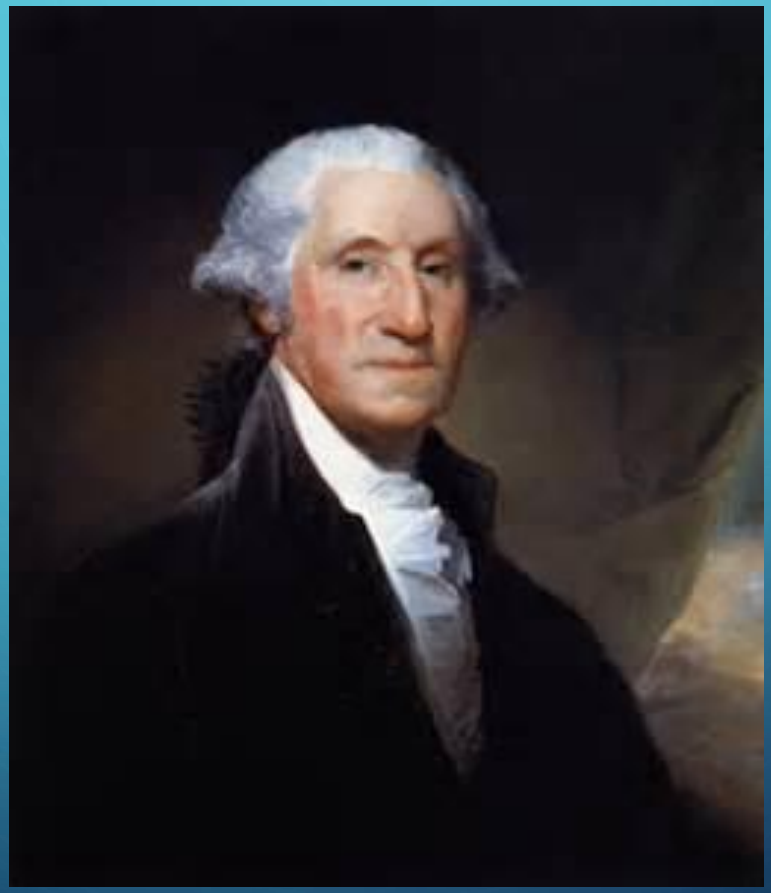
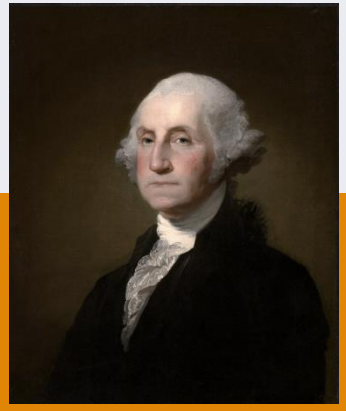
THE PRESIDENCY OF GEORGE WASHINGTON





GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON 1ST PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Wall | Info | Photos | Boxes

Write something…

Share

View photos of George (3)

Send George a message

Poke message

Information

Networks:
NYC / Philly
Birthday:
Feb. 22, 1732
Political:
None
Religion:
Anglican/Episcopalian
Hometown:
Pope's Creek, VA

George Washington to John Adams I am honored to have John Adams by my side to be my Vice-President. The first order, of business, get rid of this FAKE NEWS, and create a knowledgeable cabinet! March 4, 1789

Martha Washington to George Washington I am honored and inspired to support my husband as the first President of the United States of America, elected unanimously!
April 30, 1789

George Washington Although I did not really want to be, I was selected as the President of the Constitutional Convention.
Summer of 1787

George Washington I am honored to be the next Major General of the Continental Army!! GO USA!!!!
June 14, 1775

George Washington, I fought in the French and Indian War and kept my unit together when General Braddock was killed in action!
1754 - 1763

George Washington became a surveyor in Culpepper County, Virginia at 17 years old 1748

Friends

Tommy J

Henry Knox

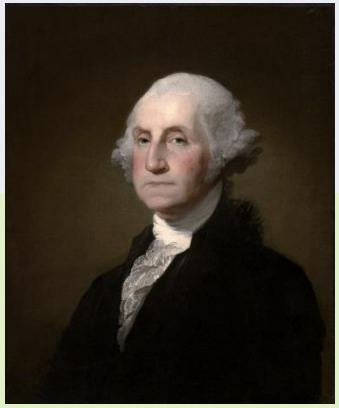
Edmund

A Hams

Martha

John Adams

George Washington I am honored to have been able to lease the property of Mount Vernon from my brothers' widow since 1754 and am now purchasing it for myself. I love this place!



