Chapter 9

Exploded Boundaries
1815-1828

Era of Good Feelings

- The disharmony which immediately followed Washington’s retirement ends, temporarily.
- Sense of nationhood and culture begins to emerge; American literature develops.
- Barbary Pirates raid on American Shipping
- Madison must prove his worth as leader.
- Pirates believe U.S. is weak, a “paper tiger”.

Partisan Politics Subside

- The decline of the Federalist party results in a temporary end of bitter partisan politics.
- In the 21st century those who don’t know American history will think that politeness in politics was the norm, it wasn’t, it isn’t.
- The Sedition Act sought to silence dissent.
- It attempted to make criticism of the government a punishable offense.

Federal Authority Emerges

- The establishment of a national bank
- Administration of acquired lands
- Recognition of national priorities.
- First step away from Jeffersonian ideal
- Federal government finances national roads
- Federal government sponsors improvements
- Suppressing Native American resistance.

The Emergence of Political Myth

- Reality: Federal government played critical role in national expansion and development
- History contradicts anti-government view of federal action; creates a mythology.
- The federal government created infrastructure that enabled, fostered economic growth.
- Prior to industrialism’s mythology of their role in national growth; it was government.

James Monroe elected president

- Harmony results in landslide
- Treaty restricts fleets on Great Lakes.
- See interaction as potential for conflict.
• British believe they are protecting Canada
• Americans do hope that Canada will become part of the United States.

**Canadian-American Relations**
• Never told in our history books how often America sought to conquer Canada.
• American army attacked Canada in 1775.
• Americans attacked numerous small towns along Lake Ontario, burned some totally.
• Canada's English-speaking population almost all former American Loyalists.

**Transportation**
• System of national roads is developed
• Canals precede railroads as freight route
• New York build canal system uniting Lake Erie with Hudson River
• Lake Ontario flows out through the Saint Lawrence, through Canada
• Lake Ontario connects with Erie Canal through Oswego River

**Oswego Emerges As Active Port**
• Oswego used as port in War of 1812.
• In peace Oswego becomes the primary connection between the Erie Canal, the Great Lakes and Canada.
• Many French Canadians settle in Oswego.
• Flour mills begin to flourish.
• With there a tentative truce between U.S. and Canada, Oswego thrives.

**Native Americans Pushed West**
• As European-American settlers move west they push Native American peoples west.
• Animosities fueled by support of the British had made poor relations worse.
• Those who lived on the frontier saw Indians as a threat to safety, obstacle to land.
• Only some tribes responded with violence to the violence that they had experienced.

**Americans Take Florida**
• The Spanish had encouraged Native American tribes to attack southern border.
• The Spanish supported England and followed their example in battling the Colonists.
• Following the war, Americans move south.
• Slaves escape and seek refuge in Florida.
• In 1818 Gen. Jackson attacks north Florida.

**Second Bank of the U.S.**
• Credit needed for economic expansion.
• National government needed credit to expand the economy.
• A combination of government and private business that would become a model.
• Developers begin speculating on land starting the change away from farming.
Infrastructure

- Government begins expensive projects that are designed to spur economic growth.
- Projects that would not have happened without government support.
- Some projects are financed privately.
- Intended to spur growth in new West.
- Connect new regions with east coast.

Erie Canal

- Ice Age glaciers create a flat landscape with rivers running along east-west direction.
- Other rivers run north-south toward lakes.
- Mohawk River extends from Albany west.
- Oneida River links to Oswego River.
- 1816, Gov. Dewitt Clinton authorizes work.
- Irish immigrant laborers do most the work.

Canals are Railways Precursor

- Cheap method of moving large cargoes.
- Limited to route forced by geography.
- Towns & cities emerge along route.
- Economic growth along the route.
- Population grows in region near canals.
- Land values increase near canals.
- Becomes model for railroad development.

Slavery dominates the South

- Shift to cotton makes slavery more profitable.
- Textile mills need cotton.
- Cotton spreads west to Texas.
- Revival of slavery, field workers for cotton.
- Slave owning aristocracy dominates southern politics and culture; only really a minority.

Cotton Gin

- April 1793, northerner Eli Whitney designed and constructed the cotton gin (cotton engine)
- The machine automated the separation of cottonseed from the short-staple cotton fiber
- Made the prospect of growing cotton on vast acreage of South economically profitable.
- Big plantations force out small farmers.
Slavery’s Westward Push
• Big cotton growers force out small cotton growers and farmers of other crops.
• Small farmers, who use fewer slaves, move west to land that is either free or cheap.
• Small farmers see profits made in having slaves do all the labor in picking cotton.
• Slave owners see profits in “growing slaves.”

South’s Exaggerated Power
• Property requirements and general poverty & illiteracy result in only the wealthy voting.
• Most of the wealthy are slave owners.
• The South is allowed to count each slave as 3/5ths of a citizen in census for Congress.
• The result: Slave owners dominate Southern politics, which in turn dominates Congress

Incipient Industrialism
• Former factory employee from England smuggles plans for fact to New England.
• New England’s many streams & rivers are source of power for early factories.
• Workers who had performed many tasks on farm or domestic work now do limited tasks
• Long hours, unsafe conditions, huge profits.

Panic of 1819
• Severity and frequency of economic catastrophes downplayed in American history
• Inflated costs of cotton land drives the poor off the land; developers make most profit.
• Slowdown in postwar economic growth.
• “War is good for business” a common belief.
• Scapegoat found on 2nd Bank of U.S.

End of Federalist Party
• Once dominant party, the party of the Constitution disintegrates.
• Opposition to the War of 1812.
• Favored strong central government which is now blamed for economic crisis.
• Quality of leadership declined
• Some philosophers were poor leaders.

Missouri Compromise
• Slave owners want to expand westward with growth of cotton industry.
• The border between slave and free cultures not clear in new border states.
• Former southerners and former northerners mingle in the same new state of Missouri.
• For each slave state admitted there would be a free state admitted too; parity maintained.

**Slave Revolts**

• Slave revolt in Haiti results in freeing of slaves and slaughter of slave owners.
• Denmark Vesey plans to lead slave revolt in South Carolina; informant betrays them.
• The rebels plan to sail to Haiti to freedom.
• Thirty-five slaves hanged for conspiracy.
• Events spark great fear among slave owners.

**The Monroe Doctrine**

• The Monroe Doctrine seeks to restrict European intervention in this hemisphere.
• Spain’s colonies had become independent
• Turmoil throughout Europe
• French will conquer Mexico in mid-century.
• Doctrine is premise in Cuban Missile Crisis.
• Later it will be used to rationalize imperialism

**Election of 1824**

• Four-way race results in no real winner.
• The House of Representatives picked the president because the electoral college failed.
• John Quincy Adams, son of President John Adams, becomes first son of president to be elected president; happens only once more.
• The deal which produced Adams victory soured politics for his entire term.

**Departing Heroes**

• The last few signers of the Constitution pass away ending an era.
• Lafayette returns to a heroes welcome.
• Jefferson and Adams die on the same day, the Fourth of July, 50th Anniversary.
• They had reconciled in their final years.
• They corresponded regularly in that time.