans focused their anger on the British. One reason was the British policy of impressment, the practice of seizing Americans at sea and “impressing,” or drafting, them into the British navy. As a result, US freedom of the seas and neutrality is not being respected (impressment).

2-As Americans move further west, more conflicts occur between Americans and Indians. Tecumseh and The Prophet, rallies Indians, resisted American encroachment into Ohio. General William Henry Harrison destroyed Tecumseh’s village and broke Indian unity at the Battle of Tippecanoe (1811)

3-Americans grew even angrier after learning that officials in British Canada were supplying arms to Native Americans in support of their ongoing battle against American settlers. A group of young congressmen from the South and the West, known as the war hawks, demanded war.

**THE COURSE OF THE WAR**

By the spring of 1812, President Madison had decided to commit America to war against Britain, and Congress approved the war declaration in mid-June. Republican funding cuts and a lack of popular support had left the American military with few volunteers and ill-prepared for war. Britain, however, was too preoccupied with Napoleon in Europe to pay much attention to the Americans. Nonetheless, the British scored a stunning victory in August of 1814, when they brushed aside American troops and sacked Washington, D.C. Madison and other federal officials fled the city as the British burned the Capitol, the Presidential Mansion, and other public buildings. The most impressive American victory occurred at the Battle of New Orleans. There, on January 8, 1815, U.S. troops led by General Andrew Jackson of Tennessee routed a British force. Ironically, British and American diplomats had already signed a peace agreement before the Battle of New Orleans, but news of the pact had not reached Jackson in time. The Treaty of Ghent, signed on Christmas Eve, 1814, declared an armistice, or end to the fighting.

**THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE WAR**

The war had three important consequences. First, it led to the end of the Federalist Party, whose members generally opposed the war. Second, it encouraged the growth of American industries to manufacture products no longer available from Britain because of the war. Third, it confirmed the status of the United States as a free and independent nation.

**CHAPTER FOUR /The “Era of Good Feelings”: 1816-1824**

**Introduction**

The War of 1812 victory at the treaty of Ghent over the British and successful negotiations with foreign powers ushered a heightened nationalist feeling through the United States during the two terms of James Monroe’s presidency. From 1816 to 1824, the United States enjoyed the Era of Good Feelings, an era of nationalism , pride, loyalty, patriotism, peace, economic progress and protectiveness toward the country. The phrase the Era of Good Feeling was first coined by a Boston newspaper “The Columbian Centinal” in 1817 during Monroe's visit to New England early in his presidency , and it has since been used to describe his doctrine. Monroe's presidency represented stability as it was a continuation of the "Virginia dynasty," as four of the first five presidents, Washington, Jefferson, Madison, and Monroe, had been Virginians.Such a stability, new national unity, and good sentiments found a strong supporter and nationalist in the U.S. Representative Henry Clay from Kentucky.

**1-The characteristics of the Good Feelings era**

-An increasing sense of American nationalism and Americans began to see themselves as Americans first and state citizens second (no state rights).

-Americans finally earned international respect by standing up to England after victories in War of 1812, especially Battle of New Orleans. Therefore, the U.S. is now capable of defending itself against world powers.

-Manufacturing and industry grew as response to embargo during war of 1812 along the decline of farming as future of America.

-The decline of political opposition because the Federalist Party lost its influence. Thus, there was only one dominant political party, the Democratic-Republicans.

-The rise of sectionalism. Though conflict between political parties collapsed, disputes between different sections within the U.S. nation led to the rise of Sectionalism (loyalty to one state or section rather than to the nation as a whole) along the opposition between the North and the South over slavery. In Congress, three ambitious men took center stage in these disputes: the South Carolinian John C. Calhoun stood for the South against the Federal power as a firm defender of slavery. Daniel Webster from New Hampshire spoke for the North against slavery and supported the larger roles of Federal government in building the nation’s economy. The Westerner Henry Clay favored an active central government, as Webster, in promoting the country’s growth.

