

Jefferson: New Struggles and Old Challenges

Election of 1800

- Adams (F) vs. Jefferson (DR)
- Bitterly contested – heavy voter turnout
- Adams lost but electoral tie between Jefferson & Burr
- Federalist-controlled House of Reps settles election
 - Chose Jefferson for President; Burr for VP
- Hamilton campaigned against Burr
 - Building hatred results in 1804 duel
 - Hamilton (leader of Federalists) killed
 - What will that mean for the Federalist Party?

The Twelfth Amendment

- Ratified in 1804
- Provides for separate balloting for President and Vice President

Federalist power struggle

- Hoped to fill federal courts with Federalist judges before newly-elected Republican president and congressional majority took office
- What would be the result?
- Judiciary Act of 1801 creates 10 new federal courts and reduced Supreme Court by 1 justice
 - Midnight Judges
 - Chief Justice John Marshall is one of them

Significance of the Election of 1800

- Republicans take control of the Presidency from the Federalists
 - A peaceful revolution
 - Party in control of central govt. defeated & removed by ballot rather than bullets
- Organized political opposition legitimized

Jeffersonian Democracy

- Reduced the size of the govt.
- Cut spending (mostly of Federalist excesses)
- Believed that government that governs least governs best
- 1st president who was the leader of a political party

Marbury vs. Madison

- SC course over appointment of William Marbury to Federal Court
- Sec. of State Madison refused appointment of Federalist Marbury – paperwork too late
- - Marbury sues to get job
 - asks Supreme Court to order Madison to deliver the commission issued before Jefferson took office
- Sup. Ct. led by Marshall declares portion of Judiciary Act of 1789 unconstitutional
 - Marbury doesn't get job but Supreme Court demonstrates power of JUDICIAL REVIEW

Republicans re-evaluate Federalist Policies

- Repealed Whiskey Tax, cut military spending, reduced national debt
- Repealed Naturalization Act, restoring 5-year waiting period for citizenship
- Allowed Alien & Sedition Acts to expire
 - Pardoned persons prosecuted
- Continued Hamilton's assumption and Bank plans
- Remained isolationist (mostly!)
- Adopted loose interpretation to get Louisiana Territory

The Louisiana Purchase

- Jefferson sent Robert Livingston & James Monroe to France to offer to buy New Orleans
- Napoleon needed cash for war in Europe – offered all of LA Territory for \$15 million (bargain!)
- Congress did not authorize purchase of all of the land but Monroe snatched it up
- Jefferson used loose interpretation – no mention in Const. of territorial purchase

Significance of the Louisiana Purchase

- True borders unknown but nearly doubled the size of the U.S.
- Ultimately a source of wealth for the U.S.
- Elimination of French presence
- Total, uncontested control of Mississippi River
- Precedent for future territorial acquisitions
- Leads Lewis and Clark and others to explore newly acquired land

Jefferson Re-elected in 1804

- Burr dropped from ticket because of political intrigue during first Jefferson term
 - George Clinton is the new VP
- Second term dominated by foreign policy matters
 - War with Tripolitan (Barbary) Pirates
 - Started 1801 – ended 1805
- Continued conflict between GB & FR

Great Britain vs. France

- Admiral Lord Nelson's victory at Trafalgar gives Great Britain mastery of seas
- British Orders in Council (1806-07)
 - Blockade of French controlled Europe
 - Seizure of ships & impressment continues
- Chesapeake Incident
 - U.S. ship boarded off VA by British (HMS Leopard)
 - American sailors seized – leads to demands for retaliation
 - Jefferson chooses negotiation – sailors released but GB maintains right to seize ships
- Berlin & Milan Decrees (1806-07) - France
 - Known as the Continental System
 - Cut off GB to trade
- Both GB & FR violated US neutrality but GB practiced impressment – humiliation

Embargo of 1807: Alternative to War

- Prompted by the *Chesapeake* incident
- Jefferson & Sec. of State Madison tried economic boycott to force GB & FR to recognize U.S. neutrality
- Prohibited all foreign commerce (Logic?)
 - Hurt merchants & ship-owners of New England more than GB & FR
 - Smuggling widespread despite futile efforts to enforce the Embargo
- Unexpected effect - stimulated development of U.S. industry

