Chapter 11

The Triumphs and Travails of the Jeffersonian Republic, 1800–1812

Think About It

To what extent did Jefferson’s administration and ideology maintain continuity and foster change in American politics and economics from 1787 to 1812?

What is Jeffersonianism?

- Republicanism and Civic Virtue
  - Civil duty
  - Duty and service
  - Rights of man
  - Natural rights
  - Justice
  - Resist corruption
- Federalism and States’ Rights
  - Federal and state sovereignty
  - Popular sovereignty
  - Natural rights
  - Elected representatives
  - Economic coercion
- Yeoman Farmers as Ideal Citizens
  - Educated and virtuous
  - Independent
- Agriculture Over Manufacture/Industry
  - Responsibility of subsistence
  - Independence
- Empire of Liberty and Foreign Policy
  - America’s responsibility
  - Avoid entangling alliances
- Society
  - Republican motherhood
  - Social justice

Was Jefferson Jeffersonian?

- Consider the following historical concepts and events in regards to the question...
  - The Federal Judiciary
  - Louisiana Purchase
  - Barbary/Tripoli Pirates
  - Embargo Act of 1807
**First Political Party System**

(1789-1824)

**Federalists**
- National policies
- Strong central government
- Loose constructionists
- Commerce and manufacturing
- Urban
- The rich, the well-born, the able; merchants, bankers
- Pro-British
- Northeast

**Democratic-Republicans**
- States rights
- Strong local/state governments
- Strict constructionists
- Agricultural
- Rural
- Small farmers, plantation owners, artisans
- Anti-British
- West and South

10/10/2016

**AMERICA IN 1800**

**National Development in the Early Republic**

- Samuel Slater
- Eli Whitney
  - cotton gin
  - interchangeable parts
- Robert Fulton
  - The Clermont (1807)
- Turnpikes

**1. BEGINNINGS OF INDUSTRY**

**Distribution of slave population 1790-1820**

**2. RELIGION: BEGINNINGS OF THE SECOND GREAT AWAKENING**

- Deism
- Unitarianism

- Second Great Awakening (1806-30s)
  - camp meetings
  - Charles Finney
  - John Wesley
  - "burned over"
3. RISE OF CULTURAL NATIONALISM

- Education? - the “virtuous citizen”
- Distinctively American literature?
  - Washington Irving
  - Noah Webster

I. Federalist and Republican Mudslingers

- In 1800 election, Federalists faced handicaps:
  - Alien and Sedition Acts incited many enemies
  - Feverish preparations for war with France swelled federal debt and required new taxes, including a stamp tax
  - Military preparations ended up unnecessary and therefore seemed extravagant

I. Federalist and Republican Mudslingers (cont.)

- Federalists concentrated their fire on Jefferson himself:
  - He became victim of rumors:
    - Fathered numerous mulatto children by his slave women
    - Long intimacy with Sally Hemings
  - A liberal in religion, Jefferson supported separation of church and state in Virginia
  - He did believe in God, but preachers throughout New England thundered against his atheism

REMATCH

Jefferson vs. Adams
II. The Jeffersonian “Revolution of 1800”

- Jefferson won by a majority of 73 electoral votes to 65 (see Map 11.1)
  - New York went for Jeffersonian, largely because of Burr’s intensive activity
  - Most of Jefferson’s strength was in South & West
  - 3/5 clause of Constitution was decisive in his victory

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**The Electoral College**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>Party</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Votes</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Jeffersonian Republican</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>73</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aaron Burr</td>
<td>Jeffersonian Republican</td>
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<td>John Adams</td>
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<td>Charles C. Pinckney</td>
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<td>SC</td>
<td>64</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Jay</td>
<td>Federalist</td>
<td>NY</td>
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</tbody>
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**Thomas Jefferson**

- Born in Virginia
- Graduate of William and Mary College
- A practicing lawyer and member of Virginia’s House of Burgesses
- Father of the DOI
- Secretary of State under President Washington
- Vice President under Adams
- Owned 200 slaves

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**Aaron Burr**

- Aaron Burr (1756-1836)
- Born in Newark N.J.
- Fought with the continental Army in the Revolutionary war.
- A practicing lawyer in New York City against Hamilton
- Vice President of the United States (1801-1805).
- Kills Alexander Hamilton in a duel
- Involved in the Burr Conspiracy
II. The Jeffersonian “Revolution of 1800” (cont.)

