**The Triumph and Collapse of Jeffersonian Republicanism**

**1800-1824**

**JEFFERSON’S PRESIDENCY**

* Thomas Jefferson thought there was a revolution in 1800 when the Federalist party was peacefully overthrown – republican majority restored with government control
* Jeffersonians wanted agrarian republic based on economic equality – favored land expansion to accommodate self-reliant farmers (guardians of republican freedom), and spread of slavery

**Reform at Home**

* Retrenchment – return to frugal and simple domestic policy the Jeffersonians believed the Constitution called for
* Reformed fiscal policy – secretary of the state of the treasury Albert Gallatin (Switzerland native, best financial mind in the Republican party) convinced Jefferson that the national bank was vital for financial stability, but did not like a large public debt (reduced national debt from $83 million in 1800 to 57 million by 1809)
  + Shrank national government spending and taxing – eliminated internal taxes (including whiskey), cuts in military budget lowered expenses, revenues from customs collections – budget surplus to be used for debt repayment
* Appointed officials with Republican principles to get rid of a Federalist stronghold
  + Immediately replaced anti-federalists, Republicans filled all posts open from attrition – held nearly all appointive offices by 1809
* Repealed Judiciary Act of 1801 (passed just before Federalists lost control)
  + John Marshall (Federalist chief justice of the United States appointed by Adams in 1801) – Federalists hoped he’d deem removing Federalist judges unconstitutional, he wanted to avoid open confrontation
  + **Case of Marbury vs. Madison** (1803) – Secretary of State James Madison refused to deliver commission to William Marbury (One of Adams’s “midnight appointments”) as a justice of the peace for the District of Columbia
    - Marshall said the court had no jurisdiction, Court declared the order of his commission was unconstitutional according to the Judiciary Act of 1789 (gave a power to the Court not specified in the constitution)
    - Marshall created the precedent of judicial review – Supreme Court could declare federal law unconstitutional

**Louisiana Purchase**

* Peace in foreign affairs in Jefferson’s first term – European War subsided, Britain and France made peace, Spain and France could reclaim Western colonial trade, Napoleon Bonaparte could plan how to revive French Empire in the Americas
* Napoleon made a secret treaty with Spain in 1800 – gained Louisiana Territory (between Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains)
  + Jefferson heard about it in 1801 – alarmed, threatened farmer’s empire or liberty
  + Spoke to Britain about an Anglo-American alliance to drive out France
  + Strengthened forces in the Mississippi Valley, secured approval for Lewis and Clark expedition through Louisiana
    - Original objective: military mission, to possess New Orleans and control the mouth of the Mississippi
* 1803 – Napoleon decided to sell it to the US
  + Failed to recover Saint-Domingue (supposed to be the jewel of his empire, Louisiana as a granary supply) – salves led by Toussaint L’Overture rebelled
  + $15 million, 3.5 cents/acre, 50,000 Spanish and French living there (no policy or plan in the constitution for granting US citizenship)
  + Jefferson accepted – doubled size of the US, endless space for farmers, frontier for slaveholders

**Florida and Western Schemes**

* Wanted to gain river outlets on the Gulf Coast for plantation agriculture in MS and AL
* Vague boundaries of Louisiana Purchase – justified claiming Texas and Gulf Coast from New Orleans to Mobile Bay (including West Florida)
  + Spanish did not want to sell West Florida – Napoleon agreed to act as middle man for $2 million, but Jefferson lost prestige in 1806 – pushed bill to pay for Napoleon (Former Republicans in Congress felt it was bribe money, staged revolt against president)
* Westerners wanted America to seize West Florida
  + 1805 and 1806 – Aaron Burr (VP) helped attempt this
    - Republicans suspicious of Burr – part of Essex Junto – feared the purchase would render New England powerless in national affairs, planned a Northern confederacy – denied by Hamilton, backed Burr instead (Burr killed Hamilton in a duel in 1804)
    - Burr conspiracy still mysterious – he mistakenly made General James Wilkinson a co-conspirator – (military governor of Louisiana territory, Spanish double agent) – betrayed Burr, tried for treason in 1807, acquitted by Chief Justice Marshall

