

Chapter 8

Creating a Republican Culture, 1790-1820



The Capitalist Commonwealth

Banks, Manufacturing, and Markets

- French Revolution triggered huge American profits
- John Jacob Astor (fur) and Robert Oliver (merchant) became the nation's first millionaires

Banking and Credit

- In 1791 Congress chartered First Bank of the United States
 - Issued notes and commercial loans
 - Attacked by Jeffersonians. Why?
- Expired in 1811, but renewed in 1816
- Second National Bank
 - Corruption:
- Panic of 1819
 - Causes:
 - U.S.'s first "business cycle"



Rural Manufacturing

- By 1820, many artisans were selling products throughout the nation
- Rural manufacturing emulated European markets
- Business expansion resulted from innovations in organizing production and marketing
- New opportunities for farm families. How?
- Altered environment:
- Families worked longer and harder
- Dependent on market to buy clothes

Building a Transportation Infrastructure

- Between 1793-1812 state charters granted hundreds of private turnpikes
- Dozens of markets were now connected
- Water transport

Public Enterprise: The Commonwealth System

- Mercantilism was reflected in legislative support for road and canal system
- Generally took the form of special charters
 - Power of “eminent domain”
 - Government allowed flooding of farms
 - Objections?

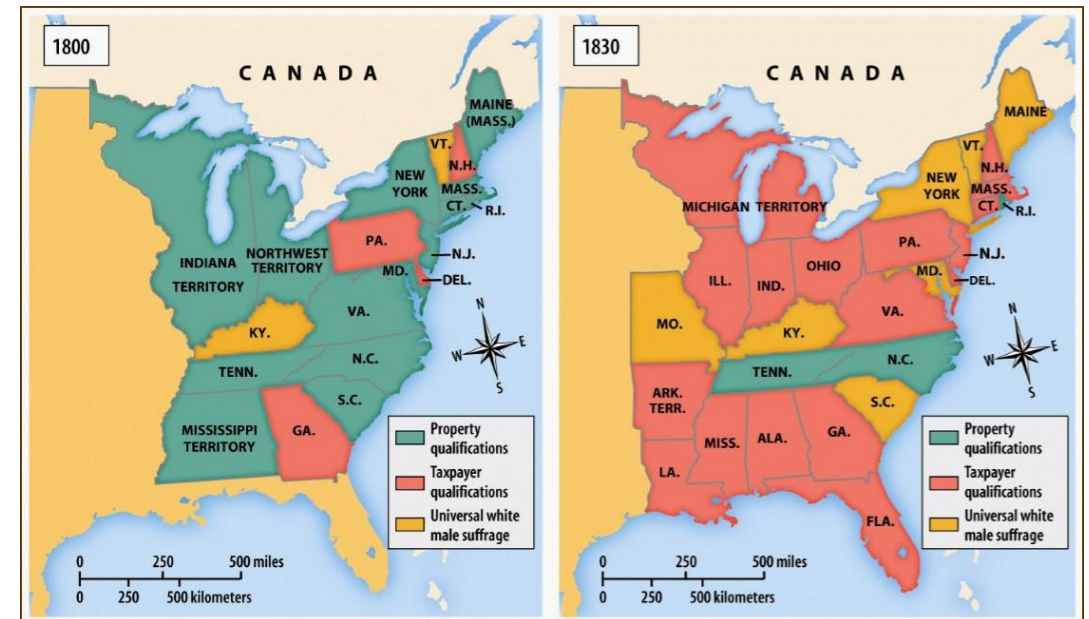


Toward a Democratic Republican Culture

- Emerging middle class redefined family and education, seeking more egalitarian ways

Opportunity and Equality-for White Men

- Europe vs. U.S. society
- Merit based opportunity (insult in Europe)
- Rights denied to most women and African American men
 - Explicit restrictions into law
 - Ohio disenfranchised African Americans
 - NY property requirements on black voters
 - NJ women voted in 1776
 - However by 1807-



Toward a Republican Marriage System

- John Adams encouraged his wife, Abigail Adams and other women to speak out on politics and legal rights.
- Many yeoman farmers lost control over adult children. Why?

