America: Pathways to the Present

Chapter 8

The Growth of a National Economy (1790–1850)

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Section 1: Inventions and Innovations

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Inventions and Innovations

Chapter 8, Section 1

- How did the Industrial Revolution begin and spread in the United States, and what was its impact?
- How did improvements in transportation and communication change American society?
- How did the U.S. economy expand during the early 1800s?
- What role did banks have in the growth of the U.S. economy?



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The Industrial Revolution

Chapter 8, Section 1

- The Industrial Revolution was an ongoing effort over many decades to increase production by using machines rather than the power of humans or animals.
- Began with improvements in the textile industry in Britain in the 1700s.
 - James Watt's development of the first practical steam engine between 1765 and 1785
- The British guarded their inventions
 - Samuel Slater was able to immigrate to America and reproduce British machinery there.
- Textile producers soon began copying Slater's methods.
 Hundreds of textile mills arose, mostly in Pennsylvania, New York, and New England.













Eli Whitney's Inventions

Chapter 8, Section 1

Interchangeable Parts

- Standard sized parts that can be used on any machine
- Whitney used his idea to manufacture guns
 - Before this, gun makers would craft every gun by hand

The Cotton Gin

- A machine that separates the seeds from raw cotton.
 - Patented in 1794
- The cotton gin increased the amount of cotton that farmers could produce, with many farranging effects.
 - Farmers sought new land to farm as well as more enslaved Africans to work on these lands.















Transportation and Communication

Chapter 8, Section 1

Improvements in Transportation and Communication Early- to Mid- 1800s

Roads Roads were needed for travel as well as to transport goods, deliver the mail,

and herd animals. Although many roads were poorly built or built by private companies, the Cumberland Road, today known as U.S. Route 40, was built to

last by the federal government.

River Travel Rivers provided the country's main transportation. Robert Fulton's

development of a commercially successful steamboat soon led to hundreds of

steamboats transporting goods up and down American rivers such as the

Mississippi.

Canals Since water was the cheapest way to transport goods, American innovators

built artificial waterways, or canals. The Erie Canal increased the settlement

and development of the Great Lakes region.

Railroads Railroads, using the new steam locomotive, became even more efficient than

canals. The first American railroad, known as the Baltimore and Ohio (B&O)

line, was followed by thousands more miles of rail track.

Communication Improvements in the federal postal service, combined with an increasing

number of newspapers and magazines, provided a national network of

information exchange which helped tie together different parts of the country.



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An Expanding Economy

Chapter 8, Section 1

Market Revolution

The ways in which Americans made, bought, and sold goods changed dramatically

Manufacturing

- The use of machinery to make products.
- Began in New England and spread across the Northeast and into parts of the Northwest Territory.
- Centralized textile factory
 - a single facility where all the tasks involved in making a product were carried out.
 - Francis Cabot Lowell
- Free enterprise system
 - Economic system in which private companies compete for profits.



Working and Shopping

Chapter 8, Section 1

Working Outside the Home

- In the 1700s, most people worked in their homes or on farms.
- The rise of manufacturing sharply increased the demand for people working outside the home.
- Factory owners increased the use of specialization, a system in which each worker performs just one part of the production process.
- Rather than working on a product from start to finish, many workers were now involved only in one part of the process.

The Rise of Shopping

- As more products became available and people worked for wages, Americans began to shop for goods rather than make what they needed for themselves.
- By the mid-1800s, many average American homes were filled with store-bought items.



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The Role of Banks

Chapter 8, Section 1

The Rise of the Banking Industry

- By the 1830s, hundreds of new banks had opened in the United States.
- Banks made money by charging interest on the loans they provided. Many of these loans were in the form of investment capital, money that a business spends in hopes of future gains.
- Although investment capital generally helped the economy grow, disasters could and did occur.

Uncontrolled Lending and Bank Notes

- In the 1800s, states did not restrict banks' lending. Banks often made loans to people who could not pay them back.
- As a result, banks sometimes did not have enough cash on hand if a large number of people tried to withdraw their money at the same time.
- The economy experienced wild booms followed by panics. Panics in the 1830s disrupted the economy well into the 1840s.















The Northern Section

Chapter 8, Section 2

- How did farming develop in the Old Northwest?
- What new industries arose in the Northeast?
- What caused the growth of cities, and what problems developed as they grew?
- What kinds of labor disputes arose in factories?















