AMERICAN HISTORY I: FINAL EXAM REVIEW
- **Spanish Exploration**
- In 1492, Genoese explorer Christopher Columbus convinced Spain to back his effort to reach Asia by sailing west across the Atlantic – a route he believed would be shorter and quicker than sailing around Africa
- This route led to the discovery of the American continents and established Spain's claim to a "new world"
- Oct. 1492: Columbus landed in the West Indies (islands in the Caribbean Sea, near Florida)
- Columbus enslaved and tortured the natives and made them mine for gold
- Named governor by the Spanish king, Columbus was removed from office due to corruption and abuse of power
- Within 50 years of his arrival, 90% of the natives had died from exposure to European diseases like smallpox, measles, and influenza
- **Was Columbus First?**
- Asiatic nomads arrived between 10,000 and 30,000 years ago (the Native Americans)
- The Vikings established trading outposts in Newfoundland (Canada) around 1000 AD
- Plus, there is some limited evidence to support that the Chinese, Japanese, Africans, and/or Polynesians arrived in the Americas BEFORE Columbus
- **The Spanish Conquistadores**
- Following Columbus' establishment of permanent Spanish settlements in the Caribbean, the Spanish sent military expeditions into the continental Americas to explore and conquer
- Spanish conquistadores quickly toppled the large Native empires of the Aztec and Inca peoples and expanded Spanish control of both the people and resources of the Americas
- **Spanish Advantages Over Natives**
- So how did a few hundred Spaniards defeat millions of natives?
  - superior military technology (horses, armor, guns & cannons)
  - rivalries between native groups kept them from cooperating
  - disease decimated the native population and destroyed their religious faith systems
- **The Spanish Empire**
- Spain developed an American empire stretching from Northern California to South America
- Spain's rivals (primarily England and France, but also the Dutch Republic, Portugal, and even Sweden) began to show an interest in creating their own American empires
- Spanish wealth came from exploiting American gold, silver, & sugar resources using slave labor
- **The Five G's**
- What were the primary motivating forces that drew Europeans to the Americas?
  - God: The opportunity for religious freedom, or to act as Christian missionaries to the Native Americans
  - Glory: To build empires or to become famous
  - Gold: To get rich
- What primary advantages allowed them to reach these goals?
  - Germs: Diseases wiped out much of the Native population
  - Guns: Military advantage over the Natives
- **Early French Settlers**
- In 1524, France sent Giovanni da Verrazano to map the North American coastline and search for the Northwest Passage— a hoped-for northern route around North America to the Pacific Ocean.
- **The Fur Trade**
- Despite having laid claim to Canada for nearly 70 years, no real effort had been made to colonize the region.

- By 1600, however, beaver fur had become very fashionable in Europe and French merchants became interested in colonization to expand the Canadian fur trade.
- In 1602 the French king authorized a group of merchants to establish colonies in North America.
- Since New France was founded for the fur trade, large numbers of settlers were not needed to clear land or start farms. Consequently, the population grew slowly.
- Most of the fur traders did not even live in the colony, but among the Native Americans with whom they traded.
- **The Mississippi & Louisiana**
- In 1663, the French government introduced plans designed to increase the colony's population and strengthen France's claims to North America.
- The French also began exploring North America's interior; Louis Joliet and Jacques Marquette explored the Mississippi River, and René-Robert Cavelier de La Salle followed the river to the Gulf of Mexico and claimed the region, which he named Louisiana, for France.
- **French Settlements**
- Settlements, including New Orleans and St. Louis, were established in Louisiana over the next few decades.
- The French quickly realized, however, that crops suitable for the region required hard manual labor, which few settlers were willing to do.
- By 1721 the French in Louisiana began importing enslaved Africans and forcing them to work the plantations.
- **Spain Counters in Florida**
- The Spanish established the town of St. Augustine, Florida, in 1565 to protect their claim to the region after the French tried to settle the Carolinas. St. Augustine became the first permanent settlement established by Europeans in the present-day United States.
- After the French arrived at the mouth of the Mississippi River, the Spanish established a mission in eastern Texas to attempt to block French expansion into that region.
- **The English Reformation**
- In the early 1530s, King Henry VIII of England abandoned the Catholic Church and joined the Protestant Reformation by creating the Church of England (or Anglican Church), with himself as head of the Church.
- Henry outlawed Catholicism and ordered his entire population to practice only Anglicism; this move angered both loyal Catholics and the members of other Protestant branches of Christianity.
- Eventually, strict limits on religious freedom would drive many English dissenters, including Puritans, Quakers, and Catholics, to seek to create new colonies in North America
- **Economic Forces**
- By the early 1600s, a changeover from grain farming to sheep ranching by wealthy English landowners had left hundreds of thousands of Englishmen impoverished and unemployed. Many of these would seek the opportunity of a new life in America.
- English merchants also needed new markets as English industries began overproducing goods. Many organized joint-stock companies, pooling the money of many investors for large projects, such as establishing colonies.
- **Military Rivalry With Spain**
- To more easily attack Spanish ships in the Caribbean, England wanted to establish colonies in America.
- Walter Raleigh was sent by Queen Elizabeth I to explore the American coastline. In 1585, his ships landed on Roanoke, an island in present-day North Carolina, and he named the surrounding land Virginia, in honor of the "virgin" queen.
- **The "Lost Colony"**
- The colony established at Roanoke in 1587, consisted of 115 men and women.

- When a relief ship returned to the island in 1590, no trace of the colonists remained and their fate remains a mystery to this day.
- **Jamestown**
- In 1606, King James I of England granted the Virginia Company, a joint-stock company, a charter to establish a colony in Virginia.
- In 1607, 104 men established the settlement of Jamestown on an island in the James River in modern-day Virginia.
- While Jamestown would become the first permanent English colony in North America, it had to overcome many problems in order to survive.
- Jamestown, since it was founded by a joint-stock company, was intended to be profitable
- As a result, the settlers spent more time looking for gold or other valuables than they did creating a safe, stable, self-sustaining colony
- Jamestown had also been poorly sited – the area was swampy and mosquito ridden, so the settlers forced to battle disease as well as hunger
- To make matters even worse, the local Algonquin Indians were often openly hostile, forcing the settlers to spend time building a fort (which they needed in case of Spanish attack, as well)
- **Captain John Smith**
- The strict discipline of Captain John Smith and the assistance of the friendlier Powhatan Indian Confederacy, helped the Jamestown colony survive, but neither Smith nor the Indians were very popular with the settlers
- **The Pocahontas Legend**
- According to Smith's account, he was able to convince the Powhatan to help the colonists only after being captured by the Indians
- The Indian chief, Powhatan, was going to kill Smith, but Powhatan's daughter Pocahontas begged her father to spare him and help the colonists
- Modern historians doubt Smith's account – Smith was a glory-seeking adventurer who stood to profit greatly from being the man who "saved" Jamestown and he recorded the story only after returning to England and writing a book in 1616.
- **The Starving Time**
- The Jamestown Company offered free land to people who worked for the colony for seven years. New settlers arrived (and John Smith left) in 1609, but there was not enough food to support them.
- The new settlers stole food from the Powhatan, who retaliated by attacking them if they left the safety of the fort.
- Recent evidence suggests that the colonists resorted to cannibalism to survive.
- By spring of 1610 only 60 out of about 500 settlers survived at Jamestown.
- In June 1610, the survivors decided to abandon the town. It was only the arrival of the new governor, Lord De La Ware, and his supply ships that brought the colonists back to the fort and saved the colony.
- Although the suffering did not totally end at Jamestown for decades, some years of peace and prosperity followed after the wedding of the Indian princess Pocahontas to colonist John Rolfe (although Pocahontas died in 1617).
- **Tobacco Saves the Colony**
- It was this same John Rolfe who had developed a strain of tobacco that was marketable in England, providing Jamestown with the ability to finally turn a profit for its investors.
- The Jamestown settlers soon began growing large quantities of tobacco, but needed to import slave labor to maximize production. The first African slaves arrived in Jamestown in 1619.
- **The House of Burgesses**

- To attract more settlers to Jamestown, the Virginia Company gave the colony the right to elect its own general assembly. The elected representatives were called burgesses, and the legislative body was called the House of Burgesses.
- The Virginia House of Burgesses was the first representative law-making assembly in the New World.
- **A Growing Population**
- The Virginia Company also introduced the system of headrights. Under this system, new settlers who bought a share in the company or paid for their passage were granted 50 acres. They received more land for each family member or servant they brought to Virginia.
- The Native Americans near Jamestown grew alarmed at the increasing population. In 1622, they attacked the settlements around Jamestown, killing nearly 350 settlers.
- The attack, coupled with evidence of mismanagement by the Virginia Company, led King James to declare Jamestown a royal colony.
- **Maryland**
- Catholics were persecuted in England for their religious beliefs. Lord Baltimore, a Catholic member of British Parliament, decided to found a colony in America where Catholics could practice their religion without persecution.
- The king granted Baltimore an area of land northeast of Virginia, which Baltimore named Maryland. Baltimore legally owned Maryland, making it the first proprietary colony.
- Although Maryland was founded as a Catholic refuge, most of the colony's settlers were Protestant.
- **The Settlement of New England**
- **Separatist Puritans** (Today, we call them the Pilgrims)
- Religious dissenters who fled England for Holland in 1608
- Once there, they worried that they were losing their English way of life
- September, 1620: 102 passengers set sail for Virginia on board the *Mayflower*
- Hardships: blown off course, food ran out, much illness, 1 death
- Arrived off Cape Cod in November and landed at Plymouth
- *The Mayflower Compact*
- The settlers, understanding that they were now outside of English law, on land that they knew little about, agreed to "solemnly and mutually in the presence of God and of one another" create a new government and to obey its laws
- **Plymouth Colony**
- The Pilgrims were industrious and planned on staying, unlike the Jamestown settlers who were just looking for wealth
- Began building a village, but plague killed off half the settlers within the first few months
- A friendly Native American named Squanto took pity on the settlers and instructed them in farming corn and how to locate good fishing grounds
- Squanto had once been captured by English traders and had lived in England, so he spoke English
- Squanto also negotiated a peace agreement between the settlers and the local tribes
- The Pilgrims celebrated their one-year anniversary of survival and their alliance with the local Natives by holding a "Thanksgiving" festival, sometime in autumn 1621
- After 1625, religious persecution of Puritans in England increased, driving more of these dissenters to flee to America
- Economic problems in England's wool industry at this same time also increased the number of settlers
- **John Winthrop**
- John Winthrop, an investor in the Massachusetts Bay Company (a joint-stock company which held a royal charter to create a colony in New England), led 900 Puritan settlers to New England in March 1630

- Winthrop delivered a rousing sermon, *A Model of Christian Charity*: "The Lord will make our name a praise and glory, so that men shall say of succeeding plantations: The Lord make it like that of New England. For we must consider that we shall be like a City upon a Hill; the eyes of all people are upon us."
- As conditions in England grew worse, thousands more Puritans left for the New England colony, mostly for its new capital of Boston.
- By 1643, New England had an estimated 20,000 settlers
- **Governance**
- Only those settlers who owned stock in the Massachusetts Bay Company could participate in elections and in making the law
- Winthrop, as the first governor, briefly tried to run the colony as a dictatorship, but after only four years was forced to share power with a representative assembly
- Winthrop did manage to tie the government of the colony to the Puritan church
- Church attendance was required by law; taxes were used to support the church; gambling, blasphemy, adultery, and drunkenness were all severely punished
- Heretics (those who disagreed with the church) were banished from the colony
- **Roger Williams**
- 1631: Roger Williams began ministering in Salem, Mass., but was critical of the church, of the King, and of John Winthrop
- Winthrop, fearful of losing his royal charter if word got back to the king of Williams' criticism, had Williams banished
- Williams went south and founded the colony of Providence, a settlement of greater religious tolerance
- **Anne Hutchinson**
- Devout Puritan who also began to criticize certain leaders of the church and was thus charged with heresy
- Claimed that God spoke to her and revealed to her which ministers were correct and which wrong
- Puritans believed that God only spoke through the Bible; Hutchinson was convicted of heresy and banished
- Hutchinson headed south with her followers and founded the town of Portsmouth
- **Rhode Island**
- More "heretics" joined Williams and Hutchinson, founding the towns of Newport and Warwick
- In 1644, the four settlements came together as the new colony of Rhode Island
- Rhode Island's charter specifically created a separation between church and state
- **Thomas Hooker**
- Puritan minister who led his congregation to settle on the Connecticut River
- Hooker and his followers were frustrated with their inability to find good land in Massachusetts and by the requirement that one must hold stock in the Bay Company in order to vote
- In 1639, Hooker's settlement, along with others in the valley, adopted the Fundamental Orders of Connecticut, the first written constitution in the American colonies
- Biggest difference: all adult men were allowed to vote for Governor and the General Court (legislature)
- **The Pequot War**
- After the Pequot tribe was blamed for the death of 2 Massachusetts traders in 1637, white-native tensions began to rise
- Massachusetts sent a military force to retaliate against the natives, prompting an uprising
- The white settlers, allied with other Native American groups who were enemies of the Pequot, carried out a brutal extermination of the Pequot
- Over 400 of the tribe were massacred, despite trying to surrender, and the survivors were sold into slavery

- **New Hampshire & Maine**
- Settlers also left Massachusetts heading north.
- In 1679, New Hampshire was granted the status of a royal colony and broke away from Massachusetts
- Maine, despite having a distinct population, remained part of Massachusetts until 1820
- **Tensions Build**
- Generally, New England native tribes and their white neighbors lived together peacefully, engaging in trade
- As time passed, however, white settlers increasingly encroached on native lands and the colonial governments began to demand that natives obey their laws
- **King Philip's War**
- In 1675, Plymouth colony arrested, tried, and executed 3 Wampanoags for murder, leading to an attack by the natives
- This led to a brutal war between whites and natives, known as King Philip's War (King Philip was the name given by settlers to the Indian chief Metacomet)
- By 1678, New England's native population had been defeated and driven west, leaving the region entirely in the hands of the settlers
- **The Dutch**
- Explorer Henry Hudson had explored the Hudson River area for the Dutch government in 1609 and reported that the region was rich in fur-bearing animals
- In 1614, the Dutch established the trading post of New Amsterdam on Manhattan Island, at the mouth of the Hudson
- The Dutch colony grew very slowly, and only had a population of about 1500 by 1646
- To increase the size of the colony, the Dutch opened it to settlers of any nationality
- By 1664, over 10,000 settlers had arrived from all over Europe, including the first Jewish settlers to reach American soil and about 1000 African slaves
- **The English Response**
- The Dutch colony was seen as a threat by the English, as it provided a safe haven for smuggling goods in and out of the British colonies without the collection of taxes
- In 1663, King Charles II declared the area to be a British possession and authorized his brother, James, the Duke of York to use military force to seize New Netherland
- Lacking sufficient defense, the town of New Amsterdam was forced to surrender to the British in 1664 and was promptly renamed New York
- To reward some of his supporters, James granted a portion of New Netherland to Sir George Carteret, a region which came to be called New Jersey
- To attract English settlers, Carteret and his associate Lord John Berkeley offered generous land grants, religious freedom, and the right to elect a legislative assembly
- This resulted in an influx of Puritan settlers to the new colony
- **William Penn**
- King Charles II had gone into debt, partly to fund the military expedition to seize New York, to a supporter named Admiral William Penn.
- Penn's heir, also named William Penn, offered to settle the debt in exchange for the granting of a colony covering the gap between New Jersey and Maryland
- Charles reluctantly agreed, due to concerns over Penn's religion – he was a Quaker
- **Quakers**
- Believe there is no need for church buildings or ministers, because everyone receives their own "inner light" from God
- Object to secular authority (government) and often refuse to pay taxes
- Believe in pacifism, or opposition to all violence, including war, so they do not serve in the military

- The religion had been banned by King Charles, leading most Quakers to flee to America
- **Pennsylvania**
- Penn gave his fellow Quakers a safe haven in his newly chartered colony of Pennsylvania
- Penn believed in complete political and religious freedom
- He also vowed to treat the Native Americans with respect and friendship
- After signing the Treaty of Shackamaxon with the local Native tribe, Penn established his capital at Philadelphia, "the city of brotherly love"
- Penn made land readily available to attract colonists, drawing over 7000 colonists by 1684
- **Pennsylvania's Government**
- Penn established a government in which he appointed the governor, but allowed all men who owned land or paid taxes (so long as they were Christian) to vote for a legislative assembly
- Non-Christians were still welcome and tolerated in Pennsylvania, but were not allowed to vote
- **Delaware**
- In 1682, to increase his holdings, Penn purchased the region of Delaware from the Duke of York
- Initially administered as part of Pennsylvania, Delaware quickly became its own separate colony
- **Carolina**
- In an effort to block Spanish expansion northward, or French expansion eastward, Charles awarded the region south of Virginia, known as "Carolina" to several of his friends and political allies in 1662
- **North Carolina**
- The colony developed slowly due to poor access from the sea (all potential harbors were blocked by the Outer Banks)
- By 1700, only 3000 colonists had settled, mostly tobacco farmers who had moved down from Virginia
- **South Carolina**
- First settlers arrived in 1670, quickly establishing the port of Charles Town (Charleston)
- Attempts were made at creating sugar cane plantations, but the climate wasn't right
- First successful exports were deerskins and Indian slaves
- **James Oglethorpe**
- In the 1720s, James Oglethorpe petitioned King George II for a colony south of Carolina for the purpose of resettling English poor who had been imprisoned for failure to pay their debts
- George granted the request, seeing this new colony of Georgia as a way to protect English South Carolina from Spanish Florida
- Oglethorpe arrived at the mouth of the Savannah River with his first settlers in 1733, establishing the port of Savannah
- Oglethorpe, in the interest of helping these poor debtors start a new life free of the sins of their past, banned rum, brandy, and slavery in the colony and limited plantations to 500 acres
- The bans, however, were unpopular and did not last into the 1740s
- **Life in New England and the Middle Colonies**
- **Limited Farming**
- New England's soil was thin and rocky, making farming difficult
- As a result, New Englanders could not rely on cash crops to earn a living
- New England farmers grew food only for their own consumption
- **The Bounty of the Sea**
- Many New Englanders turned to the sea to earn their living.
- They exploited the rich fishing grounds of the Grand Banks, exporting salted fish back to Europe
- They built far-ranging whaling boats (whales were a source of both lamp oil and ivory)
- **Lumber Resources**
- The old-growth forests of New England provided the lumber needed for building the fishing, whaling, and merchant fleets, so many settlers worked in the lumber industry and operating sawmills

- A great deal of lumber was also exported to other colonies and back to England
- **Merchants**
- New England's shipbuilding abilities, good harbors, and high demand for European goods also opened opportunities for some settlers to become merchants and engage in trade
- **The (New) Triangular Trade**
- New England merchants carried colonial products (lumber, fish, southern cash crops) to the Caribbean sugar plantations
- The Caribbean sugar planters would then trade sugar, or simply exchange British bills of exchange (a form of money), for the American goods
- New England merchants then brought the sugar back home to be distilled into rum and used the bills of exchange to buy British finished goods (or slaves, which could be mostly traded to the southern colonies)
- **Towns Instead of Plantations**
- While southern life was centered on the plantations, northern life was centered on towns, and all towns were centered on their church
- The Puritans strongly believed that God wanted men to live in tight-knit communities where they could regularly worship together
- **Town Meetings**
- Towns were governed through "town meetings" where the entire community came together and the adult landowning men elected leaders and passed local laws
- Those elected to govern were called selectmen; they served for 1 year at a time and appointed all the other local officials (clerks, constables, justices)
- **Self-Government**
- The town meeting tradition was important in developing the idea that people had a right to govern themselves
- Once the settlers became used to autonomy, they would resent efforts by the British to limit their independence and govern from afar.
- **Puritan Morality**
- Puritans were expected to attend church every Sunday for worship and every Thursday night for religious education. Failure to attend was a punishable offense under the law.
- Puritans were also expected to watch over their neighbors and report immoral behaviors as a religious responsibility to the community
- Despite being opposed to gambling, acting, and dancing, the Puritans did enjoy themselves.
- They believed that God had made the world for man to both use and enjoy and that wealth was acceptable, since it was the result of hard work
- They drank alcohol, enjoyed music, and flaunted their wealth through fine clothing, furniture, and the construction of beautiful homes, churches, and public buildings
- **Salem Witch Trials**
- This "Holy Watching" sometimes led to major social injustices, however
- In 1692, accusations of witchcraft rocked the town of Salem Massachusetts when a group of teenage girls claimed that an African slave and other local outcasts were placing curses on individuals in the community
- The trials led to mass hysteria and neighbors accusing neighbors in order to deflect suspicion from themselves
- In the end 20 people were executed and many others tortured before the girls finally recanted their stories
- In the years that followed, public outrage over the injustice of the trials put an end to further "witch hunts" in the colonies

- **Rise of Cities**
- The focus on community, coupled with the need to maintain good ports for trade, led to the rapid development of large towns in the northern and middle colonies (such as Boston, New York, and Philadelphia)
- With the development of cities came all the problems associated with cities – crime, pollution, rapidly spreading disease outbreaks, higher prices for goods, and high poverty rates
- **New England Society**
- Within these larger towns and cities, a different pattern of social stratification began to develop than what had appeared in the more rural south
- At the top were the wealthy merchants, who built large homes and lived a luxurious lifestyle
- Next were the artisans, those people who practiced a useful trade – carpenters, masons, smiths, tailors, shoemakers, etc., and other local businessmen, such as innkeepers and tavern owners
- Next on the social ladder were the common laborers – people with no property and no specific skills, who worked for set wages at other people's businesses
- At the bottom were the slaves, who made up as much as 20% of population even in northern cities
- **The Middle Colonies**
- In between New England and the southern colonies were New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware
- These colonies enjoyed good farmland, but not the type of climate that made southern cash crops possible, so they primarily produced wheat, producing flour both for local consumption and for use in Europe and the Caribbean
- The Middle Colonies also had good rivers (like the south) and good ports (like the north), putting them in the best economic position of perhaps any of the colonies
- This created the opportunity in these colonies for individuals to rise to the top of society through either commercial farming or through trade
- **Class Conflict in the Southern Colonies**
- **Early Southern Cash Crops**
- **Tobacco** (Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina)
- Through the mid-1600s, tobacco demand exceeded supply in Europe, so huge profits were made by tobacco planters
- Tobacco is labor-intensive: had to be tended, harvested, cured, and packed
- **Rice** (South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia)
- Grown in the humid, mosquito-infested lowlands of the Carolinas and Georgia
- Many settlers of South Carolina had come from Barbados and Jamaica, where slavery was already well-established, so they were more inclined to import slaves for the heavy labor of rice cultivation
- Additionally, since rice had been a staple crop of West Africa for centuries, African slaves already knew how to grow, harvest, & process it
- **Indigo** (South Carolina, North Carolina)
- Developed as a complimentary crop to rice – grew in dry, sandy soil (opposite of rice) and required care and harvesting in seasons opposite of rice as well
- Indigo is used to create a valuable blue dye for cloth manufacture
- **The Plantation System**
- Plantations = large commercial estates where many laborers (usually slaves) live on the land and grow crops for the landowner
- To maximize profits, planters needed to use large amounts of labor to produce large crops
- **The Chesapeake Bay**
- The Chesapeake Bay region provided the perfect combination of climate and navigable rivers to allow planters to both grow their crop and easily ship it to market

- As a result, few roads or towns were built, since they not only weren't needed, they would actually make business more costly
- **Indentured Servants**
- Many poor farmers in England had been forced off their land and left unemployed
- Some of these chose to "sell" themselves into indentured servitude – in exchange for their passage to America, they agreed to work a set term for the landowner who paid their way (usually 4 - 7 years)
- The landowner had to feed, clothe and shelter them for the duration of their contract
- Once the indenture ended, the servant was free to claim his own land and start his own farm
- About half of indentured servants died before their contracts expired
- Those who survived often found that they could not afford the tools and goods needed to prosper on their own farms
- **The Headright System**
- To further encourage plantation owners to import indentures, landowners were granted a 50 acre "headright," or bonus land, for each indenture brought over
- Since the average indenture also earned their master roughly 5 times what they cost each year, the indenture system made many landowners quite wealthy
- **The Planter Elite**
- The plantation system was designed to help the rich get richer – those who could afford to buy slaves or pay for indentured servants grew even wealthier off of the labor and headrights such workers provided. MOST settlers never joined the ranks of the plantation-owning elite
- With wealth comes economic and political power
- The planters dominated local governing bodies, commanded the local militias (because they paid for them), and often served as de facto judges
- As the planter-class' wealth grew, they also began to distance themselves culturally from the rest of colonial society
- Built elaborate mansions, amused themselves with hunting, fishing, gambling, intellectual pursuits
- They had essentially made themselves the nobility of Colonial America
- **Yeoman Farmers**
- Most indentures and other immigrants were forced to move further inland (the "backcountry") to find unused land to farm
- These farmers found it difficult to accumulate the wealth of the planters and were forced to live as subsistence farmers – growing just enough to feed themselves, with little room for profits
- As a result, the yeomen farmers could not afford to spend their time or land on "cash crops" and were unable to afford to buy slaves of their own
- For labor, they were forced to have large families
- **Social Pyramid**
- Planters – wealthy estate owners who grew cash crops and could afford to own slaves/indentures
- Yeomen farmers – free "backcountry" farmers who owned their own land, but lacked the resources to grow cash crops or own slaves
- Tenant farmers – free laborers who rented land from others to farm for themselves
- Indentured servants – Europeans who had agreed to limited terms of indenture in exchange for their passage to the colonies
- Slaves – African or Indians held in involuntary servitude and used as manual labor to work the plantations of the planter class
- **Sir William Berkeley** (Governor of Virginia from 1641 – 1677)
- Controlled the Virginia House of Burgesses (legislature) by gifting land to members who supported his policies