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Photos
2 Albums

Me in Office

Updated last week

Me during the French and Indian War

Updated

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON 1ST PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Wall | Info | Photos | Boxes

Basic Information

Networks: New York City, Philadelphia, Revolutionary War Vet friends
Sex: Male
Birthday: February 22. 1732
General: June 15, 1775 – December 23, 1783
Presidential Terms: (2) April 30, 1789 – March 4, 1797
Death: December 14, 1799 (67)
Hometown: Pope's Creek, Virginia
Relationship Status: Married to Martha Dandridge Custis Washington
Children: None. Step-Children: John Parke **(DIED AT YORKTOWN),** Martha Parke
Political Views: None (Only President to not have a political party)
Religious Views: Anglican/Episcopalian

Personal Information

Education: Surveyor's Certificate: College of William and Mary in VA

Activities: Self-Reflection, breeding French hounds with Virginia hounds to create the American foxhound, leading the Continental Army, running the country

Interests: Farming tobacco and wheat, distilling whiskey

Favorite Music: Whatever they play at the balls, I love to dance all night

Favorite Plays:: Plays have been banned, but my soldiers act out my favorites

Favorite Books: Anything of Shakespeare, I own more than 1200 books

Contact Information

Address: **3200 Mount Vernon Hwy, Mt Vernon, VA, 22121**

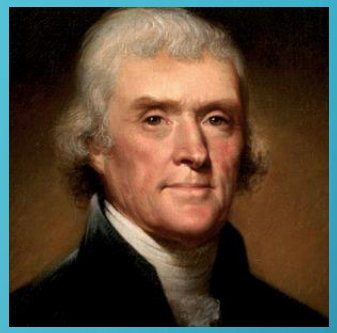
Phone Number: **Send me a postcard**

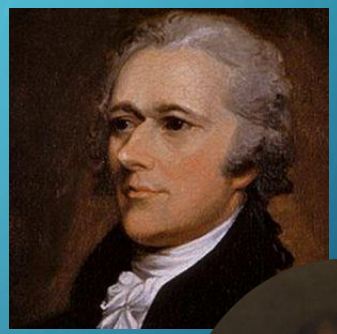
AN OVERVIEW OF THE NEW NATION

- Most Americans lived on farms
- Largest cities located on Atlantic harbors
- Growth of manufacturing and trade
- Sense of unity and optimism for many (mostly for whites)

GEORGE WASHINGTON

- Inaugurated: April 30, 1789
- Step 1: Create a Cabinet
  - Department of State: Thomas Jefferson
  - Department of Treasury: Alexander Hamilton
  - Department of War: General Henry Knox
  - Attorney General: Edmund Randolph
  - Set the precedent for future presidents
  - Vice President: John Adams





THE VICE-PRESIDENT

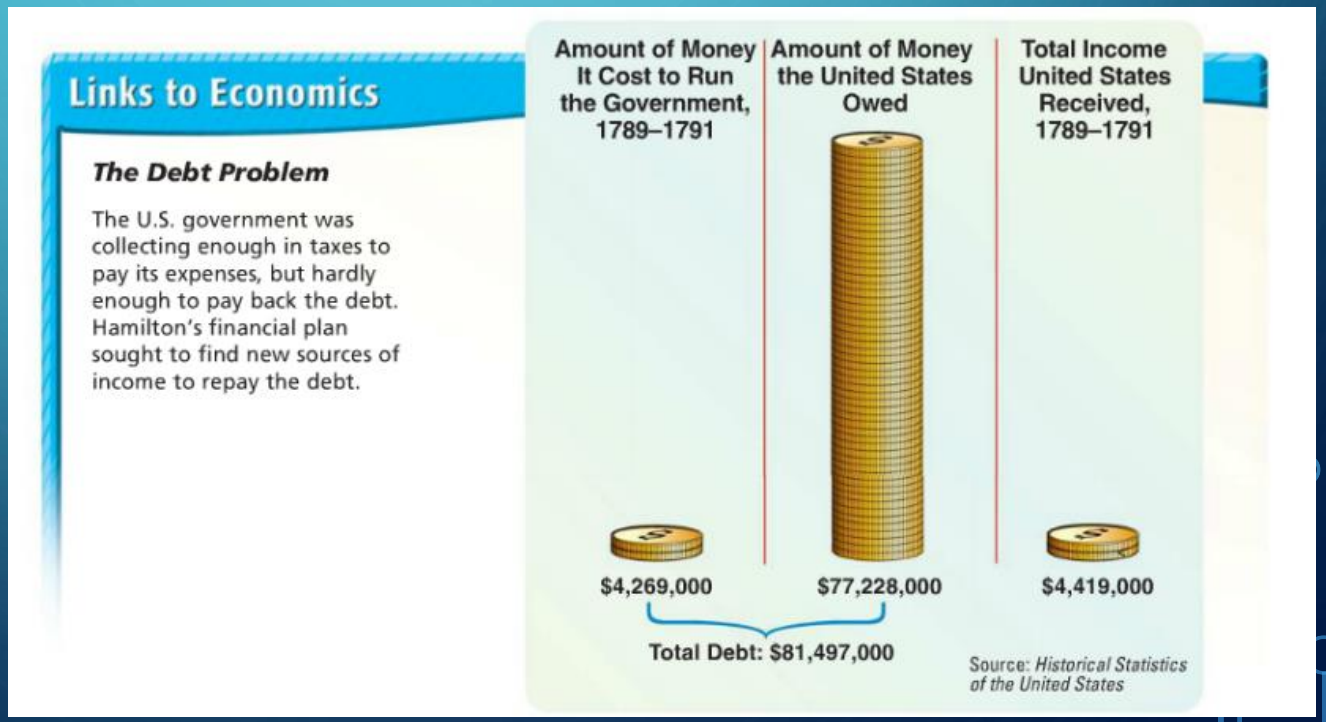
- JOHN ADAMS AS VICE-PRESIDENT
  - DID NOT WANT THE JOB
  - FELT UNDER APPRECIATED
  - THOUGHT IT WAS A USELESS POSITION

"the most insignificant office that ever the invention of man contrived or his imagination conceived."