Farming in the Old Northwest

Chapter 8, Section 2

- In the early 1800s, America began to divide into two distinct sections, or regions, the North and the South.
- Old Northwest
 - Included present-day Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and part of Minnesota.
 - Fertile land proved ideal for growing corn, wheat, and other grains. Because these grains spoiled easily, they were often converted into other products, such as beer and whiskey, which did not spoil and were easy to store.
- Many specialized businesses arose to handle the processing, transport, and sale of farm products produced in the Old Northwest.
 - Slaughterhouses, distilleries, shipping companies, and banks.



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Industries of the Northeast

Chapter 8, Section 2

- Most people in the Northeast continued to live in rural areas in the countryside. Others lived and worked in urban areas, or cities.
- Industrialization, or the development of industry, increased rapidly in the Northeast.
- In 1813, Francis Cabot Lowell built the first centralized textile mill in Waltham, Massachusetts. A mill town founded in northern Massachusetts was later named for him.
- The Lowell mills employed young, unmarried women, providing them with an income, room and board, and the opportunity to socialize with other young women.
- Because women would work for lower wages than men, many mill owners chose to hire female workers.



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The Growth of Cities

Chapter 8, Section 2

The Growth of Cities

- Many young people sought work in the cities, as the American population outgrew the available farmland.
- Population in large cities such as New York City, Boston, and Philadelphia skyrocketed.
 Smaller cities such as Baltimore also saw a dramatic rise in population.

Urban Problems

- In these growing cities, children, the sick, and the elderly often had no support in times of trouble.
- Areas such as lower Manhattan became known for their tenements, crowded apartments with poor standards of sanitation, safety, and comfort.
- Police and fire departments, sewage systems, and reliable fresh water did not develop as quickly as population in many cities, leading to unsanitary and unsafe conditions.















Labor Disputes in Factories

Chapter 8, Section 2

Workers Go on Strike

- Factory owners aimed to make a profit, often at the expense of their workers.
- Workers often used the strike, or work stoppage, to demand shorter hours and higher wages.
- From 1834 through 1836, more than 150 strikes took place in the United States.

The First Labor Unions

- In 1834, workers organized the first national labor union, an organization of workers formed to protect the interests of its members.
- This union, the National Trades Union (NTU), died out when factory owners obtained court rulings that outlawed labor organizations.
- The early labor movement demonstrated that workers were willing to take action against their employers, setting the stage for later labor movements.















The North By the 1840s

Chapter 8, Section 2

- By the 1840s, the North's economy had become a booming mix of industry and agriculture.
- Cities and towns characterized the North, bringing the benefits and problems that accompanied growth.















The Southern Section

Chapter 8, Section 3

- Why did the economy of the South remain largely agricultural?
- How did the lives of slaves differ on large and small farms?
- What were the results of slave revolts?















The Economy of the South

Chapter 8, Section 3

- The region known as the South included 6 of the original 13 states (Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia as well as the new states of Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Texas.
- States in the cotton belt, a band stretching from South Carolina to Texas, relied mostly on cotton for their economies.
- The South was geographically well-suited to farming cotton and other crops. Land was fertile, rain was plentiful, and most of the year was frost-free.
- Both large plantations and smaller farms used enslaved workers to help produce cotton, sugar, tobacco, and rice.















Slow Urban Growth

Chapter 8, Section 3

- Industrial development progressed slowly in the South. Nevertheless, cities did develop, including New Orleans, Louisiana; Charleston, South Carolina; and Richmond, Virginia.
- Southern cities had smaller populations than their northern counterparts. Like northern cities, southern cities were plagued by problems of poor housing and sanitation.
- Many free African Americans made their homes in southern towns and cities.















The Slavery System

Chapter 8, Section 3

Growth in Enslaved Population

- By 1804, all northern states had either banned slavery or passed laws to end it gradually.
- In 1808, Congress banned all future importation of slaves to the United States.
- Nonetheless, the enslaved population grew, since children born to enslaved persons became enslaved as well.

Slavery on Small and Large Farms

- Slaves on small farms were often better treated than those on large plantations.
- Enslaved women faced many responsibilities, including caring for their owners' households and working in the fields. In addition, some women were subjected to physical or sexual abuse.















Slave Revolts

Chapter 8, Section 3

Vesey's Plan

- After buying his freedom, former slave Denmark Vesey became increasingly angry at the sufferings of his fellow African Americans.
- In 1822, Vesey laid plans for what was to be the most ambitious slave revolt in American history.
- Vesey was betrayed by some of his followers, and he and 35 other African Americans were hanged.