Jefferson's victory dampened by an unexpected deadlock:
- Jefferson, the presidential candidate, and Burr, the vice-presidential candidate, received same number of electoral votes for presidency
- Under Constitution, tie could be broken only by House of Representatives (see Art. II, Sec. I. para. 2)
  - House was controlled by Federalists who preferred Burr

The Election of 1800 (cont.)

- The election was deadlocked.
- Both Jefferson and Burr received 73 electoral votes, so the House of Representatives had to decide the election.
  - The Federalists decided to support Burr to prevent the election of Jefferson.
  - Hamilton distrusted Burr but was not a friend of Jefferson either.
  - Finally, at Hamilton’s request, one Federalist voted against Burr, and Jefferson became president and Burr vice president.

II. The Jeffersonian “Revolution of 1800” (cont.)

- Sometimes referred to as Revolution of 1800:
  - No revolution in true sense of word
  - Jefferson narrowly squeaked to political victory
  - He saw his mission to:
    - Restore republican experience
    - Check growth of government power
    - Halt decay of virtue

Significance of Election of 1800

- Peaceful & orderly transfer of power was “revolutionary”:
  - Remarkable achievement for any young nation, especially so at this time in world history
  - Americans could take pride in vigor of experiment in democracy

II. The Jeffersonian “Revolution of 1800” (cont.)

- Peaceful & orderly transfer of power was “revolutionary”:
  - Remarkable achievement for any young nation, especially so at this time in world history
  - Americans could take pride in vigor of experiment in democracy
III. Responsibility Breeds Moderation

• Jefferson inaugurated on March 4, 1801:
  – In swamplike village of Washington, crude new capital
  – He spurned a horse-drawn coach and walked to the Capitol from his boardinghouse
  – His inaugural address was a classic statement of democratic principles

Jeffersonian Principles

From Jefferson’s First Inaugural Address

“We are all republicans, We are all federalists.”

DOMESTIC POLICY (Discontinuity)
FOREIGN POLICY (Continuity)

“…a wise and frugal Government, which shall restrain men from injuring one another, shall leave them otherwise free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement…”

“…peace, commerce, and honest friendship with all nations, entangling alliances with none.”

III. Responsibility Breeds Moderation (cont.)

– New capital reflected simplicity and frugality of Jeffersonian Republicans:
  • Contrast with elegant atmosphere of Federalist Philadelphia, former temporary capital
  • Jefferson extended democratic principles to etiquette
    – Established rule of pell-mell at official dinners—that is, seating without regard to rank
    – He was shockingly unconventional in receiving guests
III. Responsibility Breeds Moderation (cont.)

- Yet Jefferson in practice reversed many political principles he had championed
- In practice, two Jeffersons existed:
  - One was scholarly private citizen
  - Other was harassed public official
  - He was therefore consistently inconsistent
  - It is easy to quote one Jefferson to refute the other

III. Responsibility Breeds Moderation (cont.)

- Jefferson's eviction of Federalists marked first party overturn in American history.
- Jefferson showed unexpected moderation:
  - Dismissed few public servants for political reasons
  - Patronage-hungry Jeffersonians watched Federalist appointees continue in office

IV. Jeffersonian Restraint

- Jefferson, however, determined to undo Federalist abuses:
  - Pardoned “martyrs” convicted under Sedition Act
  - Enacted new naturalization law of 1802:
    - Reduced requirement of 14 years of residence back to 5-year requirement
    - Had Congress repeal excise tax because it hurt farmers