The Impact of Sentimentalism

- Originated in Europe and spread to American society after 1800
- Rejected Enlightenment
- Infused English and German literature, theatre, and preachers
- Consequences of “consent based marriage”
- American common law and government didn’t prevent domestic tyranny
- Divorce before and after 1800

Republican Motherhood

- Before 1750- 8 children; Around 1810- 4 children
- Sharp decline in birthrate-
 - Why?
- Christian social thought-
- “Republican motherhood”-



Raising Republican Children

- Unlike English common law, Americans rejected primogeniture. Why?

Two Modes of Parenting

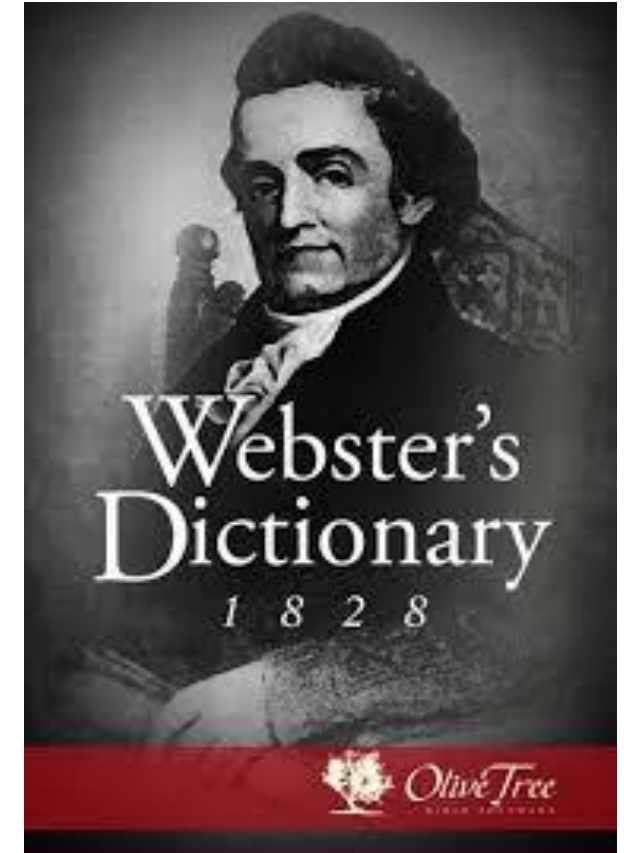
- Rationalist
- Authoritarian

Debates over Education

- Independence prompted a greater emphasis on schooling
- Secondary and college= elitism
- Girls offered basic instruction
- Few publicly funded schools
- By 1820 merchants and manufacturers raised educational standards
 - American History

Promoting Cultural Independence

- Noah Webster
 - “Freedom of foreign opinions and manners”
- Republican literary culture developed slowly
 - Washington Irving- “Rip Van Winkle” “Legend of Sleepy Hollow”



Aristocratic Republicanism and Slavery

The Revolution and Slavery, 1776-1800

Manumission and Gradual Emancipation

- Black supported the Patriot cause
- Were promised freedom
- VA passed a manumission act in 1782
- Quakers
- Enlightenment
 - John Locke
- MA abolished slavery in 1784; over next 20 years...
- By 1810 one fourth of African Americans in North were still slaves
- Severe prejudice

Slavery Defended

- SC and GA reopened the Atlantic slave trade
- “necessary evil” Why?
- *Herrenvolk* republic



DANAH MORRIS'S CERTIFICATE OF FREEDOM.

