*Period 4: The Meaning of Democracy (1800 - 1848)*

* ***Jefferson’s Rise to Power:***

* **Party Tensions**
  + By 1800, Federalists had made themselves many enemies from their Alien and Sedition acts and the party had split into the Hamiltonian side and the Adams side (they hated each other)
  + The heaviest hit the Federalist party faced was Adams refusing to go to war with France, a war they had ballooned the debt, built a navy, and imposed many unpopular taxes for
  + Jefferson himself was smeared by the Federalists and framed to be an atheist and someone who was intimate with his slaves
  + Adams lost to Jefferson in the 1800 election, but Jefferson and another JDR, Aaron Burr, were tied
  + The vote went to the Federalist dominated House, where many wanted to vote for Burr over Jefferson, but were persuaded to vote Jefferson like the JDRs wanted because anything other than that would cause public outcry
  + Adams was the first and last Federalist president
  + The 12th Amendment was later passed to clear up how presidents would be elected (usually winner was president and runner up was VP)
  + When Jefferson won, barely eking out a victory, he called the election a “revolution” comparable to that of 1776 because he believed the Federalists had abandoned American values and he was set on restoring republican ideals while checking the power of the government
  + This election was notable for its peaceful transition of power, something crazy in such a young nation filled with disagreement
* **Jefferson in Office**
  + Jefferson developed two versions of himself as president: the private philosophical citizen and the harassed public official who realized bookish theories didn’t work the same way in practical politics
  + The only thing holding many JDRs together was their opposition to the Federalists, who were fading at the time (which, in turn, faded the power of the JDRs)
  + Jefferson ended up pardoning those in jail over the Sedition Acts and he created a new naturalization law that reduced the time needed to become a citizen from 14 years to only 5
  + Jefferson reduced the size of the military in an effort to strengthen “republican ideals” → he believed America shouldn’t be like Europe with its bloody wars and didn’t trust a military that could turn on the people
  + This idea was smashed with the reality of North African pirates looting American ships → Jefferson was forced to react by sending a small fleet to fight in the Tripolitan War
* **Federalist Resistance**
  + In the last days of Federalist control of Congress, the Judiciary Act of 1801 was passed → it created 16 new federal judgeships that were filled with Federalist-backing men
  + This was regarded as a gross attempt from the Federalists to control one whole branch of government, even though they had fairly been outvoted in the elections
  + Court case of Marbury vs. Madison → SC asserts its right to judicially review legislation to make sure it’s constitutional
  + This court case was led by John Marshall, a Federalist chief justice appointed by John Adams that continued to serve on the court during Jefferson’s presidency
  + JDRs tried to impeach a SC judge in order to take revenge on the court for the Marbury case, but it failed and strengthened the idea of separation of powers and checks/balances
* ***The World Stage Widens:***

* **Louisiana and France**
  + Napoleon had induced the Spanish crown to give him the Louisiana territory, which worried pacifist Jefferson
  + Spain was weak and posed no threats, only privileges, to owning the territory, while France was strong and in the midst of a dictatorship that foreshadowed bloody American wars
  + Jefferson sent envoys to France to negotiate for the territory; he made it clear that if the negotiations failed that the U.S. must seek out an alliance from Britain, their old foe
  + Napoleon gave America the territory due to the Haitian Revolution and because he needed money to continue fighting Britain
  + Jefferson only wanted New Orleans and was willing to pay 10 million → he got New Orleans and a huge piece of land westward for only 15 million
  + The Louisiana Purchase was actually unconstitutional and Jefferson proposed an amendment so it would be allowed but the public was so happy about it that they didn’t care
* **Cracks in the Union**
  + Burr joined with a group of extreme Federalists after being dropped from Jefferson’s second term cabinet
  + This group plotted the secession of NY and NE from the union, but Hamilton exposed this plot
  + Challenged to a duel, Hamilton was killed by Aaron Burr
  + Burr was tried for treason but acquitted because they had no proof of real treason, just treasonous intentions (John Marshall may have been biased here as well)