IV. Jeffersonian Restraint (cont.)

- Albert Gallatin proved to be able secretary of the Treasury
  - Agreed with Jefferson that national debt was a bane rather than a blessing
  - By strict economy, they reduced debt while balancing budget
- Jeffersonians left Hamiltonian framework essentially intact:
  - Did not tamper with funding national debt at par and assuming Revolutionary War debts of states
  - Launched no attack on Bank of United States
  - Did not repeal mild protective tariff
  - In future years, re-chartered a larger bank and bolstered protective tariff to higher levels
  - Jefferson’s moderation cemented “Revolution of 1800” because showed political change need not be disastrous for defeated group

IV. Jeffersonian Restraint (cont.)

- Jefferson was a proponent of states’ rights.
- He believed strong states would best protect freedom and that a large federal government would threaten liberty.
- He also believed in laissez-faire, a policy in which government plays a small role in the economic concerns of a country.
Jefferson's Policies

• Jefferson surrounded himself with men who shared his Republican principles.
• His cabinet had James Madison as secretary of state and Albert Gallatin as secretary of the treasury.
• Under Jefferson the government allowed the unpopular Alien and Sedition Acts to expire and repealed the Naturalization Act.

Democratic-Republican–controlled Congress helped put his republican ideas into practice.
  – Allowed the hated Alien and Sedition Acts to expire.
  – Lowered military spending.
  – Got rid of domestic taxes.
• Believed main functions of federal government were
  – Protecting the nation from foreign threats.
  – Delivering mail.
  – Collecting customs duties.
• Kept some Federalist ideas, like Bank of the United States.

Jefferson's Policies (cont.)

• Jefferson and Gallatin reduced the huge national debt.
• They cut back on military expenses by reducing the size of the army and navy.
• Jefferson and Gallatin also persuaded Congress to repeal federal internal taxes, including the whiskey tax.
• The government funds would come from customs duties, or taxes on imported goods, and from the sale of Western lands.

The number of federal government employees was small under Jefferson.
• He believed that the responsibility of government should be limited to delivering the mail, collecting customs duties, and conducting a census every 10 years.

THE MARSHALL COURT

Revenge of the Federalists
"I shall... by the establishment of republican principles... sink federalism into an abyss from which there shall be no resurrection."

– Thomas Jefferson

V. The “Dead Clutch” of the Judiciary

- Judiciary Act of 1801
  - One of last laws passed by Federalists:
    - Created 16 federal judgeships and other offices
    - Adams signed some commissions for Federalist “midnight judges” on last night in office
    - Aroused bitter resentment for “packing” lifetime posts with anti-Jeffersonians

After their devastating defeat in the Election of 1800, “doomsday” was quickly approaching for John Adams and the Federalist Party.

**The Doomsday Clock**

**Lame Duck Session**

From Article III, Section 1

The judicial power of the United States, shall be vested in one Supreme Court, and in such inferior courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish.

The Judiciary Act of 1801

The “Midnight Judges” Act

Sixteen new federal circuit judges

Sixteen federal judges with life tenure would be able to undermine Jefferson and the Republicans from the bench.
V. The “Dead Clutch” of the Judiciary

- **Judiciary Act of 1801**
  - New Congress quickly repealed Judiciary Act of 1801

Jeffersonians were also after new Chief Justice John Marshall:
- Served 34 years under various presidents
- Dominated Supreme Court by intellect and personality
- Shaped American legal tradition more than any other figure
- Committed to strengthening power of federal government

**John Marshall**

- Federalist
- Secretary of State (Adams Administration)
- Chief Justice of the Supreme Court
  - “Midnight” Appointment

“Midnight judges” presented Marshall with historical opportunity:
- William Marbury appointed a justice of the peace by Adams
- Sued when he learned commission would not be delivered
- Marshall dismissed Marbury’s suit
- *Marbury v. Madison* (1803) enabled Marshall to address question of who had final authority to determine meaning of Constitution

**Marbury v. Madison** (1803)

- William Marbury (Midnight Judge)
- James Madison (Secretary of State)
From The Federalist No. 78

The judiciary, from the nature of its functions, will always be the least dangerous to the political rights of the Constitution...