The North and South Grow Apart

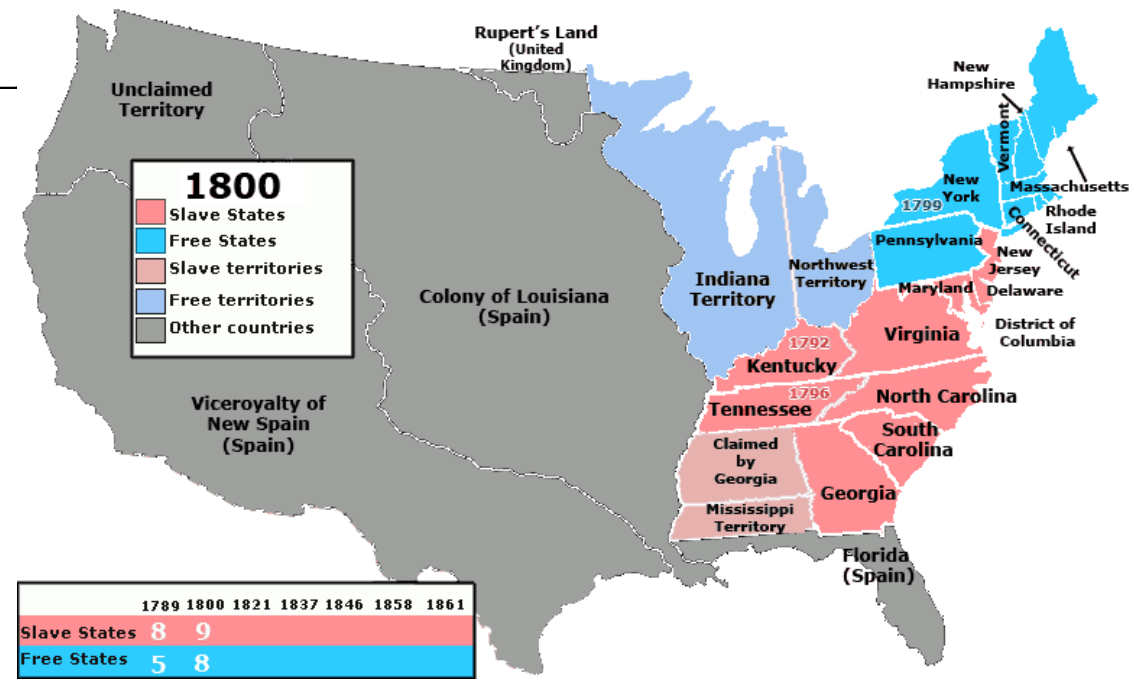
- Education dichotomy
- Literacy in North vs. South

Slavery and National Politics

- In Philadelphia convention, northern delegates reluctantly accepted clauses:
- Southerners believed Congress had no authority to interfere in state's slave policy
- Northerners compared impressment with slavery
- 1808 Atlantic slave trade ended, _____
- The South's political clout-
- Congress upheld slavery in D.C.

African Americans Speak Out

- Inspired by the Haitian Revolution 1791-1804
- Hopes of blacks faded as cotton boom increased
- American Colonization Society in 1817
 - Henry Clay
 - Liberia
- Most African Americans condemned colonization