ESTABLISHING THE COURT SYSTEM
ARTICLE III OF THE CONSTITUTION

- Step 2: Passing the Judiciary Act of 1789
  - Provided 6 Supreme Court Justices
  - 13 district courts, 3 courts of appeals
  - John Jay – first Chief Justice
    - First offered position as Secretary of State
      - (declined)
    - He didn't like the job
      - Served on the Court for 6 years

- **Step 3: Ratify the Bill of Rights : December 15, 1791**
- **Step 4: Address the Nations Debt**
  - **American Revolution left the nation in deep debt**



HOW TO PAY THAT DEBT?

- **Alexander Hamilton and his "Assumption" Plan**
  - **Government needed to have the ability to borrow money**
  - **1790: Asks Congress to fully pay all federal and state debts**
    - **Sell Bonds (IOU from the government + interest)**

Why would Hamilton's plan accept all the states debts?

- **Wealthy creditors, bankers, and merchants who owed the bonds would have a stake in the federal government's success and enough confidence in its financial stability to loan money in the future.**
- **Renew the faith in public credit**

HAMILTON'S CONCEPT

- Establish a National Bank
  - Need a system to manage the debts and interest payments
  - Issue bank notes i.e.: paper $$
    - Promote trade and encourage investment to stimulate the economy
  - Opposition came from Southerners claiming:
    - Northern merchants would own most of the bank's stock

JEFFERSON STRONGLY DISAGREES WITH ITS CREATION

- Increases the wealth of the already wealthy stockholders

Not Constitutional

- Overpowers the state banks
- Help wealthy businessmen in cities rather than farmers

THOSE OPPOSED TO THE CONCEPT ARGUED

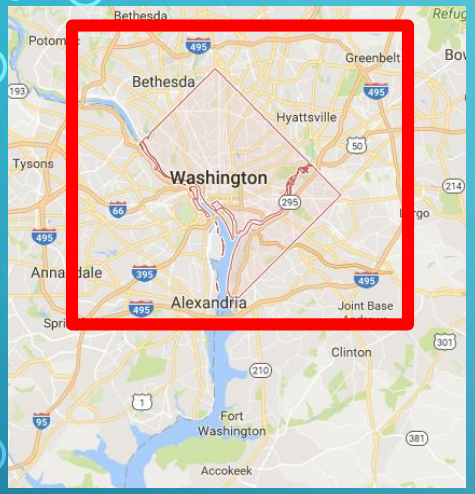
- **Unfair to people who would sell their bonds to speculators (PEOPLE THAT BUY AT ONE RATE, EXPECTING THE RATE TO GO UP, THEN SELL FOR A PROFIT.)**
- **Northerners would buy most of the bonds and much of the tax money that would be used to pay off the bonds would come from Southern states**
- **Southern states paid off their war debts on their own … why shouldn't every one else do the same?**
- **Creditors could end up dominating society**
- **A bank is not an <u>enumerated</u> power of the Federal Government in the Constitution**

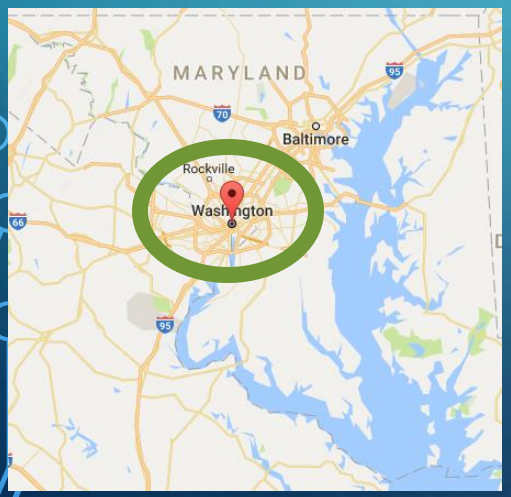
HAMILTON'S RESPONSE?

- **The Good Old Elastic Clause: Congress has the power to "make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution" its powers**
- **If Congress can collect taxes, regulate trade, provide for common defense: Then it makes sense to have a bank**
- **Bill passes Congress**
- **Washington signs it into law with a 20-year contract**

BUT!!!! IF THERE WAS SO MUCH OPPOSITION, HOW DID IT PASS?????