- Exempted himself and his advisors from taxation and restricted voting privileges by putting minimum property requirements in place
- Berkeley, like the rest of the other planter elite, had no interests in making new land available to the yeomen farmers, especially if it endangered his own holdings by creating conflict with the Native American tribes of the "backcountry"
- In 1675, when war broke out along the frontier between settlers and the Susquehannock tribe, Berkeley refused to provide military force to fight the Indians and instead ordered the construction of forts along a set frontier and engaged in peace talks with the Indians which would have denied access to Native lands for new white settlers
- **Nathaniel Bacon**
- Angered over Indian attacks against his own plantation on the frontier, Bacon led the yeomen and organized his own militia to continue the fight against the Indians
- Berkeley was not pleased, but sought a compromise
- The House of Burgesses, seeking to calm Bacon and his followers, voted to expand voting privileges, revoke tax-exemptions for the wealthiest planters, and authorized Bacon to raise 1000 men to battle the Indians, but Bacon was not satisfied
- ***Declaration of the People of Virginia***: Issued by Bacon in July 1676
- Bacon and his followers formal complaint against Berkeley's administration for levying unfair taxes, appointing only his planter peers to high positions, and refusing to protect the frontier against Indian attacks
- **Bacon's Rebellion**
- July 1676, Bacon led his militia to the capital at Jamestown and seized control of the Virginia colony
- Berkeley fled across the Chesapeake Bay and raised his own army to battle the rebels, but it was unnecessary, since Bacon died from dysentery in October and the rebellion fizzled
- **Outcomes of Bacon's Rebellion**
- Berkeley was relieved of his governorship by the king and formal British troops were sent to Virginia
- Since Jamestown had been burned during the rebellion, nearby Williamsburg assumed the position of capital of Virginia in 1699
- The House of Burgesses changed policy and began to support expansion of the frontier at the expense of the Native American tribes
- The biggest change, however, was an expansion of the use of slave labor – slaves, unlike indentured servants, would never be freed and, therefore, would never need their own land or the privileges that came with land ownership
- **The Growth of Slavery**
- Planters began to realize that the use of slaves grew their wealth faster, since slaves had no contract term and could be bred to create new generations of slaves, so the indenture system died out
- Pennsylvania began offering free land to the poor, dramatically reducing the number of English poor interested in indentured servitude
- In 1672, King Charles II granted a royal charter to the Royal African Company, essentially legalizing the slave trade in the English colonies and reducing the cost of slaves
- New laws passed in Virginia and Maryland made slavery hereditary, so the children born to slaves became slaves as well
- **Mercantilism**
- Colonial-era economic theory that supported the belief that nations become wealthy and powerful by accumulating gold and silver
- Gold and silver are accumulated by exporting (selling) more than you import (buy)
- In the mercantilist model, a nation must be self-sufficient in natural resources
- The American Colonies, rich in natural resources, become valuable in supporting the wealth of England

- The Colonies also become valuable markets for the manufactured goods produced by English businesses
- **English Mercantilism**
- As a result, England did not allow the Colonies to sell natural resources to other nations, nor did they allow the Colonies to buy manufactured goods from other nations
- In essence, the economy of the Colonies was monopolized by the English, for the benefit of England – not the Colonies
- So, the Colonies had to sell their raw materials to English merchants at relatively low prices because that was the only legal outlet available
- English merchants, however, could charge the Colonies high prices for manufactured goods, because the merchants faced no outside competition
- **Consequences of Mercantilism**
- British merchants grew wealthy
- Many colonists began to go into debt due to having to borrow money to buy the things they needed or wanted
- Some colonists, especially in New England, began to engage in illegal smuggling to avoid the mercantilist system
- **Navigation Acts** (First issued in 1660)
- All goods imported or exported by the Colonies had to be carried on English ships
- Limited what goods could be manufactured in the Colonies for export
- Tobacco, sugar, lumber, cotton, wool, and indigo could only be sold to England or other English colonies
- **Staple Act** (1663)
- All imports to the Colonies had to come through England
- Foreign goods had to first be brought to England and taxed before they could be delivered to the Colonies on English ships
- This raised the price on imports to the Colonies
- **Customs Inspectors**
- When angry Colonists began to break the new laws, Parliament (the English legislature) appointed customs inspectors to serve in the Colonies and inspect all arriving and departing ships to ensure that taxes had been paid and that all shipments were legitimate
- **Smuggling**
- 1675: King Charles II discovered that New England merchants were routinely ignoring the Navigation and Staple Acts by trading with the Dutch, Africa, and islands in the Caribbean
- Massachusetts' governor argued that the colony was not bound to obey laws passed by Parliament
- **The Dominion of New England**
- 1686: King James II (Charles II's brother and heir) decided to punish New England by merging the Massachusetts, Plymouth, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, & New York colonies into one royal colony called the Dominion of New England
- The Dominion was administered by a royally appointed governor-general who answered directly to the king
- James ordered all colonial assemblies and courts abolished and gave the governor-general the power to make laws, impose taxes, administer justice, and manage all land grants
- **Sir Edmund Andros**
- Appointed first governor-general of the Dominion
- Immediately declared all deeds and charters issued in Massachusetts to be invalid and made landholders reapply to have their deeds recognized
- To get a new deed, landholders had to agree to pay a new annual tax
- Used military force to enforce the Navigation and Staple Acts

- Attacked the Puritan church by declaring that all marriages must take place in Anglican churches (the king was head of the Anglican church) and by banning Puritans from teaching in schools
- New Englanders were primed for a violent showdown when ….
- **The Glorious Revolution**
- King James II was overthrown in a bloodless revolution in favor of his daughter, Mary II and her husband William III
- Parliament had become suspicious of James because he was a Catholic, so they offered the throne to his Protestant daughter after James fled to France
- **The English Bill of Rights**
- Parliament required that William & Mary swear to abide by a new set of rules before they could take the throne
- This agreement came to be known as the English Bill of Rights and would later strongly influence the U.S. Constitution
- Important terms of the English Bill of Rights (in regards to U.S. History)
    - King cannot quarter soldiers in people's private homes
    - Citizens get trial by jury
    - No cruel or unusual punishment
    - Writ of Habeas corpus – no one can be arrested and imprisoned without being charged with a crime
    - Citizens have the right to bear arms
- **Back in America …**
- Andros and his councilors were imprisoned and later deported back to England
- William & Mary dissolved the Dominion of New England, but did not restore the old colonial order
- **The New Massachusetts**
- The colonies of Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, and New Jersey were restored, but Massachusetts was merged with Plymouth and the sparsely populated region of Maine into a new royal colony of Massachusetts
- Under Massachusetts' new charter, the king appointed a governor, but colonists were allowed to elect an assembly and appoint advisors to the governor
- Freedom of religion (and voting privileges, if you owned land) was also granted to all Protestants, breaking the Puritans' monopoly on the colony
- **Growing Diversity and Independence**
- **Population Growth**
- American Population in 1776 = 2.5 million (100x the 1640 population level)
- Birth rates were high (average woman gave birth 7 times)
- Better housing, sanitary living conditions, and medical care reduced the number of deaths from disease (except in overcrowded cities)
- Immigration & slavery added to growth
- **The Pennsylvania Dutch**
- German immigrants, including the Mennonites, who came to Pennsylvania seeking religious freedom
- By 1775, over 100,000 Germans had settled from Pennsylvania to NC
- Moved to just east of the Appalachian Mountains and set up prosperous farms
- **The Scotch-Irish**
- Left Ireland for Pennsylvania due to economic and religious pressures
- These immigrants typically pushed as far west as possible, settling along the mountain frontier, where land was unclaimed and, therefore, free
- Spread as far south as Georgia
- **African Slaves**

- Brought to the Colonies as plantation labor
- Came from many different West African cultures and were then thrown together on the plantations, forcing them to adapt and develop new, American-specific cultures such as the Gullah culture of the South Carolina Low-Country plantations
- **South Carolinian Slavery**
- Slaves greatly outnumbered whites on the plantations, so order was maintained with harsh punishments – whippings, brandings, mutilations, executions
- Whites maintained night watches to prevent rebellion, and regularly patrolled for runaway slaves
- **Virginian Slavery**
- Ratio of slaves to whites was much smaller and working conditions were less unpleasant than in SC
- Planters were less watchful and demanding of their slaves, allowing them to move around unchecked and often rewarding them with time off or extra rations for completing jobs ahead of schedule or unusually well
- Slaves were still severely punished for disobedience and other transgressions
- **Slave Resistance**
- Slaves sometimes ran away to join the Native Americans
- Often used passive resistance techniques: refused to work hard, worked slowly, broke or lost tools or other supplies, deliberately made mistakes
- **Stono Rebellion (1739)**
- 75 South Carolinian slaves attacked their overseers and seized a supply of weapons
- The slaves made for Spanish Florida, which had promised freedom to any runaways
- The local militia caught up with the slaves and ended the rebellion by killing most of the runaways
- Resulted in much harsher laws in SC regarding slaves
- **The Enlightenment**
- European philosophers began to stress the importance of human reason (and deemphasize the role of religion) in solving all manner of social problems
- Argued that man could come to understand all social, economic, and political relationships because these things were bound by natural laws
- **John Locke**: Author of *Two Treatises on Government* (1689), *Essay on Human Understanding* (1690)
- The right of a monarch to rule is not divine, but rather comes from the people
- All people have the natural right to life, liberty, and property
- Government exists to protect those rights, not to threaten them; if the government fails to protect people's natural rights, then the people are entitled to overthrow that government
- People are not born sinful, but rather they are blank slates (tabula rasa) that are shaped by society and education
- People can, and should, improve themselves by improving their society
- Locke's writings were popular in the Colonies because it backed up their belief that they had protected rights as English citizens and re-enforced their belief that they were building a new and better world than what existed in Europe
- **Baron de Montesquieu**: Author of *The Spirit of the Laws* (1748)
- Argued for separation of government power into three branches (executive, legislative, and judicial), where each branch limited the power of the other two through a system of checks and balances
- **The Great Awakening**
- Religious counterpoint to the Enlightenment
- A new movement, called pietism, emphasized the need for people to engage in a more personal and emotional relationship with God
- Pietism was spread through the holding of revivals (large public prayer meetings led by charismatic and zealous Protestant ministers)

- **Jonathan Edwards** (1703 – 1758)
- New England preacher who wanted to revive the spiritual fervor of the early Puritans
- Gave "fire and brimstone" style sermons with vivid images of Hell and called for his fellow Christians to repent and become "born again"
- **George Whitfield** (1714 – 1770)
- Best known and most influential of the Great Awakening ministers
- Anglican minister who openly challenged the authority of ministers who had not been "born again," leading to serious tensions, and even splits, within many American congregations
- **Consequences of the Great Awakening**
- New religious beliefs stressed an independent relationship with God
- Older Puritan churches declined in number, while revivalist churches such as Baptists and Methodists surged
- Baptist churches grew especially strong in the South, where its message of social equality before God struck a chord with poor farmers and slaves
- **Baptist Threat**
- The Planter class tried desperately to suppress the Baptist church, fearing that its anti-slavery message would undermine their control of their slaves
- Despite these efforts, however, the Baptists continued to grow and spread
- **The French & Indian War**
- **The Ohio River Valley**
- By the 1740s, both French and English traders had begun entering the Ohio River Valley, leading to rival claims to the region
- This led both sides to begin building forts to protect their claims
- After the French seized an English fort in western Pennsylvania, Virginia governor Robert Dinwiddie ordered a young Virginia militia officer named George Washington to raise a force and retake the fort
- In 1754, the 22-year-old Washington's troops fought the French, but were forced to retreat and build a temporary defensive position at Ft. Necessity
- Eventually, Washington was forced to surrender to the French, leaving them in control of the Ohio River Valley
- **The Albany Conference**
- Representatives from 7 English colonies tried to convince the Iroquois tribe, who controlled western New York, to ally themselves with England against France
- While the Iroquois refused an alliance, they did agree to remain neutral and not support the French
- **The Albany Plan of Union**
- The representatives who met for the Albany Conference agreed to ask Britain to unite all colonial forces under one commanding officer
- They also drafted an idea known as the Albany Plan of Union, which proposed that the colonies unite and form their own federal government, but the idea was ultimately rejected
- **Braddock's Expedition**
- In 1755, the British sent General Edward Braddock and 1500 British soldiers to command the defense of the Colonies
- Braddock appointed Washington as his top aide and marched out to retake Ft. Duquesne
- Braddock's army was ambushed by the French and their Indian allies
- Braddock was killed in the fighting and only Washington's calm command allowed the British and Colonial forces to escape and retreat
- **Indian Skirmishes**
- With the English defeat, many of the Indian tribes grew bolder and began attacking settlers along the Appalachian frontier

- For the next two years the English, French, and Indians raided each other along the frontier and the Ohio River Valley
- **The Seven Years' War**
- By 1756, the fighting between the English and French had spread to an all-out world war – the two enemies weren't just fighting in North America, but also in Europe, Africa, and India
- The powerful British Navy gained control of the Atlantic, cutting off French supplies and reinforcements to North America
- Additionally, the Iroquois began to put pressure on other Native American tribes to end their support for the French, leaving the French badly outnumbered and ill-supplied
- **Forbes Expedition**
- In 1758, English General John Forbes successfully pushed the French out of Ft. Duquesne and rebuilt it as Ft. Pitt (now Pittsburgh)
- The French were forced to retreat back into Canada
- **Battle of the Plains of Abraham**
- In 1759, English General James Wolfe moved his forces up the St. Lawrence River and attacked the city of Quebec
- The English won the battle (although Wolfe was killed), effectively ending the major fighting of the North American theater of the war
- **The Spanish Disaster**
- In 1761, Spain entered the war in support of France, but the English dominated the Spanish, seizing their colonies of the Philippines (in East Asia) and Cuba (in the Caribbean)
- By 1763, France and Spain sued for an end to the war
- **The Treaty of Paris (1763)**
- Formally ended the Seven Years' War (and its North American component, the French & Indian War) between England and France
- The treaty would result in a major redrawing of the map of North America
- England gained control of Canada and all French claims east of the Mississippi River from France and control of Florida from Spain
- Spain was given the port of New Orleans and all French claims west of the Mississippi River by France as an apology for getting Spain involved
- England returned Cuba and the Philippines to Spanish control
- France was left with only a few sugar producing islands in the Caribbean from what had once been a huge North American empire
- **Pontiac's Rebellion**
- Just as the French & Indian War was ending, the Ottawa chief Pontiac led an uprising of the Ottawa, Delaware, Shawnee, and Seneca tribes against the British, burning several towns and settlements along the frontier
- Eventually treaties between the Indians and British were made and the fighting ended
- **Proclamation Act of 1763**
- Not wanting to fight future wars with the Indians (and also not wanting to disrupt the lucrative fur trade in the Great Lakes region), King George issued the Royal Proclamation of 1763, declaring colonists could not settle west of the Appalachians
- This angered many colonists along the frontier who believed that the French & Indian War had been fought to make those very lands available to settlers
- **An Expensive War**
- Britain needed a way to pay off the debt from fighting the Seven Years' War and to cover the cost of keeping 10,000 soldiers stationed in North America

- New Prime Minister George Grenville looked to the Colonies to help generate revenues to lessen the economic strain on England
- **Salutary Neglect**
- Britain had long practiced a policy towards the Colonies of "salutary neglect," or leaving them to go their own way and allowing them to mostly govern themselves; even such rules as were put in place by Parliament had been rarely enforced
- After the Seven Years' War, however, Britain attempted to take more direct control
- **Customs Reforms**
- One major source of revenue was customs duties on goods imported to the Colonies, but smuggling was cutting into customs revenues
- To cut down on smuggling, Grenville passed a law requiring smugglers to be tried by military, rather than civilian courts
- Colonists argued that the smuggling trials were unfair because they did not follow English common law, allowed no trial by jury, and were too distant (being in Canada) to allow for a speedy trial
- One of the more famous colonists tried in the new court was businessman John Hancock, who had become wealthy smuggling sugar and molasses into New England
- Through the help of his lawyer, John Adams, Hancock was never convicted, although one of his ships was confiscated
- **The Sugar Act of 1764**
- Grenville also approved the American Revenue Act of 1764 (commonly called The Sugar Act) which raised the tax rate on sugar, as well as numerous other goods imported to the Colonies
- The Act also declared those accused of smuggling to be guilty until proven innocent, allowed for the seizure of goods without due process, and banned merchants from suing for the return of their goods if confiscated
- American merchants were livid at these violations of their rights as English citizens
- They also began to challenge Parliament's right to levy taxes against colonists on the basis that the Colonies had no representation in Parliament – hence the motto, "no taxation without representation"
- **The Currency Act of 1764**
- Grenville also approved the Currency Act of 1764
- This act banned the use of paper money in the Colonies in an effort to control inflation, but angered colonists because it restricted the money supply and made it much harder for them to both borrow money and to pay off debts
- **The Stamp Act of 1765**
- First direct tax on colonists (previous taxes had been on trade)
- Required that a "stamp" be placed on all printed goods, such as newspapers, posters, wills, deeds, licenses, diplomas, and playing cards
- The "stamp" was just a mark showing that a tax had been paid
- **The Quartering Act of 1765**
- Required the Colonies to provide barracks for the housing of British soldiers
- If the barracks were not provided, then soldiers would be housed in taverns, inns, and other personal properties, at the Colonies' expense
- **Colonial Resolutions**
- The Stamp and Quartering Acts led numerous colonial assemblies, including Virginia's House of Burgesses, to issue resolutions declaring Parliament's actions to be a violation of the colonists' rights as English citizens
- **The Sons of Liberty**
- Protest group created in Connecticut in 1765 by a merchant named Isaac Sears
- Organized meetings and protests against the Stamp Act

- Used terror tactics to intimidate English tax collectors – threatened them with violence, burned their homes
- Group quickly had branches throughout the Colonies
- **The Stamp Act Congress**
- Representatives from throughout the Colonies met in October 1765 and issued the *Declaration of Rights and Grievances*, petitioning King George and Parliament to repeal the taxes on the grounds that Parliament had no right to tax the Colonies without allowing them representation
- **Boycotts**
- To avoid the Stamp Act and other taxes, colonists enacted a boycott against any goods the British had tried to tax
- Particularly damaging, was their refusal to buy imported tea or British cloth, both of which damaged the English economy
- The boycott led to high unemployment rates in England and badly hurt English merchants' profits, leading the English themselves to pressure Parliament to repeal the Stamp Act, which Parliament did in 1766
- **Declaratory Act of 1766**
- After being forced to repeal the Stamp Act, however, Parliament retaliated with the Declaratory Act
- This act stated that Parliament had the power to make laws for, and impose taxes upon, the Colonies
- **The Townshend Acts**
- The economic crisis in England had led to a drop in tax revenues there, prompting Parliament to seek even more revenues from the Colonies
- Charles Townshend, Chancellor of the Exchequer, introduced a series of new laws aimed at the Colonies, starting in 1767
- **Revenue Act of 1767**
- Put new taxes on glass, lead, paper, paint, and tea imported into the Colonies
- Violators were treated as smugglers and tried in the vice-admiralty courts
- Customs officials were allowed to enter any property via "writs of assistance" to search for evidence of smuggling without a warrant
- Businessman Sam Adams filed a "circular letter" of protest against the Townshend Acts, signed by the members of the Massachusetts Assembly
- The letter once again argued that Parliament had no right to tax the Colonies
- British officials demanded that the Massachusetts assembly withdraw their letter of complaint, but the assembly refused
- In response, the British government ordered the Massachusetts Assembly dissolved
- **More Boycotts**
- Merchants in Boston, New York, and Philadelphia then banded together and signed non-importation agreements, further strengthening the boycott against British goods and worsening the economic crisis
- **The Virginia Resolves**
- In May 1769, the Virginia House of Burgesses declared that only they had the right to tax Virginians
- The Royal Governor dissolved the House in response, but, under the leadership of George Washington, Patrick Henry, and Thomas Jefferson, they refused to disband and instead passed a law blocking the sale of British-made goods in Virginia
- **The Daughters of Liberty**
- Women also supported the boycott by refusing to drink tea and by spinning their own "homespun" cloth to avoid buying British cloth
- Suddenly, wearing rough "homespun" became a public display of defiance
- **The Boston Massacre** (March 5, 1770)

- Angry colonists in Boston confronted British soldiers guarding a customs house, resulting the soldiers opening fire on the crowd
- 6 colonists were killed and 6 were wounded in what came to be known as the Boston Massacre
- The soldiers involved were charged with murder and put on trial
- Colonists were further enraged when the soldiers were all either acquitted or convicted of the much lesser charge of manslaughter thanks to the work of their American lawyer, John Adams
- **Repeal of Townshend Acts**
- Tensions were temporarily eased when Parliament announced the repeal of nearly all of its taxes aimed at the Colonies
- Parliament left only the tax on tea in place, as a symbol of its right to levy taxes in America
- **The *Gaspee* Affair**
- The British patrol ship HMS Gaspee had been stationed off the coast of Rhode Island to intercept smugglers
- When it ran aground in June 1772, rather than help, angry colonists burned the ship
- The British responded by ordering a special investigation and threatening to remove suspects for trial in England, rather than in Rhode Island
- Rhode Island's legislative assembly appealed to the other colonies for support
- **Committees of Correspondence**
- March 1773: Thomas Jefferson suggested that the individual colonies remain in constant communication with one another and debate how to react to British provocations through "committees of correspondence" (basically, that each colony regularly provide a report of British activities in their area to all of the other colonies so that responses could be unified)
- The Colonies would use committees of correspondence to coordinate plans for resisting British oppression right up to the American Revolution
- In some ways, these committees can be seen as one of the first efforts to "unite" the American people
- **The Tea Act of 1773**
- Thanks to war, corruption, mismanagement, and American boycotts against British tea, the British East India Company, one of the largest and most powerful companies in the world, was deeply in debt and on the brink of collapse
- Parliament decided that it had to act to save the Company
- Parliament allowed the East India Company to begin selling tea, almost completely tax free, directly to American shopkeepers
- The elimination of the taxes, plus the removal of the "middleman" (American merchants) meant that the price of tea dropped, making British tea cheaper than smuggled in Dutch tea in the Colonies
- When the East India Company shipped 1200+ chests of tea to American ports in October 1773, American merchants (coordinated by the committees of correspondence) refused to allow the ships to unload in New York or Philadelphia
- **The Boston Tea Party**
- In Boston, however, the tea ships were raided by colonists disguised as Native Americans and the tea was destroyed by throwing it into Boston Harbor
- Despite there being hundreds of witnesses to the raid, no one offered to identify the raiders to the British
- **The Coercive Acts (1774)**
- Parliament responded to the "tea party" by passing four punitive bills:
- 1. Boston Port Act: Boston's port was closed until the city paid for the damages (about $2 million in today's money)
- 2. Massachusetts Government Act: All officials in Massachusetts would be appointed by the royal governor and all town meetings were banned

- 3. Administration of Justice Act: British soldiers charged with crimes against colonists would be returned to England for trial
- 4. Quartering Act: Local officials would have to provide housing for British soldiers in areas of unrest, even if that meant housing them in people's homes
- To enforce the Acts, General Thomas Gage was named military governor of Massachusetts and given 2000 extra soldiers to command
- Parliament also passed the Quebec Act, expanding the colony of Quebec into the Ohio Valley, thereby taking away land that had historically been the territory of the American colonies
- **The Intolerable Acts**
- The Coercive Acts + the Quebec Act = what colonists began to cal "The Intolerable Acts"
- While King George had meant for these acts to break the will of the American Colonies and bring them back in line, what they actually did was galvanize the Colonies against the British
- **Virginia Sides With Boston**
- May 1774: The Virginia House of Burgesses, under the leadership of Thomas Jefferson and Patrick Henry, declared the placement of British soldiers in Boston to be an invasion
- Virginia's governor dissolved the House, but once again, they continued to meet and, through correspondence, called on other colonies to send delegates to create a colonial congress to decide the next course of action
- **First Continental Congress**
- Sept. 5, 1774: The First Continental Congress met for the first time in Philadelphia
- A heated debate followed, with some delegates demanding armed resistance to British rule and others arguing that the time had come to form a unified American government (akin to the Albany Plan of Union)
- In the end, the Congress rejected both violent resistance and the creation of a central government in favor of a formal petition known as the *Declaration of Rights and Grievances*
- The Declaration condemned the Intolerable Acts and announced an organized boycott of British goods, while still expressing loyalty to the King
- **Massachusetts Rebels**
- Massachusetts, however, began openly defying the British by illegally creating their own Congress and electing John Hancock to be their head of state, even going so far as to authorizing him to raise an armed militia
- Across Massachusetts, militias began to drill and prepare to fight
- The ideal was that these men should be ready to fight "at a minute's notice," earning them the nickname Minutemen
- Other colonies, especially in New England, began to follow Massachusetts lead and defy English rule while preparing for war
- **Loyalists**
- The move to throw off British rule was divisive, however – not every colonist supported independence and many remained loyal to the King
- These came to be known as Loyalists or Tories, and came from all walks of life, but were especially strong amongst Anglican ministers, wealthy landowners, and frontier farmers (who needed British troops for protection from the Indians)
- Loyalists were strongest in the South and in New York
- **Patriots**
- Those who supported independence (or at least fighting for recognition of their rights as Englishmen) were called Patriots
- Patriots were strongest in New England and Virginia and tended to come from the "middle class" background of artisans, urban workers, lawyers, and mid-size farmers

