Period 4: 1800-1848

In a Nutshell

The new republic struggled to define and extend democratic ideals in the face of rapid economic, territorial, and demographic changes.

Significant Topics

**Development of American Political Parties**

As various constituencies and interest groups coalesced and defined their agendas, various political parties, most significantly the Federalists and Democratic-Republicans in the 1790s and the Democrats and Whigs in the 1830s, were created or transformed to reflect and/or promote those agendas.

1. Federalists- Political party created in the 1790s. Led by Alexander Hamilton, the Federalists favored a stronger national government. Supported primarily by the bankers and moneyed interests.
2. Democratic-Republicans- Political Party created in the 1790s. Led by Thomas Jefferson, the Democratic-Republicans

favored limited government and states rights. Supported primarily by the “common man.”

1. Election of 1800 (Revolution of 1800)-Election that led to a peaceful transfer of power from the Federalist Party to the Democratic-Republican Party.
2. Era of Good Feelings-The period from 1816-1824 characterized by nationalism and one-party control of the nation. The decline of the Federalist Party and the end of the War of 1812 gave rise to a time of political cooperation. The Era of Good Feelings is associated with the presidency of James Monroe.
3. Democrats- Political party that brought Andrew Jackson into office in 1829. Democrats supported Jeffersonian ideas of limited government, drawing its support from the “common man.”
4. Whig Party-Political Party created in 1834 as a coalition of anti-Jackson political leaders

**The Supreme Court, 1801-1835**

Supreme Court decisions sought to assert federal power over state laws and the primacy of the judiciary in determining the meaning of the Constitution.

a. Midnight judges- Federalist judges appointed by John Adams between the time he lost the election of 1800 and the time he left office in March 1801.

b. John Marshall- Appointed to the Supreme Court by John Adams in 1801, he served as chief justice until 1835. His legal decisions gave the Supreme Court more power & strengthened the federal government and protecting private property.

c. Marbury v. Madison, 1803- Supreme Court decision that declared a section of the Judiciary Act of 1789 unconstitutional and established the principle of judicial review.

d. judicial review- The power of the Supreme Court to review the constitutionality of laws passed by Congress.

e. McCulloch v. Maryland , 1819- A Supreme Court decision that upheld the constitutionality of the Bank of the United States. In writing that the state of Maryland did not have the right to tax the federal bank, John Marshall wrote, “The power to tax is the power to destroy.”

f. Gibbons v. Ogden, 1824- Supreme Court decision stating that the authority of Congress is absolute in matters of interstate commerce.

**American Economic Development**

With the acceleration of a national and international market economy, Americans debated the scope of government’s role in the economy, while diverging economic systems meant that regional political and economic loyalties often continued to overshadow national concerns.

a. market economy- Economic system based on the unregulated buying and selling of goods and services. Prices are determined by the forces of supply and demand.

b. Embargo Act, 1807- In order to pressure Britain and France to accept neutral trading rights, Jefferson issued a government-ordered ban on international trade. The Embargo went into effect in 1808 and closed down virtually all U.S. trade with foreign nations.

c. Panic of 1819- Financial panic that began when the Second Bank of the U.S. tightened credit and recalled government loans.

d. Panic of 1837-Economic collapse caused primarily by President Jackson’s destruction of the Second Bank of the United States.

e. debates over the tariff and internal improvements- Northerners generally favored higher tariffs and internal improvement at federal expense. Southerners generally opposed higher tariffs and internal improvements at federal expense.

**Second Great Awakening and American Reform Movements**

The Second Great Awakening, liberal social ideas from abroad, and Romantic beliefs in human perfectibility fostered the rise of voluntary organizations to promote religious and secular reforms, including abolition and women’s rights.

a. Second Great Awakening- An upsurge in religious activity that began around 1800 and was characterized by emotional revival meetings. The Second Great Awakening led to several reform movements designed to make life better in this world.

b. Charles Finney- Presbyterian minister who is credited with starting the Second Great Awakening and is known as the “Father of Modern Revivalism.” Finney advocated the abolition of slavery and equal education for women and African Americans.

c. Seneca Falls Convention, 1848- The first convention in America for women’s rights. Held in Seneca Falls, NY.

d. Elizabeth Cady Stanton- Advocate of women’s rights, including the right to vote, who organized (with Lucretia Mott) the first women’s rights convention at Seneca Falls, NY.

f. Dorothea Dix- Pioneer in the movement for special treatment for the mentally ill.

g. Horace Mann- Massachusetts educator who called for publicly funded education for all children.

h. Utopian communities- Idealistic reform movement based on the belief that a perfect society could be created on Earth. Significant Utopian experiments were established at New Harmony, Indiana, Brook Farm, Massachusetts, and Oneida Community in New York.