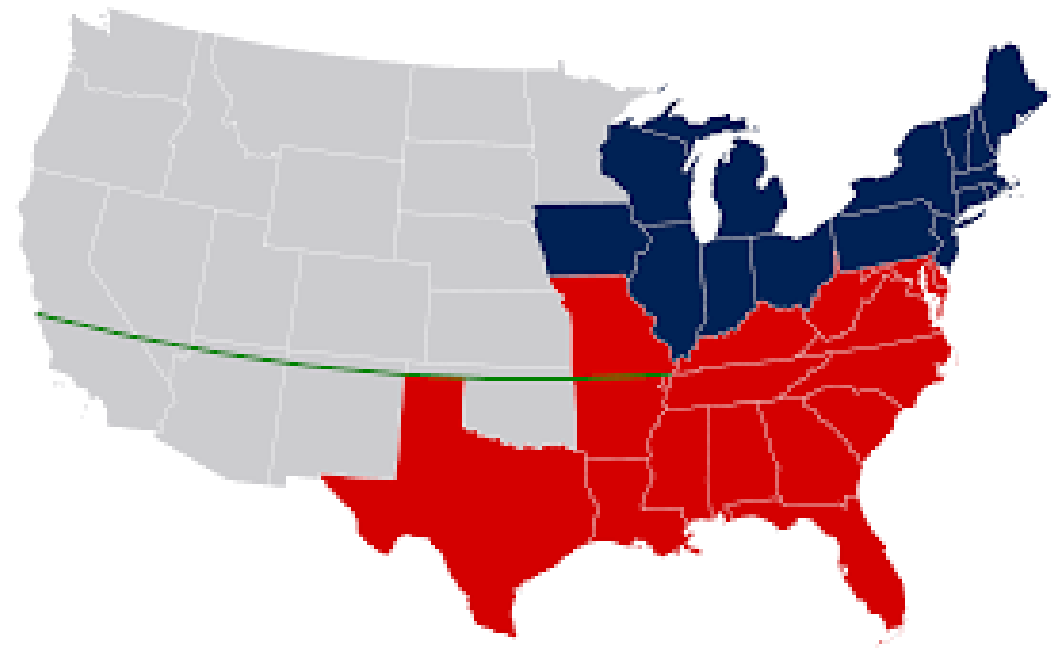


The Missouri Crisis, 1819-1821

- Issue with MO statehood in 1819
- Admission would be blocked by northern House of Representatives

Constitutional Issues

- Southerners advanced 3 arguments against the north:
 1. equal rights-
 2. state sovereignty-
 3. property rights of slaveholders
 - The south advocated limited national powers
 - Biblical justification
- Missouri Compromise-
 - Maine 1820-
 - Missouri 1821-
 - Set a precedent for future admission



Protestant Christianity as a Social Force

- Changed the lives of women and blacks (social reform)

A Republican Religious Order

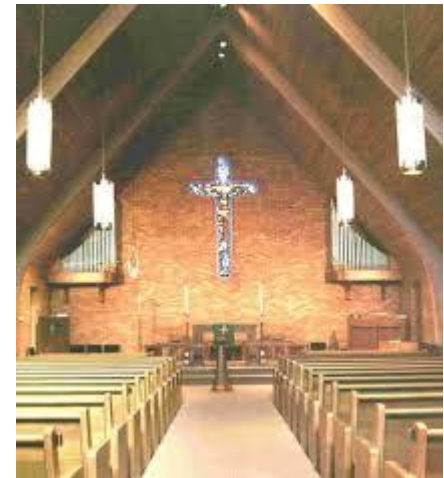
- New church and state laws
 - Compulsory taxes
 - Established church

Religious Freedom

- In 1776 James Madison and George Mason influences ended the privileged status of the _____.
- The Baptists also...
- All churches equal

Church-State Relations

- Few wanted complete separation. Why?
- Indirect state support for churches
- Political bias for Protestants
 - NC
- What would Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Ben Franklin think?



The Second Great Awakening

- What did the most successful churches do?

Evangelical Churches

- Evangelical Methodist and Baptist were the most popular
- Egalitarian
- Communal singing and emotional services
- Calvinists predestination doctrine declined
- Methodist and Baptist grew from “traveling circuits”
- Used methods of George Whitefield
- Adjusted to patriarchy and slaveholding

Black Christianity

- Some evangelists encouraged slave conversions
- Eventually slaves used Protestant teachings to inspire emancipation



Religion and Reform

- Republican ideology rejected Calvinist emphasis on human depravity and celebrated free will

Benevolence and Reform

- Duty of fortunate individuals
- Humane Society
- Improving society was key element
- Unlike the First Great Awakening, which split churches into warring factions, the Second Great Awakening fostered cooperation among denominations.
- Religion was now a political force
 - Christian parties
 - A goal for the American public



THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES

Women's New Religious Role

- Mother Ann Lee organized the Shakers in England and in 1774 migrated to the U.S.
 - They spread rapidly in the Northeast and Midwest by 1820
- Jemina Wilkinson, a young Quaker declared herself the “Publick Universal Friend”
 - Blending Calvinism and Quaker values, dressed plainly and advocated pacifism and abolitionism

A Growing Public Presence

- Women took charge of charitable duties. Why?
- Praying became gender inclusive
- Mixing men and women led to greater self-discipline
- Religious activism also advanced female education
 - Effect:
- The Second Great Awakening made Americans a fervently Protestant people. Along with the values of republicanism and capitalism.