- **Gen. Gage Strikes**
- April 1775: Parliament ordered Gen. Gage to secure Massachusetts, even if it meant fighting, by arresting the Massachusetts Congress and securing all weapons and ammunition storage facilities used by the colonial militias
- April 18, 1775: 700 British soldiers set out from Boston, under cover of darkness, to seize the weapons depot at Concord, Mass.
- Colonial sentries, including Paul Revere, who had been watching the British troops set out to warn the surrounding communities and to rouse the militias
- **Battle of Lexington & Concord (April 19, 1775)**
- British troops arrived in the town of Lexington and met 70 armed minutemen, leading to an exchange of gunfire; 8 minutemen were killed
- Marching on to Concord, the British encountered a much larger force of 400+ minutemen and a more serious battle ensued
- Not expecting the amount of resistance, the British retreated back to Boston
- During their retreat, the British were under constant fire, mostly from small pockets of militia they encountered, and lost 99 men with another 174 wounded before reaching the safety of Boston
- Colonial dead totaled 49, with 46 more wounded
- **Second Continental Congress**
- Three weeks after the battles, the Second Continental Congress met in Philadelphia
- The Congress voted to merge the various small militias into the Continental Army and to give command of that army to George Washington
- **Battle of Bunker Hill (June 17, 1775)**
- Following the Battles of Lexington & Concord, the British reinforced their position in Boston and brought in additional troops
- The Massachusetts militia dug in and began fortifying Breed's Hill (mistakenly confused by later reporters with nearby Bunker Hill) north of town
- Gen. Gage sent 2200 British soldiers up the hill
- The British suffered over 1000 casualties, but succeeded in taking the hill (because the American militia ran out of ammunition and retreated)
- Despite the victory, Gage was replaced by the king with Gen. William Howe
- **The Olive Branch Petition (July 1775)**
- The Continental Congress sent the "Olive Branch Petition" to King George, asking for a cease-fire and to negotiate a compromise which would allow the Colonies to remain a self-governing part of the British Empire
- **Battle of Quebec**
- While waiting for a response from the King, American forces attacked Quebec and captured the Canadian town of Montreal, hoping French-Canadians would join the rebellion
- The French did not join the rebellion, and the Americans retreated back inside their own border
- **Olive Branch Rejected (August 22, 1775)**
- King George refused to even read the Olive Branch Petition and instead issued the Proclamation for Suppressing Rebellion and Sedition, declaring the Colonies to be "open and avowed enemies."
- **An American Government**
- Congress responded by taking on the formal role of government for the Colonies: they opened negotiations with the Native American tribes, created a postal service, and established a Navy and Marine Corps (who began attacking British shipping)
- **Southern Loyalists**
- The governor of Virginia, Lord Dunmore, organized Loyalists in creating two armies to support the King – one white and one black

- The black army was built through the governor's promise that any slaves who joined would be freed as a reward for their service
- As a result, all of the major Virginia plantation owners joined the Revolution
- **Southern Patriots**
- Patriot forces defeated the Loyalists near Norfolk, Virginia in late 1775, taking control of the colony
- Patriots followed up by defeating the Loyalists in North Carolina and blocked British troops from occupying Charles Town, SC in early 1776
- **Boston Retaken**
- George Washington's first move was to send reinforcements to Boston and secure the hills to the south of the city
- American military pressure around Boston prompted the British to evacuate their troops from the city rather than fight to keep the city
- **Britain's War Plan**
- Britain responded by blocking all trade with the Colonies and establishing a naval blockade of American ports
- They also hired 30,000 Hessian (German) mercenaries to beef up the British Army
- **Thomas Paine's *Common Sense***
- Published in January, 1776; by late spring it had sold over 100,000 copies
- Paine attacked the idea of monarchy (and King George in particular) claiming that power should belong to the people
- Paine's arguments convinced many more colonists to support the Revolutionary cause
- ***The Declaration of Independence***
- July 4, 1776: The Continental Congress issued the Declaration of Independence
- The document listed the colonists' complaints against the King and declared themselves to no longer be subjects of the British Empire
- **Colonial Problems**
- The Continental Army struggled to stay in the field
- Many soldiers simply went home during planting or harvesting season; others deserted or refused to serve when their wages weren't paid
- Despite over 230,000 men serving at one time or another, the Continental Army rarely had more than 20,000 serving at any one time
- Congress lacked the ability to levy taxes, so paying for the war was difficult
- Congress tried issuing paper money with no gold or silver backing, but the money quickly became worthless
- **Financial Rescue**
- Pennsylvania merchant Robert Morris pledged most of his own wealth to help pay for the war and negotiated foreign loans to fund the rest
- He also convinced the Continental Congress to create the Bank of North America to help keep the war funded and to build an economy for the new nation
- **British Problems**
- Many people in Britain opposed the war – especially merchants, who stood to suffer financially from lost trade, and fiscally conservative members of Parliament who did not want to add to the debt
- The British knew they had to win quickly and cheaply, or support for the war would quickly dissolve
- The British also had rivals in Europe who were eager to exploit the colonists' rebellion
- Spain, France, and the Netherlands all posed a threat to British interests elsewhere, forcing the British to reserve much of their military strength to act as a deterrent against European aggression
- **The British in New York**

- At the same time, the British, under General Howe, landed 32,000 troops in New York with an eye towards capturing New York City, thereby threatening the colonial capital of Philadelphia and hopefully separating New England from Virginia
- Howe took one last shot at resolving the Revolution diplomatically, but found no success
- Summer 1776, Howe moved to capture New York City, first routing the Continental Army on Long Island
- Howe failed to capitalize on this early victory, moving slowly and cautiously towards Manhattan
- Washington elected to abandon New York rather than risk becoming surrounded by the British
- NYC would remain in British hands for the rest of the war
- **Nathan Hale**
- Washington left behind an officer named Nathan Hale to spy on the British in the city, but Hale was captured
- Hale was sentenced to be hung, but he inspired many with his last words: "I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country."
- **Battle of White Plains**
- Washington withdrew his forces to White Plains, NY, where he lost once again to the British in October, 1776
- After defeating Washington, the British turned towards Philadelphia, but with winter setting in, they decided to encamp until spring in New Jersey
- **Washington Crosses the Delaware**
- Washington decided to surprise the British and launched an attack
- On December 25, 1776, Washington led 2400 men across the Delaware River and defeated Hessian troops at Trenton, NJ and then went on to defeat a British force in Princeton before encamping himself in the New Jersey hills
- **Philadelphia Falls**
- From spring to fall 1777, Howe moved against Philadelphia, finally defeating Washington at Brandywine Creek in September, giving him control of the city
- By this time, however, the Continental Congress had left the city, making Howe's victory a hollow one
- **Attack From Canada**
- In June 1777, British Gen. John Burgoyne, under orders from King George, led his army of about 9000 British and 1000 Iroquois out of Quebec and into New York
- Burgoyne believed that Howe was moving north to assist him, and did not know that Howe had instead moved against Philadelphia
- Burgoyne found himself hounded by American militia and Continental troops under the command of Gen. Benedict Arnold
- Without Howe's help and supplies, Burgoyne was defeated and forced to surrender after the Battle of Saratoga in October, 1777
- **Valley Forge**
- The Continental Army spent the winter of 1777 encamped at Valley Forge, PA
- That winter was an especially brutal one, and Washington lost over 2500 men to the cold and starvation
- Washington used the winter to train his soldiers, however, instilling better discipline
- **Foreign Aid**
- Washington enlisted the help of a young French officer, the Marquis de Lafayette, and of a Prussian officer, Baron Friedrich von Steuben, to train his men in European military tactics and strategies
- The American victory at Saratoga, coupled with positive reports from Lafayette, led France to enter the war on the side of the Americans in February, 1778
- France became the first country to diplomatically recognize American independence and signed a military alliance against Britain with the US

- **Frontier Fighting**
- Fighting between American militias and Native American tribes allied with the British made the Western frontier a battleground of the Revolution as well
- Americans battled Iroquois in New York and Pennsylvania and Cherokee in North Carolina and Virginia; in both regions the Indians were ultimately defeated by 1780
- **The War at Sea**
- At sea, American warships concentrated on attacking British merchant ships with the intent of inflicting damage on the British economy
- The Continental Navy generally avoided head-to-head battles with the much more powerful British Navy
- The most notable American naval victory of the war came in Sept. 1779 when the *Bonhomme Richard*, commanded by John Paul Jones, captured the British warship *Serapis*
- When challenged to surrender early in the battle, Jones famously responded: "I have not yet begun to fight!"
- **British Turn South**
- After the defeat at Saratoga, Howe resigned and was replaced with Gen. Henry Clinton
- Clinton decided to focus on gaining control of the Southern colonies and their valuable cash crops, believing that he would be assisted by the large numbers of Loyalists in Georgia & the Carolinas
- **Georgia Falls**
- December 1778: Clinton's forces captured Savannah, Georgia and rapidly followed up by subduing the entire colony and putting a royal governor back in power
- Clinton then sent Gen. Charles Cornwallis north with 14,000 men to attack Charles Town, SC
- **Charles Town Falls**
- May 1780: 5500 American soldiers in Charles Town were forced to surrender, marking the Americans' largest defeat of the entire war
- Washington dispatched Gen. Horatio Gates to defend the South Carolina backcountry
- **Battle of Kings Mountain**
- Gates found himself fighting both the British and a strong contingent of Loyalists
- Gates, however, won the support of many of the settlers in the Appalachians and defeated the British-Loyalist force in the Battle of Kings Mountain in October 1780
- **Hit-and-Run Raids**
- American Gen. Nathaniel Greene decided that, rather than face the British head-on in major battles across the South, that he would instead keep his men in small units designed to carry out hit-and-run raids against British supply lines
- In this way, Greene took back the interior South, leaving the British holding just Savannah, Charles Town, and Wilmington, NC by late 1781
- **British Attack Virginia**
- In Spring 1781, Gen. Cornwallis decided to leave the Carolinas and attack Virginia
- Cornwallis joined his forces with those of Benedict Arnold (who had switched sides during the war) and began terrorizing the Virginia countryside
- When a large American force moved into Virginia to counter Cornwallis, he moved his forces to the river-town of Yorktown, where he could be more easily resupplied by British ships
- Cornwallis did not know, however, that a French fleet had blockaded the Chesapeake Bay and that no British supply ships could reach him at Yorktown
- Meanwhile, Washington's Continental Army, reinforced by 6000 French soldiers, had moved down from New York and surrounded Yorktown, trapping Cornwallis
- After 3 weeks of fighting in the Battle of Yorktown, Cornwallis surrendered his 8000 men, effectively ending the war

- The surrender at Yorktown was the breaking point for public support for the war back in Britain and in Parliament – the war had lasted for 6 years and had become too expensive and embarrassing
- In March 1782, Parliament voted to begin peace negotiations
- **The War Ends: The Treaty of Paris (1783)**
- Britain agreed to recognize the United States of America as an independent nation
- Ceded all territory east of the Mississippi River, North of Florida (which Britain returned to Spain) and south of Canada
- On November 24, 1783 the last British soldiers left the United States
- **A New America**
- After achieving independence, The United States became a republic (Latin: "res publica" or "thing of the people")
- A republic is a government in which citizens vote to elect officials and those officials must govern based upon a set of common laws
- In a republic, power ultimately resides in the "citizens," all of whom are equal
- **Who's a Citizen?**
- The idea that all citizens can vote, however, means you have to define who is a citizen
- Problems:
    - Many Americans owned slaves – were Africans citizens?
    - Women had very few rights – were women citizens?
    - The wealthy were often seen as being above others – were the poor really the political equal of the rich?
- **Separation of Powers**
- John Adams and others argued that for the young republic to survive, it could not be a true democracy because the majority (the poor) would act to strip the minority (the rich) of their rights (in this case, to property)
- Adams argued that to avoid this "tyranny of the majority," the best government would be one where the executive, legislative, and judicial branches had separate powers that "checked and balanced" one another
- In this way, no one group could achieve too much power
- This idea of separation of powers was one of the ideals of the Enlightenment, having been proposed by the French Baron de Montesquieu in his 1748 book *The Spirit of the Laws*
- **Bicameral Legislatures**
- Adams also argued that the legislature should be divided into two houses ("bi-" = two)
- One house should be controlled by citizens of property (to ensure their rights were protected) and the other should be made up of the "common" people (to ensure *their* rights were protected)
- **State Constitutions**
- Many states adopted constitutions based upon Adams' ideals (including, arguably, the two most powerful states, Virginia and Massachusetts)
- The United States as a whole, however, did not; instead the federal government would be a simple (and very weak) legislature until 1789
- **Expanded Suffrage**
- Men who had fought in the Revolution fully expected to be able to vote as equals, regardless of their social class, once the War was over
- Most states allowed any adult, white male who had paid taxes to vote
- Even in states that had owning property as a prerequisite to vote, most veterans qualified because they had been paid in land for their war service (remember, the paper money issued during the war was practically worthless, so veterans much preferred to be compensated with land grants instead)
- ***Virginia's Declaration of Rights*** (Written by George Mason in 1776)

- Guaranteed all Virginians
  - Freedom of speech
  - Freedom of religion
  - Right to bear arms
  - Trial by jury
  - No searches without a warrant
  - No seizure of property without due process
- **Freedom of Religion?**
- In Virginia, Baptists petitioned to abolish the state's practice of collecting taxes to support the Anglican Church
- By collecting this tax, Virginia was essentially saying that the Anglican Church was the "official" religion of state
- In 1786, Gov. Thomas Jefferson approved the *Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom*, declaring that the state had no official church and would no longer collect taxes for any church
- Most states followed Virginia's lead, abolishing state-collected taxing for churches and furthering the principle of creating a "wall of separation between church and state"
- **Small Gains for Women**
- The biggest gain for women in the new America was an increase in opportunities for education
- 1779: Judith Sargent Murray wrote *On the Equality of the Sexes*, arguing that women could achieve as much as men if they had access to education
- **African-Americans**
- During the War, the British freed some slaves (as a way to hurt rebellious plantation owners) and even exported thousands of slaves to loyal British colonies in the Caribbean
- 5000+ Africans even served in the Continental Army during the War, fighting for the colonists
- After the War, many Americans saw the hypocrisy of fighting for freedom while keeping slaves in bondage
- In 1777, Vermont became the first state to ban slavery outright
- By 1800, Pennsylvania, New York, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts had all begun the process of ending slavery in their states by establishing an age at which all existing slaves must be freed (usually in their late 20s)
- Freedom from slavery did not mean equality, however
- Freed blacks found it difficult to get good jobs, an education, or voting rights
- They even faced the danger of being kidnapped to be sold back into slavery in the South
- **Loyalists Flee**
- After the War, Loyalists (Americans who had opposed the Revolution) faced penalties such as seizure of property and loss of social status
- About 100,000 fled the United States, mostly for Canada
- **A New American Identity**
- The War had brought the colonists together against a common enemy, forcing them to stop thinking of themselves as "Virginians" or "New Yorkers" and start thinking of themselves as "Americans"
- **The United States Under the Articles of Confederation**
- **The Articles of Confederation**
- Nov. 1777: Continental Congress adopted the first framework for a federal government
- *The Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union* organized the 13 former colonies into a loose Union under the central authority of Congress
- The Articles deliberately left the central government very weak; states feared that a strong central government would become tyrannical
- Without a strong federal government, however, creating a "United States" proved difficult

- **How the Government Operated**
- Each state selected 3 – 7 Congressional representatives each (although each state only received one vote in Congress)
- Once a year those representatives were sent to serve in the capital of Philadelphia
- The government had no legislative or judicial branches – Congress *was* the government
- The Confederation Congress had the right to declare war, raise an army, and sign treaties with foreign powers; they also served to resolve disputes between states
- The Confederation Congress could NOT levy taxes or put any restrictions on trade
- In order to generate revenue, Congress could only sell unsettled lands west of the Appalachians (which the 13 states had ceded to the central government as part of ratification of the Articles)
- In order to sell these lands, however, Congress first had to survey and map it and then find settlers interested in buying tracts
- To encourage settlement, the Congress had to also figure out a way to govern the region
- **The Northwest Ordinance**
- 1787: Congress passed the Northwest Ordinance, which laid out a plan for organizing and governing the Northwest Territory (modern Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan & Wisconsin, + part of Minnesota)
- At first, Congress appointed a governor and other temporary officials to the Territory
- Once 5000 adult male citizens had settled in a territory, they could elect a legislature
- Once population reached 60,000 people, it could apply for full statehood
- **Protected Rights**
- The Ordinance guaranteed freedom of religion, protection of property rights, and trial by jury
- It also banned slavery, reinforcing a trend of slavery in the South, but not in the North
- **British Trade Restrictions**
- After the Revolution, the British put tight restrictions on trade between their other colonies and the US; they also put strict rules in place for trade between the US and Britain
- In response, Congress negotiated trade treaties with other European states and continued to trade with French colonies in the Caribbean
- Despite limited trade with the British, US trade grew under the Confederation Congress
- **No Federal Tariffs**
- While few US goods hit British markets, the British were able to flood US markets because Congress was not empowered to levy tariffs (taxes on imports) and the individual states were inconsistent in their policies
- These cheap British goods hurt American artisans
- **State vs. State**
- To protect their own artisans, individual states began taxing not only British goods, but also goods from each other – New York, for instance, began taxing goods from New Jersey
- The "United States" were not acting united
- **Terms of the Treaty of Paris**
- In the Treaty of Paris, the US had agreed to allow British lenders to collect the pre-war debts owed them by Americans and to return property which had been confiscated from Loyalists during the war
- Congress, however, could not compel the individual states to honor the terms of the Treaty, so many states simply refused to comply
- This angered the British, leading them to refuse to give up forts in US territory
- **Trouble With Spain**
- The young US also had conflicts with Spain over the boundary between Florida and Georgia and over access to the Mississippi River through the Spanish port of New Orleans
- Congress had no leverage to use against Spain – they could not impose trade sanctions – and so, could not resolve the issues

- **War Debts Create Problems**
- Making matters worse, people began trying to cash in bonds (loans) that the states and Continental Congress had taken out during the War
- With few options available for repaying the bonds, the states began issuing paper money that was not backed by gold or silver to insure its value
- The result was inflation – a sudden rise in prices associated with a drop in the value of money
- Debtors liked the inflation – it made it much easier for them to repay their debts; lenders hated it because they took huge losses on their loans
- In some states, merchants began refusing to accept the paper money, forcing states to create laws requiring the acceptance of paper money as legal tender for all debts
- The paper money issue fed the fears of the rich that "democracy" gave the poor too much say in public policy
- These fears would be further heightened by reports of "rebellion" by former army officers and poor farmers
- **The Newburgh Conspiracy**
- March 1783: A Group of officers from the Continental Army began to complain against Congress for failing to provide their back pay and pensions
- There was talk of marching against Congress with force, but the letter of complaint sent out made no specific threats
- Fearing a rebellion by the military, Gen. Washington met with his officers and shamed them into standing down and respecting the civilian authority of Congress; Washington pointed out that he had given his life to the country's service, yet had no regrets
- **Shays' Rebellion**
- Massachusetts elected to raise taxes to generate the revenue to pay back their bonds, rather than issue paper money
- Poor farmers in the western part of the state could not afford a tax increase and, since no inflation had occurred, also could not afford to pay back their own debts which put them in danger of foreclosure
- August 1776: These farmers banded together, seizing control of several courthouses to stop foreclosure proceedings
- They were led by a former army officer turned farmer, named Capt. Daniel Shays
- In January 1787, Shays and 1200+ farmers moved to seize control of the state arsenal in order to secure weapons for marching on Boston
- The rebels, however, were repelled by the state militia, with 4 farmers being killed in the brief gun battle, and the rebellion collapsed
- **A Call for Change**
- Events like Shay's Rebellion, however, convinced the wealthier Americans that the republic was being endangered by too much power being placed in the hands of the poor
- As a result, they began calling for a stronger federal government which could be empowered to protect property rights, control inflation, and act against rebellions
- Nationalists were those Americans who supported the idea of strengthening the central government; they included George Washington, John Adams, James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, Benjamin Franklin, & Robert Morris
- In 1786, James Madison convinced the Virginia legislature to organize a convention of the states to discuss economic issues such as trade, tariffs, & taxation
- **The Annapolis Convention**
- Only 5 states sent representatives to the meeting, held in Annapolis, Maryland, but those representatives agreed that the Articles of Confederation needed some serious revisions which would strengthen the central government

- Alexander Hamilton, New York's representative at the Annapolis meeting, called on Congress to hold a convention at which the proposed revisions to the Articles could be debated
- Congress agreed to call a convention, primarily because of the threat posed by Shays' Rebellion and other episodes of civil unrest
- Every state except Rhode Island met in Philadelphia in May of 1787 "for the sole purpose of revising the Articles of Confederation"
- **The Constitutional Convention**
- The 55 delegates at the Convention included 7 former governors, 39 members of Congress, and 8 who had signed the Declaration of Independence
- They chose George Washington to serve as presiding officer of the Convention
- It was decided to keep the Convention closed to the public, to ensure no political factors could corrupt the debate
- James Madison tasked himself with keeping a record of the debates between the delegates
- **The Virginia Plan**
- The Virginia delegates proposed a complete overhaul of the national government
- Their plan, designed by James Madison, called for scrapping the Articles of Confederation and starting over completely with a new guiding document which would grant the central government much greater powers
- The Virginia Plan would give the new federal government the power to raise money through levying taxes and the power to create laws which all states would be legally bound to follow
- The Virginia Plan also called for dividing the government across three branches: executive, legislative, and judicial
- The legislative branch would then be divided into two houses, an "upper" and "lower"
- The number of representatives in each house would be determined by each state's population, thereby giving the more populous states more influence in the making of laws and levying of taxes
- **The "Small" States Object**
- While most delegates accepted the structure of the Virginia Plan, the smaller states objected to a legislature in which they would get less representation
- As a result, they refused to support the Virginia Plan
- **The New Jersey Plan**
- New Jersey's William Paterson responded with a plan which kept the Articles of Confederation in place, but with modifications which would give the central government more powers, such as taxation and the ability to regulate trade
- The New Jersey Plan accepted the idea of a three-branch government, however, it kept Congress as a single house where each state had equal representation
- The executive branch would be elected by Congress and the judiciary would be appointed by the executive
- **Virginia Plan Wins**
- After much debate, the Convention voted to pursue the Virginia Plan, abandoning the Articles of Confederation
- This vote meant that they would have to write an entirely new constitution for the United States
- After the vote, small states continued to push for equal representation in Congress, prompting the larger states to threaten a walk out.
- Eventually, it was decided to create a special committee of moderates, led by Benjamin Franklin, to work out some sort of compromise
- **The Great Compromise**
- The resulting recommendation by Franklin's committee became known as the "Great Compromise" or the Connecticut Compromise (since it was based on an idea by Roger Sherman of Connecticut)

- The Compromise proposed basing representation in one house of Congress (the House of Representatives) on population, and allowing the voters in each state to elect their representatives
- The other house (the Senate) would have equal representation for all states, and senators would be appointed by the state legislatures
- In the House of Representatives, each state would get 1 representative for every 40,000 people in the state
- This caused another argument to erupt – should slaves count towards population?
- **Slaves & Representation**
- Southern states wanted slaves counted because slaves accounted for a sizeable percentage of their population
- Northern states did not believe slaves should be counted because they were not citizens and could not vote
- Northern states also argued that if slaves were going to be counted for purposes of representation, then they should also be counted for purposes of taxation
- **The 3/5ths Compromise**
- In the end, an agreement was reached to count 3/5ths of slaves for purposes of both representation and taxation
- Once this issue was resolved, northern and southern states were able to settle several other disagreements as well
- **Final Compromises**
- It was agreed that the new national government would not be empowered to tax exports (southerners worried about exported farm goods such as tobacco and cotton being taxed) or be allowed to ban the slave trade prior to 1808
- By mid-September, all of the compromises had been completed and the Constitution of the United States had been completed
- It was signed by 39 delegates and sent to the Confederation Congress for approval
- **So What Does the Constitution Say?**
- Three main parts:
  - Preamble
  - 7 Articles
  - Amendments
- PREAMBLE
- States goals and purposes of government
- Makes it clear that the government gets its power from the people and exists to serve them
- SIX PURPOSES - PREAMBLE
  1. To form a more perfect union
  2. To establish justice
  3. To ensure domestic tranquility
  4. To provide for the common defense
  5. To promote the general welfare
  6. To secure the blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our posterity
- ARTICLE I
  - Describes Legislative (law making) Branch
  - Describes the two houses (bicameral)
  - Describes how members will be chosen
  - Explains the powers of Congress
  - Explains the powers denied to Congress
- ARTICLE II