Turner's Rebellion

- Nat Turner, an African
 American preacher, planned
 and carried out a violent
 uprising in August 1831
 known as Turner's Rebellion.
- Local militia captured and hanged many of the rebels, including Turner.
- Crowds of frightened and angry whites rioted, killing about a hundred African Americans who had not been involved in the revolt.















White Southerners Alarmed

Chapter 8, Section 3

- Because African Americans outnumbered the white population in some communities, many southerners feared slave revolts.
- After the Vesey and Turner rebellions, some southern states tightened restrictions on slaves.
- Virginia and South Carolina passed laws against teaching enslaved people to read, and some states prevented blacks from moving freely or meeting.















The Growth of Nationalism

Chapter 8, Section 4

- What were some signs of a new nationalism after the War of 1812?
- Why was the election of 1824 controversial?
- What new political parties emerged in 1828, and what views did they represent?















Nationalism at Home

Chapter 8, Section 4

Many Americans came to think of President James Monroe's two terms in office (1817–1826) as the Era of Good Feeling. During Monroe's terms, the Supreme Court, under Chief Justice John Marshall, made several important decisions that strengthened the federal government's role in the national economy.

Protecting Contracts

In Dartmouth College v. Woodward, the Marshall Court ruled that states cannot interfere with private contracts. This ruling later came to protect businesses from regulation, stabilizing the national economy.

Supporting the National Bank

In McCulloch v. Maryland,
Marshall ruled that
Congress had the right to
charter the Bank of the
United States even though
the Constitution did not
specifically mention it.
Marshall based his
argument on the
"necessary and proper"
clause in the Constitution.

Regulating Commerce

In Gibbons v. Ogden, the Court declared that states could not interfere with Congress's right to regulate business on interstate waterways. This ruling increased steamboat competition, helping open up the American West for settlement.



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Nationalism Abroad

Chapter 8, Section 4

- President Monroe, together with Secretary of State John Quincy Adams, began a new approach to American foreign policy.
- One of Monroe's main goals was to ease tensions with Great Britain, which remained high after the War of 1812.
- In 1817, the United States and Great Britain signed the Rush-Bagot Agreement
 - Called on both nations to reduce the number of warships in the Great Lakes region.
- The following year, the two countries set the northern border of the United States at 49° North latitude.
- Monroe was also concerned that other European countries, recovering from several years of warfare, would resume their efforts to colonize the Western Hemisphere.



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The Monroe Doctrine

Chapter 8, Section 4

In a speech on December 2, 1823, President Monroe established a policy that every President has since followed to some degree. The Monroe Doctrine had four main parts:

The United States would not become involved in the internal affairs of European nations, nor would it take sides in wars among them.

The United States recognized the existing colonies and states in the Western Hemisphere and would not interfere with them.

The United States would not permit any further colonization of the Western Hemisphere.

Any attempt by a
European power to
take control of any
nation in the
Western
Hemisphere would
be viewed as a
hostile action
toward the United
States.















The Controversial Election of 1824

Chapter 8, Section 4

- Three major candidates competed for the presidency in 1824. For the first time, no candidate had been a leader during the Revolution.
- These candidates were Secretary of State John Quincy Adams, Speaker of the House Henry Clay, and General Andrew Jackson.
- Jackson was regarded by many as a wildcard candidate, an outsider famous for his war victories.
- While in Congress, Clay had supported what he called the American System, a policy of government-backed economic development and protective tariffs to encourage business growth.
- No candidate won a majority of electoral votes. As required by the Constitution, the House of Representatives voted to decide the election.
 - Clay helped win victory for Adams, who made Clay his Secretary of State days later.
 - Angry Jackson supporters claimed that Adams and Clay had made a "corrupt bargain" to deny Jackson the presidency.



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Two New Parties Face Off

Chapter 8, Section 4

The American System and the National Republicans

- Adams and Clay pushed for laws authorizing the federal construction of roads, canals, bridges, and other public improvements.
- Supporters of Andrew Jackson in Congress blocked such plans at every turn.
- Supporters of Adams and Clay began calling themselves the Adams Party or National Republicans, later to be known as Whigs.

Jackson and the Election of 1828

- Supporters of Andrew Jackson called themselves Jacksonians or Democratic Republicans.
 Historians now call them Jacksonian Democrats.
- Jackson won the presidential election of 1828 by a large margin.
- Many men who did not own property were allowed to vote for the first time. These voters chose Jackson, the candidate they felt was a man of the people.