COMPROMISE: THE RESIDENCE ACT





- **Madison and Jefferson come together to convince southerners in Congress to vote for Hamilton's plan IF:**

- **THE CAPITAL IS MOVED FROM NEW YORK CITY TO AN AREA IN THE SOUTH.**

- **Ideal site: the border of the Potomac River, between Virginia and Maryland**

- **Hamilton agrees**

- **Action counters the strength of the northern states in Congress**

- **Bill passes Congress**

- **Washington signs it into law with a 20-year contract**

SUBSEQUENT EFFECTS OF ASSUMPTION

- **#1: North, wealthy, industrialists: BENEFIT the most.**
- **#2: Sectionalism Intensified North vs. South Highlights differences between Industry vs. Farming.**
- **#3: Financiers (Investors) win (Hamilton's friends)**
  - **Class divisions grow:**
    - **Wealthy make money**
    - **Poor get nothing!**
- **#4: Farmers lose (Jefferson's friends)**

RAISING REVENUE WITH TARIFFS AND TAXES

- Tariff of 1789
  - Required importers to pay a % of the value of their cargo when they brought it into the US
  - Raise money
    - Pay off debt
  - Protects American manufacturers from foreign competition
- Pass a tax on whiskey

OPPOSING A HIGH TARIFF

- Guess who??? The Southerners!
  - Southern plantation owners
    - pay a higher price for imported goods and materials

- This part of the 3-part plan does not pass Congress

HAMILTON'S SUCCESS AND FAILURE

- LOCATION FOR THE CAPITAL NEGOTIATED (**YAY**)
- NATIONAL BANK IS FORMED (**YAY**)
- WHISKEY TAX IMPOSED (OOPS)
- THE IDEA OF A TARIFF WAS DEFEATED (OOPS)

CHALLENGES FOR THE NEW GOVERNMENT

- **SECURE THE NORTHWEST TERRITORY**
- **THE WHISKEY REBELLION**
- **RISE OF POLITICAL PARTIES**
- **THE FRENCH REVOLUTION**

WESTWARD EXPANSION

People are moving into the area between the Appalachian Mountains and the Mississippi River

- How did we get this area???

- Native Americans living here
  - Friendly with the British.
  - British leave after the Revolution and the Indians have no more protection.

INDIAN WARS OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORY

- **Since the Revolution, the Northwest Territory experienced constant conflict between settlers and Native Americans.**
- **Treaties left the Native Americans with the land north of the Ohio River, their hunting grounds.**
- **Settlers had been pushing into their territory since 1787**
- **Resulted in clashes and Native Americans raided the settlements.**
- **Settlers wanted the Federal Government's protection.**

HUNTING GROUNDS

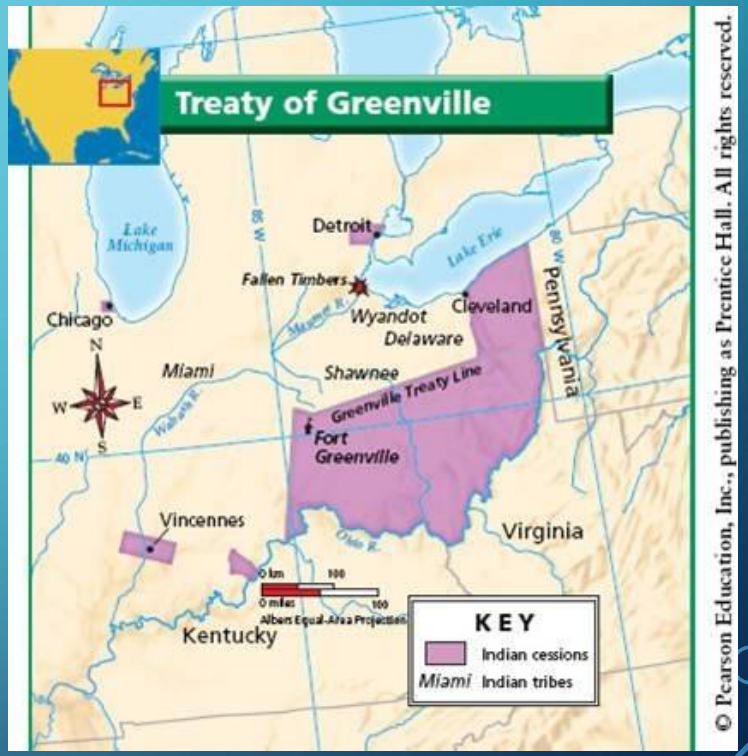
BATTLE OF FALLEN TIMBERS

- **August 20, 1794**
- **Called this because a tornado had just taken down trees, which the Natives thought would stop the response of the Americans**
- **Last major conflict in the Northwest Territory Indian War**
- **General Anthony Wayne vs. Shawnee, Lenape, and Miami**
- **American Victory**
- **Treaty of Greenville**

TREATY OF GREENVILLE

Native Americans agree to stay to the north and west of the line and Americans would stay south and east

- **Flow of Americans to the new land → OHIO**
- **Americans provide Native Americans**
  - **$20,000 goods**
  - **$9,500 in additional goods every year**



WHISKEY REBELLION 1791-1794

End of Rebellion

- Militia breaks up rebellion
- Insurgents arrested
- Washington offers pardons in exchange for oaths of loyalty to the government

WHISKEY REBELLION

- Remember Shays' Rebellion? What happened?
- The Whiskey Rebellion
  - 1791: Direct tax on the manufacture of whiskey
  - Enraged western farmers who made extra $$$ by turning corn into whiskey
  - Refused to pay the tax!

This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-NC

THE FARMERS ARE ANGERED

- 1794: Pennsylvania farmers
  - terrorized tax collectors
  - Stopped court proceedings
  - Stole the mail
  - Destroyed whiskey-making stills (of those who paid the tax).
- July: 400 whiskey rebels near Pittsburgh set fire to the home of John Neville, regional tax collector supervisor.
- Saw tax as another instance of unfair policies dictated by eastern elites that hurt the American citizens on the frontier.