- Describes the Executive (law enforcing) Branch
- Headed by President and Vice President
- Explains how leaders will be elected and how they can be removed from office
- Describes their duties and powers
- ARTICLE III
  - Describes the Judicial (law interpreting) Branch
  - Calls for a Supreme Court and lower courts
  - Describes the power of federal courts
- ARTICLE IV
  - All states respect each other's laws
  - Explains the process of creating a new state
- ARTICLE V
  - Tells how the Constitution can be amended (changed)
- ARTICLE VI
  - Declares that the Constitution is the "supreme law of the land"
  - Claims federal law prevails over state law
- ARTICLE VII
  - Declares Constitution would take effect once 9 states ratified it
- **Ratification of the Constitution**
- Once Congress signed off, it was then submitted to the states for ratification – and a whole new round of debate began in the sphere of public opinion
- Article VII required that 9 of the 13 states must ratify (approve) it before it could become binding
- This led to much argument in the state legislatures between those who supported adoption of the new Constitution and those who thought it gave the new federal government too much authority
- **The Federalists**
- Supporters of ratification called themselves "Federalists"
- They wanted to remind the people that what the Constitution created was a system of "federalism," or a system where powers were clearly defined and divided between the central government and the individual states
- **Who Were Federalists?**
- Federalists included large landholders who wanted a strong central government which could protect their property rights
- They included merchants and artisans who wanted a central government empowered to regulate foreign trade
- They included many small farmers who wanted internal trade barriers removed
- **The Antifederalists**
- Those who opposed the Constitution came to be called Antifederalists
- They primarily opposed Article VI, which made the federal government superior to the individual states and bound the states to follow federal law
- **Who Were the Antifederalists?**
- There many strong voices amongst the Antifederalists, including John Hancock, Sam Adams, Richard Henry Lee, and Patrick Henry
- Some, like George Mason and Edmund Randolph, opposed the Constitution because they demanded the Bill of Rights be attached before ratification be considered
- Many Antifederalists were western farmers who were self-reliant and feared a powerful government; they also were afraid that the new federal government would be dominated by wealthy creditors who would try to exploit the system to make it harder for debtors (which these farmers were) to escape their debts

- **Federalists' Advantages**
- Federalists were offering a definitive plan to fix the problems of the Articles of Confederation, while Antifederalists had no cohesive plan
- The Federalists also tended to be excellent writers and public speakers, with good access to newspaper editors and pamphleteers
- *The Federalist Papers*
- A collection of 85 essays in favor of ratifying the Constitution
- Written by James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, and John Jay under the pen name "Publius" (Latin for "the people")
- First published individually in newspapers during late 1787 and early 1788
- The Federalist Papers explained the details of the Constitution, the intent behind each Article, and offered arguments for why each detail of the Constitution was needed
- The Federalist Papers are still used today as a resource by Congress and the Federal Courts to determine the intent of the framers of the Constitution
- **The First States Ratify**
- The Federalists had an advantage in several states, but the vote was going to be tight in the major states of Virginia, New York, and Massachusetts
- By early 1788, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Georgia and Connecticut had all approved the Constitution, but 4 more states were needed for ratification
- To win over voters in Massachusetts, the Federalists promised to pass a Bill of Rights (including an amendment that would reserve powers for the states that were not already given to the federal government) once the Constitution was ratified
- The compromises offered to Massachusetts also brought Maryland, New Hampshire, and South Carolina on board, bringing the number of states which approved the Constitution to the nine needed to fully ratify
- **What About VA & NY?**
- Many feared that without Virginia and New York's support, however, the new government was doomed to fail
- James Madison and George Washington targeted winning over Virginians, while Alexander Hamilton and John Jay targeted New Yorkers
- Washington and Madison finally won the approval of the Virginia legislature by promising a Bill of Rights
- Hamilton and Jay sold the Constitution to New York by pointing out that if they did not ratify, they would be in a position of weakness, surrounded by states which had
- **Planning a New Government**
- By late summer of 1788, all states but Rhode Island and North Carolina had ratified the Constitution and plans were put in place for the elections to be held and the new government to be seated in March of 1789
- North Carolina did not ratify until after the Bill of Rights was actually proposed in the new Congress (Nov. 1789)
- Rhode Island became the last state to ratify, waiting until May 1790

- **The Bill of Rights (1791)**
- Introduced to the First Congress in 1789 by James Madison
- Madison and his supporters believed that certain rights needed to be better spelled out in order to prevent any chance of abuses
- **Amendment I**

- "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of **religion**, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of **speech**, or of the **press**; or the right of the people peaceably to **assemble**, and to **petition** the Government for a redress of grievances."
- **Amendment II**
- "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed."
- **Amendment III**
- "No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law."
- **Amendment IV**
- "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized."
- **Amendment V**
- No person shall be tried for a major crime without first being indicted by a Grand Jury (except in the military)
- No person shall be tried for the same offense twice (Double Jeopardy clause)
- No person shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself (no self-incrimination)
- No person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law
- Government may not take private property without fair compensation (eminent domain)
- **Amendment VI**
- Right to a speedy and public trial
- Right to trial by an impartial jury
- Right to be tried locally
- Right to know what crimes you are being charged with
- Right to be confronted with the witnesses against you and to call your own witnesses
- Right to an attorney
- **Amendment VII**
- "In Suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law."
- **Amendment VIII**
- "Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted"
- **Amendment IX**
- "The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people."
- In other words, just because a "right" does not appear in the Constitution, does not mean that "the people" do not have that right (such as the right to privacy, for example)
- **Amendment X**
- "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people"
- In other words, powers not expressly given to the federal government belong to the states
- **A New President**
- When the first elections were held in the fall of 1788, George Washington was nominated unopposed for the newly created office of Chief Executive or President of the United States of America
- He won with 100% of the electoral vote, the only President to ever do so

- **George Washington** (1789 - 1797)
- No political party affiliation
- Established precedent of only serving 2 terms as president
- **Alexander Hamilton**: **Washington's Treasury Secretary**
- Wanted to build a financially strong and independent US, especially for American industry and businesses
- **Thomas Jefferson**: **Washington's Secretary of State**
- Wanted to protect states' rights, US-French relations
- Resigned from the cabinet in 1793 due to his disagreements with Hamilton
- **Hamilton's Economic Plan**
- Most states had many debts left over from the Revolution
- Hamilton wanted the US to assume the states' individual debts
- US would pay these debts by taxing whiskey and imported goods
- Hamilton also wanted to establish a national bank
- **Opposition to Hamilton's Plan**
- Thomas Jefferson argued government did not have the constitutional power to create a bank (a strict interpretation of the Constitution)
- Hamilton argued that the "necessary and proper" clause allowed the government to do what was necessary to perform its functions (loose interpretation)
- Taxes on imported goods would hurt southern farmers
- Many southern states had already paid their war debts
- South agreed to support Hamilton's plan only after North agreed to move the capital from New York City to a site on the Potomac River (Washington DC)
- Didn't like tax on whiskey because that was how many frontiersmen made their living
- This opposition led to the Whiskey Rebellion of 1794
- **Whiskey Rebellion**
- Pennsylvania farmers refused to pay whiskey tax and took up arms
- Pres. Washington responded by leading the US Army in putting down the rebellion
- Federal government demonstrated it could enforce its laws
- **Federalists vs. Democratic-Republicans**
- Federalists
    - Led by Alexander Hamilton
    - Favored strong national government
    - Favored large landowners and merchants
    - Favored tariffs and government regulations that supported business
    - Loose interpretationists
    - More popular in the North
    - Pro-business
    - Favored neutrality in the war between Britain and France
- Democratic-Republicans
    - Led by Thomas Jefferson
    - Favored strong state governments
    - Favored small farmers
    - Favored a "laissez-faire" approach where government did not regulate the economy
    - Strict interpretationists
    - More popular in the South
    - Pro-farmers
    - Favored France in their war against Britain

- **The Judiciary Act of 1789**
- Passed by the First Congress
- Established the Federal Court system; made clear that the Supreme Court was the highest court in the U.S.
- President Washington appointed John Jay to be the first Chief Justice
- **Native American Relations**
- As more settlers pushed west across the Appalachians and into the Ohio River Valley, they increasingly came into conflict with Native Americans
- Native Americans were NOT U.S. citizens and were not protected by American law; the settlers, however, were and the government took action to protect the interests of settlers over those of the Native American tribes
- **The Western Indian Confederacy**
- Many tribes in the Great Lakes region began working together to present a united front against further U.S. expansion into the Ohio Valley
- The Indian Confederacy badly defeated inexperienced U.S. troops in battles in both 1790 and 1791
- **A Growing Threat**
- The Native Americans were emboldened by the British, who continued to trade guns and supplies out of Canada (and even from forts in U.S. territory which the British refused to abandon)
- The Native chiefs demanded that the U.S. give up its claims to the Ohio Valley and increasingly became a threat to American settlers in the region
- **Washington Takes Action**
- Even though President Washington sympathized to a degree with the Native Americans' plight, he could not tolerate attacks against American citizens who were legally settling in U.S. territory
- Washington ordered Secretary of War Henry Knox to raise an army (The Legion of the United States) to end the Indian threat
- **Battle of Fallen Timbers** (August 20, 1794, near Toledo, Ohio)
- 3000 US troops led by General "Mad Anthony" Wayne finally defeated Indian Confederation warriors led by Shawnee Chief Blue Jacket
- This defeat effectively ended the Northwest Indian War
- **Treaty of Greenville** (August 2, 1795)
- Natives agreed to surrender most of Ohio and areas that are today Detroit and Chicago for $20,000 in goods and the creation of a permanent boundary between US and Indian territory
- Future settlers would, unfortunately, ignore the negotiated boundary
- The defeat of the Indian Confederacy and the continuing presence of the Legion of the United States in the region finally prompted the British to surrender their remaining forts located on U.S. soil in 1796 to General Wayne
- **The French Revolution**
- Most Americans sympathized with French revolutionaries at first
- Hamilton's Federalists turned against the revolutionaries when the Revolution became too violent
- Jefferson's Democratic-Republicans continued to support the French in their fight for liberty
- **War between Britain and France**
- Americans traded with both countries, so when Britain and France went to war with one another in 1793, it was a problem
- The U.S. was bound by the Treaty of 1778 to help defend France's Caribbean colonies, but honoring this treaty could lead the U.S. into war with England
- George Washington believed the young and weak U.S. could not afford to get involved in the war between France and Britain, so he chose not to honor the Treaty of 1778, instead issuing *The*

Proclamation of Neutrality in April, 1793, declaring the U.S. to be "friendly and impartial" to both countries
- **Problems with Britain**
- Britain began blockading France and seized any ships trying to enter French ports
- Hundreds of U.S. ships and their cargoes were seized by the British as a result
- This angered U.S. merchants, who were taking huge financial losses
- **Jay's Treaty (1795)**
- Washington sent John Jay to negotiate with the British government
- The U.S. agreed that Britain had the right to seize goods bound for France; in return, Britain agreed to grant the U.S. "most favored nation" status and to allow American merchants free trade with British colonies in the Caribbean to offset the lost trade with France
- Democratic-Republicans were angered by treaty and felt that Jay had sold out the French
- **Consequences of Jay's Treaty**
- France retaliated against the U.S. for signing Jay's Treaty by beginning to seize U.S. ships bound for English ports
- These attacks caused many members of the Federalist Party (which supported the wealthy merchants who owned most of the ships and cargos being attacked) to call for a declaration of war against France
- This also deepened the division between the pro-British Federalists and pro-French Democratic-Republicans
- **Pinckney's Treaty (1796)**
- Spain, worried by the possible alliance between the U.S. and Britain represented by Jay's Treaty, negotiated with U.S. diplomat Thomas Pinckney to allow the U.S. free navigation of the Mississippi River and the port of New Orleans
- The treaty also settled the dispute over the location of the northern border of Spanish Florida, creating a fixed border between the U.S. and Spanish held territories
- Unlike Jay's Treaty, Pinckney's treaty was universally popular with Americans for ending any threat of war with Spain
- **Washington's Farewell Address**
- Published in fall of 1796
- The 64-year-old Washington explained his decision to not seek a third term as President and offered advice to the American people on what dangers they should avoid in the future to preserve the American Republic:
    - Stay neutral in foreign affairs and avoid all "foreign entanglements" (alliances & wars)
    - Good government is based on religion and morality, so elect only moral men to office
    - Political parties are divisive and dangerous to national unity – avoid them at all costs
- **The Presidency of John Adams (Federalist, 1797 – 1801)**
- Adams beat out Thomas Jefferson in America's first contested presidential election in 1796 by only 3 electoral votes
- **The "XYZ" Affair (1797)**
- Adams was reluctant to get involved in a war, so he sent John Marshall and two other diplomats to attempt to negotiate with the French
- The U.S. delegation was asked by three French agents (whom Adams would only name as X, Y, and Z to Congress) to pay a $250,000 bribe and to promise $12 million in loans to the French government just to even meet with French officials
- The American delegation refused and angrily returned home
- American newspapers quickly picked up the story and attacked France in editorials and cartoons
- **The Quasi-War (1798)**
- France's actions led to increased calls for war from angry Americans

- In June 1798, Congress suspended trade with France and ordered the U.S. Navy to begin attacking French ships
- The U.S. and France were in an undeclared state of war, at least at sea
- **Political Divisions Continue**
- Democratic-Republicans were highly critical in the press of the Adams administration's handling of foreign affairs
- Federalists took advantage of public support for Adams' stand against France to pass laws aimed at weakening the Democratic-Republican Party
- **The Alien Acts (1798)**
- The Federalist-controlled Congress passed three bills aimed at "aliens":
- Required immigrants to wait 14 years before they could become citizens
- Authorized the President to order the deportation, without trial, of any alien considered "dangerous"
- The Alien Acts were clearly targeting recent French and Irish immigrants, who tended to be anti-British and to vote Democratic-Republican
- **The Sedition Act (1798)**
- The Federalists also passed the Sedition Act, which limited free speech by making it illegal to publish "false, scandalous, and malicious writing" against the government or its officials
- Was used to silence Democratic-Republican critics, including newspaper editors and politicians
- **The Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions**
- In response to the Alien and Sedition Acts, in 1798 the legislatures of Kentucky and Virginia passed resolutions arguing that any state can refuse to enforce federal laws they believe to be unconstitutional – they can, in effect, "nullify" the law (the Doctrine of Nullification)
- These resolutions were anonymously published by the two most vocal of the Democratic-Republicans, James Madison and Thomas Jefferson
- **The Convention of 1800**
- By the fall of 1798, France asked to reopen negotiations with the U.S.
- In September 1800, the two nations agreed to the terms of the Convention of 1800
- The U.S. agreed to give up any claims against France for damages to US shipping
- France agreed to release the U.S. from the terms of the Treaty of 1778
- **The Role of Women in America**
- Primary roles of American women were to be wives, mothers, and homemakers
- Some poor, single women worked outside the home as servants
- Women had few property rights, could not vote
- **Abigail Adams** (Wife of President John Adams)
- Pushed for women's rights to education, to own property, and to have a voice in politics
- "...remember the ladies … Do not put such unlimited power into the hands of the Husbands … all Men would be tyrants if they could … [we] will not hold ourselves bound by any Laws in which we have no voice, or Representation."
- **Eli Whitney's Cotton Gin** (Patented in 1794)
- A machine that separated cotton fibers from the hard to remove seeds
- The gin made cotton farming much more profitable by freeing up workers to pick cotton instead of to clean it, and led to the rise of "King Cotton", the South's economic dependency on the cotton trade
- Growth in the cotton trade led to the continuation and growth in slavery
- **Slavery: a "necessary evil"**
- The 3/5ths Compromise in the Constitution only counted slaves as 3/5 of a person for representation and taxation purposes, but did not make them citizens or give them any legal rights (including the right to vote)
- Some free black men in the North did enjoy citizenship and voting privileges, based on state laws

- By 1800, there were close to 1 million slaves in US, equaling about 1/6th of the population
- Many people, however, opposed slavery as a moral wrong; even some slave owners like George Washington and Thomas Jefferson worried about the consequences of keeping slaves, and most northern states had passed laws ending slavery there by the early 1800s
- **The Election of 1800**
- The Alien & Sedition Acts, coupled with an increase in taxes, had made Adams unpopular
- The Democratic-Republicans won the election, but due to a quirk in the Electoral College, it was a tie between their intended president, Thomas Jefferson, and their intended vice-president, Aaron Burr
- In the event of no candidate holding a majority of the electoral votes, the House of Representatives has to decide which candidate will win
- Federalists controlled the House of Representatives, and so they would have to choose between Jefferson and Burr
- Alexander Hamilton preferred Jefferson, but the House ended up with a tied vote due to Jefferson having many enemies amongst the Federalists
- Finally, Jefferson promised not to fire Federalist employees of the government and not to dismantle Hamilton's economic system; this got him the one vote he needed to break the tie
- **Amendment XII (1804)**
- The Jefferson-Burr controversy led to a change in the Constitutional rules for electing the president and vice-president
- Old rules – whoever got the most votes for president won, whoever got the second most votes became vice-president
- New rules – presidential candidates must choose a vice-presidential running mate and they are elected together as a "ticket"
- **The Peaceful Revolution**
- The Federalists controlled the Presidency, Congress, the Federal Courts, and the military in 1800, and could have refused to recognize the results of the election – instead, they honored the election's results and upheld the Constitution
- This first transition of power from one political party (the Federalists) to another (the Democratic-Republicans) is sometimes called "The Peaceful Revolution"
- **The Presidency of Thomas Jefferson** (Democratic-Republican, 1801 – 1809)
- **Inauguration**
- Jefferson was the first president to be inaugurated in Washington
- To set the tone for what he wanted his presidency to stand for, Jefferson refused to ride in a carriage to the Capitol, choosing instead to walk
- A bitter John Adams refused to attend the inauguration
- Jefferson took a conciliatory tone in his speech, saying "We are all Republicans, we are all Federalists"
- **Few Immediate Changes**
- Jefferson felt that diplomats under Washington and Adams had signed good treaties with England, Spain, & France, and had kept the U.S. out of war.
- He conceded that Hamilton's Bank of the United States was helping to get the country out of debt and create economic stability
- Jefferson also kept his promise to not dismiss Federalist bureaucrats within the government
- **The Midnight Judges**
- Just before Jefferson's inauguration, however, the Federalist Congress had passed the Judiciary Act of 1801, creating 16 new federal judgeships
- In the days before leaving office, Adams signed letters appointing Federalists to fill these new life-long positions

- Upon taking office, Jefferson ordered his Secretary of State, James Madison, to "lose" the "Midnight Judges" commissions; without the required paperwork, the judges could not take office
- Angry that they were being blocked by Madison, the judges sued the executive in federal court
- ***Marbury v. Madison***
- William Marbury, who had been appointed Justice of the Peace for the District of Columbia, appealed to the Supreme Court seeking an order to compel Madison to produce his commission
- The Supreme Court found that, while Madison's actions were illegal and the judges had a right to be seated, the Supreme Court did not have authority over the case because the Judiciary Act of 1789, which had allowed Marbury to bring the case directly to the Supreme Court, was in conflict with the Constitution and, therefore, void
- This decision established the precedent of judicial review, or the idea that the Supreme Court can decide whether laws violate the Constitution and should be "struck down"
- **Jeffersonian Democracy**
- Jefferson championed the idea that "common" men should be allowed to vote, as opposed to the Federalist idea that only a privileged elite should vote
- He believed that better education would prepare people for participation in government and that education was the key to social mobility and building a meritocracy (a system where people advance based on their merits)
- **Jeffersonian Economics**
- Jefferson believed that America's future was as an agrarian (farming) based economy, rather than as an industrialized state
- Jefferson also supported the idea, made popular by British economist Adam Smith, of a "laissez-faire" approach to the economy – government should not use tariffs or regulations to interfere in the "natural" operation of the economy
- **Jefferson and the National Debt**
- Under Hamilton, the government had borrowed money to finance national growth; he thought debt was a good thing: If the government borrowed from its rich citizens, those citizens would have an interest in the nation's growth
- Jefferson decided to abandon this policy; he reduced the federal budget and cut taxes in an effort to downsize government and reduce the national debt
- **Jefferson and Slavery**
- Jefferson believed that slavery would ultimately fail, even without government regulation
- Jefferson did, however, pressure Congress to ban the importation of new slaves as soon as possible and to limit its spread into new territories
- Despite being a slave-owner himself, Jefferson clearly believed that slavery was morally wrong (evidence suggests, however, that he did hold racist beliefs about the inferiority of Africans)
- In 1802, a scandal erupted after a report was published that Jefferson had fathered 6 children with one of his slaves, Sally Hemings (who happened to be his late wife's half-sister)
- Jefferson never directly addressed the reports, but modern DNA research indicates that the reports were probably true
- **Burr-Hamilton Duel**
- More scandal rocked the nation in July 1804 when Jefferson's Vice-President Aaron Burr killed his rival Alexander Hamilton in a duel
- Burr was charged with murder, but was acquitted and finished his term as VP (he later was arrested and tried for treason for plotting to seize territory in Louisiana to create his own country – he was also acquitted of these charges)
- Hamilton's death left the Federalist Party without its most effective leader
- **Louisiana**

- Louisiana had been reacquired by France when Napoleon conquered Spain in 1800
- Napoleon decided that he could not afford to protect the territory due to the threat of war with England and a slave revolt in Haiti, so he offered to sell Louisiana to the United States; this would free up French troops to be used elsewhere and provide Napoleon with ready cash to cover his military expenses
- **The Louisiana Purchase**
- Jefferson was prepared to offer $10 million to France for just the port of New Orleans, so he was shocked when Napoleon offered the entire Louisiana Territory (all 828,000+ mi² of it) for only $15 million
- Afraid that Napoleon would withdraw the offer, Jefferson agreed to the purchase, even though he doubted that his Constitutional authority to do so
- Once completed, the Purchase doubled the size of the U.S. and extended its borders all the way to the Rocky Mountains
- The Purchase also began to build in Americans the belief that they were "destined" to control North America
- Jefferson, who believed in a "strict" interpretation of the Constitution, had used a "loose" interpretation to empower himself to make the Purchase – this led to accusations of hypocrisy
- Federalists opposed the Purchase out of fear that the West would be mostly populated by farmers, which would reduce the political influence of rich Northern merchants
- **The Lewis & Clark Expedition**
- Jefferson had ordered an expedition to explore the West even before the U.S. made the Purchase
- This "Corps of Discovery" was launched from Pittsburgh in August 1804, led by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark
- They gathered samples of minerals, plants and animals, mapped the territory and identified what Native American groups occupied the West
- They finally reached the Pacific Ocean in December 1805, thanks to the guidance of a Native American woman named Sacagawea, and arrived back in St. Louis in September 1806
- **The Pike Expedition**
- Army Captain Zebulon Pike was sent out by Jefferson in 1805 to further explore the Louisiana Territory
- His 1805 mission located the source of the Mississippi River
- His 1806-07 expedition was tasked with exploring the southwestern portion of the Purchase, but wandered into Spanish territory and were taken as prisoners but soon released
- **The Barbary Pirates**
- American shipping had been protected from powerful North African pirates by the British (before the Revolution) and the French (from 1778 – 1783), and then by paying $80,000/year in tributes until 1801
- When the pasha of Tripoli (a sort of "pirate prince") demanded $225,000 from the U.S. in 1801, Jefferson refused to pay, resulting in the pasha declaring war against the U.S.
- Jefferson sent the U.S. Navy to the Mediterranean and successfully fought a 4-year long war against the pirates, although the frigate *U.S.S. Philadelphia* was lost in the fighting
- Tribute payments to the Barbary states would not be completely eliminated until a second American naval expedition to the region in 1815
- **The Napoleonic Wars**
- In May 1803, Britain and France went to war for the third time since 1778
- Britain declared that all ships headed for European ports needed special licenses from the British government and would be subject to search by the British Navy
- France declared that ships obeying British orders would have their goods confiscated by the French government
- **Impressment of Sailors**

- Britain began stopping U.S. ships to search them for British "deserters" and often forced crewmen from U.S. ships to join the crews of British ships instead, a practice called "impressment"
- This practice infuriated American citizens, leading some to call for war with Britain
- **The *USS Chesapeake* incident**
- In 1807, the British warship *HMS Leopard* attempted to stop the American warship *USS Chesapeake*
- The *Chesapeake* refused to stop and be boarded, so it was fired upon by the *Leopard*
- The attack killed 3 American sailors; ultimately, the *Chesapeake* surrendered and the British impressed four of her crewmen
- This attack led to even more calls for war against Britain
- **Embargo Act of 1807**
- Even though he was pro-France, President Jefferson wanted to avoid a war with Britain
- To prevent any further incidents which might lead to war, he convinced Congress to pass the Embargo Act, stopping all trade between the U.S. and Europe
- The embargo ended up hurting the U.S. more than it did Britain or France
- American shipping companies failed; Southern farmers, who sold most of their cash crops (especially cotton and tobacco) in Europe, were ruined
- The Act was ultimately repealed in 1809, after Jefferson had left office
- **The Presidency of James Madison (Democratic-Republican, 1809 – 1817)**
- **Death of the First National Bank**
- The National Bank had been created as part of Hamilton's Economic Plan
- Opposition to the Bank by Democratic-Republicans led Congress to not renew the Bank's charter when it expired in 1811
- State and private banks took over, issuing their own currency; the flood of money into the market lead to high inflation
- The U.S. government would have to borrow money from these state and private banks to pay for the War of 1812, leaving it deeply in debt after the war
- **Tecumseh's War**
- As white settlers continued to push west, Native American resistance began to grow again, this time under the leadership of a Shawnee named Tecumseh
- Tecumseh formed a new Indian Confederation aimed at trying to make the U.S. honor its agreements under the Treaty of Greenville and threatened to ally himself with the British in Canada
- **Battle of Tippecanoe** (Nov. 7, 1811)
- U.S. forces under the command of Indiana Territory governor William Henry Harrison attacked Tecumseh's headquarters at Tippecanoe, Indiana, shattering the new Indian confederacy
- Tecumseh fled to Canada and joined with the British
- British support of Tecumseh, and Indian uprisings in general, was a contributing factor to the start of the War of 1812
- **Madison and Europe**
- Like presidents before him, Madison wanted to remain neutral and avoid war with European nations
- Madison wanted to maintain the trade embargo against BOTH Britain and France, but Congress accepted an offer to renew trade with France
- The reopening of trade between the U.S. and France hurt British merchants and industries and prompted the British to retaliate economically
- **The War Hawks**
- Key members of Congress such as John C. Calhoun (SC), and Henry Clay (KY) began to push for a declaration of war against Britain over the damage British economic policies were causing to the U.S. economy and over the suspected British support of Native American raids against American settlers in the Great Lakes region