From The Federalist No. 78

The judiciary, from the nature of its functions, will always be the least dangerous to the political rights of the Constitution...

Marshall’s Dilemma

John Marshall
Chief Justice

Marshall’s Decision

JUDICIARY ACT OF 1789 IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL

John Marshall
Chief Justice

V. The “Dead Clutch” of the Judiciary (cont.)

– Marshall promoted principle of “judicial review” —
  • Supreme Court alone had final word on questions of constitutionality
  • Marshall inserted keystone into arch that supports tremendous power of Supreme Court in American life
– Jefferson urged impeachment of Justice Samuel Chase, but effort failed
– Established precedent of judicial independence

Marshall:

The Supreme Court can declare laws to be unconstitutional.

– (in this case, a federal law passed by Congress)
VI. Jefferson, a Reluctant Warrior

- Early on, Jefferson reduced military:
  - Wanted to win friends through “peaceful coercion”
  - North African pirates of Barbary States (see Map 11.2) plundered & blackmailed merchant ships that ventured into Mediterranean
  - War across Atlantic was not part of Jefferson’s vision

TROUBLES AT SEA

- Significance of American Shipping
- Barbary pirates

Americans in Foreign Seas

- Many American merchant ships profited from trade with foreign nations in the late 1700s and early 1800s.
- Ships made calls in South America, Africa, and along the Mediterranean Sea.
- By 1800 the United States had almost 1,000 ships trading around the world.

Jefferson and the Barbary/Tripoli Pirates

- Washington and Adams
  - Paid bribes to Barbary states to avoid piracy
- Jefferson
  - Barbary states increase bribes
  - U.S. Navy and Marines dispatched

Americans in Foreign Seas (cont.)

- Sailing foreign waters could be dangerous, however.
- Ships had to watch for Barbary pirates from Tripoli and other Barbary Coast states of North Africa.
- These pirates demanded tribute, or protection money, to let ships safely pass the Mediterranean waters.
• The United States entered a war with Tripoli.
• When the ruler of Tripoli asked the United States for more money in 1801, Jefferson refused.
• War broke out. Jefferson sent ships to blockade Tripoli, but the Barbary pirates were too powerful to be defeated.

• In 1804 the pirates seized the United States warship Philadelphia and towed it into Tripoli Harbor.
• When a United States navy captain and his raiding party burned the ship, a British admiral called it a “bold and daring act.”

VI. Jefferson, a Reluctant Warrior (cont.)

• Showdown came in 1801-1805, Tripolitan War:
  – Jefferson sent infant army to “shores of Tripoli”
  – Four years of intermittent fighting
  – The conflict ended in June 1805 when Tripoli agreed to stop demanding tribute.
  – Succeeded in extorting treaty of peace from Tripoli in 1805; bargain price of $60,000 (ransom payment for captured Americans)
• Jefferson also advocated construction of small coastal craft; about 200 tiny gunboats built.
VII. The Louisiana Godsend

- 1800, secret pact signed:
  - Bonaparte induced Spain to cede immense region of Louisiana, including New Orleans
  - Spaniards at New Orleans withdrew warehouse rights guaranteed by Pinckney’s Treaty of 1795
  - Hoping to quiet clamor in West, Jefferson in 1803 sent James Monroe to Paris to work with Robert Livingstone, the regular minister there

- Instructed to buy New Orleans and as much land as possible for $10 million
- Napoleon suddenly decided to abandon dream of New World empire and sell all of Louisiana
- Failed in effort to reconquer sugar-rich island of Santo Domingo (Haiti)
- Slaves struck for freedom in 1791
- Haitian Revolution eventually crushed, but yellow fever killed thousands of French troops