  + American trade sank as Britain and France began to fight indirectly
* **Foreign Trouble**
  + Britain, controlling the seas, passed the Orders in Council that closed French ports (since France controlled the land) to foreign shipping unless using a British ship
  + France, furious, began to seize all types of merchant ships, even American
  + The British began to practice impressment, which was basically kidnapping seamen and forcing them to work on British ships
  + America wanted to fight back, but the army and navy were weak and a war went against Jefferson’s peace loving mind
  + However, the two nations were dependent upon America for raw materials and food → Congress passed the Embargo Act in order to stop the nations from fighting
  + This act was horrible for the economy and the people because it cut them off from any exporting, and smuggling increased
  + It was replaced by the Non-Intercourse Act, which reopened trade to all countries except Britain and France (the two most important ones)
  + The Federalists regained some support during this time and industrialism went on the rise in place of agrarian exportation and shipbuilding
  + James Madison, the fourth president, was in office when Congress repealed and replaced the Non-Intercourse Act with Macon’s Bill No. 2 → this bill said that America would stop the embargo if France and Britain lifted commercial restrictions
  + Napoleon lied and said that the French would → France was now open to trade while Britain was still under embargo: another step closer to war
* **On the Frontier**
  + Newcomers to Congress were hotheads begging for war, called war hawks
  + They were also against native movement, so they pushed them back Westwards
  + Eventually, Tecumseh and the Prophet banded together many tribes east of the Mississippi in order to fight against expansion
  + William Henry Harrison took an army and advanced on Tecumseh’s HQ, but he was absent so the Prophet attacked in his place with a tiny army that was routed in the Battle of Tippecanoe
* ***The War of 1812 Failure:***

* **The War Begins**
  + James Madison declared war on Britain in 1812
  + The army was horribly trained before the war and relied on militias for support sometimes; British were more enthusiastic
  + British forces were weakest in Canada, so it was a battleground
  + Washington, D.C. was burned but Andrew Jackson managed to defend the city of New Orleans
  + Royal Navy raided ships and ruined economic livelihoods like fishing
  + Russia’s Tsar Alexander I convinced the two countries to meet in negotiation because he didn’t want his British ally wasting their time and strength
  + They met in Ghent, Belgium; Britain demanded many terms like a neutral buffer zone and the Great Lakes → Americans denied
  + They began to care less about what they wanted when they began suffering defeats and became busy with the Congress of Vienna
  + The Treaty of Ghent was eventually signed → basically said that the war was a draw and everyone would stop fighting; it made no mention of the American grievances like impressment, the Indian menace, etc
* **The New England Problem**
  + New England, as always, was the defiant section; it traded illegally with Canada and the many Federalists there opposed the war
  + Some New Englanders even professed secession from the country and helped the British
  + The dreaded Hartford Convention came in the wake of New England discontent → ME, CT, RI, VT, and NH all met to address their grievances
  + Demands included a one term presidency, financial assistance for lost trade, a ⅔ Congress vote on more important things like declaring war or an embargo, a limit on the presidents from one state in a row, and the removal of the 3/5ths Compromise
  + Demands were laughed at in face of the New Orleans victory
* **After the War**
  + Sectional unity was glaring, especially because of New England’s demands
  + The Federalist party had weakened almost to death
  + Manufacturing began to prosper in face of being cut off from Britain
  + The Rush-Bagot Agreement in 1817 limited the naval armament on the Great Lakes and created the longest unfortified border (Canada-US)
  + Nationalism was extremely high
  + Textbooks, magazines, paintings were very American-based
  + D.C. was rebuilt even better, the army was expanded, and a better Bank of the US was created
* ***Rise of Nationalism and Sectionalism:***
* **The American System**
  + Britain’s factory competition in America got Congress to implement the Tariff of 1816, the first of its kind to *protect* manufacturing rather than rake in revenue
  + Nationalism continued with the American System plan, supported by the West and Henry Clay
    - Banking → easy credit
    - Protective tariff → flourishing manufacturing