Failure of the Embargo

- Federalists gaining political ground because of failed embargo
- Repub. dominated Congress repealed the embargo at end of Jefferson's 2nd term
- Embargo of 1807 replaced by Non-intercourse Act of 1809
 - prohibited trade w/ GB or FR until they recognized the maritime rights of neutrals
 - Commerce w/ all others permitted
- Macon's Bill No. 2 of 1810
 - Replaced N-A Act – offered trade to either GB or FR if they stopped attacks on US ships
 - Would continue to embargo other nation

Jefferson's Legacy

- Strengthened executive branch through action
- 1st pres. to lead a political party
- Held great faith in popular rule
 - known as Jeffersonian Democracy
- Best known for Declaration of Independence
 - Also Virginia Statute of Religious Freedom & founding of University of Virginia

Madison, Monroe, and the “Era of Good Feelings”

Election of 1808

- Madison - Former Sec. of State under Jefferson – easily defeats Federalist Charles Pinckney (1758-47)
 - Despite modest Federalist revival
 - Serves two eventful terms
- Continues “peaceable coercion” policy with GB & FR
 - Madison continued to try to use diplomacy to protect American ships
- Macon’s Bill No. 2 (1809) - reopens trade w/ GB & FR
 - If either lifts restrictions on neutral shipping, U.S. would impose embargo on the other
 - Napoleon (fraudulently) agrees & U.S. is tricked into a hostile posture toward GB

The War Hawks

- Pro-war Southerners & Westerners
- Led by Henry Clay (KY)
 - preferred war over “ignominious (humiliating) peace”
 - support of John C. Calhoun (SC)
- Demanded war with GB
- In favor of:
 - Expansion west and north to Canada
 - Punishing Britain for impressment and seizure of ships
 - Stopping British arming of frontier Indians against settlers

Western Settlers & Tecumseh

- Shawnee leaders Tecumseh and the Prophet sought to unify Indians & purge culture of white influence
- Tecumseh refused to sign Treaty of Fort Wayne (1809), ceding land to Indiana Territory
- Tecumseh was not aligned w/ the British
- Indiana Territory Gov. William H. Harrison sent an army against the Shawnees
 - Battle of Tippecanoe 1811
 - Shawnees, led by the Prophet, attacked Harrison in Nov. 1811 - reportedly armed by the British
 - Shawnees lose, but Tecumseh not present
 - Tecumseh joins w/ the British
 - Harrison becomes a national hero

Madison's Declaration of War

- War Hawks in Congress & failure of "Peaceable Coercion" led Madison to call for war against Britain - June 1, 1812
- Cited maritime rights, impressment, and agitation of western Indians against settlers
- Generally popular, but Federalists opposed the war

Causes of the War of 1812

- Violations of "Freedom of the Seas" > British seizure of ships and impressment of sailors
- American desire to annex Canada
- British Arming of Native Americans
- Longstanding resentment of Great Britain

War for U.S. maritime rights or a war for territory?

- Northeasterners most directly concerned with maritime rights were largely opposed to the war
- South & West, most strongly for territorial expansion, favored the war

Military Events of the War

- American invasion of Canada failed due to incompetence
- British invasion of U.S. from Canada prevented by American navy on Great Lakes
- U.S. navy initially successful at sea until ports blocked by GB
 - USS Constitution: (Old Ironsides) victorious vs. British warship *Guerriere* a temporary morale builder
- British invasion of Chesapeake region 1814
 - Battle of Ft. McHenry
 - Burning Washington DC

Ft. McHenry, MD

- British bombardment of U.S. fort at Baltimore inspires Francis Scott Key to write *The Star Spangled Banner*

Treaty of Ghent

- War fought to a draw after 2 years
 - GB had little to gain from prolonged war
 - Had no firm control after 2 years of fighting & wanted to concentrate on Europe
- Treaty signed in Belgium - Dec. 24, 1814
- U.S. boundaries restored but naval seizures & impressment left unsolved
 - end of war in Europe negates the issue
- Battle of New Orleans takes place AFTER the treaty is signed (January 1815)
 - Andrew Jackson routs British and becomes war hero

