

The Federalist Era

“As the first of every thing, in our situation will serve to establish a precedent, it is devoutly wished on my part, that these precedents may be fixed on true principles.”



IMMEDIATE POST-REVOLUTION AMERICA

- ◆ Overall theme = equality
 - ✓ Abolitionism spread (pesky double standard)
 - ✓ Wider separation between church & state
 - ✓ Women’s status (legal & social) improved
 - ✓ Gov’t more responsive to public outcry
- ◆ Limits to absolute equality
 - ✓ Slavery alive & well
 - ✓ Religion-based constraints
 - ✓ Women bound to age-old gender roles
 - ✓ No universal suffrage
- ◆ 1790 census
 - ✓ 16 states w/ 4 million people (Virginia largest)
 - ✓ Philadelphia = 42,000; New York City = 33,000

WASHINGTON’S FIRST TERM = “PRECEDENTS GALORE”

- ◆ Washington: respected, wise, non-partisan, regal 🏹 😊 😐 😞
- ◆ Appropriately called “Father of Our Country” 😊 😐 😞
- ◆ Formation of presidential Cabinet 😊 😐 😞
 - ✓ Not specifically addressed in Constitution
 - ✓ Informal group until Jefferson’s presidency
 - ✓ _____, _____, _____, _____ (& _____)

◆ Hamilton vs. Jefferson 😊 😐 😞

POLITICAL VARIANCE	HAMILTON	JEFFERSON
Sovereignty		
Interpretation of Constitution		
National Backbone		
Preferred European Pal		
Sectional and Public Support		
Chief Political Ally		
Political Party		
Favorite Color		

◆ Hamilton's grand economic plan 😊 😐 😞

- ✓ Openly favored wealthier classes (vital given circumstances)
- ✓ Major opposition usually southern (esp. Jefferson & Madison)
- ✓ Congress approved most of Hamilton's recommendations
 - ① consolidate all debts (aka "assumption") → YES or NO?
 - ② debts honored at par (aka "funding") → YES or NO?
 - ③ Nat'l Bank to handle fed'l monies → YES or NO?
 - ④ ambitious program to promote industry → YES or NO?
 - ⑤ excise tax on whiskey → YES or NO?

✓ Results

- ① _____
- ② _____
- ③ _____

WASHINGTON'S SECOND TERM = "BUGABOOS"

- ◆ Citizen Genêt Affair (1793) 😊😐😞
- ◆ Whiskey Rebellion (1794) 😊😐😞
 - ✓ Whiskey Tax opposed by western Pennsylvania & Virginia
 - ✓ 7,000 militiamen targeted Pittsburgh
 - ✓ Fed'l force of 13,000 assembled
 - ✓ Biggest nat'l crisis until Civil War
 - possible secession & foreign alliance
 - helped defined relationship between nat'l gov't & states/citizens
 - set parameters between liberty & order
- ◆ Jay's Treaty (1795) w/ Britain 😊😐😞
 - ✓ Tie up loose ends dangling from Rev. War
 - ✓ Unpopular (w/ American public & France)
- ◆ Treaty of San Lorenzo (1795) w/ Spain 😊😐😞
 - ✓ Aka Pinckney's Treaty
 - ✓ Unplanned by-product of Jay's Treaty
 - ✓ Full use of Mississippi River & New Orleans
- ◆ Farewell Address 😊😐😞
 - ① _____
 - ② _____
 - _____

ADAMS'S PRESIDENCY = "THE FEDERALIST ERA FADES"

- ◆ Election of 1796 😊😐😞
 - ✓ America's first real presidential election
 - ✓ Hamilton's attempted manipulation backfired
- ◆ Adams: honest, diligent, patriotic, vain, stubborn
- ◆ XYZ Affair (1797) 😊😐😞
 - ✓ French anger & misconduct led to Quasi-War
 - ✓ Hooray for Adams

- ◆ Alien & Sedition Acts (1798) 😊😐😞
 - ✓ Largely political maneuver by High-Federalists
 - ✓ Major booboo for Adams

- ◆ Kentucky & Virginia Resolutions (1798) 😊😐😞
 - ✓ Anonymously written by _____ & _____
 - ✓ Hollow threat to invoke states' rights



The cartoon above shows the infamous brawl in the House of Representatives between Democratic-Republican Matthew Lyon of Vermont and Federalist Roger Griswold from Connecticut. Evidently, the many other congressmen there are enjoying the brouhaha.

- ◆ Election of 1800 (aka “Revolution of 1800”) 😊😐😞
 - ✓ Tie vote between Jefferson & Burr (both Democratic-Republican)
 - Burr = antithesis of nation’s Founding Fathers
 - election decided by House of Representatives
 - solved by Twelfth Amendment
 - ✓ Congressional elections solidly Democratic-Republican
 - ✓ Peaceful/orderly change of political machinery

- ◆ Legacy of the Federalists 😊😐😞
 - ① _____
 - ② _____
 - ③ _____
 - ④ _____