PRESIDENT'S RESPONSE

(33:52-37:29)

- **Washington leads 13,000 troops to put down the rebellion (ONLY PRESIDENT TO LEAD TROOPS INTO THE FIELD).**
- **Upon arrival, the rebels had already dispersed without putting up resistance**
  - **Militia apprehends 150 men and try them for treason**
    - **Lack of 2 witnesses, only 2 men tried**
    - **Washington later pardons**
- **Tax not repealed until Jefferson in 1802**
- **Washington considers this the first pass of the test of the new government**

POLITICAL PARTIES BEGIN TO EMERGE

YOU WILL SEE THESE TERMS IN THE NEXT SLIDES BUT!

- WE WILL DISCUSS THIS IN DEPTH LATER. BASICALLY:
  - **FEDERALISTS** UNDER **HAMILTON**
    - PRO-BRITISH
    - STRONG CENTRAL GOVERNMENT RUN BY EDUCATED/ ELITES OF SOCIETY
  - **REPUBLICANS (DEMOCRATIC-REPUBLICANS) UNDER JEFFERSON**
    - **PRO-FRENCH**
    - **WEAK CENTRAL GOVERNMENT**
      - **AGARIAN SOCIETY**
      - **STATES RIGHTS**

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

- 1789: FRENCH REVOLUTION (one day more follows this)
  - Third estate is 98% of the population, least representation
    - Taxation without representation
  - Monarch is abusing power
  - People Break away from the Estates General
  - Storm the Bastille (prison fortress) for weapons
  - Declaration of the Rights of man and of the Citizen
    - Due Process
    - Sovereignty among the people
  - 1791: Constitutional Monarchy installed
  - Legislative Branch added

1-Clergy
2-Nobles
3- Commoners

INVOLVEMENT OF THE UNITED STATES

FRANCE

- French aid to US during Revolutionary War
- US paying debt to whatever government is in power
- Trade with the French West Indies

GREAT BRITAIN

Maintaining trade relations with British West Indies

INTERNATIONAL POWER PLAYS

- **1793: France declares war on Great Britain**
  - **French troops occupied land in Belgium, threatened British trade routes**
  - **British aiding Belgium and Austria Prussia financially •**
- **America trades with both, gets stuck in the middle, must pick only ONE BEST friend!**

U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

- Federalists: Horrified by the chaos and oppose
- **Democratic-Republicans**: Admire the fight for liberty and support the French.
- **Washington:** issues a Neutrality Proclamation that the US will be "friendly and impartial" to both nations (1793)

BUT both those nations feared continued trade and began stopping American ships and seizing cargo

(British don't want Americans trading with French and French don't want Americans trading with British!!)

GREAT BRITAIN FLEXES IT'S POWER

- BRITISH NAVY INTERCEPTS (STOPS) ALL NEUTRAL SHIPS GOING INTO FRENCH PORTS
- BRITISH SOLDIERS (STILL IN FORTS IN AMERICA) INCITE NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES TO ATTACK WESTERN SETTLERS
- CONGRESS IS CLOSE TO DECLARING WAR!!!!!

NEXT UP

- THE JAY TREATY
- PINCKNEY'S TREATY

(FUNNY NAME! BOTH HE AND HIS BROTHER CHARLES RAN FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT A COUPLE OF TIMES! IMAGINE A PRESIDENT PINCKNEY! WHAT WOULD THEY HAVE CALLED HIM IN THE HISTORY BOOKS? PINKIE? PESIDENT PINK? PAPA PINKY?)

ENTER JOHN JAY: SENT TO ENGLAND (DOES THIS RING A BELL WITH ANYONE?)

- **CURRENT CHIEF JUSTICE OF SUPREME COURT**
- **PRESIDENT WASHINGTON WANTS TO AVOID WAR**
- **GOALS**
  - **Payment for damages to ships**
  - **Recognition of our neutrality**
  - **British troops out of Western Territories: Stop attacks by Native Americans**
  - **Re-open trade with British West Indies**
  - **Southern Slaveowners want compensation for slaves freed by British during the Revolutionary War.**

THE RESULT: JAY'S TREATY (ANYONE?)

- **What Jay wanted from the British**
  - **Stop seizure of US ships**
  - **Leave the Western Territories**
  - **Secure trade in the British West Indies**
- **What Jay got from the British**
  - **Agreed to withdraw troops from America over 18 months.**
  - **Agreed to stop aiding the Native Americans in their attacks on Western settlers**
  - **Agreed to pay for damages to US Ships.**
  - **Favorable Trade Status between the US and Great Britain**
- **GREAT BRITAIN'S RESPONSE:**
- **Will not allow trade in the British West Indies**
- **Refuses to recognize US trade with France**
- **Will not stop impressment of US sailors (taking Americans off ships, declaring them British citizens and putting them in the British Navy).**

AMERICAN RESPONSE TO JAY'S TREATY (ADAMS HAD TO BREAK A TIE VOTE AS VP)

REGARDING A HOUSE PASSED RESOLUTION TO EMBARGO GREAT BRITAIN TO STOP JAY'S TREATY.