Results of the War of 1812

- Growth of American Nationalism
 - “Second War for American Independence”
- Strengthened Isolationism
- Increased Westward Migration
 - more land opened after Indian defeats
- Growth of U.S. industry
 - response to loss of British imports during war

Death of Federalist Party

- New England states opposed war
- Dec. 15, 1814 - leading Federalists held **Hartford Convention**
- Proposed 7 amendments to Const. to strengthen states’ rights (ironic!) & protect northern interests
- Some hinted at secession though did not have support
- Convention ill-timed – Americans thought we won and Federalists came off as weak
 - Signing of Treaty of Ghent & Jackson’s victory at New Orleans made Federalists look bad
 - Federalist party soon disappears

The Era of Good Feelings: 1817-1825

- Death of the Federalist Party
- Adoption of many Federalist ideas
- Monroe (Demo. Rep.) wins 1816 election
- Americans nationalistic following War of 1812
- U.S. foreign policy successes
 - Rush-Bagot Treaty (1817)
 - Convention of 1818
 - Purchase of Florida (1819)

Monroe Doctrine

- Political philosophy of James Monroe regarding Euro presence in the Americas
- It was not a law, pledge or agreement - merely a statement of policy
- First stated Dec. 2, 1823 - Warned Euro powers to keep out of western Hemisphere
- No new colonizing or intervention in Americas
 - Leave newly independent nations of Central & South America alone
 - Could retain current land holdings
- US would stay out of Euro affairs
- Vague threat against violators

Significance of Monroe Doctrine

- Expressed American nationalism & desire to be a world player
- Effective?
 - Russia halted expansion at 54° 40'
 - Europe did not attempt re-conquest of Latin America
 - No major or lasting violations even though U.S. not powerful enough to back it up until the 1860's

Chief Justice John Marshall

- Preserves Hamiltonian Federalism into the 1830's
- Serves for 34 years
- affirms principle of judicial review of legislative acts
- Marbury vs. Madison (1803)
 - Established right of Judicial Review
- Fletcher vs. Peck (1810)
 - Affirmed right of court to rule state laws unconstitutional
 - originated out of Yazoo land deal in southeast
- Dartmouth College vs. Woodward (1819)
 - States cannot interfere in contracts
- McCulloch vs. Maryland (1819)
 - Upheld the "implied powers" of Congress
 - Affirms broad interpretation of the Constitution - making it flexible
 - Maryland tried to tax Bank of U.S. branch in MD - court rules that states can't interfere w/ fed govt.

Marshall's Legacy

- 34 years of Federalist influence on court - strengthening federal govt.
- Controversial but a man of integrity
 - Represented the wealthy & distrusted the rule of the "unwashed masses"
- Makes Supreme Court the final authority in constitutional matters
- Established primacy of federal govt. over states, especially in exercising control of economy
- Affirmed protection for corporations from local/state govt. interference
 - promotes growth of capitalist economy

Slavery & the Sectional Balance

- Sectional tensions increased (1819) when Missouri applied for statehood
- H of Reps. passed anti-slavery Tallmadge amendment to Missouri Bill
 - Would ban further slavery in MO
 - Children born to slaves would be emancipated at age 25