**Embargo and a Crippled Presidency**

* 1807 – concern of a war with Britain
* After 1803 (British and France fighting), the US was involved in issues with neutral rights, blockades, seizures, **impressment** (coercion of American soldiers into British navy)
* Britain proclaimed a blockade of the European Continent (controlled by Napoleon), confiscated cargoes of ships ignoring the blockade – Napoleon in turn seized ships complying with the British – US caught in the middle with neutral goods
  + US traded with anyone, dominated commerce
* June 1807 – ***Chesapeake* Incident** – British *Leopard* ordered the US *Chesapeake* to allow for a search in waters of Norfolk, VA – upon refusal, British fired – Jefferson barred US ports to British warships, wanted compensations and cease of impressment
  + Substitute for war: **Embargo Act of 1807**: prohibited US ships from leaving port to any country until trading restrictions on neutral shippers were repealed in Britain and France
    - Premise: Europe was too dependent to handle a cut-off – unrealistic: hurt Europe, but British textile workers and slaves in the colonies were hit the hardest, while landlords and manufacturers gained from being able to raise prices
    - US export trade and profits dried up, all economic groups besides manufacturers suffered (especially New England shippers and merchants- when they criticized Jefferson, he passed enforcement acts that consolidated executive power more than the Federalists had achieved)
* Federalist Party revived – Charles C. Pinckney (Federalist candidate in 1808 election, running against James Madison) polled 3X as many votes as he had in 1804… Madison won because of the South and the West, heart of the Republican party
* Republicans abandoned the embargo – replaced with Nonintercourse Act (prohibited US trade only with Britain and France, trade could be opened with them when they lifted their restrictions)

**MADISON AND THE COMING OF WAR**

**The Failure of Economic Sanctions**

* 1810 – replaced Nonintercourse Act with Macon’s Bill No. 2 – trade opened to everyone, but if either France or Britain lifted restrictions, the US would resume trading sanctions against the other
  + Napoleon agreed to withdraw on the condition that if Britain did not follow, Madison would force them to respect US rights
  + French seizures continued, but by the time Napoleon’s lies were realized, he had worsened Anglo-American tensions successfully
    - November 1810 – Madison reimposed nonintercourse against Britain

**The Frontier and Indian Resistance**

* Farm prices plunged with the embargo, remained low after the embargo was lifted – blame for the agricultural depression was out on the British and their hold on overseas trade, westerners also accused them of inciting Indian resistance
* Demand of Indian land triggered the **pan-Indian resistance movement** just before the War of 1812
  + Treaty of Grenville had promised that future land additions would be approved by the native people, but the government divided and played Indians against each other – gave money and goods to more Christianized Indians
  + William Henry Harrison – governor of Indiana territory – gained parts of Indiana in the Treaty of Vincennes of 1804, Shawnee Chief Tecumseh and Prophet Tenkswatawa started a movement to unify Western tribes against the whites
    - 1808 – established the Prophet’s Town – headquarters
    - Peaceful goals, did not want to use violence
    - November 1811 – Harrison marched on the Town – Battle of Tippecanoe – heavy losses, Harrison won, but the Indians joined the British
* Expansionist southerners attacked Britain through Spain, supported by Madison – staged bloodless revolt in Spanish West Florida, “republic” recognized by the US and annexed as part of Louisiana in 1811
* Native American hatred, expansionism, agricultural depression, impatience with economic coercion – pointed towards war against Britain and US takeover of Canada and Spanish Florida
  + **War Hawks** – around 40 pro-war congressmen that came into office in 1810, generally younger western or southern men, led by Henry Clay of KY
    - Clay and other nationalists (John C. Calhoun of SC) played a key role in supporting Madison’s aggressive stance against Britain

**Decision for War**

* July 1811 – Madison called congress into an early session on November 4 – tried to lay groundwork for war, but the Republican Congress did not want to raise taxes or strengthen the military
  + June 1 – sent a message to Congress stating the alternative of giving Britain control of US commerce, convinced they wanted to reduce America to colonial dependent status
  + Second war for independence to Madison – open access to war markets was at stake as well as national pride, impressment was humiliating
* Divided congress – declared war on Britain, support strongest in regions economically damaged by the blockade and Atlantic commerce control by the British
  + South and west (wanted to eliminate frontier threats) supported the war; New England (had prospered at British interference) opposed it
  + Northern Republicans carried the vote – wanted to defend America’s self-government
  + 9/10 of Republicans voted yes, 0 Federalists did so (they felt the enemy was France – seized the most ships, actually)
    - Federalists grew even more angry when they learned that on June 23, Britain revoked for one year its Orders in Council against the US (but it didn’t address impressment or compensation)