- DEMOCRATIC-REPUBLICANS (AGAINST)
  - ACCUSE FEDERALISTS OF BEING PRO-BRITISH
  - FEEL WE GAVE UP TOO MUCH
  - DID NOT GET MUCH IN RETURN
- FEDERALISTS (PRO)
  - KEPT THE PEACE
- CONGRESS (AGAINST)
- WASHINGTON AGREES TO THE TREATY
  - PREVENTS WAR WITH GREAT BRITAIN.
  - PROTECTS AMERICAN ECONOMY

PINCKNEY'S TREATY

- 1795: Spain joins Britain against France
- Jay's Treaty makes Spain nervous
- Spanish Fear:
  - Americans and British join forces and take all Spanish territory

- Spain's goal:
  - Keep the US happy
  - Prevent US from joining Britain.

PINCKNEY'S TREATY (CONT'D)

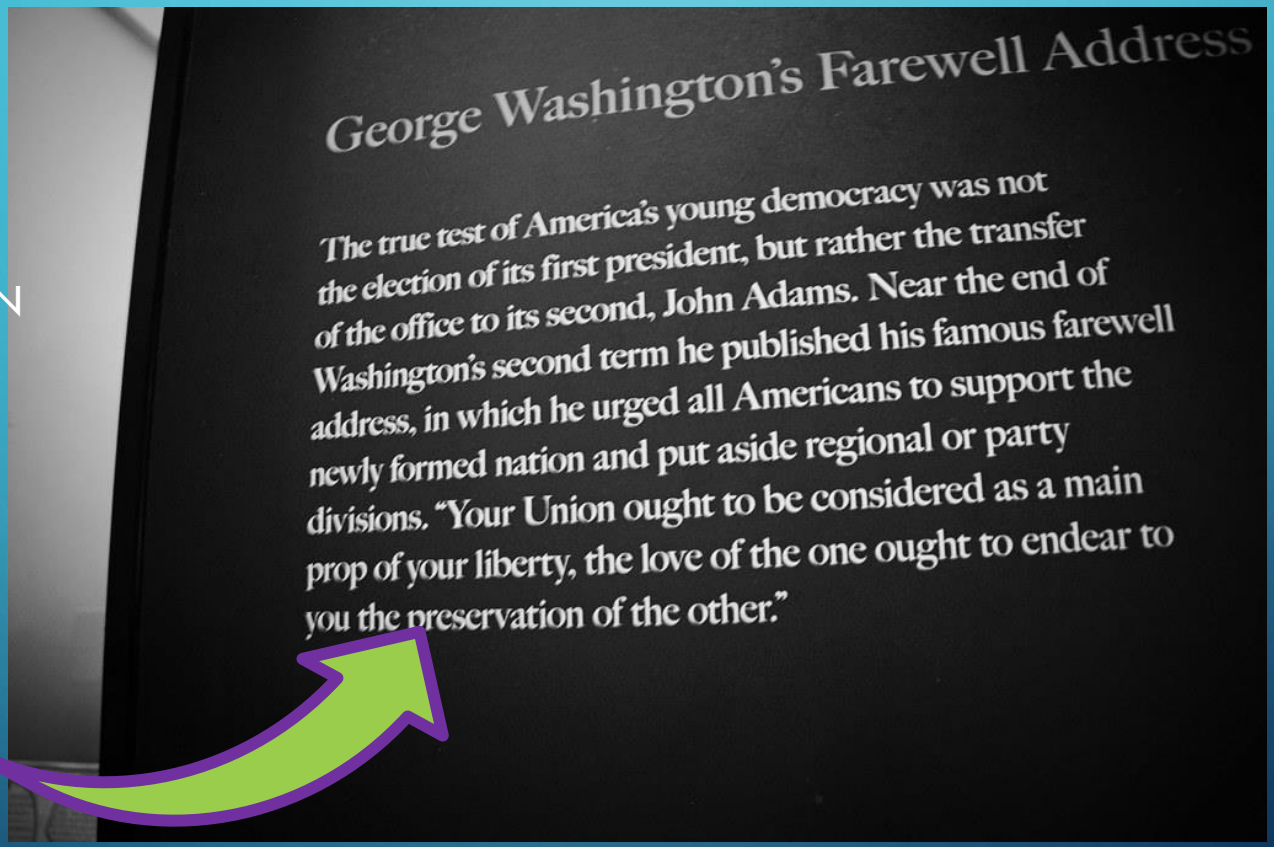
- Spain gave the US the right to navigate the Mississippi River and use the Port of New Orleans
- Spain gave up any claims to the Ohio River