Tallmadge Amendment

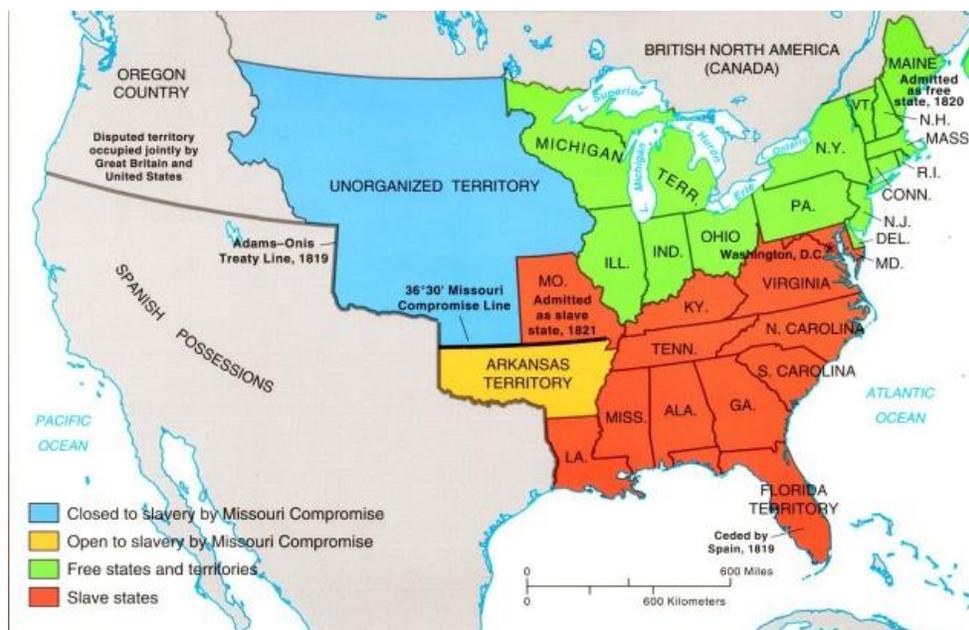
- Southerners & Westerners opposed
- South viewed it as threat to sectional balance between N & S
 - North had pop. advantage in H of R
 - South = in Senate (11 states per)
- Equality in Senate means N can't interfere w/ slavery
- Tallmadge Act defeated in Senate

Missouri Compromise of 1820

- Authored by Henry Clay (KY)
- MO enters as slave state & Maine enters as free
- North/South balance preserved
- No new slavery in remainder of Louisiana Terr. north of 36° 30'
 - MO's southern border

Mutual benefits & displeasure

- North - remainder of Louisiana Territory free
- South - a new slave state
 - & potential for more south of line
- Deal only lasts 30 years
- MO Comp. did nothing to resolve the slavery issue
- Increase in sectional nationalism



The Adams Presidency Leads to the Jacksonian Revolution

The Election of 1824

- Becomes the Era of Hard Feelings
 - Four candidates with sectional ties
 - All were Democratic-Republicans
 - People voted along sectional lines
- No majority in Electoral College
 - H of R selects from top 3 candidates
 - Jackson, Adams, Crawford
- Clay supports Adams rather than Jackson - WHY?
 - House elects Adams instead of Jackson
 - "Corrupt Bargain!" with Jackson as the loser

Jackson's Early Campaign

- Began 2/9/1825 when House voted John Quincy Adams President
- Republican Party split into two camps
 - National Republicans w/ Adams as leader
 - Democrats with Jackson

Democracy was the issue of 1828 campaign

- Jackson hammered at the "corrupt bargain" & "theft" of 1824 election
 - Only way to right the wrong - elect Jackson
 - "Jackson and Reform"
 - Supporters of Adams & Jackson lowered themselves to mudslinging

Jacksonian "Revolution of 1828"

- Jackson wins in 1828 vs. Adams
- A "revolution" for the common man
- Adams loses the election but goes on to serve in the H of R from Mass.

Jacksonian vs. Jeffersonian Democracy

Jefferson

- Capable, well-educated people should govern for the people
- Reflected agricultural society
- Limited democracy to political aspects

Jackson

- People themselves should manage govt. affairs
- Reflected agricultural as well as emerging industrial society
- Political, economic, and social democracy

Protective Tariffs

- 1816 Tariff was generally acceptable in all sections
 - protect ALL U.S. industries from cheap British goods
- Later tariffs not supported in South

The Tariff of Abominations (1828)

- Another high tariff
- Jacksonians pushed for higher rates hoping to embarrass Adams
- S. Carolina the most vocal opponent
 - Real issue was fear of federal power
 - Also of concern - economic distress of the Old South - the seaboard area

The "Yankee Tariff"

- The South thought that the Tariff of 1828 was only making the North rich at the expense of the South
- John C. Calhoun (SC) secretly writes "The South Carolina Exposition and Protest" upholding the sovereignty of the states
 - Calls for states' right to nullify unjust federal laws
 - Peggy Eaton Affair – conflict sharpened Jackson and Calhoun's strong disagreement