    - Networks of roads/canals → paid by tariff revenue
  + Congress attempted to give out money to states in order to help them improve internally, but Madison vetoed this as unconstitutional
  + New England especially opposed this plan because new roads would drive population out of the their small states and into the West
* **The Era of Good Feelings and Rise of the West**
  + James Monroe became our fifth president
  + This era was dubbed the Era of Good Feelings, but sectionalism was rising and the issue of slavery was rearing its head
  + Economic hardship hit in the form of the Panic of 1819 causing deflation, depression, bankruptcies, bank failures, unemployment, etc
  + The West was gaining in population steadily because of many new advancements such as more roads, lack of a substantive native threat, and cheap land
  + Although it had little influence at first, the West gained it by demanding cheap money and transportation, which was further cemented by the Land Act of 1820 that allowed you to buy 80 acres for $1.25
* **Slavery in Missouri**
  + Missouri, the first state entirely west of the Mississippi River, wished to be admitted as a slave state
  + However, the Tallmadge Amendment was passed → it prohibited new slaves in Missouri and aided in the gradual freeing of slave children there
  + The South was furious at this → slavery was their livelihood and they needed Missouri as a slave state to gain influence in the Senate because the North was outpacing them in terms of population and the House
  + The Missouri Compromise was borne out of this → Missouri is admitted as a slave state, but Maine is admitted as a free state
  + The Missouri Compromise Line was also formed at the southern border of the state to indicate that anything north of the line was free country
  + This shaky compromise barely held the Union together
* **In the Marshall Court**
  + In McCulloch vs Maryland (1819), John Marshall reaffirmed nationalism and the power of the federal government when he denied Maryland the right to tax a branch of the Bank of the USA → This court ruling gave the doctrine of loose construction strong fuel
  + In Cohens vs Virginia (1821), the Cohen brothers were indeed found guilty as per Virginia’s ruling but the court asserted it had the right to review all state court decisions
  + In Gibbons vs Ogden (1824), Marshall denied NY the right to permit a monopoly on waterborne commerce, saying only Congress had that right
  + In Fletcher vs Peck (1810), Georgia tried to repeal a contract that gave privateers land fraudulently, but Marshall ruled that it was still a contract and couldn’t be impaired
  + In Dartmouth College vs Woodward (1819), NH tried to change the charter granted to Dartmouth by the king a long time ago, but Marshall once again said it was a contract
* **Oregon and Florida**
  + The Anglo-American Convention created by the Monroe administration allowed the US and Britain to jointly occupy Newfoundland and the Oregon territory
  + Andrew Jackson swept into Florida after the Latin American revolutions → Spain withdrew troops because they had other issues so Jackson took his chance to take the land
  + Spain, not really left with a choice, ceded Florida in the Florida Purchase/Adams-Onis Treaty (1819) and was paid $5 million
* **Worldwide Affairs**
  + The Congress of Vienna strengthened monarchs in Europe, bringing fear to Americans that their democracy might be threatened → Russian control of Alaska supported these fears, though the tsar retreated soon after Monroe’s new foreign policy with the Russo-American Treaty
  + Soon, Britain asked America to ally together to prevent European intervention in Latin America
  + The Monroe Doctrine was soon born, urging Europe to practice noncolonization and nonintervention in Latin America
  + This was partly because Monroe sought to protect the fledgling republics, but he mostly wanted to keep more powerful nations away from the US
* ***Bloom of Mass Democracy:***
* **Corrupt Bargain, 1824**
  + Before the rise of mass democracy, this election included four candidates (Jackson, Quincy Adams, Crawford, Clay) who were all “Republicans” but still were regarded as unsure in terms of their political allegiances
  + Jackson won the most electoral votes, 99, but it was still not a majority so the election went to the House
  + Only the top three could be chosen to be president, so Clay was out but he was also Speaker of the House so he could swing the election in any way he chose
  + Clay thought Crawford was unhealthy and he hated Jackson, so he supported Quincy Adams because they were somewhat similar politically but also because he wanted to be Secretary of State
  + Jacksonians were furious at this subversion of democracy