RESPONSE IN CONGRESS

- **BROAD ACCEPTANCE**
  - **WESTERN FARMERS COULD NOW USE MISSISSIPPI TO GET CROPS TO MARKET!!**

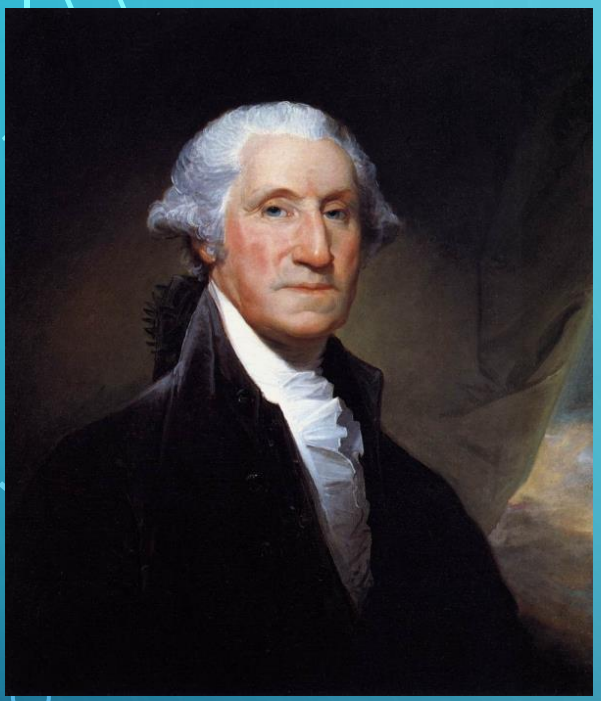
WASHINGTON'S FAREWELL

DRAMATIC PRESENTATION



EVERY YEAR SINCE 1896, ONE MEMBER OF THE SENATE IS SELECTED TO READ WASHINGTON'S FAREWELL ADDRESS: LISTEN TO IT **HERE**. (POLITICAL PARTIES ARE ROTATED ANNUALLY).

PEACEFUL TRANSFER OF POWER



"Remember, democracy never lasts long. It soon wastes, exhausts, and murders itself. There never was a democracy yet that did not commit suicide."

John Adams

1796

WASHINGTON'S FAREWELL ADDRESS

- 32 pages, handwritten with Alexander Hamilton
- Gives his core beliefs for his hope for the future of the country
- WARNINGS:
  - Put the National Government first, NOT political parties
  - Geographical distinctions – local factors cause petty disputes (COME TOGETHER AS ONE).
  - Greatest threat: long-term alliances with other nations – only trade with loose connections

FINAL THOUGHTS

"NATIONAL UNION" formed the bedrock of "collective and individual happiness" for U.S. citizens. As he explained, "The name of AMERICAN, which belongs to you, in your national capacity, must always exalt the just pride of PATRIOTISM, more than any appellation derived from local distinctions."

THE RISE OF POLITICAL PARTIES

- What has happened up until now that might make opposing political parties form?
  - Ratification of the Constitution
  - Strength of Federal Government
  - Hamilton's Financial Plan
  - Constitutional Interpretation

EVOLUTION OF POLITICAL PARTIES

(credit to Ms. H who does better videos than me.)

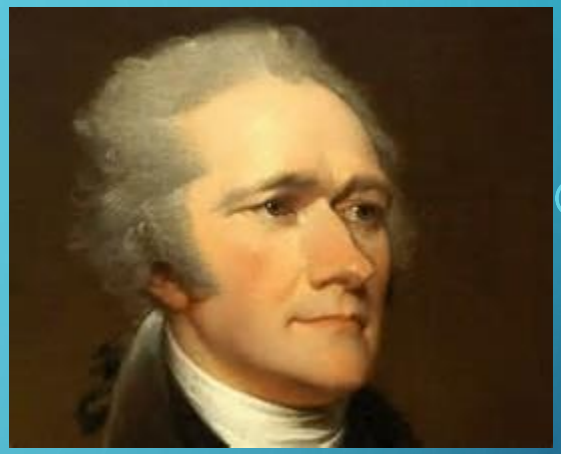
1. **Why did political parties emerge in the US?**
2. **What did the Federalists believe?**
3. **What did the Democratic-Republicans believe?**

POLITICAL PARTIES AS THEY EMERGE IN AMERICA DURING WASHINGTON'S TENURE OF OFFICE.

- **FEDERALISTS**

- **REPUBLICANS (DEMOCRATIC-REPUBLICANS)**

FEDERALISTS

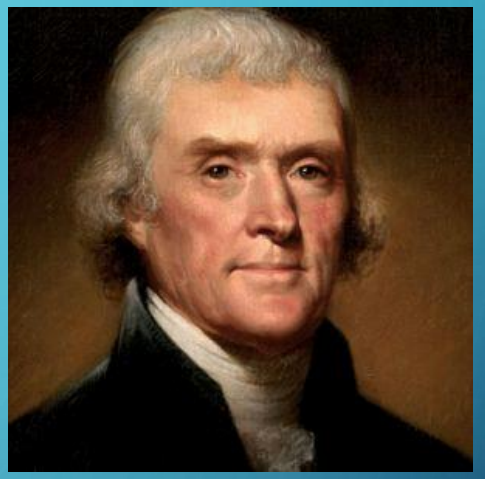


Supporters:
John Jay
John Adams

- **Led by Alexander Hamilton**
- **FUNDAMENTAL BELIEFS**
  - **Strong Central Government**
    - **Order and Stability**
  - **Ruling Power given to the wealthy and educated.**
  - **Government should promote manufacturing, shipping, and trade.**
  - **Loose interpretation of the Constitution**
  - **Protective Tariffs protect domestic industries**
  - **Favored a National Bank.**
  - **Pro-British**

DEMOCRATIC-REPUBLICANS

Supporters:
Aaron Burr
James Madison



- Led by Thomas Jefferson
- FUNDAMENTAL BELIEFS
  - Strong State governments
  - Civil liberties and trust in the people
  - Ruling power given to ALL landowners
  - Government should promote agriculture
    - "Cultivators of the earth are the most valuable citizens"
  - Strict interpretation of the Constitution
  - Protective tariffs burden farmers
  - Opposed National Bank
  - Pro-French