The Webster-Hayne Debate (1830)

- Started as an argument over public land policies
 - Becomes a classic debate between Sen. Daniel Webster (MA) & Robert Hayne (SC)
- Real issue - states' rights
 - "Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable." - Webster

Impact of the Debate

- Webster's speech reaffirmed the concept of the Union
- Convinced people of the value of Union - worth fighting for
- Perhaps did more to preserve the Union than the Union Army

Jackson and the ideal of Union

- Though a Westerner himself, Jackson was a Unionist
- He was a foe of nullification
- He would soon be willing to use force, if necessary, to preserve the Union

Jackson and the Nullification Crisis

Nullification Crisis over Tariff of 1828 and 1832

- Radical South Carolina
 - Lingering Anger over the Tariff of 1828
- Many in South Carolina viewed the "Tariff of Abominations" as a wedge for federal interference
- Updated Tariff of 1832 fell short of meeting Southern demands for lower rates
 - Touched off new nullification calls

The “Nullies”

- After capturing a 2/3 majority in the SC state legislature, the “Nullies” called for a state convention
- Declared the tariff null and void within South Carolina
 - The states had the right to nullify acts of the federal government they deemed to be unconstitutional
- Called for military preparations
- Threatened to remove South Carolina from the Union

Jackson’s Reaction

- Jackson prepared to respond with force
- South Carolina initially refused to back down
- If no compromise was reached, it would mean civil war

The Compromise Tariff of 1833

- Brokered by Sen. Henry Clay (KY)
 - Gradually reduced rates by 10% over 8 years - addressing SC demands
- Hotly debated but passed 2/20/1833
 - The face-saving Force Bill by Congress
 - Authorized force to collect duties
- SC able to back away with dignity

No Clear-cut Winner in the Crisis

- A victory for both Union and nullification
- South Carolina arguably came out better
 - It won concessions on the tariff
- Was South Carolina appeased, or only delaying a civil war?
 - Perhaps, but force is always a risky solution.
 - Responding with force against SC could have led to a wider conflict
 - Force indicates a failure of diplomacy
 - Compromise was traditional in America

The Jackson Presidency and the Rise of the Whig Party

Jackson’s Career before the Presidency

- Soldier
 - Fought in the Revolution
 - Fought in the War of 1812
 - Fought in First Seminole War, 1817-18

- Politics
 - U.S. Representative (TN), 1796-98
 - U.S. Senator (TN), 1797-98 (resigned)
 - Tenn. Superior Court Justice, 1798-1804
 - U.S. Senator, 1823-25
 - Presidential Candidate, 1824
 - Elected President, 1828

Jackson as President

- 1st VP - John C. Calhoun (resigned 1832)
- 2nd VP - Martin Van Buren
- Readily used the Presidential Veto
- Jackson preferred to use his "Kitchen Cabinet"
 - Group of old friends and unofficial advisors who assisted Jackson
- "To the victor belong the spoils."
 - Elected official replaced appointed officeholders with new appointees who were political friends and supporters
- Jackson confronted the growing sectional crisis over tariffs and states' rights.
- In general, Jackson supported making internal improvements to the U.S.

The Election of 1832

- Henry Clay (National Republican) vs. Jackson (Democrat)
- 1st time that a 3rd party (Anti-Masonic) entered the race
- Nominating conventions (3) used to choose candidates rather than caucuses
- Natl. Reps. and Anti-Masons adopted & publicized party platforms

Clay and the Natl. Republicans

- Well-funded
- Had a supportive corps of newspaper editors
- Had influential supporters including Webster
- Unable to overcome Jackson's popularity
 - Jackson easily wins the election

Jackson as President

- Jackson did not support the re-charter of the Second Bank of the U.S. - vetoed
- Invested Federal money in **Pet Banks** (state banks)
 - Caused money supply to increase rapidly and fueled wild speculation in land
- Tried to restore economic order by issuing Specie Circular
 - to stop chaos created by Pet Banks and Wildcat banks (financially unsound)
 - Paper money should not be accepted in payment for federal government lands sold
- Maysville Road Bill
 - Jackson vetoed it because he opposed federal support for projects entirely within a single state