- Without Haiti, no need for Louisiana’s food supplies.
- To keep Louisiana from British, Napoleon decided to sell it and use money for schemes in Europe.
- Livingston was shocked when French asked him what he would give for all of Louisiana:
  - On April 30, 1803, treaties signed ceding Louisiana to United States for about $15 million

- Treaties included immense tract to west of New Orleans that would more than double size of U.S.A.
- Once again, two Jeffersons wrestled with each other:
  - The theorist and former strict constructionist versus the democratic visionary
  - Jefferson submitted treaties to Senate, while privately admitting purchase was unconstitutional
  - Gained 828,000 square miles at three cents an acre

VII. The Louisiana Godsend (cont.)

Louisiana Purchase Treaty
VIII. Louisiana in the Long View

- **Louisiana Purchase**—
  - Secured western half of richest river valley in world & laid foundation of a future major power
  - Established valuable precedent for future expansion on basis of equal membership
  - Imperialism with a new democratic face
  - Would lead to displacement of many Indians
  - Made isolationist principles of Washington’s Farewell operational because remove Europe from N. America
Questions:

1. Where, in the Constitution, is the power delegated to the President to add land to the United States?

2. To what extent did Jefferson compromise his strict constructionist principles by purchasing Louisiana?

From Article II, Section 2

[The President] shall have Power, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, to make Treaties, provided two thirds of the Senators present concur...

The Louisiana Purchase (1803)

The Louisiana Purchase (1803)
Lewis and Clark

- 1804-1806
- Purposes:
  - Explore new territory
  - Claim to Oregon
  - Political & trade relations with Indians

http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~atlas/america/interactive/map06.html

VIII. Louisiana in the Long View (cont.)

- Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery:
  - 1804 Jefferson sent personal secretary, Meriwether Lewis, and army officer William Clark to explore northern part of Louisiana
  - Exploration took 2 ½ years
  - Rich harvest of scientific observation, maps, knowledge of Indians, and adventure stories
  - Demonstrated viability of overland trail to Pacific

The Nation Expands (cont.)

- Jefferson sent Meriwether Lewis and William Clark to explore the new territory even before the Louisiana Purchase was complete. 
  - Jefferson saw the expedition as a scientific adventure, while Congress was interested in commercial possibilities and places for future ports. 
  - Lewis and Clark put together a crew and left St. Louis in the spring of 1804. 
  - Along the way they kept a journal of valuable information on people, plants, animals, and geography of the West.

The Nation Expands (cont.)

- After traveling nearly 4,000 miles in 18 months, they reached the Pacific Ocean. 
  - They spent the winter there and traveled back along different routes. 
  - Jefferson sent another expedition to explore the wilderness. 
  - Lieutenant Zebulon Pike led two expeditions into a region that is now Colorado. 
  - There he found a snow-capped mountain he called Grand Peak. Today it is called Pikes Peak.

VIII. Louisiana in the Long View (cont.)

Thousands of missionaries, fur-traders, and pioneering settlers later made their way to claim Oregon Country

- Zebulon Pike trekked to headwaters of Mississippi River, 1805-1806
- Pike explored southern part of Louisiana Territory in 1807, where he sighted Colorado peak that bears his name
IX. The Aaron Burr Conspiracies

Louisiana Purchase expanded fortunes of United States and power of federal government

• In short term, vast new territory and feeble reach of government raised fears of secession and foreign intrigue (see Map 11.3)
• Burr, Jefferson’s first-term vice president, helped justify such fears
• Burr joined with Federalist extremists to plot secession of New England and New York
• Hamilton exposed and foiled conspiracy

IX. The Aaron Burr Conspiracies (cont.)

• Burr then turned his plotting to trans-Mississippi West
• Struck deal with General James Wilkinson, unscrupulous military governor of Louisiana and secret agent for Spain
• Wilkinson’s army was to meet Burr at Natchez