**THE WAR OF 1812**

**Setbacks in Canada**

* **War of 1812** divided along religions – New England Congregationalists/Federalists claimed Christianity oppose a war against the nation we are descended from; Baptists and Methodists (Georgia Baptist Association in 1813) felt that the war was necessary due to Britain’s corruption, were loyal to Madison and held grudges against British and New English churches for religious intolerance
* Madison wanted to use this energy to fuel a Canadian conquest, 2/3 of Canadians were native born Americans and they assumed they would accept the US Army with open arms (Canadian militia outnumbered 9:1), only area where the US could directly strike Britain
  + Wanted to weaken Britain’s navy and undercut its maritime system (Britain was using Canada for supplies since the US cut their supply to the British West Indies), wanted a US monopoly on Canadian lumber to cripple British navy
  + Pathetic execution – 3 failed attempts in 1812 – most Canadians fought against them, could not rely on the militia, lack of good generalship, bad communication with the troops and maneuvers, New England (the base) withheld many state forces from national service, ineffective invasions
* The only victories in the first year were insignificant naval victories, harassed British ships in the beginning (soon ended), blockades stifled US commerce
* Election of 1812 came with military setbacks and anti-war feelings – Madison won narrowly over DeWitt Clinton (NY Republican)

**Western Victories and British Offensives**

* 1813 – better US success – won engagement on Lake Erie in September, opened supply line in the western theater
* Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry forced British surrender in the southwest shore of the lake in the Battle of Put-in-Bay – signaled General William Henry to launch an offensive in the West
* British had to abandon Detroit, Harrison caught up with British forces on the Thames in southern Ontario – won a victory that broke the backbone of Indian resistance, Tecumseh killed, regained Old Northwest for settlement (Battle of the Thames)
* 1814 – coalition of European powers forced Napoleon to abdicate, freed Britain t focus on the US war – 2 major offensives: invasion south from Montreal down lake Champlain in upstate NY, and an attack on Louisiana to seize New Orleans with a Jamaican force
  + Bad time for British attacks in the US – treasury nearly bankrupt, had to rely on makeshift loans since it could not tax significantly – poorly subscribed, New England banks wouldn’t buy them; inflation came from state banks over issuing paper money
* Political dissent in New England increased - 1814: British extended blockade to include New England
  + Federalist shippers and merchants were hurt, calls for resistance to “Mr. Madison’s War” – Massachusetts legislature called for a “radical reform of the national compact” scheduled in Dec. in Hartford, CT
* August 1814 – British occupied Washington, D.C. to retaliate for the US raid on York (capital of Upper Canada), failed follow-up attack on Baltimore lost the British any strategic gain
  + Chesapeake raids were supposed to distract the US from the forces General George Prevost was leading down Lake Champlain, the largest and best supplied British army – had to turn back when Commodore Mathew McDonough defeated the British fleet in September in the Battle of Plattsburgh
  + Tide of the war turned – Foreign Office in England lessened US negotiation demands at peace talks in Ghent, Belgium

**Treaty of Ghent and the Battle of New Orleans**

* Fall 1814 – British wanted to go back to borders of post-Napoleonic Europe, restore US relations, and reduce their war debt
  + **Treaty of Ghent** signed on Christmas Eve 1814 – restored relations to the status at the start of the war, no exchanges of territory, nothing said of impressment or neutral rights
  + Right after the treaty’s signing, Britain sent reinforcements to General Edward Pakenham (commander of Louisiana invasion) – indicated their lack of commitment to the treaty
* **Battle of New Orleans** fought in January 1815
  + Hero was Andrew Jackson (planter-politician from TN), Indian fighter – general in TN militia, put down Indians at the Battle of Horseshoe Bend in March 1814 (Indians were major losers of the war)
  + Jackson was promoted to general in the regular army, command of defense of Gulf Coast – massacre when British overconfidently attacked on January 8, 1815
  + New Orleans victory eliminated possibility of a British sphere of influence in Louisiana; was also a deathblow to federalism (earned reputation of putting regional interests above national good)

**THE ERA OF GOOD FEELINGS**

* **Era of Good Feelings** – spirit of political harmony and sectional unity in the post-war years – national pride, less political tensions, booming economy