- These members of Congress came to be known as the "War Hawks"
- **War of 1812**
- In June of 1812, despite the pleas of Madison and other moderates, the War Hawks prevailed and the U.S. declared war on Britain
- Why did the War Hawks want war?
    - Southern and western farmers had been hurt by British trade restrictions
    - Britain had been supporting Native Americans who were attacking American settlers
    - Many Americans wanted to seize Canada and push Britain out of North America
    - The British policy of impressing sailors angered Americans
- **The U.S. Invasion of Canada**
- American forces attempted to invade British Canada from three different points, but each attack failed disastrously
- The U.S. and British fought to a stalemate in the Great Lakes region throughout the war
- **The British Attack Washington D.C. and Baltimore, Maryland**
- August 1814: British troops landed in Washington DC, capturing and burning the city, including the White House and Capitol Building – but not capturing President Madison or Congressional leaders
- British troops were less successful in attacking Baltimore, where they were turned back thanks to the city's better fortifications, including Ft. McHenry
- During the failed British attack on Ft. McHenry, US lawyer and poet Francis Scott Key, inspired by the ferocity of the city's defense, composed *The Star-Spangled Banner*
- After the poem was later set to music, it became the National Anthem of the United States
- **The Treaty of Ghent** (December 24, 1814)
- U.S. and British agreed to end the war, since neither side seemed to be in a position to win quickly and both sides were accruing large war debts
- Agreed to return to pre-war boundaries, but little else was resolved
- **The Battle of New Orleans** (January 1815)
- News of the Treaty of Ghent ending the war traveled slowly, so fighting continued for weeks
- In what became one of the largest American victories of the war, U.S. General Andrew Jackson defeated a much larger force of British troops who were trying to seize New Orleans, AFTER THE WAR WAS OVER!
- Jackson used cotton bales to create defensive positions
- After the battle, Jackson became a national hero and, later, the 7ᵗʰ President of the United States
- **The Hartford Convention**
- New England Federalists had opposed the war with Britain since the beginning
- In December 1814, Federalists held a meeting in Hartford, Connecticut to consider having New England secede from the Union or to amend the Constitution to reduce the power of the federal government
- After news that the war was over, Federalist pessimism about America's ability to win the war appeared unpatriotic and ultimately destroyed the party
- **Consequences of the War of 1812**
- U.S. gained respect in Europe for not losing
- It generated a new spirit of American nationalism and patriotism, leading to greater unity
- It destroyed the Federalist Party, leaving the U.S. with only one political party
- **Second National Bank of the US**
- The expense of the War made it clear to Congress that bringing back the National Bank was a necessity
- The Bank was not overly popular with small farmers because it was aimed at helping Eastern industrialists
- Despite this, the need for federal regulation of currency prompted senators John Calhoun, Daniel Webster, and Henry Clay to force through a bill creating a Second National Bank in 1816

- **The Tariff of 1816**
- British goods had been cut off during the War of 1812, but once the war was over the American market was flooded with cheap British goods
- U.S. industry had begun to grow during the war, but now was at risk due to a return of foreign competition
- A new tariff (tax on imported goods) was championed by Henry Clay and John C. Calhoun to protect these new American industries
- The fact that Calhoun and Clay, who represented the interests of southern and western farmers, would support a tax aimed at helping northern businesses, shows how the War built national unity
- **The Presidency of James Monroe (Democratic Republican, 1817 – 1825)**
- **"The Era of Good Feelings"**
- Term created by a newspaper editor to describe Monroe's presidency
- In the years following the War of 1812, nationalism (intense pride in one's country) surged and Americans, for the first time, truly thought of themselves as Americans first, ahead of their loyalty to their state or geographic region
- The collapse of the Federalist Party left only the Democratic-Republican Party to dominate politics, so there was little political disagreement
- **The Panic of 1819**
- The newly created Second Bank of the U.S. was too generous in offering credit, leading to it overextending itself by issuing more loans than it had money
- When the European economy recovered following the Napoleonic Wars, demand for American farm goods collapsed; at the same time, the Bank began recalling its loans in an attempt to stabilize its ability to fund the U.S. government's needs – these two circumstances combined led to massive foreclosures on American farms, creating America's first economic depression

- *McCulloch v. Maryland* (1819)
- The state of Maryland, angry that Congress had revived the Bank of the U.S., passed a bill taxing any currency issued by the Bank's Baltimore branch; the Bank's branch manager (McCulloch) refused to pay the tax
- The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that: 1) the "necessary and proper" clause in Article I of the Constitution gives Congress the "implied power" to create a Bank; 2) the federal government stands above the states and 3) the states cannot interfere with the operation of federal agencies
- *Dartmouth College v Woodward* (1819)
- Dartmouth College, operating under a charter granted by King George III in the 1760s, was forcibly transformed by the state of New Hampshire from a private to a public college
- Dartmouth's trustees sued, arguing their charter, even though it predated the Revolution, was a valid contract and could not be voided by the state
- The U.S. Supreme Court agreed, denying states the right to interfere with private contracts
- *Gibbons v. Ogden* (1824)
- Aaron Ogden was operating steamboats between New York and New Jersey under an exclusive license from the state of New York
- Thomas Gibbons began operating a competing line of steamboats under the argument that the Constitution grants all regulation of interstate commerce to Congress, not the states
- The U.S. Supreme Court agreed with Gibbons: Article I, Section 8 grants Congress alone has the right to regulate interstate and foreign commerce
- **The Missouri Compromise (1820)**
- 1819: Missouri (which allowed slavery) applied for statehood
- This threatened the balance in Congress by giving pro-slavery states more votes in the Senate

- U.S. finally agreed to admit Missouri as a slave state but only once Maine was admitted as a free state to keep balance
- Congress also drew a line through the Louisiana Territory: north of the line, no slavery; south of the line would allow slavery
- The Compromise was largely the work of Senator Henry Clay of Kentucky, who came to be called the Great Compromiser
- **The Treaty of 1818** (Also known as the Convention of 1818)
- Treaty between the U.S. and Britain, which permanently set the boundary between the U.S. and Canada at the 49th parallel from Minnesota to the Rocky Mountains
- The Treaty also allowed both the British and Americans to "share" the Oregon Territory for the next ten years and granted American fishing boats the right to fish the Grand Banks
- **The First Seminole War**
- Spanish Florida was a problem for the U.S.'s southern states – it harbored runaway slaves and was a base for attacks by Seminole Indians into U.S. territory
- In 1818, General Andrew Jackson was ordered into Florida to deal with the Seminole threat, but was also ordered not to engage the Spanish; however, after destroying the Seminole's stronghold at Tallahassee, Jackson then seized the Spanish capital at Pensacola as well
- **Adams-Onís Treaty**
- Spain was infuriated by Jackson's actions
- The U.S. put the blame on Spain for not being able to control the Seminoles
- Spain finally agreed to sell Florida to the U.S. for $5 million in return for the U.S. agreeing to a formal border between the U.S. and Spanish Texas
- **Mexican Independence**
- The Napoleonic Wars in Europe had left Mexico semi-independent for most of the first 15 years of the 19th century
- When Spain tried to re-establish direct control after the fall of Napoleon, Mexico rebelled, winning its full independence from Spain in 1821
- The U.S. was concerned that Spain would try to retake these newly independent nations in Latin America; they also worried about Russian expansion into Alaska and what that might mean for Russian claims against the Oregon Territory
- **The Monroe Doctrine**
- In 1823, President Monroe issued a formal statement of U.S. policy regarding the Americas
    - 1) The U.S. would not tolerate European countries interference in the affairs of countries in the Americas
    - 2) No new European colonization would be allowed in Americas
    - 3) The U.S. would not interfere in the affairs of countries in the Americas or of in Europe
- **The Presidency of John Quincy Adams (National Republican, 1825 – 1829)**
- **The Election of 1824**
- The election saw 4 Democratic-Republican candidates for president:
- New England supported John Quincy Adams
- The South supported William Crawford
- The West supported Andrew Jackson and Henry Clay
- Election was so close, no one had a majority, so it fell to the House of Representatives to decide the winner
- **Controversial Results**
- Henry Clay (who was Speaker of the House and hated Jackson) didn't have enough votes to win the election for himself, so he threw his support to John Quincy Adams

- As a result, Adams became president over Andrew Jackson, despite only winning 30% of the popular vote
- **"The Corrupt Bargain"**
- After becoming President, Adams rewarded Clay's support by naming Clay Secretary of State
- Andrew Jackson, furious over losing the election, claimed that Adams and Clay had struck a "corrupt bargain" – that Adams had bought Clay's support during the election by promising him the Cabinet position
- **The Democratic-Republican Party Shatters**
- The issue of the "corrupt bargain" completely divided the Democratic-Republicans, leading it to break into two separate political parties
- Andrew Jackson's supporters became the Democratic Party (the same Democratic Party that still exists today)
- John Quincy Adams' supporters became the National Republican Party (NOT the Republican Party that exists today)
- This marked the end of political unity and a return to a two-party system
- **"The American System"**
- Program endorsed by Henry Clay to achieve Adams' domestic agenda:
- Enact a high tariff to protect American industries and generate revenue for the federal government
- Maintain high public land prices to generate federal revenue
- Preserve the Bank of the United States to stabilize the currency and rein in risky state and local banks
- Develop a system of internal improvements (such as roads and canals) which would knit the nation together and be financed by the tariff and land sales
- **The South Hated the "American System"**
- Southerners tended to be strict-constructionists, supporting states' rights over a strong central government
- They saw no Constitutional support for a National Bank or for federally funded transportation improvements
- Tariffs hurt farmers, especially cotton farmers
- Southerners liked the idea of "nullification" – states don't have to enforce laws they interpret as unconstitutional or harmful
- **"Tariff of Abominations"**
- Officially the Tariff of 1828, nicknamed the Tariff of Abominations by its opponents
- Highest tariff in U.S. history, designed to protect U.S. industries from cheaper English imports
- Badly hurt South by raising the price of manufactured goods and by leaving the British to have less money with which to buy Southern cotton
- **The Erie Canal** (completed in 1825)
- Connected Lake Erie to New York's Hudson River
- Cheap way to travel for families heading west, cheap and fast way to move farm goods back east
- Connected New York City to the Great Lakes, making New York the top commercial port in the U.S.
- **The National Road** (also known as the Cumberland Road)
- Built 1811 – 1839, paved with macadam in the 1830s
- U.S. government never finished the road due to financial crises in the late 1830s and the rise of railroads
- **Toll roads & turnpikes**
- Privately owned and operated roads made more sense in the north
- By 1821, 4000 miles of toll roads had been built (almost all in the North or Ohio)
- Mainly built between Northern cities or to connect the West to Northern cities
- **Stephen F. Austin** (1793 – 1836) "The Father of Texas"
- American who arrived in the Mexican state of Tejas in 1825 leading a large group of American settlers

- Austin came at the invitation of the Mexican government, who wanted to populate the region
- Americans who settled in Tejas had to agree to become Mexican citizens and to abide by Mexican law, but most still thought of themselves as Americans
- As more and more American settlers flooded into Tejas and demanded rights similar to what they had held in the United States, the Mexican government took steps to slow down the rate of immigration
- The settlers, living in what they now referred to as "Texas" began to develop an independent identity that was neither Mexican nor American, but rather what they called "Texican"
- **The Election of 1828**
- Rematch of Andrew Jackson vs. John Quincy Adams
- Jackson had resigned from the Senate and dedicated the last four years to winning this election
- Jackson was billed as the "common man" while Adams was portrayed as an over-educated aristocratic elitist
- Jackson won both the popular and electoral vote, taking the entire Southern and Western vote
- **The Presidency of Andrew Jackson** (Democrat, 1829 - 1837)
- Nicknamed "Old Hickory," a tribute to his toughness and his background as a frontiersman
- Hero of the Creek War, War of 1812 and Seminole War
- First president to survive an assassination attempt
- **Jackson's Background**
- Jackson had been born to poor Irish immigrants somewhere in the mountains of either North or South Carolina
- Had served as a messenger during the Revolution as a boy and was orphaned at age 14
- Jackson was a self-made man, putting himself through school and became a lawyer, practicing in both North Carolina and Tennessee
- Jackson later made himself wealthy through land speculation (buying up cheap land along the frontier and then selling it later for large profits after more people had moved into the region)
- Between serving in his various military capacities, Jackson was elected to the House of Representatives and later the Senate (from the state of Tennessee) and served on the Tennessee Supreme Court
- **Jacksonian Democracy**
- Under Jackson, suffrage (the right to vote) was extended to all adult white males
- Jackson was the first president to come from a background of poverty (although he had made himself quite wealthy and owned several plantations and businesses), so he was the hero of the common man
- Jackson was, however, like most in his day, a racist – he owned hundreds of slaves and almost single-handedly wiped out Native American cultures east of the Mississippi
- **"The Spoils System"**
- Under pressure from the many supporters who had helped him get elected, Jackson fired large numbers of bureaucratic-level government officials and replaced them with his own followers
- This was came to be referred to as the "spoils system," based on the quote attributed to Jackson: "to the victors belong the spoils"
- This still happens today – politicians reward their supporters with important government jobs, although not to the extent of the Jackson administration
- **Indian Removal Act (1830)**
- Believing it was in the best interests of both whites and Native Americans, Jackson pressured the Indian tribes of the east to relocate to the Great Plains, west of the Mississippi River
- Several tribes cooperated and sold their lands to the U.S., but many of the larger tribes resisted, prompting Congress to pass the Indian Removal Act and force them off their land
- Most tribes relented and moved west, but the Cherokee tribe in Georgia refused
- *Worcester v. Georgia* (1832)

- Instead, the Cherokee sued government on the grounds that they had negotiated treaties with the U.S. as an independent nation and, therefore, U.S. laws did not apply to them anymore than they did to Canada or Mexico
- The Supreme Court ruled that the Cherokee were a separate nation and that treaties with them must be honored
- Jackson, however, refused to enforce the court's decision: "(Chief Justice) Marshall has made his decision, now let us see him enforce it."
- **The Trail of Tears**
- Jackson exercised his power as commander-in-chief to have the U.S. Army forcibly remove the Cherokee, Creek, Seminole, and Choctaw nations from their homes in the east to the newly created Indian Territory (modern Oklahoma)
- 46,000 Native Americans moved, but thousands died along the way, especially among the Cherokee
- Some remnants of the Cherokee, however, remained hidden in the remote Smoky Mountains of NC & Tennessee
- **Nat Turner's Rebellion** (August 21, 1831)
- Nat Turner was a Virginia slave who had religious "visions"
- Nicknamed "The Prophet" by other slaves, Turner was a practicing (but not ordained) Baptist minister with a significant following
- In 1831, he believed that God had called on him to lead a slave rebellion
- Turner's brief but disorganized slave uprising resulted in the deaths of 56 whites
- The uprising was quickly suppressed by the local militia, and dozens of slaves (including Turner) were executed for their roles in the rebellion
- Turner's Rebellion led to bans throughout the South on educating slaves, allowing slaves to freely assemble without white supervision, and on allowing black ministers to lead worship services
- **South Carolina Nullification Crisis**
- Still bitter over the Tariff of Abominations, in 1832 South Carolina declared federal tariffs unconstitutional and nullified them (refused to enforce them)
- Vice-President John C. Calhoun resigned in favor of serving his home state of South Carolina as a Senator in order to fight the tariffs
- Jackson considered South Carolina's actions (and Calhoun's) treasonous and threatened to use the military against South Carolina (and to hang Calhoun) to make them comply with the tariff
- South Carolina threatened to secede (leave the U.S.) unless the tariffs were repealed
- Henry Clay managed to delay passage of the Force Bill, which would have given Jackson permission to take military action against South Carolina, until he could force through a bill reducing tariffs over the next 10 years (Clay's actions are known as the Compromise of 1833)
- Once this compromise tariff was passed, South Carolina repealed its nullification and the crisis ended
- **Jackson and the "Bank War"**
- Jackson, who had managed to completely pay off the federal debt, saw no reason to continue the Bank of the U.S., but Congress extended the Bank's charter for another 10 years in 1832
- Jackson vetoed the bill extending the charter and exercised his power as president to withdraw all of the federal government's money from the Bank; with no money and no charter, the Second Bank of the United States closed
- Jackson then split the government's deposits among state and private banks, referred to as Jackson's "pet banks"
- **The Whig Party**
- Angered that Jackson had defied the Supreme Court over the Indian Removal Act and Congress over the Bank of the United States, in 1834 the National Republican Party symbolically changed its name to the Whig Party

- "Whigs" in England were people who opposed the power of the king; American Whigs felt that Andrew Jackson was ignoring the Constitution and acting like a king – they even began to refer to him as "King Andrew I"
- **War of Texan Independence (1835-6)**
- The Texicans, angered over Mexico's efforts to discourage further Americans from moving to Texas and over high tariffs placed on goods imported from U.S., demanded independence from Mexico in 1835
- **Sam Houston** (1793 – 1863)
- Led Texicans in fighting for independence from Mexico
- 2 time President of the independent Republic of Texas, later U.S. Senator and Governor of the state of Texas after Texas joined the United States
- City of Houston is named after him
- **Battle of the Alamo** (Feb. 1836)
- Around 200 Texicans held off 6000 trained Mexican soldiers for 13 days before being wiped out – Mexican President (and military commander) Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna ordered no prisoners be taken
- "Remember the Alamo!" became the Texicans battle cry; rather than weaken their resolve, the slaughter at the Alamo made the Texicans even more determined to be independent
- **Battle of Goliad** (March 1836)
- Mexican forces overwhelmed a force of 342 Texicans
- Santa Anna accepted the survivors surrender and then ordered them all executed
- Once again, this strengthened, rather than weakened, Texican resolve
- **Battle of San Jacinto** (April 1836)
- Sam Houston's forces defeated the Mexican army by surprise attacking them during siesta (a traditional afternoon rest period, typical in Latin cultures)
- During the battle, Santa Anna was captured by the Texicans and forced to sign a treaty granting Texas independence in return for his freedom
- **The Republic of Texas** also known as "The Lone Star Republic" (1836 – 1845)
- Texans initially voted to join the U.S., but northern states blocked Texas' admission to the Union out of concerns over adding more territory where slavery was allowed
- The U.S. did recognize Texas as a nation separate from Mexico, one of the only countries to do so
- Santa Anna refused to acknowledge Texan independence, claiming he had signed the treaty under threat
- **The Election of 1836**
- Jackson supported his Vice-President Martin Van Buren as his successor
- Van Buren easily won the Democratic nomination at convention (This is the first time national party conventions were used to select candidates)
- Whigs could not settle on a single candidate to run, leading to a split Whig vote; this allowed Van Buren to win the election
- **The Presidency of Martin Van Buren (Democrat, 1837 - 1841)**
- **The Panic of 1837**
- Without the Bank of the U.S. to oversee state and private banks, these banks overextended themselves by loaning money too freely
- By loaning more money than they had in deposits, many banks bankrupted themselves when people didn't pay back loans
- As banks closed, inflation soared, unemployment rose, and businesses closed; many people who had invested in banks lost everything
- This financial crisis ruined Van Buren's presidency
- **The Election of 1840**

- Whigs nominated war hero William Henry Harrison after Henry Clay and Daniel Webster each proved too divisive to win majority support within the party
- Harrison easily defeated Van Buren
- **The Presidency of William Henry Harrison (Whig, 1841)**
- Nicknamed "Old Tippecanoe" from his fame as hero of the Northwest Indian War
- Shortest tenure in U.S. history – president for only 32 days before dying from pneumonia
- **U.S. Cultural Movements of Early 1800s**
- **Neoclassical architecture (**Sometimes also called the "Federal" style)
- A revival of Greek and Roman styles ("neo" means "new" in Greek)
- The U.S. had modeled itself after the Roman Republic and the democratic ideals of ancient Greece, so it copied their architectural styles as well for its governmental buildings
  - **Examples:**
    - **The White House**
    - **The U.S. Capitol Building**
    - **Thomas Jefferson's home at Monticello**
- **Alexis de Tocqueville** (1805 – 1859)
- French author of *Democracy in America* (1840)
- Toured the U.S. for 2 years observing how democracy was creating a uniquely "American" culture
- Determined America was a society where hard work and making money was what drove people, where commoners never deferred to their "betters", and where individualism was admired
- **Noah Webster** (1758 – 1843)
- Published his first English-language dictionary in 1806
- In 1826, published his "American" dictionary where he used new American spellings of English words and included thousands of distinctly American words
- **Romanticism**
- Early 19th century artistic and literary movement that promoted emotions over logic and reason, inner spirituality over secular rules, the individual over society, and the natural world over man-made environments
- **The Hudson River School**
- Group of American artists who focused on painting distinctly American landscapes – canyons, rivers, scenes of the wild, untamed frontiers (at first along the Hudson River, but later in the Rockies)
- Style remained popular throughout the 1800s
- **Romantic Authors:**
  - **Washington Irving** (1783 – 1859): *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, *Rip van Winkle*
  - **Edgar Allan Poe** (1809 – 1849): *The Raven, The Black Cat, The Cask of Amontillado, The Fall of the House of Usher, The Pit and the Pendulum, The Murders in the Rue Morgue, The Tell-Tale Heart*
  - **James Fenimore Cooper** (1789 – 1851): *The Last of the Mohicans* (1826)
  - **Nathaniel Hawthorne** (1804 – 1864): *The Scarlet Letter* (1850) and *The House of Seven Gables* (1851)
  - **Herman Melville** (1819 – 1891): *Moby Dick* (1851)
  - **Walt Whitman** (1819 – 1892): Poet, best known for his work *Leaves of Grass*
  - **Emily Dickinson** (1830 – 1886): Poet
- **Transcendentalism**
- Literary and philosophical movement which emphasized individualism and self-reliance over religion
- People need to "transcend" (overcome) the limits of their mind to embrace beauty and truth
- Hated conformity and "followers"
- **Transcendentalists:**

- **Ralph Waldo Emerson** (1803 – 1882): Philosopher, lecturer, essayist, and poet
  - **Henry David Thoreau** (1817 – 1862): Author of *Walden* and *Civil Disobedience*
  - **Margaret Fuller** (1810 – 1850): Author *Woman in the Nineteenth Century* – first major feminist work published in US
- **"Penny" Press**
- Mass produced daily newspapers which became affordable for common people
- Focused on reports of fires, crime reports, marriages, gossip, politics, local news
  - *Examples: Godey's Lady's Weekly*, *Atlantic Monthly*, *Harper's Weekly*
- **Religious Revivalism and Utopian Idealism**
- **Second Great Awakening** (1797 – 1859)
- The Second Great Awakening began among frontier farmers of Kentucky
- Spread quickly among Methodists, Baptists, and Presbyterians
- Central ideas: Christians have a moral duty to improve the world in which they live; entrance to Heaven is gained through acts of faith
- During the Awakening, traveling ministers would set up tents and preach, often for up to a week at a time
- Singing, prayers, motivational sermons, and speaking in tongues were all designed to whip up the crowd into emotional protestations of faith
- **Charles G. Finney** (1792 – 1875)
- Revivalist Presbyterian minister
- Allowed women to participate in public prayer (not a normal practice at the time)
- Preached that everyone has the ability to gain salvation through repentance and good works that demonstrate faith in God
- Planned and rehearsed his revival sermons
- **Lyman Beecher** (1775 – 1863)
- Revivalist Presbyterian minister
- Father of author Harriet Beecher Stowe (*Uncle Tom's Cabin*)
- Preached that citizens, not government, have to be responsible for building a better society
- Strongly nativist (anti-immigrant) and anti-Catholic
- **Benevolent societies**
- Developed in larger towns and cities in response to the revivalism of the Second Great Awakening
- Main goal was to spread Protestant Christianity, but soon began to focus on social issues such as alcoholism, prison reform, education reform, and slavery
- Surprisingly, many of these societies were led by women
- **"True Womanhood"** (Also called "The Cult of Domesticity")
- Belief at the time was that a woman's responsibility was to be a homemaker and a model of Christian piety and virtue to their children and husband
- This implied that wives were their husbands' social equals and their moral superiors
- Women interpreted this to mean they had a responsibility to build a moral society in which to raise their families, so they assumed a role of social activism
- **Revivalism and abolition**
- Most revivalist ministers were staunch supporters of the abolitionist (anti-slavery) movement
- They taught that slavery was sinful because it destroys the soul of the master and the body of the slave
- **New American Religious Groups**
- **The Unitarian Church**
- Believe Jesus was not the Son of God, but was an important teacher – there was no Virgin Birth, no miracles, and no Resurrection
- God is a unity (God is One), not a Trinity (Father, Son, Holy Spirit)