-Westward expansion and optimism about a prosperous future of the United States because of internal improvements

- The Decline of economic and political dependence on Europe and interference in its affairs

-The closure of America to further European colonization. Any attempt to colonize the Western Hemisphere is considered as a hostile act. Thus, the United States saw itself as a world power and protector of Latin America.

**2-Economic nationalism**

In 1816, while James Madison was still president, Congress ardently started to revive much of Alexander Hamilton’s economic vision for the country and to adapt it to meet the needs of a growing American nation. Led by Henry Clay of Kentucky in the Senate and John C. Calhoun of South Carolina in the House of Representatives, Congress passed proposals for a national bank, a protective tariff, and internal improvements. Proponents believed the program, which Clay labeled the **“American System”** in 1824, would make the United States economically self-sufficient and prosperous.

**2-1- 1816 Protective Tariff**

Protection of manufacturers was the main interest of the Republicans .Because the British embargo Act had led to a shortage of British goods during the War of 1812, American industries had increased their production to meet the demand. Once the war was over, British cheap goods flooded the United States, at such low costs that they threatened to put American rival companies out of business and undermine new industries. As the USA erected new factories during the War of 1812 to supply British goods previously imported to America like Francis Cabot Lowells’ mills and Boston Manufacturing Company, Britain was upset to see the growth of the American industry and started to sell its products well below American prices for the sake of dumping. Americans saw such a dumping as a British attempt to crush the U.S. nascent factories. As a result, Congress passed the first high American protective tax on imported goods in 1816, known as “Dallas tax” after Alexander Dallas, to protect a nation’s businesses from foreign competition and manufacturers from ruin. The tariff made European goods, particularly the British, more costprohibitive “too expensive” and encouraged Americans to buy anything other than cheaper American-made products. Though it imposed roughly 20-25% duties on imports , it was not really high enough to provide effective protection.

Sectional battle over the tariff represented by the three great Congressional leaders of the era: Calhoun, Webster, and Clay, known as "Great Triumvirate. After initially supporting 1816 tariff, John C. Calhoun ,from South Carolina, represented southern views and opposed it claiming that it enriched North manufacturers at South’s expense. As the North was the base of American manufacturing, higher prices of foreign good made American products more competitive. Thus, the northern business flourished and New Englanders went rich as American factories sold more goods to the South and the West. Daniel Webster, from New Hampshire, represented northern views and opposed the 1816 tariff on the basis that shippers feared tariff would damage their industry since the North was not completely industrial yet. Clay saw tariffs as a way to develop a strong domestic market. Consequently, Western trade would flourish under the tariff whose revenues would fund roads and canals in the West, especially the Ohio Valley. All in all, as the economies of the South and the West relied heavily on farming, these regions didn’t financially experience the same benefits from the Tariff as the industrial North. For example, goods like cloth and iron became expensive for southerners and westerners who lacked factories. Northerners gained income as a result.

**2-2-Second American Bank (BUS)**

Republicans traditionally had objected the idea of a national bank. They had blocked the rechartering of the First American Bank in 1811 and offered nothing instead. During the War of 1812, the outcomes were disastrous as the lack of both a national bank to secure credit to fund the war and a developing nationwide transportation network to facilitate move troops and goods hampered the effort to defend the country from British attacks. As a response, private and state banks immediately sprung up over the country that was flooded by their own depreciated and unregulatory money. Without the regulatory presence of the national bank, prices of credits rose rapidly during the War of 1812. When the government borrowed money to finance the war, it had to pay higher interest rates on its loans. Due to of these potential problems, the nationally-minded republican leaders changed their minds after the war. In 1816, Representative John C. Calhoun of South Carolina proposed a bill of rechartering the First Bank as the Second Bank of the United States (BUS). With the support of Henry Clay of Kentucky and Daniel Webster of Massachusetts, the Congress passed the bill the same year.