The Age of Jackson

Chapter 8, Section 5

- How did American government and democracy change with Jackson as President?
- How did Jackson respond to the tariff and Indian crises?
- What political strategies prompted the bank war?
- How effective were Jackson's presidential successors?















Jackson as President

Chapter 8, Section 5

Andrew Jackson as President 1829–1837

Jackson's Inauguration

When Jackson was inaugurated, supporters immediately rushed forward to greet him. They followed him into the White House to try to get a glimpse of their hero, the first President from west of the Appalachians.

Jacksonian Democracy

Jackson's support came from thousands of new voters. New laws that allowed all white men to vote, as well as laws that let voters, rather than state legislatures, choose electors, gave many more people a voice in choosing their government.

The Spoils System

The practice of patronage, in which newly elected officials give government jobs to friends and supporters, was not new in Jackson's time. Jackson made this practice, known as the spoils system to critics, official.

Limited Government

Jackson believed in limiting the power of the federal government and used his veto power to restrict federal activity as much as possible. His frequent use of the veto helped earn him the nickname "King Andrew I."



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The Tariff Crisis

Chapter 8, Section 5

- Before Jackson's first term had begun, Congress passed the Tariff of 1828, a heavy tax on imports designed to boost American manufacturing.
- The tariff greatly benefited the industrial North but forced southerners to pay high prices for manufactured goods.
- In response to the tariff, South Carolina claimed that states could nullify, or reject, federal laws they judged to be unconstitutional.
 - It based this claim on a strict interpretation of states' rights, the powers that the Constitution neither gives to the federal government nor denies to the states.
- South Carolina nullified the tariffs and threatened to secede, or withdraw, from the Union, if the federal government did not respect its nullification.
- A compromise engineered by Senator Henry Clay ended the crisis.
 However, the issue of states' rights continued to influence the nation.















The Indian Crisis

Chapter 8, Section 5

Indian Relocation

- In the 1820s, cotton farmers in the South sought to expand into Native American lands.
- The 1830 Indian Removal Act authorized President Jackson to give Native Americans land in parts of the Louisiana Purchase in exchange for land in the East.
- Although some groups moved peacefully, Jackson forcibly relocated many members of the Five Tribes, or the Cherokee, Creek, Choctaw, Chickasaw, and Seminole peoples.

Cherokee Resistance

- The Cherokee had adopted more aspects of white culture than any other Native American group.
- When the state of Georgia seized millions of acres of Cherokee land, the Cherokee brought their case to the Supreme Court.
- The Court ruled that Georgia had no authority over Cherokee territory, but Georgia, with Jackson's backing, defied the Court.
- In a nightmare journey which the Cherokee call the Trail of Tears, Cherokees were led on a forced march west.

Indian Uprisings

- In 1832, a warrior named Black Hawk led about 1,000 Indians back to their fertile land, hoping to regain it peacefully.
- •The clashes which resulted became known as the Black Hawk War.
- In 1835, a group of Seminoles in Florida, led by a chief named Osceola, began the Second Seminole War, a conflict which was to continue for nearly seven years.



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The Bank War

Chapter 8, Section 5

The Bank of the United States

- Like many Americans, Jackson viewed the Bank of the United States as a "monster" institution controlled by a small group of wealthy easterners.
- Supported by Senators Henry Clay and Daniel Webster, the charter's president, Nicholas Biddle, decided to recharter the bank in 1832, four years earlier than necessary.
- Clay and Webster thought that Jackson would veto the charter, and planned to use that veto against him in the 1832 election.

Jackson Vetoes the Charter

- Jackson vetoed the bill to recharter the bank, claiming that the back was a tool of the greedy and powerful.
- Despite Clay and Webster's intentions, the veto did not hurt Jackson's campaign. Jackson won reelection in 1832 by a huge margin, defeating Clay, the National Republican candidate.
- The National Republicans never recovered from this defeat. Two years later, they joined several other anti-Jackson groups to form the Whig Party.















Jackson's Successors

Chapter 8, Section 5

- Poor health led Jackson to choose not to run for a third term. His Vice President, Martin Van Buren, was elected President in the 1836 election.
- Van Buren lacked Jackson's popularity. In addition, an economic depression occurring during Van Buren's term led many voters to support the Whig candidate, William Henry Harrison, in the next election.
- A month after taking office as President in 1841, Harrison died of pneumonia.
- Harrison's Vice President, John Tyler, took over as President. Tyler had been chosen for strategic reasons, and the Whigs had never expected him to assume the presidency. Tyler blocked much of the Whig program, leading to four years of political deadlock.



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