EVOLUTION OF POLITICAL PARTIES

- **Think about this:**
  - **How have the parties changed over time?**
  - **Do you think political parties have had a good or poor effect on unity?**

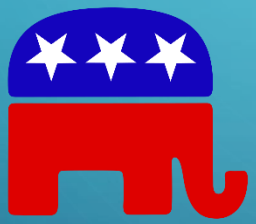
NOTE: It is nonsense to say that Hamilton could not be President because he was an immigrant from Nevis. People that say this haven't read the Constitution: "No person except a natural born Citizen, *or a Citizen of the United States, at the time of the Adoption of this Constitution*, shall be eligible to the Office of President…

--Article 2, Section 1.

TODAY'S POLITICAL LANDSCAPE

AS OF 2021: 62% OF AMERICANS POLLED BELIEVED THERE WAS A NEED FOR A THIRD MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY (UP FROM 57% IN 2018).

WHAT DO WE HAVE AVAILABLE AS CHOICES TODAY? THESE ARE THE PARTIES RECOGNIZED BY AT LEAST 14 STATES AS BALLOT-QUALIFIED

DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	LIBERTARIAN	GREEN	CONSTITUTION
				
50	50	37	26	14

AS OF 2019, THERE ARE 224 POLITICAL PARTIES IDENTIFIED AS BALLOT-QUALIFIED AT THE STATE LEVEL

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, WE CAN DO A ONE ON ONE SO AS NOT TO BORE EVERYONE!!

DEMOCRAT POLITICAL PLATFORM (2020)

PARTY PLATFORM - DEMOCRATS

- PROTECTING AMERICANS AND RECOVERING FROM THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC
- BUILDING A STRONGER, FAIRER ECONOMY
- ACHIEVING UNIVERSAL, AFFORDABLE, QUALITY HEALTH CARE
- PROTECTING COMMUNITIES AND BUILDING TRUST BY REFORMING OUR CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM
- HEALING THE SOUL OF AMERICA COMBATING THE CLIMATE CRISIS AND PURSUING ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
- RESTORING AND STRENGTHENING OUR DEMOCRACY
- CREATING A 21ST CENTURY IMMIGRATION SYSTEM
- PROVIDING A WORLD-CLASS EDUCATION IN EVERY ZIP CODE
- RENEWING AMERICAN LEADERSHIP

REPUBLICAN PARTY PLATFORM (2020)

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY PLATFORM, 2020 - BALLOTPEDIA

- **JOBS**
- **ERADICATE COVID-19**
- **END OUR RELIANCE ON CHINA**
- **HEALTHCARE**
- **EDUCATION**
- **DRAIN THE SWAMP**
  - **Pass Congressional Term Limits**
  - **End Bureaucratic Government Bullying of U.S. Citizens and Small Businesses**
  - **Expose Washington's Money Trail and Delegate Powers Back to People and States**
  - **Drain the Globalist Swamp by Taking on International Organizations That Hurt American Citizens**
- **DEFEND OUR POLICE**
- **END ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION AND PROTECT AMERICAN WORKERS**
- **INNOVATE FOR THE FUTURE**
- **AMERICA FIRST FOREIGN POLICY**
- **DEFEND AMERICAN VALUES**

LIBERTARIAN PARTY PLATFORM (2020)

PLATFORM | LIBERTARIAN PARTY (LP.ORG)

- **PERSONAL LIBERTY THROUGH FREE CHOICE AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR THOSE CHOICES**
- **ECONOMIC LIBERTY THROUGH A FREE AND COMPETITIVE MARKET**
- **SECURING LIBERTY AS THE ONLY PROPER PURPOSE OF GOVERNMENT**

GREEN PARTY PLATFORM (2020)

PLATFORM - WWW.GP.ORG

- **DEMOCRACY**
- **SOCIAL JUSTICE**
- **ECOLOGICAL SUSTAINABILITY**
- **ECONOMIC JUSTICE AND SUSTAINABILITY**

CONSTITUTION PARTY PLATFORM (2020)

PLATFORM IN BRIEF (CONSTITUTIONPARTY.COM)

- **BASED ON PRINCIPLES OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, THE CONSTITUTION, AND THE BILL OF RIGHTS**
- **SANCTITY OF LIFE**
- **BRING GOVERNMENT BACK HOME**
- **CHARACTER AND MORAL CONDUCT**
- **CONGRESSIONAL REFORM**
- **CONSCRIPTION (AGAINST)**

IT IS A REALLY LONG LIST. I CAN GO OVER EACH ONE WITH YOU INDIVIDUALLY.

TODAY

Think about this:

How have the parties changed over time?

- **You can only look at this from the last few years.**
- **How have the parties changed their beliefs?**
- **How have new parties been received in the public?**

- **How have the people changed around you?**
  - **Their views?**
  - **The impact of media**
  - **The impact of the COVID-19 virus on our lives**

"...Those who would give up essential Liberty, to purchase a little temporary Safety, deserve neither Liberty nor Safety..." Benjamin Franklin, 1755