Modeled after first National Bank but with 3.5 times more capital , the second American Bank was strong enough to issue notes that would serve as a more stable and single currency against the variety of states’ money , control state banks, check money and credit supply to make interstate trade easier. Putting the taxes in one place allowed the bank to provide loans to business that would generate more taxes to build the economy, to curb inflation, and to improve roads and canals. The country would be united together as a result. Though Federalists ironically denounced the new BUS as unconstitutional, Jeffersonians supported it on the grounds of the same arguments that Hamilton had used in 1791.Improve the country’s transportation systems, which were important for a strong economy. Poor roads made transportation slow and costly.

**2-3- Internal improvements “Roads and Canals”**

Representative John C. Calhoun of South Carolina also called for better transportation systems. “Let us bind the Republic together with a perfect system of roads and canals,” he declared in 1817. As most roads in the United States were made of dirt, making travel difficult, Congress agreed with Clay and invested in road building through funding the first road built by the federal government known as National Road or the Cumberland .By 1818, the road ran from Cumberland, Maryland, to Wheeling, Columbus town on the Ohio River in present-day West Virginia. By 1841, the National Road, designed as the country’s main east-west route as the expansioin was called, had been extended to Vandalia, Illinois. All of the road work had to be achieved without the benefit of nowadays bulldozers and steamrollers.

Meanwhile, Americans improved easy water transportation by building canals. In fact, the period from 1825 to 1850 is often called the Age of Canals. Completed in 1825, One of the largest projects was the massive Erie Canal , created a water route between Albany, New York City and Buffalo, New York. Using shovels, British, German, and Irish immigrants dug the entire canal by hand. Though the canal too costly, it proved to be worth the expense. The canal opened the upper Ohio Valley and the Great Lakes region to settlement and trade. It also fueled nationalism by unifying these two sections of the country. The Erie Canal permitted farm products from the Great Lakes region to pour east and settlers and manufactured goods from the East to flow west. Trade from other states, such Michigan, Indiana and others, stimulated by the canal helped New York City become the nation’s largest city and port. Between 1820 and 1830, its population rushed from less than 125,000 to more than 200,000.About the 1830s, the U.S.A introduced the use steam-powered trains for transportation. In 1830, only about 30 miles of track existed in the United States. Though the canal’s success served as an incentive for a canal-building boom across the country to reach 9000 miles, improvements in rail travel led to a decline in the use of canals.

**3-Deplomatic Nationalism**

This nationalist spirit also made U.S. leaders want to define and expand the country’s borders. To do this, they had to reach agreements with Britain and Spain.

Two agreements improved relations between the United States and Britain. The Rush-Bagot Agreement (1817) limited each side’s naval forces on the Great Lakes. In the Convention of 1818, the two countries set the 49th parallel as the U.S.-Canadian border as far west as the Rocky Mountains.

**3-1-The Oregon Treaty “1817** & **1818 Agreements”**

The Treaty of Ghent marked the end of 1812 War, yet there were tensions left unresolved. Both Great Britain and the United States sought ways to improve their relationship, and their effort led to several agreements that brought long-term peace between the two countries. In the spring of 1817, as both the United States and British Canada wanted to keep their navies and fishing rights on the Great Lakes, they signed the Rush-Bagot Agreement, which demilitarized the Great Lakes region and limited naval power on the Great Lakes for both them. The American congress passed another treaty known as the Convention of 1818, which gave the U.S.A. fishing rights off the coast of Canada, restricted British travel on the Mississippi River, ended their trade with the Indians in the Louisiana Purchase, and set the border between the United States and Canada at 49°N west of the Rocky Mountains.Interest in the valuable fur trade in the Oregon Country was another issue resolved by this treaty. Though both countries agreed to occupy the Pacific Northwest together, the 1817 and 1818 Agreements improved both nations’ foreign trade and economy.