**Economic Nationalism**

* 1815 – Madison outlined a program of economic nationalism, pushed through Congress by Henry Clay and John C. Calhoun
  + New national bank for fiscal stability – Calhoun introduced the bank bill that passed in Congress in 1816
    - **Second Bank of the United States** – modeled after Hamilton’s first and headquartered in Philadelphia, capitalized at $35 million – tremendous economic power
  + The war had required normally imported goods to be manufactured (especially for iron and textile goods)
    - 1815 and 1816 – British inundated the US market with cheap goods to suppress US industry – in response the Tariff of 1816 was passed
  + Revenue from the tariff and the bank was used for transportation projects
    - Lack of road system in the Appalachian-region, westerners wanted outlets to eastern markets
    - 1817 – Calhoun sponsored an internal improvements bill, passed in Congress – vetoed by Madison (thought it was unconstitutional)
* Republicans were frightened by the sectional disunity of the war, many abandoned Jefferson’s original agrarian party – wanted economic and political unity (strongest in mid-Atlantic and West – most economic gains to be made; strongest opposition in the South East – states’ rights, didn’t want to be politically overshadowed)

**Judicial Nationalism**

* Supreme Court under Chief Justice John Marshall supported the new Republican national perspective; 2 main principles were: primacy of Supreme Court in interpreting constitutionality and in sanctity of contractual property rights
* **Fletcher vs. Peck** (1810): ruled that a Georgia law that voided a land grant by an earlier legislature (said it involved a fraud) was unconstitutional (impaired contract obligation)
* **Dartmouth College vs. Woodward** (1819): court ruled that the New Hampshire legislature could not amend the colleges original charter, protected by the constitution
* **McCulloch vs. Maryland** (1819): Maryland legislature placed a heavy tax on the Baltimore branch of the Bank of the US, cashier of the branch James McCulloch refused to pay it (Was the bank constitutional and could a state tax federal property inside its borders?)
  + Vote was that Congress had the authority to charter the national bank and regulate the nation’s money; Congress had the power to use any means not forbidden in the constitution to achieve a reasonable goal within the scope of the document; Constitution did not intend for states to be able to control the federal government

**Toward a Continental Empire**

* John Quincy Adams – secretary of state from 1817-1825 (former federalist, son of second president)
  + Exploited British desire for friendly relations
  + **Rush-Bagot Agreement** in 1817 – limited naval armaments of the Great Lakes (demilitarized the Canadian border)
  + **Anglo-American Accords** of 1818 – Britain gave the US back fishing rights off Labrador and Newfoundland, Louisiana Territory boundary set at the 49th parallel, joint occupation of Oregon
* Adams wanted all of Florida and a window on the Pacific – Spain held them off, negotiations in deadlock
  + March 1818 – Andrew Jackson led troops into Spanish Florida – destroyed Seminole Indian encampments, seized 2 Spanish forts, executed 2 British for selling arms to the Indians (might have exceed orders, but Adams supported him and used him to threaten Spain)
  + **Trans-Continental Treaty of 1819** – US annexed East Florida, Spain recognized early US seizure of West Florida in 1810 and 1813, boundary between Louisiana Purchase and the Spanish Southwest drawn stepwise up the Sabine, Red, and Arkansas Rivers to the Continental Divide and West along the 42nd parallel, Spain renounced claims to the Pacific Northwest, US recognized Spanish claim to Texas, $5 million in Spanish debts
* Both Britain and America were interested in developing trade with mew Latin American countries – George Canning (British foreign minister) proposed in August 1823 that the two nations jointly oppose any European attempts at colonizing South America or assisting Spain in getting its colonies back
  + President Monroe rejected it at Adams’s insistence – wanted to keep US freedom of action and stay away from links to Britain
* **Monroe Doctrine** – December 1823 – declared the US “are henceforth not to be considered subjects for future colonization by any European power”, pledged the US would not interfere in internal European affairs – wanted to be gain position of guardian of New World liberties