The Whig Coalition

- Jackson loved by the masses but his foes began to form an alliance
 - New party known as the Whigs
 - Consisting of National Republicans, Anti-Masons, and breakaway Democrats
- Socially conservative and Unionist
- Whig voters tended to be native-born Protestants
- Supporters of Henry Clay's *American System*
 - Tariff to protect/promote American industry
 - National bank
 - Federal funding for roads, canals, and other internal improvements
- A truly national party & cohesive force for Union for two decades

The Election of 1836

- Whig Party failed to unify under one leader
- Democrat Martin Van Buren won the election of 1836
- Panic of 1837 scars his presidency

Independent Treasury Act (1840) & the 1840 Election

- Van Buren attempted to "divorce" the U.S. government from banking
 - Independent Treasury Act
- Van Buren suffocated by the 1837 depression and effective Whig campaigning > Master politician Van Buren beaten at his own game

Andrew Jackson = didn't like Native Americans

- Indian Removal Act (1830)
 - Exchange public lands in West for Indian territories in East; \$500,000 to cover cost of removal

Cherokees = claimed to be independent republic w/in GA > GA claimed jurisdiction over "nation"

- *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*
 - SCCJ John Marshall: Cherokees are not a "republic," but a "domestic dependent nation" (ward of U.S.); had claim to lands in GA due to prolonged occupancy
- *Worcester v. Georgia*
 - "distinct" political community entitled to federal protection from tampering by GA
 - A. Jackson: "John Marshall has made his decision; now let him enforce it!"
 - Cherokees persuaded to sign treaty ceding all Cherokee lands in U.S. for \$5.6 million and free trip west
- "Trail of Tears" (1838)
 - Cherokees were forcibly removed to new Indian territory in OK

The Growth of Industry in 19th Century America

Transportation Revolution

- *Gibbons v. Ogden*
 - Congress's power alone to regulate interstate commerce (applied to navigation)
 - Break up Livingston-Fulton monopoly over steamboat ferry service granted by NY legislature
- Railroads!
 - Advantages: cheaper, faster to build, able to reach more places

Industrial Beginnings

- Eli Whitney
 - Cotton gin
 - Creates fast and easy way to process cotton
 - Interchangeable parts
 - Creates modern assembly line
- Samuel Slater
 - Builds first cotton mill
 - Uses Slater's spinning frame

New Inventions

- High Pressure Steam Engine
 - Oliver Evans (1800)
- Mechanical Reaper
 - Cyrus McCormick (1831)
- Vulcanized Rubber
 - Charles Goodyear (1844)
- First public telegram transmission
 - 1844
- Sewing Machine
 - Elias Howe (1846)

The Spread of Factories

- American factory system spread out of necessity for manufactured goods prior to 1815
- U.S. shipping industry impacted by growth of domestic manufacturing
- Peace with England dampened the early boom

Mass Production

- Firearms industry first to utilize mass-produced interchangeable parts
 - As early as 1798 Eli Whitney was developing interchangeable parts
 - The basis for modern mass-production and assembly line methods

Improvements in Business Organization

- The formation of corporations
 - Limited liability for individual investors

- Boston Associates = an early investment capital company
- Stock exchanges created to trade corporate shares

The Railroad Boom

- Canal building slowed by late 1830s
- Steam locomotives pioneered in England
 - Railroad development proliferated rapidly in the 1850s
 - Improvements in rails and standardization of track aided growth

Benefits of Railroads

- Greater and faster access to the west
- Cheaper shipping aided farmers
- Stimulated supporting industries such as iron and coal
- Provided reliable, all-weather, year-round transportation for people and goods
- Some negative effects as well...