- **The Universalist Church**
- Believe in Universal salvation – there is no Hell and God redeems everyone because He loves everyone (Omni-benevolence)
- God would not create a person knowing that they were doomed to eternal damnation
- **The Mormon Church**
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
- Started in New York, but were the victims of harassment and persecution over their unique religious beliefs, including the addition of a third testament to the Bible (The Book of Mormon) and practice of polygamy (having multiple wives)
- After leaving New York, the group eventually resettled in Illinois
- **Joseph Smith** (1805 – 1844)
- Founder of Mormonism and recorder of The Book of Mormon – which he claimed to have received from an angel – which describes how the Israelites arrived in America around 600 BC and were later visited by Jesus
- Had numerous legal problems in Missouri and Illinois which eventually led to his arrest
- Murdered by an anti-Mormon mob in 1844 while awaiting trial
- **Brigham Young** (1801 – 1877)
- President of the Mormon church from 1847 -1877
- After Smith's death, he led the Mormons west to the remote Utah Territory to escape persecution, founding Salt Lake City, which remains the unofficial "capital" of the Church today
- Had 55 wives, but most were widows he married in order to become financially responsible for them and their children
- **Utopian Communities**
- Attempts to establish social equality by building communities where all work, responsibilities and rewards are shared equally by the citizens
- **New Harmony, Indiana**
- Town which was bought in 1824 by a utopian group with the intention of transforming it into a perfect socialist community
- No private property, no money were allowed
- The community failed and was dissolved in 1829
- **Oneida Community, NY**
- Founded by John Noyes in 1848 in Oneida, NY; lasted until 1881
- All members of the community worked in a factory making silverware (Oneida Flatware)
- Every man was married to every woman in the community (a practice called complex marriage)
- Older women introduced young men to sex, while older men did the same for young women
- Efforts were made to breed more perfect children by careful selection of breeding partners; children were then raised by the community rather than by specific parents
- Community only reached a maximum size of about 300, but still managed to produce two men who would later assassinate US presidents!
- **Brook Farm Community**
- Founded in 1841, near west Roxbury, MA
- Community of Transcendentalist philosophers
- Citizens shared all labor, and used their free time for intellectual discussion
- Community collapsed economically after being destroyed by fire in 1847
- **Shakers**
- The United Society of Believers in Christ's Second Appearing
- Founded by Ann Lee (who Shakers believed to be the Second Appearing of Christ) in England; offshoot of the Quakers

- No marriage allowed, lifelong celibacy required
- Shakers would adopt orphans to keep communities alive
- All work and living quarters were divided by sex, but the sexes were equals
- Peaked in mid 1800s with about 6000 members, today only 3 known practitioners in the US
- **Reform Movements of the Early 19th Century**
- **Educational reform**
- Public schools began to open, creating a more educated population
- Teachers began to be specially trained and their salaries increased
- School attendance became mandatory in most states, at least through elementary school
- High schools began to become more common
- **Horace Mann** (1796 – 1859)
- President of the Massachusetts Senate, stepped down to head the new Massachusetts School Board for 12 years
- Established the standard other states would follow for creating public school systems and teacher-training programs
- **Calvin Wiley** (1819 – 1887)
- North Carolina's first school superintendent
- Championed creating state standards for what should be taught in schools
- More difficult to get children in school in the South because they were needed for farm work
- **Women's Education**
- Schools for educating girls became more common
- Emma Willard's Troy Female Seminary in NY (1821)
- Mary Lyon's Mount Holyoke Female Seminary in MA (1837)
- Elizabeth Blackwell: 1st woman to earn a medical degree in the U.S., built hospital for women and children staffed entirely by women
- **Prison reform**
- Before, inmates were not separated by offense type and prisons included the violent & mentally ill
- Reformers pushed the idea of rehabilitation rather than punishment
- States began to build modern prisons (penitentiaries) to house long-term prisoners
- **Mental health reform**
- Before, the mentally ill received no treatment and were housed in prisons with common criminals
- The field of "mental health" didn't exist yet, so they received little medical care and were often tortured
- **Dorothea Dix** (1802 – 1887)
- Former teacher who took up the plight of the mentally ill, pushing for the construction of mental hospitals
- Traveled and wrote articles to expose the abuses suffered by the mentally ill
- Dorothea Dix Hospital in Raleigh was named after her in 1856
- **Abolitionist Movement**
- Abolitionism = the movement to end slavery
- Championed primarily by Northerners and women who opposed slavery on moral grounds
- Abolitionism took on several different forms
- **Gradualism**
- Earliest form of abolitionism called for the gradual freeing of the slaves – stop importing new slaves, then phase out slavery over time
- Slave owners would be paid by the state for their lost property
- South would have time to adjust its economy away from cash-crops
- **Repatriation**

- Groups like the American Colonization Society began calling for freeing the slaves and sending them back to Africa
- Liberia was established in West Africa as a home for repatriated slaves from the U.S.
- Too many slaves lived in the U.S. to be practical, too expensive to transport millions
- Most slaves at this point had never seen Africa and didn't want to live there
- **Abolitionist Leaders**
- **David Walker** (1785 – 1830)
- Free African-American journalist who lived in Boston
- Published pamphlet "*Appeal to the Colored Citizens of the World*," calling for a violent rebellion by slaves; it was banned throughout the South and a bounty was placed on his life
- Died under mysterious circumstances – murder?
- **William Lloyd Garrison** (1805 – 1879)
- Editor of *The Liberator* – an abolitionist newspaper in Boston
- Called for an immediate emancipation of the slaves rather than any kind of gradual end to slavery
- Founded the American Antislavery Society in 1833 – by 1838 the AAS had over 250,000 members
- Once burned a copy of the U.S. Constitution to protest its allowance of slavery
- **Harriet Beecher Stowe** (1811 – 1896)
- Author of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, a fictional novel which negatively depicted conditions under which slaves lived in the South
- Made real to many Northerners how brutal the slave system could really be
- **Sarah & Angelina Grimké** (Sarah: 1792 – 1873, Angelina: 1805 – 79)
- Sisters who grew up on a plantation in South Carolina but later became staunch abolitionists
- Working with their Northern-born husbands, they wrote and gave speeches on the realities of slavery, which they could report on first-hand
- **Frederick Douglass** (1818 – 1895)
- Born a slave, but escaped at age 20
- Became a speaker and writer – his autobiography was a bestseller
- Convinced many whites that Africans *were* intelligent and capable of learning (many in the South had made claims that Africans could not learn)
- Second wife was white, which cost him support from both whites and fellow African-Americans in his later years
- **Sojourner Truth** (1797 – 1883)
- Born a slave in NY, gained her freedom when NY emancipated all slaves in 1827
- Became a famous abolitionist speaker and women's rights activist following her *"Ain't I a Woman?"* speech in 1851
- **Opposition to Abolitionism**
- Obviously, most whites in the South opposed the abolition movement; even poor whites hoped to one day own slaves
- Many in the North feared the divisiveness that the movement would cause between North and South; they would rather maintain the status quo and avoid conflict
- Some in the North feared that freed slaves would all move North, flooding the job market and driving down wages
- Others feared that if the South's economy collapsed, it would send the entire nation into a massive economic depression
- **The Temperance Movement**
- Men who drank often neglected or abused their families
- Bars and saloons were common in the U.S., as were high rates of alcoholism

- In 1833, the American Temperance Union was created and rapidly gained support, especially from married women
- In 1851 Maine became the first state to ban the sale of alcohol; by 1855, 12 other states had as well
- **Women's Rights Movement**
- Women's traditional roles in the North began to change as fewer families worked on farms
- As women began to take on more social roles and become more active in reform movements, they began to demand more political rights for themselves
- **Lucretia Mott** (1793 – 1880)
- First American "feminist" to push for women to become more involved in political debate and to have the right to vote
- Like many women, began her social activism with the abolitionist movement
- **Elizabeth Cady Stanton** (1815 – 1902)
- Argued for women's suffrage, the right to divorce, to own property, and to have access to birth control
- Stanton also strongly supported the abolitionist and temperance movements
- **Susan B. Anthony** (1820 – 1906)
- Activist who traveled Europe and the U.S. giving 75 – 100 speeches each year for over 40 years
- Anthony was arrested in 1872 for illegally casting a vote in the presidential election
- First woman to appear on U.S. currency
- **Seneca Falls Conference** (1848, Seneca Falls. NY)
- Women's Rights convention organized by Mott and Stanton
- Issued the "Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions" which added "and women" to the Declaration of Independence's "all men are created equal"
- Began the open push for suffrage for women, but voting rights would not come until 1920
- **Industrialization Leads to Sectionalism**
- Sectionalism = when local needs are placed ahead of what's best for the country
- As the North became increasingly concerned with industrial growth, the South remained an agrarian, slave-based society
- **Eli Whitney's Cotton Gin**
- Developed in 1794
- Machine separates cotton fibers from the sharp seeds, a job previously done by slaves
- Made cotton farming more profitable because slaves could now all be used in the fields
- Led to the Southern economy becoming almost completely dependent on cotton (a phenomenon historians call "The Cotton Kingdom")
- As cotton became more profitable, the demand for (and price of) slaves went up
- **Interchangeable parts**
- Eli Whitney also developed the idea of making mechanical products out of standardized parts
- This has the advantage of allowing rapid mass production of high quality mechanical products; also, if a part broke, it could be replaced easily with another part just like it
- Whitney first applied this technique to building muskets for the U.S. Army
- **Slater's "Factory System" Arrives**
- In 1789, Samuel Slater, a British cotton mill manager, broke British laws to immigrate to U.S.
- The British feared that their industrial technologies would spread to other countries and that foreign competition would endanger their economy
- Slater saw the U.S. as a place of opportunity where he could make his fortune by building his own textile mills closer to the sources of American cotton
- The Industrial Revolution had arrived in America
- **Francis C. Lowell** (1775 – 1817)

- By 1814, American entrepreneur Francis C. Lowell had built the first fully industrialized textile factory in the U.S. which took raw cotton and turned it into completely finished cloth goods in a single building
- Lowell was one of the first American businessmen to sell shares of stock in his business in order to raise the capital (money) to build his factories
- **"Lowell Girls"**
- For labor in his factories, Lowell hired mostly teenage girls and young women
- These girls averaged over 70 hours a week in the factory and had to attend classes and church services and live up to strict moral standards
- Most appreciated the opportunity to get an education as well as earn money that could be sent back home to their families
- **Sewing Machines**
- Developed by Elias Howe, among others, in the 1840s
- Sewing machines opened the way for mass production of finished textiles (cheap, store-bought clothes and linens)
- **Why did the North industrialize?**
- More banks made it easy to get loans
- Few government restrictions on businesses
- Low tax rates
- Cheap labor available
- States passed laws which protected business owners from liability to investors for losses
- Many streams and rivers to provide water power
- **Technology began to tie the North to the West**
- **The Erie Canal**
- Man-made waterway completed in 1825
- Connected New York's Hudson River to the Great Lakes, thereby connecting New York City to the ports of Chicago and Detroit
- Created a cheap way to travel for families moving west as well as for moving food from the farms of the Midwest to the cities of the North
- **Steamboats**
- Steam-powered ships were first put into practical commercial use in the U.S. in 1807 by Robert Fulton
- They quickly became the preferred means of travel along major U.S. rivers and the Great Lakes, speeding up the movement of both people and goods
- **Toll Roads & Turnpikes**
- To keep up with demand, private companies began building roads to connect major Northern and Midwestern cities and charging travelers fees to use them
- By 1821: 4000 miles of toll roads had been built (almost all in North)

- **"Tom Thumb"**
- In 1830, Peter Cooper first used a steam engine to propel a cart along a set of iron rails
- This first American built locomotive was nicknamed "Tom Thumb" and traveled at 10 mph along a 13 mile track around Baltimore, Maryland
- Tom Thumb was used to convince investors that "railroads" were the answer to the nation's transportation problems
- **The Telegraph**
- Developed by American Samuel Morse in 1837
- New invention which allowed long-distance communication through coded electrical impulses sent through wires

- For the first time, news could travel quickly, but the telegraph wires were built along rail lines, so, again, the North got the most benefit
- **The Steel Plow**
- Iron plows worked poorly in the loamy soil of the American Midwest, making farming the Great Plains impossible
- In 1837, blacksmith John Deere designed a plow made out of steel instead (steel was lighter and kept a sharper prow)
- Tens-of-thousands sold, making the Great Plains "America's Bread Basket" and allowing Western grain to feed the industrial population of Northern cities
- **Mechanical Reaper**
- Invented by Cyrus McCormick (with the help of a slave) in 1834
- McCormick's reaper was a horse-drawn machine which harvested wheat, removing the need for large amounts of laborers in the field
- When it went into mass production, it meant that the grain farmers of the Midwest would not need slaves to work their fields like Southern cotton farmers
- **Social Differences Fuel Sectionalism**
- **Slavery**
- In 1808, Congress banned the importation of new slaves
- 1820: 1.5 million slaves in the U.S.
- 1850: 4 million slaves in U.S.
- As demand for cotton grew, so did demand for slaves, turning slaves into an increasingly valuable asset
- **Slave ownership**
- 1850: South's white pop = 6 million
- 1850: South's slave pop = 4 million
- 350,000 slave owners (so less than 6% of Southern whites owned slaves)
- 37,000 owned 20+ slaves
- 8,000 owned 50+ slaves
- 11 owned 500+ slaves
- **Immigration**
- 1825 – 1855: 5 million European immigrants arrived, almost entirely in the North
- They arrived poor and concentrated in ethnic neighborhoods
- This created a cheap labor force for Northern factories
- **Oddly, most immigrants were pro-slavery**
- Immigrants didn't want to compete with freed slaves for jobs, so they supported Southern slave owners' property rights
- Many Irish, in fact, would fight for the South in the Civil War
- **Growth of Northern Cities**
- Urbanization: people move from the country into cities
- Immigration: European immigrants arrived at Northern ports, tended to stay in the North or migrate West
- **Northern population growth worried the South**
- The number of seats in the House of Representatives is based purely on population, so the North was slowly gaining control of one house of Congress
- Slaves only counted as 3/5ths of a person, while naturalized immigrants counted as a whole person for the purpose of counting population
- **North vs. South: Key Differences**
- <u>**North**</u>
- Economy based on the "factory system": manufacturing and commerce

- Relied on plentiful immigrant labor
- Favored high tariffs that protected US industries
- Wanted a strong federal government to build transportation networks, protect trade, and regulate the economy
- **South**
- Economy based on the "plantation system": large-scale farming of cash crops
- Relied on slave labor
- Opposed to high tariffs – imported many European goods, feared Europeans would retaliate by putting tariffs on Southern agricultural exports
- Favored strong state government, feared a strong federal government would restrict slavery
- **The Presidency of John Tyler** (Democrat, 1841-45)
- Despite being a Democrat, he chose to run with Harrison on the Whig Party ticket in the 1840 election, making him many political enemies in both parties
- Became the first Vice-President to inherit the Presidency upon the death of the President while in office
- **Webster-Ashburton Treaty (1842)**
- Settled disputes between the U.S. and Britain over the border between the U.S. and Canada around Maine and Minnesota
- **Annexation of Texas**
- In 1845, Texas was finally admitted to the Union as the 28th state, just as Tyler was leaving office
- Mexico was furious over the move and broke off diplomatic relations with the U.S.
- A dispute quickly arose over where the actual border was between the U.S. and Mexico; the U.S. claimed as far south as the Rio Grande, while Mexico claimed as far north as the Nueces River
- **A President Without a Party**
- Outside of the Webster-Ashburton Treaty and annexation of Texas, Tyler's presidency was largely unsuccessful
- When Tyler refused to support many Whig initiatives, they kicked him out of the party; when the Democrats refused to take him back into their party, Tyler was left unable to seek a second term
- After completing Harrison's term, Tyler retired into obscurity; however, he later become the only former President to join the Confederacy
- **The Election of 1844**
- The Whigs nominated Henry Clay, who opposed annexing Texas because of slavery and for its potential to cause a war with Mexico
- The Democrats chose to run former Governor of Tennessee James K. Polk, who openly supported annexing Texas and formally claiming Oregon, over former President Martin Van Buren who argued against annexing Texas
- **The Presidency of James K. Polk** (Democrat, 1845-49)
- Democrat, Southerner (born in North Carolina and was a UNC graduate), and slave-owner
- Nicknamed both "Young Hickory" (for his similarities to "Old Hickory" – Andrew Jackson) and "Napoleon of the Stump" (for his commanding public speaking skills)
- Made several basic promises in his campaign – he would secure Oregon and California, he would create an independent treasury, he would lower tariffs, and he would serve only one term – he kept all of these campaign promises
- **Polk's Financial Achievements**
- Polk approved the Walker Tariff of 1846, which substantially lowered tariff rates – this made him popular in the South and West
- That same year, Polk established a national treasury system for holding federal funds in federally owned treasuries, rather than in private or state banks – this effectively reversed the previous policy of President Andrew Jackson to use "pet banks" to hold federal funds and issue currency

- **Polk's Cultural Achievements**
- Oversaw the groundbreaking for construction of the Washington Monument in 1848
- Opened the United States Naval Academy in 1845
- Authorized the U.S. Postal Service to issue postage stamps in 1847
- Approved the creation of the Smithsonian Institution in 1846
- **"Manifest Destiny"**
- Term coined by magazine editor John Louis O'Sullivan in 1845
- Manifest Destiny is the idea that Americans had been given North America by God, who wanted them to settle it and push out Indians, Mexicans
- **Polk's Bid for California**
- In 1845, President Polk sent an envoy, John Slidell, to Mexico City with an offer to purchase the Mexican territory of California for $30 million
- The U.S. was interested in controlling territory along the Pacific, especially the valuable port of San Francisco, which would make trade with Asia easier
- The openly hostile Mexicans, angry over the annexation of Texas, refused to even meet with Slidell and the two nation's moved towards war
- **The Mexican War (1846-48)**
- In response to Mexico's refusal to receive Slidell, Polk ordered U.S. troops under the command of Gen. Zachary Taylor to secure the Texas border at the Rio Grande
- Mexico considered this an invasion of Mexican territory and an act of war
- The Mexican army attacked Taylor's forces, leading the U.S. to declare war on May 13, 1846
- The war lasted for two very bloody years before Mexico finally surrendered after U.S. forces captured Mexico City
- The two sides signed the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo in February 1848
- Mexico ceded 500,000 sq. miles of territory (California, Utah, Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico)
- Mexico accepted Rio Grande as southern border of Texas
- In return, the U.S. paid Mexico $15 million and assumed $3.25 million in debts Mexico owed to American citizens
- **The Oregon Territory**
- The U.S. and Britain had agreed to share the Oregon Territory as part of the Convention of 1818, but by the 1840s, most of the settlers living in the region were Americans
- This prompted many Americans to call for the region to become exclusively part of the U.S.
- When Britain didn't seem willing to negotiate, it led Americans to rally behind the slogan "54° 40' or Fight!"
- In the end, Britain and the U.S. peacefully resolved their dispute over where the boundary should lie between the U.S. and Canada in the Oregon Territory, splitting the region along the 49th degree of latitude
- President Polk hoped that adding the slave-free Oregon Territory would balance the addition of pro-slavery territories in Texas and the Mexican Cession
- **The Wilmot Proviso**
- The Wilmot Proviso was proposed in 1846 by Rep. David Wilmot of Pennsylvania; he argued for a complete ban on slavery in any new territories the U.S. might acquire from Mexico
- Sen. John C. Calhoun of South Carolina countered that the states own U.S. territories in common and Congress holds no authority to ban slavery in them
- The U.S. Senate refused to vote on the Wilmot Proviso, but its proposal angered slavery supporters across the South
- **Hardening Attitudes About Slavery**

- John Calhoun even began to argue that slavery was not a "necessary evil" as had long been the South's stance, but rather it was a "positive good" because white slave owners provided care for their slaves and introduced them to Christianity, thereby saving their souls
- **"Popular Sovereignty"**
- Idea proposed by Sen. Lewis Cass of Michigan
- Citizens of each new territory should be allowed to decide for themselves on whether to allow slavery there, rather than the federal government making a decision
- Cass's idea became popular because it kept Congress from having to make any decision about slavery
- **Split in the Whig Party**
- The slavery issue began to divide Whigs from the North into "Conscience Whigs" who opposed slavery and "Cotton Whigs" who supported slavery because Southern cotton fed their northern textile factories
- After pro-slavery Zachary Taylor became the Whig nominee for president in 1848, Conscience Whigs quit the Whig Party and joined themselves with northern anti-slavery Democrats
- This new party was called the Free Soil Party (they opposed expanding slavery to the "free soil" of the West).
- **Election of 1848**
- Keeping his campaign promise, Polk did not seek a second term (and, in fact, died from cholera just three months after leaving office)
- Democratic candidate Lewis Cass campaigned on a platform of popular sovereignty and a promise to veto the Wilmot Proviso if it was ever passed
- Free Soil candidate Martin Van Buren supported a complete ban on slavery in the new territories of the West
- Whig candidate Zachary Taylor was pro-slavery, but believed to be a moderate on most other issues, so he took the election
- **The Presidency of Zachary Taylor** (Whig, 1849–50)
- "Old Rough and Ready"
- Slave owner, but believed slavery wouldn't work in the West because of the climate
- A hero of the Mexican War, Taylor had never held an elected office before being elected president
- Died in office from an intestinal illness
- **Gold Rush of 1849**
- Gold was discovered in Sutter's Mill, California in 1848
- This led to a surge of 80,000 new settlers (called '49ers) who flooded California in 1849, hoping to get rich quick
- This growth in population led California to quickly apply for statehood, but as a free state, rather than a slave state
- **The Presidency of Millard Fillmore** (Whig, 1850 - 53)
- Fillmore opposed slavery, but believed that it was necessary to protect it in order to keep the South happy and the Union whole
- **The Compromise of 1850**
- When California asked to join the Union as a free state, Congress hesitated because their entry would upset the balance between free and slave states
- Henry Clay of Kentucky, working with Stephen Douglas of Illinois, proposed a series of compromises between North and South that would allow California to join the Union
- Clay's plan was opposed by John C. Calhoun of South Carolina, but supported by the powerful Daniel Webster of Massachusetts
- 5 separate bills were pushed through Congress by Clay, Douglas, and Webster over the opposition of Calhoun:
- 1) California was admitted as a free state

- 2) The slave trade (but not slave ownership) was banned in Washington D.C.
- 3) The New Mexico Territory and Utah Territory were created and would be allowed to decide the slavery issue for themselves (popular sovereignty)
- 4) Texas was paid $10 million in return for giving up its claims to lands in the New Mexico Territory
- 5) The Fugitive Slave Act forced the return of runaway slaves
- **The Fugitive Slave Act**
- Law enforcement anywhere in the U.S. were required to arrest runaway slaves and return them to their owners
- Anyone harboring a fugitive slave or refusing to help apprehend one was subject to fine and prison
- Slaves were identified solely by the word of their owner or the owner's representative and those accused of being a runaway received no trial
- As a result, any free black was in danger – all it took was a claim that they were a runaway and they were arrested and sent into slavery
- *Uncle Tom's Cabin*
- Novel written by Harriet Beecher Stowe
- Published in 1852, the novel was written in direct response to the Fugitive Slave Act
- *Uncle Tom* Sold 300,000 copies in its first year of publication
- The novel brought the suffering of slaves to life for many readers and helped increase the abolitionist ranks
- President Lincoln would later credit *Uncle Tom's Cabin* with being one of the causes of the Civil War
- **The Underground Railroad**
- Abolitionists organized a network of individuals who helped hide and move runaway slaves
- The Underground Railroad moved thousands of slaves to freedom in Canada, since just getting them into the North was no longer sufficient due to the Fugitive Slave Act
- These people risked imprisonment and lynching (hanging without a trial) to help these slaves escape
- **Harriet Tubman** (1820 – 1913)
- The most famous of the "conductors" on the Underground Railroad
- Tubman was an escaped slave who risked herself by returning to the South over and over to guide runaways along the Underground Railroad, despite being an epileptic herself
- Later worked as a spy for the Union Army during the Civil War and as a women's rights activist following the Civil War
- **A Changing of the Guard**
- John C. Calhoun died at age 68 in 1850 after 39 years of serving in Washington
- Henry Clay died at age 75 in 1852 after 46 years of serving in Washington
- Daniel Webster died at age 70 after 39 years of serving in Washington
- The deaths of these longtime Congressional leaders left a younger, angrier generation of Senators to debate the slavery issue; these new leaders proved less willing to strike compromises
- **Election of 1852**
- The Whigs dumped sitting President Millard Fillmore in favor of Mexican War hero, General Winfield Scott
- Democrats nominated former New Hampshire senator Franklin Pierce, another compromise candidate after party frontrunners like Lewis Cass and James Buchanan proved too divisive
- On election day, Pierce won in a landslide
- **The Presidency of Franklin Pierce** (Democrat, 1853-1857)
- Pierce supported the acquisition of Cuba from Spain, but his ministers who were sent to broker a deal created a scandal when they threatened Spain with military force if they refused to sell Cuba (an incident called the Ostend Manifesto)