IX. The Aaron Burr Conspiracies (cont.)

• When Wilkinson heard that Jefferson learned of plot, Wilkinson fled to New Orleans
• Burr was arrested and tried for treason
• Marshall, strictly interpreting Constitution, insisted guilty verdict required proof of overt acts of treason, not merely treasonous intentions (see Art. III, Sec. III)
• Burr was acquitted and fled to Europe
• His actions demonstrated that it was one thing to purchase large expanses of territory but quite another to govern them effectively
X. A Precarious Neutrality

- Jefferson triumphantly reelected in 1804:
  - 162 electoral votes to only 14 votes for Federalist opponent
- Napoleon provoked renewed war with Britain—conflict would rage for next 11 years.
- During first two years of war, maritime United States enjoyed commercial pickings.

Map Credit: http://www.normancrossgallery.com/history/index.html

X. A Precarious Neutrality (cont.)

- 1805 Battle of Trafalgar:
  - Lord Nelson smashed French & Spanish fleets
  - Ensured Britain’s supremacy on sea
- Battle of Austerlitz in Austria (the Battle of the Three Emperors):
  - Napoleon crushed Austrian and Russian armies
  - Ensured his mastery on land
X. A Precarious Neutrality (cont.)

- 1806 London issued Orders in Council:
  - Closed ports under French control to foreign shipping, including American, unless vessels stopped at a British port first
- Napoleon struck back:
  - Ordered seizure of all merchant ships, including American, that entered British ports
- American vessels were caught -- no way to trade with one nation without antagonizing other

X. A Precarious Neutrality (cont.)

- Impression also upset Americans—
  - Forced conscription of sailors by British
  - Some 6,000 U.S. citizens impressed by Britain (1808 to 1811)

X. A Precarious Neutrality (cont.)

- Chesapeake affair (1807):
  - British frigate stopped U.S. frigate, the Chesapeake, 10 miles off coast of Virginia
  - British captain demanded 4 alleged deserters
  - London had never claimed right to seize sailors from a foreign warship
  - American commander refused demand
  - British fired 3 devastating broadsides at close range
  - 3 Americans killed; 18 wounded
  - 4 deserters taken; Chesapeake limped back to port
Most Americans were angered over this incident and public opinion was to go to war with the British.

Regarding the Chesapeake Affair, the Washington Federalist reported, “We have never, on any occasion, witnessed the spirit of the people excited to so great a degree of indignation, or such a thirst for revenge, as on hearing of the late unexampled outrage on the Chesapeake. All parties, ranks and professions were unanimous in their detestation of the dastardly deed, and all cried aloud for vengeance.”

X. A Precarious Neutrality (cont.)

- Britain clearly wrong as London Foreign Office admitted
- London’s contrition availed little as roar of anger swelled from infuriated Americans
- Jefferson could easily have had war if he wanted it

XI. The Hated Embargo

Honor would not permit submission to British & French mistreatment, but USA not ready for war.

- Warring nations needed United States for raw materials and foodstuffs
- Jefferson thought if America cut off exports, offending powers would relent
- Congress issued Embargo Act in 1807:
  - Forbade export of all goods from United States, whether in American or foreign ships
  - Embodied Jefferson’s idea of “peaceful coercion”
XI. The Hated Embargo (cont.)
American economy devastated by embargo long before Britain or France began to bend
- Enormous illicit trade mushroomed in 1808, especially along Canadian border
- Embargo revived moribund Federalist party
- On March 1, 1809, three days before Jefferson retired, Congress repealed embargo
  - *Non-Intercourse Act* formally opened trade with all nations, except Britain and France

Embargo Act

![Image of a ship]