Reviving Religion and the Birth of the Reform Movement

The Importance of Religion

- By 1850, 3/4 of 23 million Americans regularly attended church
- Many changes in religious faith
- Deism and the Unitarian Faith
 - Unitarians:
 - No Trinity, Jesus a man, stressed man's goodness, emphasized works
 - Embraced by intellectuals

The Second Great Awakening

- C. 1800 - A reaction against liberalism in religion
- Pervasive evangelicalism that sparks religious and social reform
- Giant crusades (revival meetings)
 - Methodists and Baptists
 - Peter Cartwright (1785-1872) - best known traveling Methodist preacher
 - Charles Finney - greatest of the revival preachers

The Church of Latter-Day Saints

- Joseph Smith founds Mormonism
 - Known as the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
- Brigham Young becomes the Mormon leader in 1844
 - Smith murdered by an Illinois mob
- The Mormons settle at the Great Salt Lake in Utah
 - Utah Territory brought into the United States in 1850 (45th state in 1896)
 - Young serves as Governor

The Age of Reform

- American reformers promoted change in many areas of society
- Reform societies formed to take on the social evils of America
- The reform movement was a product of the Second Great Awakening

Prison Reform

- Debtors Prisons eventually eliminated
- The number of capital crimes was reduced
- Cruel and unusual punishments were outlawed
- Prisons became places of reform as well as punishment

Reforming the Treatment of Mental Illness

- Imprisonment and cruel treatment of the insane persisted into the 19th century
- Dorothea Dix the leading reformer in the field

The Temperance Movement

- Men as a group tended to drink liquor much more than women
- Economic & environmental reasons for the popularity of liquor
- Temperance movement led by women

- One of the most successful reform movements
 - By the 1840's, the nation witnessed a sharp decline in alcohol consumption.
 - Consumption was 1/2 the rate during the 1820's

Abolition

- William Lloyd Garrison a leading voice against slavery
 - Uncompromising in his demand for emancipation
- Earned support of Black Abolitionists, including Frederick Douglass and Sojourner Truth

The Utopian Communities

- Experimental cooperative communities established by reformers
- Founders were intellectuals
- Alternatives to competitive economic society
 - Robert Owen & New Harmony
 - Founded in 1825 in Indiana by British-born Owen - 1000 residents
 - Formed for the betterment of workers
 - Community quickly fell apart
 - Owenism survived beyond New Harmony
 - Brook Farm - 1841
 - Experimental community in Mass.
 - Formed by Transcendentalists
 - Alternative to competitive commercial life of cities
 - Mecca for renowned writers
 - Disbanded in 1849 - never > 100 residents
 - Oneida Colony, NY - 1848
 - Founded by John Humphrey Noyes
 - Most radical but long lived
 - Practiced "complex marriage", birth control, selective breeding, communism
 - Dissolved c. 1880
 - The Shakers
 - Led by Mother Ann Lee in Lebanon, Ny
 - Hostile to materialism
 - Shaker furniture a hallmark of the group
 - Shaker movement peaked in 1820's

A woman's sphere

- Catherine Beecher and "domestic economy"
- "The cult of domesticity"
- Socially assigned roles for men and women persist

The Legal Status of Women

- Legal status of women largely unchanged since the Revolution
- No suffrage on a national level
- Subordinate to husband
- Origin of women's rights movement - abolition

The Seneca Falls Convention of 1848

- Organized by Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton
- Issued the Declaration of Sentiments based on Dec. of Ind.
- Argued that laws placed women "in a position inferior to that of men"
- Convention an important step in the Women's Rights Movement

Susan B. Anthony

- A Quaker active in temperance and abolition groups
- Joined women's rights cause in 1850s
- Labored alongside Stanton in the crusade for women's rights

A long road to suffrage

- Progress toward voting rights is slow
- No national right to vote until 1920 with passage of the 19th Amendment
- Some legal gains made, especially regarding property ownership, wages, and child custody.