- Due to this scandal and his support of the Kansas-Nebraska Act, Pierce was not nominated for a second term by his party in 1856
- **The Perry Expedition**
- Commodore Matthew Perry had been sent with a fleet of U.S. Navy ships by President Fillmore to open trade with Japan
- The Expedition arrived and opened negotiations with the isolated Japanese in 1853, after Pierce had taken office
- Perry threatened the Japanese with military destruction if they did not agree to the United States' terms
- The Expedition was seen as a major success at the time, but led to poor relations with Japan
- **The Gadsden Purchase**
- In 1853, just five years after the Mexican War had ended, the U.S. purchased an additional 30,000 sq. mile strip of Mexico for $10 million
- The land was needed to build a planned southern transcontinental railroad from New Orleans to California, although the line was never built
- **The Kansas-Nebraska Act** (Passed in 1854)
- Act of Congress which created two new territories out of the Great Plains – Kansas and Nebraska
- The act repealed the Missouri Compromise and allowed the 2 new territories to exercise popular sovereignty to decide the issue of slavery
- **"Bleeding Kansas"**
- Settlers moving into the Kansas Territory from Missouri brought their slaves with them
- The New England Emigrant Aid Company began organizing and equipping northern settlers to move to Kansas and oppose slavery
- Both sides were armed and willing to fight and periods of serious violence ensued
- **Andrew P. Butler** (1796 – 1857)
- Senator from South Carolina
- Co-author of the Kansas-Nebraska Act
- Butler was a strong, outspoken supporter of slavery
- Butler was verbally attacked in the Senate in 1856 by abolitionist Senator Charles Sumner of Massachusetts over Butler's support of slavery
- **Charles Sumner** (1811 – 1874)
- Senator from Massachusetts
- Opposed the Fugitive Slave Act and the Kansas-Nebraska Act
- In May 1856, Sumner delivered a 3-hour "Crime Against Kansas" speech, which made personal attacks against Sen. Butler, including making fun of Butler's speech which had been impaired from a stroke
- **Preston Brooks** (1819 – 1857)
- Representative from South Carolina
- Nephew of Andrew Butler
- Enraged by Sumner's attacks, Brooks decided to act to defend the honor of his disabled uncle and of the state of South Carolina
- Brooks first considered challenging Sumner to a duel but decided that was too much of an honor and doubted Sumner would even accept the challenge anyway
- **The Sumner-Brooks Incident** (May 22, 1856)
- Brooks attacked Sumner with a cane on the floor of the Senate, savagely beating him until the cane broke
- Sumner took 3 years to recover from his injuries
- Dozens of proud Southerners sent Brooks new canes in support
- Brooks would resign his seat and be fined $300 for assault, but went otherwise unpunished (he did, however, die the next year from the flu)

- **The Republican Party**
- Founded in 1854 by a mixture of former Whigs, Free Soilers, and anti-slavery Democrats
- Created in direct response to the Kansas-Nebraska Act
- Number one goal became to contain the spread of slavery to the South and not allow it to spread to new states or territories
- **The "Know-Nothings"** (Also called The American Party)
- Nativist party that opposed immigration and was fiercely anti-Catholic
- Initially successful, but short-lived since its members were divided over slavery
- **Election of 1856**
- Republicans nominated explorer John C. Fremont
- Democrats nominated career politician and moderate James Buchanan
- Know-Nothings nominated former president Millard Fillmore
- American voters elected the Democrat, rather than either of the candidates from the two upstart parties
- **The Presidency of James Buchanan** (1857-61)
- Only unmarried President
- Believed that South could only be kept in the Union through concessions and compromise, but this infuriated Northern supporters
- Failed to successfully deal with increasingly violent sectionalism
- ***Dred Scott v. Sandford (1857)***
- Dred Scott was a slave who sued for freedom on the grounds that his master, an Army officer, carried him into territories where slavery was illegal
- Southern-dominated Supreme Court under Chief Justice Roger Taney ruled that since persons of African ancestry were not citizens of the U.S. but were instead private property, they were not protected by U.S. laws and could not sue in U.S. courts
- The Court also overturned the Missouri Compromise as unconstitutional, ruling that Congress could not pass laws that denied citizens their right to private property (slaves) without "due process" (5th Amendment)
- **Kansas & the Lecompton Constitution**
- President Buchanan encouraged Kansas to apply for statehood, which would force them to decide the slavery issue there and end the violence
- A Constitutional Convention was called in the territory's capital of Lecompton, but was boycotted by abolition supporters, who believed it was a trap
- The result was a state constitution that allowed slavery in Kansas
- Congress refused to admit Kansas under the Lecompton constitution in 1858 – Kansas would not become a state until 1861
- **The Lincoln-Douglas Debates** (1858)
- Republicans ran Abraham Lincoln against Democrat Stephen Douglas for U.S. Senate in Illinois
- The 2 men participated in a series of public debates centered on slavery
- Lincoln opposed the spread of slavery, Douglas promoted popular sovereignty
- Douglas argued the Freeport Doctrine – that the Dred Scott decision was correct, but that states wanting to keep slavery out only needed to refuse to pass any laws which would enable slavery
- Douglas won re-election, but Lincoln won national attention for himself & the Republican Party
- **John Brown** (1800 – 1859)
- Businessman who experienced bankruptcy, the death of his wife and a number of his children before becoming an ardent abolitionist
- Moved to Kansas in 1856 and participated in the murder of 5 pro-slavery settlers (The Pottawatomie Massacre) and the more organized fighting between abolitionist and pro-slavery forces
- When fighting died down in Kansas, Brown returned east

- **John Brown's Raid on Harper's Ferry** (Oct. 16-18, 1859)
- Brown mounted an attack on the federal armory at Harper's Ferry, VA in an effort to seize weapons with which to arm slaves and start a rebellion
- Brown took the armory, but local slaves did not rebel and no support came
- Brown's forces were defeated by U.S. Marines led by Col. Robert E. Lee and Brown was captured, tried and hung for treason
- **South Turns Against the Republicans**
- After John Brown's Raid, Southerners became convinced that abolitionists were determined to destroy the Southern way of life
- The Republican Party was closely tied to the abolitionist cause
- Southern leaders vowed that they would rather dissolve the Union than tolerate a Republican-led government
- **The Election of 1860**
- Northern Democrats who favored popular sovereignty nominated Stephen Douglas
- Southern Democrats who demanded federal protection of slavery nominated John Breckinridge
- Republicans nominated Abraham Lincoln
- **South Carolina Secedes**
- When Lincoln won the election, the South was outraged
- On Dec. 20, 1860, South Carolina seceded from the Union
- President Buchanan declared secession to be illegal but hesitated to use military force to stop it
- U.S. forces in South Carolina retreated to the safety of Ft. Sumter in Charleston Harbor
- South Carolina was quickly followed in secession by Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Texas
- **The Presidency of Abraham Lincoln** (Republican, 1861-65)
- Lincoln had to decide whether to let the South leave the U.S. or use military force to make them stay – he chose to fight
- Although anti-slavery, Lincoln was willing to offer protections for Southern slavery to keep the Union whole
- **The Crittenden Compromise**
- Sen. John Crittenden of Kentucky proposed amending the U.S. Constitution to forever guarantee slavery where it already existed, and reinstating the Missouri Compromise line
- Most Republicans refused to support the compromise
- **Jefferson Davis**
- Feb. 1861: Secessionist states declared themselves to be an independent nation, the Confederate States of America
- The Confederates wrote a new constitution and elected former Mississippi senator Jefferson Davis as their President
- **Ft. Sumter**
- April 1861: Lincoln announced that he intended to reinforce and resupply the Union troops at Ft. Sumter
- The South demanded that Ft. Sumter surrender; when the fort refused, it was bombarded with cannon-fire for 33 hours (this marks the official beginning of the U.S. Civil War)
- April 13, 1861: Ft. Sumter surrendered to South
- **The Upper South Secedes**
- Lincoln began to build an army to fight the secessionist
- This prompted states in the "Upper South" to secede in support of the Confederacy
- Virginia, Arkansas, North Carolina, & Tennessee all left the Union to join the Confederacy
- **The Border States Must Decide**

- Lincoln needed the remaining 4 slave states (Delaware, Maryland, Kentucky, and Missouri) to stay in the Union
- Delaware freely committed to the North, even voting to abolish slavery
- Lincoln imposed martial law in Maryland (in order to protect Washington D.C.)
- Kentucky sided with the North after Confederate forces invaded the state
- Missouri voted to stay with the North
- **The Civil War (1861 – 1865)**
- **Who had the military advantage?**
- <u>**NORTH**</u>
- ¾ of US Navy's officers and nearly all of its sailors were New Englanders
- Nearly all of the U.S. Navy's warships were stationed in the North, so not seized by South during secession
- All but one major shipyard was in the North
- <u>**SOUTH**</u>
- 1/3 of the U.S. Army's officers resigned to join the Confederacy, including Robert E. Lee
- 7 of the 8 military colleges in US were in the South, so there were many more trained soldiers in the South
- **Who had the manpower advantage?**
- <u>**NORTH**</u>
- Pop. = 22 million
- More population meant there were enough men to fight <u>AND</u> work in industry and farming
- Additionally, immigrants from Europe all came into northern ports!
- <u>**SOUTH**</u>
- Pop. = 9 million (3 million of which were slaves!)
- Less population meant that nearly every able-bodied white male would have to fight; women would have to contribute to war effort through farming and managing slaves
- **Who had the manufacturing advantage?**
- <u>**NORTH**</u>
- 80% of U.S. factories were in the North
- Over 90% of clothes, shoes, and iron were made in the North
- Nearly 100% of guns and gunpowder were made in the North
- <u>**SOUTH**</u>
- Had only 1 iron works which could make proper cannons
- Had <u>NO</u> gunpowder manufacturing
- South did move quickly to build factories to make weapons and gunpowder, but still relied on Europe for many other goods
- **Who had the transportation advantage?**
- <u>**NORTH**</u>
- Had 2/3 of railroads, plus turnpikes and the National Road, plus the Great Lakes and connected canals and waterways for moving food and materials around the North
- <u>**SOUTH**</u>
- Had only about 1/3 of railroads in US
- Had only one major east-west rail line for moving food and materials around the South
- Depended on the Mississippi River
- **Who had the financial advantage?**
- <u>**NORTH**</u>
- Already had an established treasury to print money
- Received revenues from tariffs

- Most powerful banks which could loan money to the government through the purchase of bonds were in the North
- Gold and silver fields of the West stayed in the Union
- By war's end, inflation in the North was at 80% (high, but not unreasonable)
- **SOUTH**
- Most Southern planters were "cash poor" & already in debt
- Southern banks were small, had little cash to buy bonds
- With Southern ports blockaded by Union warships, South could not rely on tariffs or trade with Europe for revenue
- South began to print paper money, but it had little value
- By war's end, inflation = 9000% (outrageously high!)
- **North's Strategy for Winning**
- The Anaconda Plan
- Blockade Southern ports and use gunboats to seize control of the Mississippi River – this would isolate and divide the South, strangling their access to resources
- Would take time, but be less costly in lives
- Keep Europe out of the war
- **South's Strategy for Winning**
- Choose battles carefully and avoid large, risky encounters
- Wage a defensive war of attrition – make the war as expensive in lives and resources for the Union as possible. This will make the war unpopular and force them to negotiate
- If necessary, pull European powers (esp. Great Britain) into the war – their textile factories depended on Southern cotton
- **New Technologies**
- **Rifles**
- When war started, most soldiers still using slow-loading muskets which fired round balls
- Over the course of the war, they were replaced by faster firing, more accurate rifles which fired conoidal bullets called minié balls
- **Steam-powered "ironclads"**
- Both sides began using "ironclads" – warships covered in sheets of iron armor
- First battle: March 9, 1862 (Battle of Hampton Roads) between the *USS Monitor* and *CSS Virginia* (a captured Union warship formerly named the *USS Merrimack*)
- Battle was indecisive since neither ships' cannon could break enemy's armor
- **Submarines**
- Both sides developed submarine technology, but the South was the only side to actually put one into action
- The *CSS Hunley* sank a northern ship blockading Charleston Harbor on Feb. 18, 1864; unfortunately, the *Hunley* also sank in the attack
- **The War**
- **Europe and the War**
- Britain and France depended on Southern cotton for their textile mills, but were reluctant to anger U.S. by recognizing the CSA
- Both decided on a "wait and see" approach; if the South could prove itself in battle, then European powers would show public support
- **The *Trent* Affair** (November 1861)
- CSA sent representatives James Mason & John Slidell to Europe via Cuba; they boarded the British ship Trent, but US Navy intercepted the Trent and arrested Mason & Slidell
- Britain protested and threatened war; Lincoln ordered the two diplomats released to ease tensions

- **Divisions in the Republican Party**
- Most Republicans wanted to see a total end to slavery
- Pres. Lincoln placed preserving the Union ahead of ending slavery – if he could put the country back together, he would tolerate slavery
- **Divisions in the Democratic Party**
- War Democrats: supported the use of military force to restore the Union, opposed ending slavery
- Peace Democrats: opposed the war, wanted to see Union restored through negotiation
- Republicans hated the Peace Democrats – considered their opposition to the war to be treason
- Republicans nicknamed the Peace Democrats "Copperheads" after a venomous snake
- **First Battle of Bull Run** (July 21, 1861) also known as the First Battle of Manassas
- First major battle of the war
- Union forces badly defeated just outside Washington DC
- South did not press its advantage due to disorganization
- Made it clear to the North that the war would not be quickly won
- **North captured New Orleans** (April 29, 1862)
- US Navy under David Farragut attacked and captured New Orleans, a port vital to the South because it controlled both the Gulf of Mexico and the mouth of the Mississippi River

- **The Draft** (Summer 1862)
- US Congress passed militia law which required states to use conscription (the draft) if necessary to field enough soldiers
- Hurt the poor because the rich could buy out of the draft for $300 or hire a proxy (a substitute) to serve for them
- Opposed by Democrats, led to riots in strongly Democratic districts
- CSA would also use conscription to force men into service
- **Lincoln Suspends Habeas Corpus**
- After anti-conscription riots, Lincoln suspended the requirement that a person could not be imprisoned without being charged and given a trial
- Anyone who aided the South or resisted the draft could be imprisoned indefinitely without trial
- Lincoln was heavily criticized
- CSA would also suspend habeas corpus, for the same reasons
- **Legal Tender Act of 1862**
- As worried citizens withdrew gold and silver from US banks, created a financial crisis
- US government created a national paper currency which came to be known as "greenbacks"
- CSA also began to print and use paper money
- **Grant's Western Campaign**
- Ulysses Grant's forces were put in charge of securing the West (mainly Kentucky and Tennessee)
- Grant won major victories, but only because he was willing to make sacrifices – large numbers of Union casualties
- **McClellan's Peninsular Campaign**
- McClellan attempted to end the war by landing forces near Fort Monroe, VA and pushing up the peninsula between the James and York Rivers to attack the Confederate capital of Richmond, VA
- The campaign bogged down and Lincoln ordered the return of Union forces to Washington D.C. to protect the US capital.
- **Second Battle of Bull Run** (Aug. 28-30, 1862)
- Confederate forces defeated (but did not destroy) the Union Army, opening the way for the South to invade the North
- **Battle of Antietam** (September 17, 1862)

- Lee secretly planned to invade the North, but his plans were discovered and Union forces met his at Antietam Creek, MD
- Bloodiest single day of the war
- Lee was defeated, but escaped south with his army still intact
- **The Emancipation Proclamation** (January 1, 1863)
- Lincoln issued an executive order freeing all slaves in any state which was in armed rebellion, but not in states which had stayed in the Union!
- This encouraged free blacks to enlist in the Union Army, because it gave them a moral objective for fighting – to free the slaves in the South
- **Siege of Vicksburg** (May 15 – July 1, 1863)
- After a two month siege by Grant's forces, Vicksburg, MS surrendered, giving the Union total control of the Mississippi River and permanently dividing the South
- **Battle of Gettysburg** (July 1-3, 1863)
- In an effort to move the war out of the South, Lee marched into Pennsylvania; he hoped to destroy public support for the war in the North by bringing the war to their towns and farms
- Battle was bloody – nearly 8000 dead and 27,000 wounded
- Confederate forces were defeated and turned back to Virginia
- The South would not be able to invade the North again and would be on the defensive from this point forward
- **The Gettysburg Address** (November 19, 1863)
- Lincoln delivered his speech 4 months after the battle, at the dedication of the National Cemetery in Gettysburg
- One of the most famous speeches in US History – even though it was only about 2 minutes long
- **Sherman's "March to the Sea"** (Nov.-Dec. 1864)
- After capturing the key railroad town of Atlanta, GA, Sherman marched his men across Georgia to the port of Savannah
- Along the way, Sherman practiced a "scorched earth" campaign, burning or destroying nearly everything he came across – plantations, railroads, crops, businesses, and factories
- **Election of 1864**
- Democrats ran George McClellan
- Republicans ran Abraham Lincoln with a VP candidate who was a War Democrat (Andrew Johnson) to broaden their appeal
- Lincoln won with the help of some major Union battle victories
- **Appomattox Courthouse** (April 9, 1865)
- Lee, who saw victory as hopeless, surrendered to Grant in order to avoid needless deaths
- 2 weeks later, the last major Confederate force surrendered in Durham, NC
- The war was over
- **The Aftermath of War**
- **The South In Ruins**
- Towns and cities had been burned or damaged
- Land value had fallen due to the destruction
- Confederate money was now worthless
- Bridges, railroads, manufacturing had been destroyed
- Slaves freed, so laborers now had to be paid
- **Lincoln's Plan For "Reconstruction"**
- Lincoln sought peace rather than punishment
- In Dec. 1863, Lincoln had issued the "*Proclamation of Amnesty and Reconstruction*":

- Gave a general pardon to all Southerners who took an oath of loyalty to the US and who accepted an end to slavery
- Once 10% of the voters in a state had taken the oath, the state would be readmitted to the Union and could organize a new government and elect members of Congress
- **Radical Republicans' Goals**
- Led by Thaddeus Stevens & Charles Sumner
- Wanted to prevent any former leaders of the Confederacy from returning to U.S. Congress
- Wanted to increase the Republican Party's power in the South
- Sought to guarantee African-Americans political equality and voting rights
- **The 3/5ths Compromise?**
- African-Americans were no longer slaves, so they now each counted as a whole person in the census
- This increase in census population meant the South gained about 15 more seats in the House of Representatives
- Republicans needed African-Americans in the South to be able to vote (and to vote Republican) to maintain control of Congress.
- **The Wade-Davis Bill**
- Required the majority of adult white males in a state to take an oath of loyalty to the U.S. for the state to be readmitted
- Each state must also abolish slavery, reject all debts acquired as part of the Confederacy, and not allow former Confederate officials or military officers the right to vote or hold public office
- The Bill was supported by moderate Republicans who thought Lincoln too soft and the Radicals too harsh
- Lincoln pocket-vetoed the Bill
  - Pocket veto = an automatic veto of a bill, occurring when Congress adjourns within the ten-day period allowed for presidential action on the bill and the president has retained it unsigned
- **The Freedmen's Bureau**
- The Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands was created by Congress, with Lincoln's approval, in 1865 as the first federal relief agency
- The Bureau provided clothing, medical attention, meals, legal advice, education, and even some land to freed blacks
- When the Bureau came up for renewal in 1866, Pres. Johnson vetoed the renewal bill, but his veto was over-ridden
- Still, the Bureau lacked popular support (some believed it did too much, others, not enough) and was shut down in 1872
- **Lincoln Assassinated** (April 14, 1865)
- Lincoln was shot and killed while watching a play at Ford's Theater in D.C.
- Assassin John Wilkes Booth escaped capture for 12 days but was hunted down and killed by Union soldiers
- Booth was an ardent Southerner who was angered by Lincoln's support of voting rights for African-Americans
- **Booth's Conspiracy**
- Booth had conspirators who were supposed to assassinate Vice-President Andrew Johnson and Sec. of State William Seward, but they failed
- Despite Booth's death, 8 others were tried for their roles in the assassination conspiracy; 4 were sentenced to death and hanged July 7, 1865, the others were sent to prison, where one died, but were later pardoned in 1869
- **The Presidency of Andrew Johnson (Democrat, 1865 – 1869)**
- First president to come to office due to assassination

- A Southerner (born in Raleigh, NC) who had served as the U.S. Senator from Tennessee prior to the war
- Democrat who had been chosen to run with Lincoln (a Republican) to ensure Lincoln's re-election
- After leaving the Presidency, he briefly returned to the U.S. Senate in 1875
- **The Thirteenth Amendment** (Ratified Dec. 6, 1865)
- Officially ended slavery throughout the United States
- Ratification of the 13th Amendment became one of the requirements for Confederate states to be readmitted to the Union
- **Black Codes**
- Southern states began passing laws to limit the rights of the newly freed African-Americans
- Blacks were required to enter into annual labor contracts with white landowners
- Black children were forced to enter into apprenticeships
- Blacks were required to buy special licenses to work in non-agricultural jobs
- Blacks could not meet together after sunset, own weapons, or live inside town limits
- Blacks convicted of vagrancy could be imprisoned and "rented out" as laborers to landowners
- **Johnson's "Restoration" Plan**
- Sometimes called "Presidential Reconstruction"
- Pardoned all former citizens of the CSA who took an oath of loyalty, <u>EXCEPT</u> former Confederate government officials, military officers, and those with property worth more than $20,000; excluded individuals could still apply directly to the President for pardons
- Required Confederate states to ratify the 13th Amendment and reject all Confederate debts to be readmitted to the Union
- Johnson put his plan into action while Congress was out of session for the summer
- **Fallout from Johnson's Action**
- Southern states rapidly met the terms of Johnson's plan and began to return their previous senators and congressmen to seats in Congress
- Congress, however, rejected these states' readmission (except for Tennessee, which had become strongly Republican) and refused to seat their congressmen
- The Radical Republicans quickly moved to take Reconstruction out of the President Johnson's control
- **Radical Republicans' Response**
- "Congressional Reconstruction"
- Created the Congressional Joint Committee on Reconstruction to oversee the readmission of Southern states to the Union
- To ensure Republican control of Southern governments, they moved to give African-Americans full citizenship rights, including suffrage
- Required that a majority of a state's population swear allegiance to the U.S. before readmission
- **Military Reconstruction**
- In March 1867, Congress passed the Military Reconstruction Act
- The act divided the South into 5 military districts, each to be administered under martial law by a Union general backed by Union soldiers
- The act also required all Southern states to write a new constitution and ratify the 13th AND (newly proposed) 14th Amendments before they could apply for re-entry into the Union
- **Civil Rights Act of 1866**
- Awarded citizenship rights to all persons born in the U.S. (except Native Americans)
- This meant that freedmen could now own property and file cases in federal court
- The Act also gave the federal government the authority to take legal action against anyone who violated those rights
- Vetoed by Pres. Johnson, but Congress overrode the veto
- Congress worried that the Supreme Court might declare the law unconstitutional

- **The Fourteenth Amendment**
- To protect the Civil Rights Act from the Court, Congress decided to transform it into a Constitutional Amendment
- Made all persons born in the U.S. into citizens, with all the protections of the Constitution
- Banned Confederate officials and officers from holding public office
- Canceled any debts owed by the Confederate government
- Ratified by the states in 1868
- *Texas v. White* **(1869)**
- Supreme Court under **Chief Justice Salmon Chase** ruled that the secession of the Southern states had been unconstitutional, so any debts incurred by the Confederacy were illegitimate and did not have to be paid back
- The ruling also clarified the supremacy of the federal government over state governments and makes any future attempts at secession illegal
- **U.S. Purchases Alaska (1867)**
- Sec. of State William Seward completed the purchase of Alaska from Russia for $7.2 million, pushing another European power out of North America
- Critics questioned the purchase, mocking it as "Seward's Folly" or "Seward's Icebox," but after the discovery of gold in the 1890s (and later oil in the 20th century) it became apparent that Seward had made a great decision
- **Johnson's Fading Power**
- Johnson saw his authority as president slipping away as Congress took control of Reconstruction
- He was also a Democratic president stuck with a Republican cabinet of Lincoln's choosing, many of whom were openly working with the Radical Republicans in Congress against Johnson
- **Johnson Fights Back**
- Johnson tried to fire **Sec. of War Edwin Stanton** who was friendly with the Radical Republicans
- Johnson's action violated the recently passed Tenure in Office Act, which required Congressional approval to fire any public official whose appointment is subject to approval by Congress
- Radical Republican Congress had passed the Act specifically to prevent Johnson from firing their allies in the executive branch
- **Johnson Impeached**
- In 1868, The House of Representatives voted to impeach (charge with a crime) Johnson for violating the Tenure in Office Act
- Per constitutional law, Johnson was put on trial in the Senate, but ultimately escaped conviction by 1 vote after pledging to moderate Republicans that he would no longer resist Congress' control of reconstruction
- **Johnson's Presidency Ends**
- Even though he had survived impeachment, Johnson's presidency was over – the Democratic Party refused to nominate him as their presidential candidate in 1868 and he left office after completing the term Abraham Lincoln had been elected to in 1864
- **The Presidency of Ulysses Grant (Republican, 1869 – 77)**
- Won election easily, despite having no political experience
- Extremely popular president but reputation tarnished by the many scandals in his administration
- **The Fifteenth Amendment** (Ratified in Feb. 1870)
- The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.
- **Carpetbaggers & Scalawags**
- Carpetbaggers = Northerners who moved into the South during Reconstruction, either to help or to take advantage of new opportunities