**THE BREAKDOWN OF UNITY**

**The Panic of 1819**

* 1815-1819 – wave of postwar prosperity – European markets wanted US goods
* Land sales soared with the frenzy of new Western land acquisition and availability, banks loaned far ahead of currency reserves
* Late 1818 – European markets for US cotton and food went back to normal; 1819 – cotton prices dropped in England – Panic of 1819 (cotton price drop triggered a credit contraction that hit the overextended economy – commodity prices fell, real-estate collapsed esp. in the western cities)
  + Depression guaranteed by shift in the US Bank policy – stopped all loans, called in all debts, refused to honor drafts drawn on western and southern branches
    - Westerners the hardest hit (had mortgaged their economic futures, went bankrupt as creditors forced farm and real-estate liquidation) – Bank became “The Monster”
    - Southerners resented the Tariff of 1816 – unfairly raised their costs, benefitted northern manufacturers, demanded return to states’ right doctrines

**Missouri Compromise**

* Thriving cotton industry had meant an expansion of slavery in the South and Missouri (part of the Louisiana Purchase that was anticipated to deny slavery) – northerners resented this spread
  + February 1819 – James Tallmadge (Republican congressman from NY) introduced amendment banning future slave imports and gradual emancipation for Missouri to become a state
  + March 1820 – Henry Clay made a compromise – admission of Missouri as a slave state balanced by admission of Maine, northern congressmen wanted slavery prohibited in the rest of the Purchase north of Missouri
  + **Missouri Compromise –** Besides Arkansas and Oklahoma Louisiana Purchase territory was closed to future slavery
* Missouri’s constitution called for barring admittance of free blacks – accepted with the statement that discrimination wouldn’t be allowed in other states
* White southerners realized they were a minority in the Union politically – representation in the north had been reduced by 40% by northern population growth

**The Election of 1824**

* After Monroe’s victory for his second term, Republicans spilt into factions for the election of 1824
* 5 Republicans (3 in the cabinet) were competing – John C. Calhoun dropped out (wanted to wait until 1828); others were: Secretary of the Treasury William Crawford of GA, Secretary of State John Quincy Adams of MA, Henry Clay of KY, Andrew Jackson of TN – sectional loyalties replaced partisanship
  + Crawford for states’ rights, Clay and Adams for centralized government
  + Clay for the national bank, tariffs, federal subsidies he dubbed the **American System**
  + Jackson took no stand – good asset, portrayed as military hero, unconnected with Washington politicians (highest vote-getter)
* No majority in electoral college, sent to the House – Clay eliminated, Crawford had a stroke, Adams won and named Clay (used influence as a speaker of the House to gain Adams votes) his Secretary of State

**CHRONOLOGY**

* 1801 – Jefferson inaugurated (first republican president); John Marshal mad chief justice
* 1802 – Congress repeals Judiciary Act of 1801
* 1803 – Marbury v. Madison sets precedent of Supreme Court judicial review; Louisiana Purchase; Lewis and Clark expedition; Britain and France resume war
* 1804 – VP Aaron Burr kills Alexander Hamilton in a duel
* 1806 – Britain and France restrict neutral shipping; betrayal of the Burr conspiracy
* 1807 – Chesapeake affair; Embargo Act; prohibition of African Slave trade
* 1808 – James Madison elected
* 1809 – Embargo Act repealed; Nonintercourse Act passed
* 1810 – Macon’s Bill No. 2; US annexes part of West Florida; Fletcher v. Peck
* 1810-1825 – Revolutionsk in Latin America
* 1811 – Battle of Tippecanoe and defeat of Indian confederation; Charter of US Bank expires
* 1812 – Congress declares war on Britain; American loses Detroit; Napoleon invades Russia
* 1813 – Battle of Put-in-Bay; Battle of Thames and death of Tecumseh
* 1814 – Battle of Horseshoe Bend; British Burn DC and attack Baltimore; Macdonough’s Lake Champlain victory turns into a British invasion; Hartford Convention; Treaty of Ghent
* 1815 – Battle of New Orleans; Congress of Vienne
* 1816 – Second US Bank chartered and protective tariff passed; James Monroe elected
* 1817 – Rush-Bagot Treaty
* 1818 – Anglo-American Accords; Jackson’s border campaign in Spanish East Florida
* 1819 – Trans-Continental Treaty with Spain; start of Missouri Controversy; economic depression begins; McCulloch v. Maryland
* 1820 – Missouri Compromise; Monroe reelected
* 1821 – Greek revolt against Turks
* 1822 – US diplomatically recognizes Latin America
* 1823 – Monroe Doctrine declares Western Hemisphere closed to further colonization
* 1824 – John Quincy Adams elected