**Abolition and the Rights of African Americans and their culture**

Despite the outlawing of the international slave trade, the rise in the number of free African Americans in both the North and the South, and widespread discussion of various emancipation plans, the U.S. and many state governments continued to restrict African Americans’ citizenship possibilities.

a. William Lloyd Garrison- Radical abolitionist in Massachusetts who published The Liberator an antislavery newspaper.

b.Sojourner Truth- Former slave (freed in 1827) who became a leading abolitionist and feminist.

c. Frederick Douglass- Former slave who became a significant leader in the abolitionist movement. Known for his great oratorical skills

d. David Walker- African American who wanted slaves to rebel against their own masters. Walker relied on sailors and ship's officers sympathetic to the abolitionist cause to transfer his message to southern ports.

c.slave music- Music created by slaves for the purpose of religion, work, and recreation. Slave music became the foundation for later styles of music known as gospel, jazz, and blues

**American Culture**

A new national culture emerged, with various Americans creating art, architecture, and literature that combined European forms with local and regional cultural sensibilities. Various groups of American Indians, women, and religious followers also developed cultures reflecting their interests

and experiences, as did regional groups and an emerging urban middle class.

A. Transcendentalism- Philosophical and literary movement that believed God existed within human beings and nature.

Transcendentalists believed intuition was the highest source of knowledge.

b. Ralph Waldo Emerson- Philosopher, writer, and poet who became a central figure in the American transcendentalist movement.

c. Henry David Thoreau- Writer and naturalist. With Ralph Waldo Emerson, he became America’s best known transcendentalist.

**American Technological Developments**

Innovations including textile machinery, steam engines, interchangeable parts, canals, railroads, and the telegraph, as well as agricultural inventions, both extended markets and brought efficiency to production for those markets.

a. Samuel Slater-Known as the “Father of the American Industrial Revolution,” Slater brought British textile technology to the United States.

b. Cyrus McCormick- Developed the mechanical reaper in 1831, a machine that revolutionized farming by increasing crops yields and decreasing the number of field hands needed for the harvest.

c. John Deere- Invented the steel plow in 1837, which revolutionized farming, The steel plow broke up soil without the soil getting stuck to the plow (as happened with older wooden plows).

**American Industry**

Increasing numbers of Americans, especially women in factories and low-skilled male workers, no longer relied on semi-subsistence agriculture but made their livelihoods producing goods for distant markets, even as some urban entrepreneurs went into finance rather than manufacturing.

a. Lowell system- A method of factory management that evolved in the textile mills of Lowell, Massachusetts, which were owned by the Boston Manufacturing Company and named in honor of the company’s founder, Francis Lowell. The Lowell system was the first example of a planned automated factory.

b. Baldwin Locomotive Works- A company located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, that built railroad locomotives.

c. anthracite coal mining- Coal mines in Pennsylvania produced anthracite, which became the most popular fuel for heating

homes in the northern United States until the 1950s when it was replaced by oil and gas burning heating systems.

d. interchangeable parts. Parts that were identical and which could be substituted for one another. Developed by Eli Whitney for the manufacturing of muskets.

**Southern Cotton (The Cotton Belt)**

Southern cotton furnished the raw material for manufacturing in the Northeast, while the growth in cotton production and trade promoted the development of national economic ties, shaped the international economy, and fueled the internal slave trade.

**Development of a National Economy**

Despite some governmental and private efforts to create a unified national economy, most notably the American System, the shift to market production linked the North and the Midwest more closely than either was linked to the South.

a. American System, 1815- Henry Clay’s proposal to make the U.S. economically self-sufficient. The American System called for protective tariffs, internal improvements at federal expense, and the creation of a Second Bank of the United States.

**Development of Natural Resources**

Efforts to exploit the nation’s natural resources led to government efforts to promote free and forced migration of various American peoples across the continent, as well as to competing ideas about defining and managing labor systems, geographical boundaries, and natural resources.

**Westward Migration**

With the opening of canals and new roads into the western territories, native-born white citizens relocated westward, relying on new community systems to replace their old family and local relationships.

a.Erie Canal, 1817-1825 -A 350-mile canal built by the state of New York that stretched from Buffalo to Albany. The canal revolutionized shipping in New York.

b. turnpikes- A road in which tolls were collected at gates set up along the road.

c. National Road (Cumberland Road), 1811- First significant road built in the U.S. at the expense of the federal government. The road

stretched from the Potomac River to the Ohio River.

d. Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, 1828- First steam railroad commissioned in the U.S.

**The Southern Identity**

The South remained politically, culturally, and ideologically distinct from the other sections, while continuing to rely on its exports to Europe for economic growth.

**American Society**

The market revolution helped to widen a gap between rich and poor, shaped emerging middle and working classes, and caused an increasing separation between home and workplace, which led to dramatic transformations in gender and in family roles and expectations.