- Scalawags = Southerners who supported the Republican Party and Reconstruction
- Both groups were very unpopular in the South
- **African-Americans in Politics**
- "Black Republicans": many were educated blacks from the North who went South and ran for political office
- Thousands of freedmen took government jobs
- 16 would serve in Congress during the Reconstruction Era
- **Reforms help African-Americans**
- Black Codes repealed
- Built state hospitals, orphanages, mental institutions
- Rebuilt roads, railroads, bridges
- Built public schools – 200,000+ freedmen attended and attendance rates for black children was 40% (High for time)
- Paid for through high property taxes
- **Increasing Racial Violence in South**
- Many Southern whites resented the Republican governments and the newly won rights of the freed slaves
- Struck out violently, but usually anonymously, by burning houses, schools, and churches and by lynching black leaders and white carpetbaggers and scalawags
- **Ku Klux Klan** (Founded in 1866)
- Original goal was to drive out carpetbaggers and restore control of state governments to the Democratic Party
- Grew to terrorize African-Americans because of their support for the Republican governments
- Engaged in acts of terror, including lynchings (illegal hangings)
- **The Enforcement Acts**
- 3 Congressional Acts
- 1) Made it a federal crime to interfere with a citizen's right to vote
- 2) Placed federal elections under the supervision of federal marshals
- 3) The Ku Klux Klan Act: outlawed the activities of the KKK and similar groups – led to 3000+ arrests, but only 600 convictions
- **Grant's Troubled Presidency**
- Split in Republican Party over taxes and spending
- Scandals in customs collection, postal contracts, and with Grant's Secretaries of the Interior, War, & Navy as well as his Attorney General and personal secretary
- The Whiskey Ring: over 100 members of Grant's administration were taking part in a scheme to steal millions of dollars in taxes on whiskey; although not personally involved, Grant interfered in the investigation and trials to protect his friends
- **Panic of 1873**
- Bad investments caused the collapse of one of US' biggest private banks
- This triggered the failure of smaller banks and thousands of small businesses, putting many out of work
- This plus scandals destroyed Grant's popularity and hopes for a third term as president
- **Election of 1876**
- Democrats nominated Samuel Tilden, a "law-and-order" former governor of NY
- Republicans declined to run Grant again and instead ran Rutherford B. Hayes, governor of Ohio
- Election was so close that Congress had to decide who was president
- **Compromise of 1877**
- Supposedly, Southern Democrats pledged to support Hayes as president if the Republicans promised to remove federal troops from the South and end Reconstruction

- No "formal" agreement was ever recorded, but once Hayes took office, Reconstruction was ended!
- **The Presidency of Rutherford B. Hayes (Republican, 1877-81)**
- **Reconstruction Ends**
- With the withdrawal of federal troops and the final readmission of all former Confederate states, the South was once again free to begin discriminating against the freedmen
- **The "New South"**
- The idea that the South needed to abandon its reliance on cash crops like cotton and tobacco and industrialize
- New railroads were built
- Steel industry, cotton mills, and cigarette factories all opened
- Still, most Southerners remained in farming
- **Sharecropping & Tenant Farming**
- Tenant farmer: rented land from a large landholder for a set cash fee
- Sharecropper: rented land from a large landholder for a percentage of their crop
- Both systems kept most blacks and many poor whites deeply in debt and with no hope of ever owning their own land
- **"Jim Crow" Laws**
- Laws designed to prevent freedmen from voting:
- Literacy tests – must be able to read to vote
- Poll taxes – must pay a fee to vote
- Grandfather clauses – can't vote unless your grandfather was eligible to vote
- **The "Solid South"**
- Southern states would continue to vote – and vote Democrat -as a block in presidential elections for decades to come, blocking Republican initiatives for reform
- **Settling the West**
- **How Did Settlers Move West?**
- **Wagon Trails**
- Oregon Trail: Missouri to Oregon
- California Trail: Missouri to Northern California
- Santa Fe Trail: Missouri to New Mexico
- Mormon Trail: Missouri to Salt Lake City, Utah and then on to Los Angeles, California
- Bozeman Trail: Missouri to Montana
- **Wagon Trains**
- Usually, groups of settlers hired professional trail guides, but sometimes they simply followed guidebooks and maps
- Groups were usually made up of about 20-40 wagons per "train"
- Wagons covered about 15 miles/day for 5-6 months
- Wagons were circled at night to corral animals, not for protection against Indian attacks
- Attacks by Native Americans were rare; more trade took place than fighting
- Trains had to get through mountains before the first snow, or else … disaster
- **The Donner Party**
- 87 settlers, including children
- Donner and his companions decided to take a new, untested route to California through the Sierra Nevada Mountains, but became trapped by winter snows
- After eating all of their supplies and animals, 39 members of the party starved to death; the rest resorted to cannibalism – eating their dead friends and family to survive
- **Yankee Clippers**

- Those with more money, or with large shipments of cargo, could take a quicker, but still risky, trip by sea to California
- Yankee Clippers traveled around the southern tip of South America, and had to navigate rough seas and stormy weather; many were lost at sea
- **Why Did Settlers Move West?**
- **Religion: The Mormons**
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
- Started in New York, but were the victims of persecution over their religious practices, including polygamy (allowing men to have multiple wives)
- The group moved to Ohio, then Missouri, then Illinois, where founder Joseph Smith was murdered in 1844
- The Mormons finally settled near the Great Salt Lake in Utah (which they called Deseret) in 1847
- **Brigham Young** (1801 – 1877)
- President of the Mormon church from 1847 -1877
- Led the Mormons west to Utah to escape persecution
- Founded Salt Lake City, Utah as the Mormon capital; later served as Utah's first territorial governor, until federal troops removed him in 1858 following the Utah War (Pres. James Buchanan believed the Mormons were plotting a rebellion against the U.S.)
- **Mining**
- Colorado – Silver (over $1 billion, led to development of Denver as a major city)
- The Dakotas – gold in the Black Hills
- Montana – copper
- Mining created "boom and bust" cycles where towns would be built in a short period of time and then abandoned (ghost towns) when the mines were exhausted
- **Gold Rushes**
- California in 1849
- Pikes Peak, Colorado in 1858
- Arizona, Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming in the 1860s
- Gold rushes triggered surges of settlers (mostly men) looking to get rich quick
- **'49ers & Sutter's Mill**
- After the discovery of gold at Sutter's Mill, over 300,000 gold-seekers called "49ers" flooded into California
- This led to the rise of San Francisco as a major city, but also to tensions with Native American tribes and to environmental damage
- **The Comstock Lode**
- Major silver vein discovered by **Henry Comstock** in 1859
- Virginia City, NV went from zero to a population of 30,000 then crashed when the lode ran out in 1898 (today, pop. = only about 1500 people)
- Comstock himself traded away his fortune (he sold his stake in the $1 billion+ mine for just $11,000) and later committed suicide
- **Land: The Great Plains**
- The Great Plains were explored by Major Stephen Long in 1819, who described the area as the "Great American Desert"
- With no wood and no water, many believed that the area was useless for settlement and farming – but some still tried to make it work
- Life on the Great Plains was difficult
- No trees for wood, so houses were built from sod – bricks of tough grass and dirt; settlers also burned sod and dried dung for heat and cooking

- With little surface water available, settlers had to drill deep wells (300 ft+)
- Temperatures: Summer = 100° +, winter = 0° or less
- Prairie fires, swarms of grasshoppers, tornadoes, blizzards, thunderstorms – all were obstacles to overcome
- **The Pre-emption Acts**
- Many settlers who went west just picked a spot and built a farm – they did not have any legal claim to the land; this is called "squatting."
- The Pre-emption Acts protected squatters by guaranteeing them the right to claim land before it was surveyed by the U.S. government (who technically owned all public land) and buy up to 160 acres for $1.25/acre
- **The Homestead Act** (Passed in 1862)
- A $10 fee laid claim to 160 acres of public land, but the occupant only received title after living there for 5 years
- Anyone could file a claim, (except former Confederate soldiers), so immigrants and freed slaves began to flood the west
- In total, over 1.6 million homesteads were awarded
- **The Morrill Land-Grant Act** (Passed in 1862)
- All states were awarded 30,000 acres of federal land for each member of the state's Congressional delegation
- States could use or sell that land to fund the creation of colleges which would teach agricultural and military skills
- Colleges started under the Morrill Act include Auburn, UConn, Florida, Georgia, Purdue, Iowa St., Kansas St., Kentucky, LSU, Maryland, MIT, Michigan State, Nebraska, Ohio St., Penn St., Clemson, Tennessee, Va. Tech, & NCSU
- **The Oklahoma Land Rush**
- As available land in the west began to disappear, pressure built to open the Indian Territory (Oklahoma) to land-hungry settlers
- In 1889, Congress agreed to open the Territory
- April 22, 1889: Thousands gathered on the border to race to claim a share of 2 million acres; some (called "Sooners") snuck into the territory early to lay claim to the best land
- **Ranching**
- Spanish had introduced cattle to the region in the 1600s; herds had been left to roam free and had evolved into the tough, lean Texas Longhorns
- Most cattle ranching took place in New Mexico & Texas
- Early ranchers took advantage of the Open Range , the vast open grasslands of the Great Plains owned by the government
- During the Civil War, beef prices soared due to a kill off of Eastern cattle to feed troops
- Railroads built in the 1860s allowed more western cattle to be moved east to meet beef demands
- Cattle were driven north out of Texas to railheads in Abilene & Dodge City, KS and Sedalia, MO using routes such as the Chisholm Trail
- Cowboys were a mix of former Confederate soldiers, Hispanics, and freed slaves
- **Opportunity: Women**
- Women were heavily outnumbered by men, so they had greater opportunities
- Women could own property & businesses, became influential community leaders
- Most were farmwives, some worked as cooks or laundresses, still others worked at "hurdy-gurdy" houses (brothels)
- A few were even adventurers, such as Annie Oakley and Calamity Jane Burke
- **Opportunity: Immigrants**

- Thousands of Irish immigrants flooded the Midwest in the 1840s through the 1870s
- Thousands of Chinese immigrants arrived in California to escape civil war at home and seek job opportunities
- Both groups would play a key role in building the West's railroads
- **Opportunity: African-Americans**
- Played a major role in the development of the West
- Worked on the railroads
- Worked as cowboys
- Settled in as farmers
- Served as soldiers in the Indian Wars
- **"Buffalo soldiers"**
- 4 all-black regiments of the US Army created in 1866 to serve in the West
- Nicknamed "buffalo soldiers" by the Native Americans they fought against for their dark, curly hair and fierce fighting ability, both of which reminded Indians of the buffalo
- **The Indian Wars**
- **1ˢᵗ Treaty of Fort Laramie**
- In 1851, eight Native American groups agreed to specific limited geographic boundaries in return for the U.S. government promising to honor those boundaries forever
- **Settlers Move Into the Great Plains**
- Settlers, however, ignored the treaties and the federal government had no way to enforce the boundaries
- The Plains Indians were slowly forced to move further west of the Mississippi, while settlers in California and Oregon began pushing the West Coast tribes back towards the east
- Natives began to be deprived of their hunting grounds
- Occasionally, Indian groups would resist or retaliate against settlers
- **The Buffalo**
- The Plains Indians relied on the buffalo as their primary source of food, clothing, & shelter
- As more settlers entered the plains, the buffalo began to disappear
- Settlers killed the animals to protect their crops
- Professional hunters killed many for their hides which were used for both clothing and industrial purposes
- Sport hunters killed many just for entertainment
- Railroad companies hired sharpshooters to kill buffalo to keep them from blocking or damaging the tracks
- The U.S. Army killed many to deprive the Indians of food, forcing the Natives onto government reservations
- **Dakota Sioux Uprising**
- The Dakota Sioux had agreed to stay on a reservation in Minnesota; in return, the government had agreed to make annual payments to the Indians on the reservation
- Corrupt traders and reservation officials, however, often cheated the Indians out of their annuities
- In 1862, Congress delayed paying the annuities due to the Civil War, resulting in widespread hunger among the Dakota Sioux
- Chief Little Crow asked the traders to sell the Sioux food on credit until the annuities were paid by the government
- The traders refused; one replied "let them eat grass or their own dung"
- In desperation, the Sioux took up arms
- Little Crow tried to limit the violence, but angry Indians killed hundreds of white settlers before federal troops arrived

- Military courts sentenced 307 Dakota Sioux to death for their roles in the uprising, but President Lincoln later reduced the number to just 38
- Outraged, many of the Sioux left Minnesota and took refuge in the unsettled Dakota Territory
- **Sand Creek Massacre (1864)**
- The government forced the Cheyenne Indians to surrender territory, violating the 1st Treaty of Ft. Laramie
- The Cheyenne retaliated by attacking settlements in Colorado
- Colorado's governor ordered the Cheyenne to surrender or face serious consequences
- Cheyenne under Chief Black Kettle arrived at Ft. Lyon to negotiate a peace treaty
- U.S. forces attacked the unsuspecting Cheyenne at Sand Creek, killing about 270, including women and children in retaliation for the Cheyenne's earlier attacks on settlers
- **Lakota Sioux Vow to Defend Their Territory**
- After having trouble with the Dakota Sioux and Cheyenne, the U.S. Army began to patrol into the Great Plains to prevent other tribes from organizing
- The nomadic Lakota Sioux were determined to defend their territory against incursion by both white settlers and the U.S. Army
- **The Fetterman Massacre (1866)**
- Army Capt. William Fetterman and 80 soldiers were lured out of their fort along the Bozeman Trail in Wyoming by the Lakota Sioux under Chief Red Cloud
- They soldiers rode into a carefully planned ambush and were wiped out by the Lakota; the ambush triggered two years of open warfare between the Army and the Sioux
- **The Indian Peace Commission**
- Formed by Congress in 1867, the Commission toured the Great Plains trying to identify how the conflict between Native tribes and settlers could be resolved peacefully; they concluded the problems were due to incursions by settlers into Indian territory
- The Commission proposed creating 2 large reservations on the plains which would be managed by agents of the federal Bureau of Indian Affairs
- The US Army would be given full authority to deal with Indians who did not move to the reservations
- The plan failed due to resistance from the Indians, who had never agreed to cooperate
- **2nd Treaty of Ft. Laramie (1868)** also called the Sioux Treaty of 1868
- Guaranteed the Lakota ownership of the Black Hills in the Dakotas, as well as hunting rights elsewhere
- Gold miners quickly violated the treaty, triggering later uprisings
- In 1980, The Lakota tribe sued the government for violating the treaty, winning $120 million in damages; the Lakota have refused the money and continue to press the courts to instead return their land
- **Battle of Little Big Horn (**June 25, 1876) also known as "Custer's Last Stand"
- Despite being greatly outnumbered, Col. George Armstrong Custer decided to launch an attack against a group of Sioux & Cheyenne
- The Indians repulsed the attack, then surrounded Custer's detachment and killed him and all of his men
- This was the largest Indian victory in the Indian Wars; it was also, unfortunately, their last
- Following Little Big Horn, Chief Crazy Horse and his Sioux were convinced to surrender to U.S. troops
- Crazy Horse was arrested while attempting to negotiate a peace settlement; in a struggle with his guards, he was stabbed to death
- **The Ghost Dance**
- The Lakota had finally relented in 1877 and settled on a reservation under Chief Sitting Bull
- The Lakota had begun performing a ritual known as the Ghost Dance, a celebration of a hoped-for day when the white settlers would disappear, the buffalo would return, and all of the Indian's dead ancestors would come back from the dead

- In 1890, federal agents ordered an end to the Ghost Dance, believing that it was preventing the Sioux from peacefully assimilating into American society, but the Lakota ignored the order
- Sitting Bull was blamed for the Lakota's defiance over the Ghost Dance and was ordered arrested
- Police were sent to arrest Sitting Bull, but his supporters resisted; a gun battle broke out and Sitting Bull and 13 others were killed
- **Wounded Knee**
- Angered over Sitting Bull's death, the Ghost Dancers left the reservation, breaking their treaty agreement
- U.S. troops pursued them
- On Dec. 29, 1890, the two groups fought at Wounded Knee Creek
- 25 US soldiers and about 200 Lakota (mostly women, children, and the elderly) died in the battle
- Wounded Knee marked the end of the Indian Wars on the Great Plains; the Sioux were finally forced onto the reservations
- **Chief Joseph & the Nez Perce**
- The Nez Perce refused to give up their assigned reservation in Idaho in 1877
- The US Army threatened to forcibly relocate them; violence broke out and the Nez Perce fled, trying to reach Canada
- Retreated 1300 miles and got within 30 miles of the Canadian border before being cut off by the Army and forced to surrender
- The Nez Perce were forced to relocate to the Indian Territory (Oklahoma)
- **Helen Hunt Jackson** (1830 – 1885)
- Wrote *A Century of Dishonor* (1881), a book which exposed the shameful way the US government and the Army had treated the Indians
- Jackson urged Congress to make amends; her pleas led Congress to try to find a new approach to Indian relations
- **The Dawes Act of 1887**
- In an attempt to assimilate the Native Americans into American culture, the government abolished tribal organizations
- Broke up communally held reservation land by allotting each Indian head of household 160 acres for farming; single adults received 80 acres, children each received 40 acres
- Any remaining reservation land was sold to white settlers with the money going into a trust set aside for Native Americans
- The Dawes Act was a failure
- Land allotted to the Indians was of poor quality
- Agents put in charge of the reservations were often corrupt or biased
- Most of the Plains Indians had little interest or experience in farming and didn't want to be assimilated into "American-style" of life
- Not understanding the concept of land ownership, most sold their allotments to white settlers
- The "Indian problem" was ultimately solved by the decrease in Indian population from hunger, apathy, and disease
- **Technology and the West**
- **Railroads**
- **Why Build a Transcontinental Railroad?**
- Would tie the nation together
- Would reduce travel time between East Coast and West Coast from months to days
- Would lead to growth of towns and cities along the rail line
- Would make moving goods and raw materials easier
- **Which Route to Build?**

- Southerners wanted a route out of New Orleans, but rough terrain in Arizona led to the purchase of flatter land from Mexico (the Gadsden Purchase)
- Northerners wanted a route out of Chicago, but Southerners blocked their efforts in hopes that they could barter the route's location in exchange for an expansion of slavery
- **The Pacific Railway Act**
- Passed in 1862 (during the Civil War, so the Northern route won)
- Congress approved the construction of a transcontinental railroad, awarding contracts to both the Union Pacific and Central Pacific Railroads
- Both companies were given land along the right-of-way as payment, rather than cash; this encouraged competition and speedier construction – whoever built the most railroad, got the most land
- **The Union Pacific Railroad**
- Led by Grenville Dodge, a former general known for his organizational and managerial skills
- Started construction on a rail line heading west out of Omaha, Nebraska in 1865
- The Union Pacific used a mixture of unemployed Civil War veterans and Irish immigrants for labor
- They hired over 10,000 men and housed them in camps along the tracks and in rolling dormitory cars
- Rough living conditions led high crime rates – lots of gambling, drinking, and fighting between workers
- **The Central Pacific Railroad**
- Organized in California under 4 investors, including Leland Stanford, the future governor of California and the founder of Stanford University
- Started construction of a railroad heading east out of Sacramento
- Had the major disadvantage of having to have all their railroad and construction equipment delivered by ships from the east
- Also had to begin building in the mountains almost immediately, slowing their progress and increasing their expenses
- The organizers of the Central Pacific chose to hire over 10,000 Chinese laborers
- Chinese were willing to work very cheaply because unemployment in China was very high due to the Taiping Rebellion
- Chinese immigrants, who faced tremendous racism and were rarely treated fairly, tended to band together, creating "Chinatown" neighborhoods in major cities like San Francisco
- **The Workingman's Party of California**
- The growing numbers of Chinese workers led to increased nativism and anti-immigrant political activism
- The Workingman's Party of California was a political party founded by Irish immigrant Denis Kearney in the 1870s to oppose Chinese immigration and the use of Chinese labor to build the railroads
- Simple motto: "The Chinese Must Go!"
- **The Chinese Exclusion Act**
- Growing anti-Chinese sentiments led Congress to pass a bill in 1882 banning all Chinese immigration for 10 years
- Additionally, Chinese immigrants already in the U.S. were blocked from becoming citizens
- Congress renewed the Act for ten more years in 1892 before banning Chinese immigration permanently in 1902 (the Act was repealed in 1942)
- The ban led to a decline in the Chinese population in the U.S., since most early Chinese immigrants were men
- **Completion of the Railroad**
- The Union Pacific and Central Pacific railroads finally met at Promontory, Utah on May 10, 1869
- The completion of the railroad was celebrated with the driving of a golden spike to mark the spot where the two lines met
- Amazingly, the entire railway had been built in only about 4 years

- **Time Zones Introduced**
- Prior to the railroads, time had been measured purely by the sun's position, so the time of day was determined locally
- In 1883, the American Railway Association divided the nation into 4 time zones to ease railroad scheduling and to improve safety; train wrecks were common due to discrepancies in local time, so a standardization of time measurement was necessary
- **Standardization of Trains**
- Hundreds of small, independent railroads quickly consolidated into just 7 major companies, increasing efficiency, lowering shipping and travel costs, and allowing for the development of standardized technology which further increased efficiency
- The growing railroad networks also tied America's regions together after the Civil War, helping minimize sectionalism
- **The Land Grant System**
- The federal government continued to give land to the railroad companies alongside their rail lines as payment and to encourage development
- The railroads sold this land to settlers to raise the capital needed to build more railroads
- Over 120 million acres of public lands had been given to the railroad companies by the late 1800s
- **Farming Technologies**
- **The Steel Plow**
- John Deere patented a steel-bladed plow in 1837 that could cut through the tough sod of the Great Plains
- Deere's steel plow opened the way for "sodbusters" to farm the prairie, but they also led to the breakdown of prairie soils and the loss of topsoil to wind & water erosion, factors that would later cause serious problems for Plains farmers
- **The Mechanical Reaper**
- Developed by Cyrus McCormick in 1834, the mechanical reaper was a horse-drawn machine which could harvest far more grain than a man swinging a scythe
- The reaper led to farmers planting more acreage, leading to an increase in grain production
- **Dry-farming**
- Farming method where seeds are planted deep in the ground where there is enough moisture to allow them to germinate without irrigation or surface watering
- This was the perfect method for use on the Plains where surface water was scarce and rainfall irregular
- The best crops for dry-farming were grains, so Plains farmers grew wheat and corn out of necessity
- **The Range Wars**
- As more farmers moved onto the Plains, they wanted to define and protect their fields
- As sheep ranchers moved in, they needed access to water and pastures
- Both groups were in conflict with the cattle ranchers who depended on the open range to graze and move their herds to the railheads
- As a result, brief but violent range wars became common
- **Barbed Wire Ends the Open Range Era**
- Invented by Joseph Glidden in 1874, barbed wire allowed large areas of land to be fenced off cheaply and easily, without the use of very much wood
- It allowed farmers and sheep ranchers to fence in the prairie and shut down routes (like the Chisholm Trail) used by cattle drivers
- Cattle ranchers were forced to change their practices, and organize defined, enclosed ranches rather than drive cattle across the open range
- **Farmers Fall on Hard Times**
- In the 1880s, a serious drought struck the Plains, wiping out many farmers and ranchers
- In the 1890s, excessive wheat production caused grain prices to drop, hurting farmers again

- To survive, farmers often mortgaged their land to banks, but frequently lost their land when they couldn't meet their mortgage payments
- **Declining Profits**
- Thanks to new technologies, farmers had opened up the Great Plains and were producing a much larger supply of grain
- Grain supply ↑ = Grain prices ↓
- Farmers were earning LESS
- **Rising Costs**
- High tariffs + unionized factory workers = high prices on manufactured goods
- Banks were charging high interest on loans
- Railroads were charging higher fees for shipping grain to eastern markets
- Farmers were paying MORE
- **The Money Supply**
- To fund the Civil War, the government had flooded the market with paper money ("greenbacks")
- Supply of \$↑ = Value of \$↓ (inflation)
- **3 Types of Money**
- After the Civil War, the government had three types of currency in circulation:
- Greenbacks
- Gold & Silver coins
- Bank notes (essentially paper money issued by banks) backed by government bonds (loans taken out by the government); the bank notes could be cashed in at a future date for "real" government issued gold and silver
- **Government Fights Inflation**
- In 1873, the US Treasury stopped printing greenbacks AND stopped minting silver coins to reduce the money supply and stop inflation
- The government also started paying off its bonds to reduce the number of bank notes in circulation
- The response was too strong and reduced the money supply too greatly
- Supply of \$↓ = Value of \$↑ = Prices ↓ (deflation)
- **Deflation Hurts Farmers**
- Decrease in the money supply meant that loans were harder to get and interest rates on loans became higher
- Farmers were getting LESS money for their crops (because of the increase in money's buying power) but paying MORE money for mortgages & other loans (because of higher interest rates)
- **"The Crime of '73"**
- Farmers believed that greedy banks had conspired to pressure the government into reducing the money supply (what they called "the Crime of '73)
- Farmers began to organize and campaign for government to resume printing greenbacks and/or minting silver coins
- **The Grange**
- To organize the poor farmers of the South and Midwest and give them a more powerful political voice, U.S. Department of Agriculture official Oliver Kelley organized "The National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry" in 1867
- By 1874, the "Grange," as the group had come to be nicknamed, had over 1 million members
- **The Grange Takes Action**
- As farmers' conditions worsened, the Grange pressured state legislatures to regulate railroad & warehouse rates
- Grangers also joined the Independent National Party (also called the Greenback Party) a new political party aimed at getting the government to print more paper money

- **Farmers' Cooperatives**
- Grangers also created farming cooperatives where they pooled farmers' crops and kept them off the market in order to limit supply and drive up prices
- By working together, farmers could also negotiate better shipping and warehousing rates
- **The Grange Fails**
- The Greenback Party failed to win public support – average Americans simply didn't trust paper money
- The Farmer's Cooperatives never grew large enough to be effective