**3-2-Adams-Onis Treaty “Gaining Florida”**

United States also had a long dispute over the ownership of West Spanish Florida and its borders of Louisiana Purchase. In 1818 Secretary of State John Quincy Adams, son of the second American president John Adams, held negotiations with Spanish diplomat Luis de Onis about letting Americans settle in Florida. Meanwhile, President James Monroe, elected in 1816, ordered General Andrew Jackson to lead the American troops to secure the U.S.- Florida border. At the same time, conflicts arose between the United States and the Seminole Indians of Florida. The Seminoles often helped pirates and runaway slaves to refuge in Spanish-held East Florida. In addition, they raided U.S. white settlements in Georgia to reclaim lost lands. As a response, in April 1818, Jackson's troops invaded Florida to capture Seminole raiders, but not to confront the Spanish. This act began the First Seminole War. During the war, Jackson dominated most of Spain's important military posts, overthrew the governor of Florida, followed the Seminoles into Spanish territory, and then claimed the Floridas for the United States without receiving direct orders from President Monroe. Jackson's actions angered Spanish leaders, but most Americans supported him. Jackson's continuous presence in Florida convinced Spanish leaders to negotiate. In 1819, the two countries signed the Adams-Onis Treaty, which settled all border disputes between Spain and the United States. Under this treaty, Spain handed East Florida to the United States. In return, the United States ceded its claims to what is now Texas. U.S. leaders also agreed to pay up to $5 million of U.S. citizens' claims against Spain.

**4-Westward expansion**

A set of factors and achievements combined to spur the rapid growth west the American frontier during the presidencies of James Madison and Monroe

1. Westward movement had been significant since colonial era.

2. Cheap lands in Ohio territory attracted thousands of European immigrants.

3. Land exhaustion in older tobacco states drove people westward.

4. Speculators accepted small down payments and made purchase of land easier.

5. Economic depression during the embargo years sparked migration westward.

6. Defeat of Amerindians in previous decades cleared away much of the frontier, particularly due to the two significant victories: Battle of Fallen Timbers (1794) and Tippecanoe (1811).

7. Transportation Revolution improved land routes to Ohio Valley. Cumberland Road begun in 1811; from Maryland to Illinois, advent of steamboat in 1811 made upstream travel possible, Canals beginning in 1826 allowed for increased trade between west and east.

**5- The end of the Good Feeling Era**

Monroe's presidency oversaw two major events that really triggered the end of the Good Feelings era: Panic of 1819 and Missouri Compromise of 1820

**5-1-Panic of 1819**

The Panic of 1819 was the United States’ first major economic crisis and depression, characterized by bank failure, foreclosures, unemployment and a drop in manufacturing and agriculture production. The main factors contributing to the Panic of 1819 ranged from inflation caused by debt following the War of 1812, the vulnerable economy after war, the inability of many Americans to pay debt on their homes, as well as the negative impacts from international affairs like the Embargo Act and the recovery of Europe following the Napoleonic Wars.

After 1815, high prices had encouraged the inflation and speculation, but most financial experts realized any excessive demand for specie could destabilize the entire credit system. In late 1818, the Second Bank of the United States shifted from an inflationary policy to a deflationary policy to avoid a drop in their specie reserves. It started to demand repayment of outstanding loans, and it required state banks to convert their notes held by the BUS to specie. As a result, it brought ruin to numerous state banks and, in turn, the American people. The American speculative boom depended on the expectation that products’ prices would continue to increase, but they began to decline in 1819 as Europe recovered from the Napoleonic Wars, decreasing their need for American products, causing a collapse in the American market.

During the panic, American cities faced the dreadful conditions. Nearly 500,000 urban residents were idles. For example, in Philadelphia about 75 percent of workers remained unemployed. The number of paupers increased considerably as did the numbers of debtors imprisoned for nonpayment. Americans who owned their own homes faced foreclosures, and those who did not own homes lost hope to have one oneday. Rural landowners, even those rich, struggled to pay back their debts when banks asked for their loans. Throughout the crisis, the BUS intensly compelled its debtors to repay their outstanding loans, resulting in more business failures, more property seizures, more unemployment, and more popular protest across the country. Panic and depression of 1819 would occur , henceforth, about every 20 years: 1837, 1857, 1873, 1893, 1907, 1929.