1. cult of domesticity-The belief that a woman’s proper role in life was found in domestic pursuits (raising children, taking care of a home).
2. Voluntary and Horizontal Associations-

**Sectional Economic Differences**

Regional interests continued to trump national concerns as the basis for many political leaders’ positions on economic issues including slavery, the national bank, tariffs, and internal improvements.

a. Second Bank of the United States, 1816- Privately-owned bank that operated as both a commercial bank and fiscal agent for the U.S.

government. The Second Bank of the U.S was established in 1816 under a charter that was supposed to last twenty years.

b. Tariff of 1816- The first protective tariff in U.S. history. The tariff was designed primarily to help America’s textile industry.

c.Tariff of Abominations, 1828- A tariff with such high rates that it set off tension between northerners and southerners over tariff issues.

d. Destruction of the Second Bank of the United States, 1833- President Jackson, who thought the Bank of the U.S. represented special interests at the expense of the common man, ordered federal deposits placed in state banks (“pet” banks) to deplete the funds of the national bank.

e. John C. Calhoun- South Carolina political leader (also Jackson’s VP)

who defended slavery and advocated the doctrine of nullification, a

policy in which a state could nullify federal law.

f. Daniel Webster- Massachusetts political leader who advocated a strong Union and thought the doctrine of nullification was a threat to the Union.

g. Henry Clay- Political leader from Kentucky and leading member of the Whig Party who worked to keep the Union together through compromise

**American Expansionism and Internationalism**

Following the Louisiana Purchase, the drive to acquire, survey, and open up new lands and markets led Americans into numerous economic, diplomatic, and military initiatives in the Western Hemisphere and Asia. The U.S. sought dominance over the North American continent through a variety of means, including military actions, judicial decisions, and diplomatic efforts.

a. Louisiana Purchase, 1803- The U.S. purchased the Louisiana Territory from France for $15 million, doubling the size of the

U.S. and giving the U.S. full control of the Mississippi River.

b. Lewis and Clark expedition, 1804-1806- Expedition to explore the Louisiana Territory led by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark.

c. War Hawks- Members of Congress from the West and South elected in 1810 who wanted war with Britain in the hopes of annexing new territory and ending British trade with the Indians of the Northwest.

d. War of 1812, 1812-1815- War between the U.S. and Great Britain caused primarily by the British violation of American neutral rights on the high seas. The war ended with an agreement of “status quo ante” (a return to how things were before the war).

e. Adams-Onís Treaty, 1819- Treaty between the U.S. and Spain that ceded Florida to the U.S.

f. Monroe Doctrine, 1823- President Monroe’s unilateral declaration tha the Americas would be be closed to further European colonization. The doctrine also stated the U.S. would not allow European interference in the affairs of the Western Hemisphere.

g. Missouri Compromise, 1820-Law proposed by Henry Clay admitting Missouri to the U.S. as a slave state and Maine as a free state. The law also banned slavery in the Louisiana Territory north of latitude 36º30

**Federal vs. State Power**

Federal government attempts to assert authority over the states brought resistance from state governments in the North and the South at different times.

a. Hartford Convention, 1814 Meeting of Federalists during the War of 1812 in which anti-war Federalists threatened to secede

from the Union. The convention was generally viewed by some as treasonous and the Federalist party began to die out.

b. South Carolina Nullification Crisis, 1832-1833- After South Carolina declared a federal tariff null and void, President Jackson obtained a Force

Bill to use military action against South Carolina. The crisis ended with a compromise to lower tariffs over an extended time.

**Westward Expansion and American Indians**

Whites living on the frontier tended to champion expansion efforts, while resistance by American

Indians led to a sequence of wars and federal efforts to control American Indian populations

a. Tecumseh- Shawnee leader who established an Indian confederacy that he hoped would be a barrier to white expansion. Defeated at the Battle of Tippecanoe in 1811 by U.S. forces led by General William

Henry Harrison.

b. Indian Removal Act, 1830- Law that provided for the removal of all Indian tribes east of the Mississippi and the purchase of Indian lands for resettlement.

c. Black Hawk- Sauk leader who brought his people back to their land in Illinois after their removal. Black Hawk was captured in 1832 after U.S. troops massacred his followers.

d. Worcester v. Georgia, 1832- Supreme Court ruling that declared a state did not have the power to enforce laws on lands that were not under state jurisdiction, John Marshall wrote that the state ofGeorgia did not have the power to remove Indians.

e. Trail of Tears, 1838- Forced march of the Cherokee people from Georgia to Indian Territory in the winter of 1838. Thousands of Cherokees died.

f. Seminole Wars, 1814-1819, 1835-1842- The Seminole of Florida opposed removal and resisted U.S. troops