* **John Quincy Adams as President**
  + Adams was not very supported → he was a “minority elected” president, had nationalist viewpoints while the country was trending towards sectionalism, and distrusted by the West and the South because he was sympathetic towards natives and iffy on slavery
  + New England was most likely elated because he was from there and not Virginia
* **Jackson and the Tariff**
  + Andrew Jackson overwhelmingly won the next presidential election against Adams, his strongest support coming from the West and the South
  + He was the first Democrat (the JDRs had split into Nationalist Republicans and Democrats)
  + Although he disliked tariffs, Jackson couldn’t stop the passing of a tariff that protected industries → this made the farming South angry because it threatened slavery and favored the North
  + South Carolinian “Nullies” ended up gaining enough support to nullify the law in South Carolina, but Jackson threatened opponents with hanging because he hated disrespect and disunity, although not a fan of the tariff himself
  + Just in case, Congress passed the Force Bill which would allow the president to use the military to collect tariff duties, so SC stood down
* **The Trail of Tears Begins**
  + Southern tribes either resisted whites or embraced “civilization”
  + The 5 Civilized Tribes → Chickasaw, Choctaw, Creek, Cherokee, Seminole
  + The Supreme Court upheld the rights of natives to stay on their lands but Jackson was eager to get them out and ignored the decision of John Marshall
  + Congress passed the Indian Removal Act of 1830 and Jackson then moved most Indians west to Oklahoma where they could live in “peace” (even though America kept expanding west)
  + This Trail of Tears was a stain on the legacy of America
* **Jacksonian Reign**
  + Jefferson was not a fan of big banks, especially the BUS
  + The BUS and the elite who worked within it tended to control the economy, sometimes seeming like a branch of government
  + Henry Clay, hoping to be president, pushed for a bill to renew the BUS’s charter in order to sabotage Jackson
  + If Jackson renewed the bank, then his followers would be angry, but if he didn’t renew it then the elite bankers who backed him would not support him
  + Jackson vetoed the Bank as unconstitutional, even though the Supreme Court had done opposite in McCulloch v. Maryland → Jackson acted as if the Executive Branch was superior
  + In the 1832 election, a third party called the Anti-Masonic Party entered the scene → against secret society of Masons
  + First instance of parties having conventions for candidates
  + Jackson easily won against Clay and then bled the BUS dry of funds, inadvertently creating a financial panic because the bank was the only source of reliable credit at the time
* ***The Two Party System:***
* **Rise of the Whigs**
  + Growing from their mutual dislike of Jackson and mutual support of the American System, the Whigs coalesced
  + They welcomed a market economy and supported internal improvement rather than rampant western conquering
  + The Whigs used three candidates in the election of 1836 in order to appeal to each region and prevent Martin Van Buren, Jackson’s preferred successor, to reach the majority of votes
  + Van Buren still won a majority nonetheless, dashing the Whigs’ dreams of winning
* **Van Buren’s Mess**
  + Van Buren was not well liked; he faced a condition similar to Adams when he had to compete with the thriving popularity of Washington
  + In addition to that, Van Buren had to deal with the financial panic that Jackson never had the chance to fix
  + The Panic of 1837 was caused by overspeculation in the West along with Jacksonian finance/the Bank war
  + Banks and factories closed and unemployment went up
  + Whigs made suggestions to fix the problems, but Van Buren kept trying to apply Jacksonian ideas to it
  + Van Buren eventually supported the Divorce Bill in Congress which tried to separate the government from banking completely → it wasn’t really popular with anyone and it was repealed by the Whigs in the next election
  + The Whigs nominated William Henry Harrison and John Tyler, who ended up winning in a landslide due to financial problems being blamed on Van Buren
* **Texan Tension**
  + The Americans still coveted Texas even after giving up that land tract to Spain after taking Florida, but Jackson/Van Buren couldn’t do much
  + After winning independence, Mexico had moved 300 families into Texas to populate the land and gave them 3 rules:
    - They must be Mexican citizens
    - They must be Catholic
    - They must not own slaves
  + Texans declared independence from Mexico, which caused conflict with the dictator Santa Anna and produced many rallying cries like “Remember the Alamo!”