**5-2-Missouri Compromise 1820**

Even during Monroe’s Era of Good Feelings and nationalism, disagreements between the different regions, known as sectionalism, was threatening the Union. Sectionalism is loyalty to the interests of your own region or section of the country, rather than to the nation as a whole. Economic changes had created some divisions within the United States. As a result, white Southerners were relying more on cotton and slavery. In the Northeast, wealth was based on manufacturing and trade. In the West, settlers wanted cheap land and good transportation.

Sectional tensions between the industrial North and the agrarian South rose to the boiling point in 1819, when Missouri applied for statehood to the union as a slave state. At the time, the United States consisted of 11 slave states and 11 free states. Adding Missouri as a new slave state would upset the balance of power in Congress in favor of the South. The question of Missouri soon divided the nation. For months, the nation entred a heated battle over admitting Missouri as a slave state or a free state. To protect the power of the free states, the House passed a special amendment, declaring that the United States would accept Missouri as a slave state along banning slavery ( importing enslaved Africans into Missouri would be illegal). The amendment also set free the children of Missouri slaves. Southern politicians angrily worried and opposed this proposal on the basis free states could form a majority in Congress and ban slavery altogether. Most of southerners , particularly North Carolina senator Nathaniel Macon, sought to continue adding slave states. Soon , the Senate rejected the amendment as unconstitutional and Missouri was still not a state. Fortunately, Maine, which had been part of Massachusetts, also applied for statehood. Henry Clay, the Speaker of the House, saw a great chance for compromise. Thus, he convinced Congress to agree to the Missouri Compromise known as Clay’s plan in 1820, which settled the conflict that had arisen from Missouri's application for statehood. This compromise had three main conditions: 1. Missouri would enter the Union as a slave state. 2. Maine would join the Union as a free state, keeping the number of slave and free states equal. 3. Slavery would be prohibited in any new territories or states formed north of 36°30' latitude-Missouri's southern border. Despite the success of the compromise, there were still strong disagreements between the North and South over the expansion of slavery.

**5-3-The Election of 1824**

Although James Monroe called political parties “other curse of the country”, the political unity, which he tried to build, collapsed with the emergence of growing factional divisions and rivalries in politics. These factional tension became exacerbated in the election of 1824 during which the democratic republican party collapsed and became fragmented in four regional coalitions with four different candidates: John Quincy Adams, Henry Clay, William H. Crawford, and Andrew Jackson. The presidential election was chaotic as none of the four candidates received a majority in the electoral College. Thus, under the constitution, the decision on the presidency went to the House of Representatives to choose the winner. Henry Clay, as speaker of the House of Representatives, swung the election to John Quincy Adams who then appointed Clay as Secretary of State .The result outraged Jackson and his supporters who denounced what was known at time as a “corrupt bargain. Accordingly, they all began a crusade to gain the “stolen” presidency that Jackson won.

**6-The Monroe Doctrine**

The nation felt threatened not only by sectionalism, but by events elsewhere in the Americas. In Latin America, several countries had successfully fought for their independence from Spain and Portugal. Some European monarchies planned to help Spain and Portugal regain their colonies. U.S. leaders feared that if this happened, their own government would be in danger. Russian colonies in the Pacific Northwest also concerned Americans. The Russians entered Alaska in 1784. By 1812, their trading posts reached almost to San Francisco. John Quincy Adams, at the time James Monroe’s secretary of state, spoke out against colonialism. In an 1821 speech, he declared that American foreign policy would not include colonization.

In December 1823, President Monroe issued a statement that became known as the Monroe Doctrine. Monroe said that the Americas were closed to further colonization. He also warned that European efforts to reestablish colonies would be considered “dangerous to our peace and safety.” Finally, he promised that the United States would stay out of European affairs. The Monroe Doctrine showed that the United States saw itself as a world power and protector of Latin America.

**Conclusion**

The era of good feeling started in a context of unity, optimism, prosperity, confidence, patriotism and success, but it ended on a note of division, outrage and conflict. The Good Feeling was short-lived. Although compromises had been achieved following the Missouri crisis, sectional and fractional conflicts had not been solved and would amplify the following years. It was during the Era of Good Feeling that the political issues arose that would dominate American politics for the next 40 years.