- **Reasoning:** Since England and France were at war with one another and traded for most of their natural resources with U.S., if we cut off our exports to them it would force them to respect our neutrality... THIS IS CALLED ECONOMIC COERCION.
  - *It would have the reverse effect......
  - The Embargo Act not only hurt France and Britain but it also hurt U.S. trade which was our economic survival as a nation. As a result, many Americans defied the law and began to smuggle goods from these countries as well as others.
    - Hurt American businesses
    - New Englander's shift from trade to industry
    - U.S. smuggled
    - New England talked of secession....
    - Lasted 15 months, repealed in March of 1809

Embargo Act

A Federalist circular in Massachusetts against the embargo cried out,

> "Let every man who holds the name of America dear to him, stretch forth his hands and put this accursed thing, this Embargo from him. Be resolute, act like sons of liberty, of God, and your country; nerve your arms with vengeance against the Despot (Jefferson) who would wrest the inestimable germ of your independence from you—and you shall be Conquerors!!"

> "Our ships all in motion, Once whiten’d the ocean; They sail’d and return’d with a Cargo; Now doom’d to decay They are fallen a prey, To Jefferson, worms and EMBARGO."

XI. The Hated Embargo (cont.)
Embargo act failed because Jefferson:
- Underestimated British determination
- Overestimated dependence of both belligerents on America's trade
- Miscalculated unpopularity of a self-crucifying weapon and difficulty of enforcing it
New England plucked new prosperity from ugly jaws of embargo:
- Resourceful Yankees reopened old factories and erected new ones

XI. The Hated Embargo (cont.)
- Foundations of modern America's industrial might laid behind protective wall of embargo.
- Jefferson, avowed critic of factories, may have done more for manufacturing than Hamilton, industry's outspoken friend.
XII. Madison's Gamble

- Madison took oath on March 4, 1809:
  - Just as conflict in Europe escalated
  - Non-Intercourse Act (1809) would expire in 1810
  - Congress dismantled embargo completely with a bargaining measure—Macon's Bill No. 2
    - If either Britain or France repealed its commercial restrictions, America would restore its embargo against nonrepealing nation
    - To Madison, bill was a shameful capitulation

XII. Madison's Gamble (cont.)

- Macon's Bill No. 2:
  - French implied their restrictions might be repealed
  - Madison did not trust Napoleon, but he gambled
  - Threat of exclusive U.S. trade with France would lead British to repeal restrictions
  - Gave British three months to revoke Orders in Council & reopen Atlantic to neutral trade
  - British refused; Madison's gamble failed

XIII. Tecumseh and the Prophet

- When 12th Congress met in late 1811, older “submission men” replaced by young hotheads, many from South and West:
  - Dubbed war hawks by Federalists, newcomers advocated war with England
  - Also wanted to destroy renewed Indian threat for settlers moving to trans-Allegheny wilderness
XIII. Tecumseh and the Prophet (cont.)

Two Shawnee brothers, Tecumseh & Tenskwatawa, known to non-Indians as “the Prophet,” decided to resist tide of white encroachment

• Began to form confederacy of all tribes west of Mississippi
• Frontiersmen and their war-hawk spokesmen became convinced that British in Canada were nourishing the Indians’ growing strength
• In 1811, William Henry Harrison gathered an army and advanced on Tecumseh’s headquarters

Tecumseh and the Prophet (cont.)

Tecumseh was absent, but the Prophet attacked Harrison’s army with a small force of Shawnees

• Shawnees were routed and their settlement burned
• Battle of Tippecanoe made Harrison a national hero
• Discredited the Prophet and drove Tecumseh into an alliance with British
• During America’s war with Britain, Tecumseh fought for England until killed in 1813 at Battle of the Thames
• With his death, dream of an Indian confederacy perished

XIV. Mr. Madison’s War

• Pushed by war hawks & upset by Indian attacks, Madison believed war with England inevitable by 1812.
• Madison also believed war would restore faith in republican experiment.
• Congress approved request for war in June:
  – Republicans, esp. South & West, supported war
  – Federalists, esp. from New England, opposed
XIV. Mr. Madison’s War (cont.)

• Many New Englanders refused to support war and actually helped British.
• USA went to war badly divided by party and by section.