"Women's Work"

- Careers open to women were limited
- Primary fields were nursing and teaching
- Difficult for women to break into traditionally male professions
- Those who did tended to excel beyond expectations of detractors

The American Renaissance

Rise of the American Art Form

Rising Prosperity

- Technology improved quality of life
 - Lowered prices of goods
- Rise in average worker's purchasing power
 - Increased factory productivity led to more hours
- Growth of cities offered more opportunities for year-round work (compared to agricultural labor)
- Rise of cities increased paid labor for women and children
- Cities provided more \$ opportunities & attracted more people

Quality of Life

- Housing
 - Little improvement for the urban poor
 - Crowded tenements
 - Middle class = brick row houses
- RR's transported fresh food
- Urban waterworks started providing water
 - Still not common & not matched by sewers
- 2/3 of family income spent on food and rent

Health

- Greater emphasis on diet and exercise
- Sylvester Graham – more veggies, less meat
 - Believed meat eaters were more lustful and aggressive
- Popularity reflected desire for better life
- Some scientific fads were strange
 - Phrenology = development of the brain determined skull shape
 - Believed a person's character could be judged by the shape of their head
 - Some negative applications of phrenology
- Major epidemics
 - Cholera, yellow fever
 - Diseases spread because of:
 - Transportation
 - Distrust of physicians
 - Doctors didn't understand causes of diseases
 - Powerless municipal health boards
- Anesthesia improved surgical procedures
 - William Morton uses ether in 1846
- Infections from wounds or surgery still a problem

Mid-19th Century Pastimes

- Reading - fiction and newspapers
 - Penny Press (James Gordon Bennett)
 - inexpensive with mass appeal
 - New York Herald
 - Focus on crime coverage and human interest
 - Birth of the modern press
- Theater – diverse styles (even Shakespeare)
 - Minstrel Shows – variety shows that usually lampooned blacks by reinforcing stereotypes of African Americans as clumsy and stupid
 - P.T. Barnum & the “American Museum”

American Renaissance

- Started c. 1820’s
- Prior – most writers & artists mimicked European works
 - Euros contemptuous of American art
- 1800 – U.S. authors a negligible proportion of output of U.S. publishers
 - 1830 – about 30% American
 - 1850 – 75%
- Greater effort to depict features of U.S. in art
 - A quest for nationality in art
- Based on romanticism
 - Literary works emotionally charged, reflecting inner feelings
- A democratization of literature
 - No classical education required to write or read fiction
 - Many antebellum works written by women

The Writers

- James Fenimore Cooper
 - 1st to introduce a distinctively American character: Frontiersman
 - Frontiersman Natty Bumppo – “Leatherstocking Tales”
 - *Last of the Mohicans* (1826), *The Pathfinder* (1840)
- Ralph Waldo Emerson - Essayist
 - A transcendentalist – off-shoot of romanticism
 - Knowledge of reality derived from intuition, not sensual experience
- Henry David Thoreau
 - “Civil Disobedience” (1849) – citizen’s right to disobey unjust laws
 - *Walden* (1854) – a reexamination of life’s purpose
 - Self-reflection
- Margaret Fuller – transcendentalist writer
 - *Woman in the Nineteenth Century* (1845)
 - Women cannot achieve personal fulfillment without developing intellectual abilities

- Walt Whitman – Poet
 - *Leaves of Grass* (1855)
 - Free verse poetry with blunt language

Fiction

- Nathaniel Hawthorne
 - *The Scarlet Letter* (1850)
- Edgar Allan Poe
 - *The Murders in the Rue Morgue* (1841)
 - *The Cask of Amontillado* (1846)
 - *The Raven* (poem – 1844)
- Herman Melville
 - *Moby-Dick* (1851)
- All tended to be pessimistic about humanity – proved the mental state of their characters
 - Uniquely American style focusing in moral dilemmas

The Literary Marketplace

- Unlike earlier writers who shunned commercialism, American Renaissance writers sought income & recognition
 - Poe wrote for magazines
 - Emerson, Thoreau & Melville lectured at lyceums for fees and expenses
- Higher literacy due to co-educational public schools widened audience, especially women
 - Most popular form of fiction – sentimental novels

The Hudson River School

- Not a school, but a movement (1820's-70's)
- Focused mainly on landscapes
 - Thomas Cole
 - Asher Durand
 - Frederick Church
 - Albert Bierstedt
- Started in Hudson River region but spread
- Emphasized emotional effect over accuracy
- Many sought to preserve a record of disappearing wilderness

Landscape Architecture

- Creation of pockets of nature in urban settings
- “spiritual refreshment” for city dwellers
- Frederick Law Olmstead & Calvert Vaux
 - Central Park – NYC
 - Hide the surrounding city