  + Texans wanted to be Americans, but abolitionists believed that adding Texas was just a scheme for another slave state
* **Politics for the People**
  + Democracy was entering an age where it was much better if you were a common-man politician rather than an aristocratic one
  + The 1840 election demonstrated this because people like William Henry Harrison were extremely popular while aristocrats were scorned
  + A two party system was firmly established now
  + Democrats:
    - Against privilege in government
    - Focused on individual liberties
    - States’ rights and federal restraint
    - Southern, Western, poorer people
  + Whigs:
    - Harmony of community over individual
    - Against sectionalism, but more Eastern based
    - Favored a national bank, protective tariffs, internal improvements, public schools, and moral reforms
    - Wealthier and more aristocratic
* ***Westward March:***
* **Farewell Appalachia**
  + Pioneers moving west often faced death, disease, and depression along with bouts of loneliness
  + Tobacco overuse drained nutrients in the eastern soil, forcing many to move westward
  + Pioneers trapped bears, otters, and buffalo, leading for dramatic decreases in population → ecological imperialism
  + Americans revered nature more during this time period
  + Population began to explode, bringing about negative byproducts like rats, foul sewage, inadequate lighting, impure water, and smelly slums in the cities
* **Old Immigration**
  + German and Irish immigrants were pouring into the Americas due to overcrowding in Europe and cheaper overseas transportation to get there
  + In Ireland, the potato famine killed much of the population and many flocked to American cities because they were too poor to move west
  + The Irish were hated for being Catholic and competing with Americans for jobs → Irish hated black people because they were both at the bottom and competing there as well
  + The Ancient Order of Hibernians was created to aid the Irish, and the Molly Maguires was an Irish miners’ union
  + The Irish were very political and many were policemen/women
  + The Germans who arrived were often victim to crop failures and hardships in Germany, along with a love of democracy
  + Germans were richer than the Irish so they did move West, especially to WI/MN/MI in small communities
  + Germans were sometimes coldly regarded by Americans because they liked to clump together and separate sometimes
  + Eventually, Nativists began to fear that immigrants were taking over the country → Catholicism was growing and many Catholic schools were being built by immigrants
  + The Know-Nothing Party emerged as a proponent of deportation, mass violence, and all around repudiation of immigrants → their name came from them saying “I know nothing” when questioned about crimes
* ***The Industrial Boom:***
* **Beginnings of Mechanization**
  + America had a growing number of consumers, cheap land, and plentiful raw materials but was hesitant to industrialize
  + Britain had already industrialized and had a monopoly on textile industry machines and secrets
  + America was still predominantly rural, and they saw no real benefit to industrializing just yet because farming was working just fine for them
* **Mechanization Grows**
  + Samuel Slater is known as the “Father of the Factory System”
  + Eli Whitney built the Cotton Gin and made cotton profitable
  + The need for slavery increased with its invention → people moved even further west while the South profited off the gin and the North boomed with manufacturing
  + Whitney went even farther by making interchangeable parts
  + Sewing machine increases northern industrialization
  + Invention of telegraph connected the country
* **Workers, Wages, Women, and Western Farmers**
  + Hours continued to get longer while wages continued to fall
  + Child labor rose to extreme degrees, over 50% of laborers
  + Many laboring men were granted the right to vote
  + Many opposed the 10 hour work day and went on strike but failed because immigrants were imported for use
  + *Commonwealth v. Hunt* → legalized unions
  + Women sometimes worked in factories but usually were teachers and nurses and abandoned work after marriage
  + Sizes of families shrunk and the Cult of Domesticity, which was an opinion that women should stay at home all the time, was supported
  + Western farmers widely benefited with the invention of John Deere’s steel plow and Cyrus McCormick’s mower-reaper
  + The North began to make more food than the South
* **Inventions and Expansion**
  + Soon, the Lancaster Turnpike and Cumberland Road were constructed as roads while Fulton’s Steamboat was invented as well → both moved people westward
  + States often tried to oppose roads because the federal government controlled them (they went over state lines)
  + New England hated road programs because they moved their population west
  + The Erie Canal in NY opened up the western part of the state, reduced transportation time, made food cheaper, and spurred the growth of cities like Rochester and Syracuse
  + Railroads were introduced as well → they were faster, more reliable, and cheaper than canals but still quite dangerous and impractical in their early states
  + The Pony Express, while short lived, connected MO and CA and allowed speedy communication
  + The home transformed into a refuge away from work rather from a place for economic ventures like farming and economic inequality began its rise
* ***The Second Great Awakening:***
* **Religious Revival**
  + Church attendance was pretty high/regular in 1850
  + Deists relied on reason and science, but still believe in a God (like Thomas Jefferson)
  + Unitarians were part of the Deists → intellectuals who saw God as only one person (not Holy Trinity), believed in salvation through good works, free will, etc, and saw God as a Loving Father and not a Stern Creator
  + The 2nd Great Awakening was another spiritual revival that started in the South and had a larger impact than the first for its liberal reactions and reforms
  + Evangelist Charles Grandison Finney spread the Great Awakening throughout NY
  + Western NY became known as the “Burned Over District” for the immense religious devotion (the area was so heavily evangelized that it had no “fuel”/unconverted people to burn)
  + The religious sect of the Millerites claimed that Jesus would return on a specific day and spent time preparing
  + Farmer Joseph Smith formed the Mormon community → voted as one unit, had own militia, practice polygamy, moved West to Utah due to constant targeting
* **Reform and Rehash**
  + Americans moved towards reforms regarding women’s rights, abolition, prisons, and schools
  + Public/“Pauper” schools became more popular with a movement with people like Horace Mann that supported tax-supported education and better schools
  + Liberal Arts colleges began forming while women were excluded with reference to their “feminine brain” of emotion and weakness
  + Women eventually gained more influence in society → used to be deprived of vote, legally beaten, etc but had the upper hand in arts, society’s morals, and politeness
  + Seneca Falls, NY, 1848 → Declaration of Sentiments
  + Important Women:
    - Elizabeth Stanton & Susan B. Anthony & Lucretia Mott
    - Elizabeth Blackwell (doctorate degree)
    - Grimke Sisters (pushed for abolition)
    - Lucy Stone (first college degree for women)
    - Amelia Bloomer (changed design of skirt)
  + In prisons, criminal codes were softened and harsher punishments were eliminated
  + For the mentally ill, people like Dorothea Dix challenged states to treat patients better
  + Alcohol was seen as evil by the American Temperance Society, who tried to promote resistance and prohibition
* **Arts and Literature**
  + Authors like Poe, Hawthorne, Melville, Dickinson
  + More landscapes of America were painted (nationalism)
  + Movement of Transcendentalism was founded → knowledge transcends senses so it must be found within and with God (Walden, Walt Whitman, Henry David Thoreau, etc)
  + Historians were always from New England due to the abundance of books, creating an anti-South bias
* ***Western Turmoil:***
* **Manifest Destiny West, Britain East**
  + WHH is elected as a Whig, but under heavy influence from Clay and Webster
  + Harrison died of pneumonia and John Tyler becomes president
  + Tyler was a renegade and tried to oppose everything the Whigs stood for → “President Without a Party”
  + Meanwhile, Britain is angry at the U.S. for still owing money, Canada is rebelling against the empire at the same time, and slaves begin escaping to the Bahamas
* **Election of 1844**
  + Corrupt Bargainer Clay vs. Dark Horse Polk
  + Clay was a slave owner and published contradictory articles in order to appeal to more people
  + Polk was a slave owner, but also Speaker of the House, Governor of Tennessee, sponsored by Jackson, and favored the re-annexation of Texas and reoccupation of Oregon
  + Right before Polk became president, Tyler signed a Joint Resolution that added Texas as a state
  + Polk managed to acquire California and settle the Oregon Dispute (Britain v. America) while also lowering the Walker Tariff and restoring the Independent Treasury of 1846
  + The Oregon Dispute was settled by getting about half of Oregon while all of Texas was received; this is because Spain was weak but England was strong
* **Mexican-American War (1846-48)**
  + Polk wanted to go to war for unpaid claims and the rejection of an offer to buy Texas/California, but wanted Mexico to fire first
  + Mexico refuses to recognize Texas as an American state; they were just a rebellious province
  + Texas’s alliances in Europe worried America → they threatened to undermine the Monroe Doctrine and the Southern cotton industry (shipping to England)
  + Britain wanted an independent TX to “check” American expansion, the South wanted another slave state, and the North opposed another slave state in TX
  + After the war, the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo was signed making the Rio Grande the border and ceding Texas/California to the United States
  + US made some payments but we were clearly the bigger winners because of the large land and respect acquired
  + The war strained relations between the US and Latin America
  + The Wilmot Proviso stated that slavery will never exist in territories taken from Mexico → this was supported by the House but struck down in the Senate
  + The uncertainty of what to do in the Mexican Cession Lands paved the road to the Civil War