The Triumphs and Travails of the Jeffersonian Republic

1800 – 1812
Democratic-Republicans Take Over Government

• The election of 1800 seemed to give the voters a clear choice
  – John Adams (Federalist) campaigned for strong government and public order
  – Thomas Jefferson (Democratic-Republican) campaigned for farmers, liberty, and states’ rights

• Once Democratic-Republicans took power, events of the early 1800s forced them to expand government power, even though they were ideologically opposed to this
Federalist and Republican Mudslingers

• Weakness of the Federalists
  – The Alien and Sedition Acts had increased the hostility of the Jeffersonians toward them
  – Hamiltonians (High Federalists) had split with Adams principally over his decision not to go to war with France
  – Federalists had prepared for a war with France, increasing taxes and public debt; these preparations were seen as wasteful and extravagant
Federalist and Republican Mudslingers

• Federalists made vicious attacks on Jefferson
  – Robbed a widow and children of trust fund
  – Fathered mulatto children with his female slaves
  – Atheist (because of his successful struggle to separate church and state in Virginia)
A Federalist Newspaper Cartoon in 1800 Attacks a Drunken Jefferson for Trying to Pull Down the Pillars of the Washington-Adams Federalist Achievements with the Aid of the Devil and Devilish Ideas in His Pocket
The Jeffersonian
“Revolution of 1800”

• Jefferson won the election of 1800
  – 73 to 65 electoral votes primarily in states in the South and West
  – Aaron Burr got New York (which had gone to Adams in 1796) to vote for Jefferson by a narrow margin, deciding the election
  – The 3/5 clause helped Jefferson win, giving slave states that voted for Jefferson extra electoral votes

• Adams was the last Federalist president
  – The party soon disappeared around 1816
Election of 1800

1800*

ELECTORAL VOTE TOTAL: 138

Democratic-Republican (Jefferson)

Federalist (J. Adams)

Territories
The Jeffersonian
“Revolution of 1800”

• Jefferson vs. Burr
  – Both received same number of electoral votes in the election of 1800 because Republican supporters had all voted for Jefferson and Burr
  • It had been understood that they were voting for Jefferson as president and Burr as his vice president; Burr should have told one of his supporters to vote for Jefferson instead, but because of his ambition he did not
  – Before the 12th amendment, each elector had 2 votes; the 2nd place finisher would become vice president
The Jeffersonian
“Revolution of 1800”

• Following the Constitution, the election went to the House of Representatives (which had a Federalist majority)
  – Jefferson needed a majority of states (at least 9 of 16) to win
  – The Federalists hated Jefferson, but on the 36th ballot, a few Federalists switched to give Jefferson the election
  – They realized that in order to have a peaceful transfer of power they had to vote for Jefferson
The Jeffersonian “Revolution of 1800”

- Jefferson claimed the election of 1800 was a “revolution” comparable to 1776
  - A return to principles of the founding of the US, which had been betrayed (according to Jefferson) by Federalists and especially Hamilton
  - Jefferson wanted to stop the growth of government power and the decay of “republican virtue”
The Jeffersonian
“Revolution of 1800”

• The peaceful transfer of power from 1 party to another was very important
  – Both sides accepted the outcome
  – Important achievement for a new nation after the partisan bitterness under Adams
  – No other country at that time had a mechanism like the US that was popularly accepted and worked
Responsibility Breeds Moderation

• March 4, 1801 – Jefferson’s inauguration
  – In his inaugural address he tried to bring Democratic-Republicans and Federalists together
    • “We are all Republicans, we are all Federalists”
  – Spoke of majority rule with minority rights
  – Promised friendship with other nations, but not entangling alliances
Responsibility Breeds Moderation

- Jefferson brought more democratic practices to the US
  - Walked to the capitol from his house in Washington, DC (did not ride in a carriage) during inauguration
  - Washington, DC at the time was a small, rural village compared to Federalist Philadelphia (the previous capitol)
  - Seating at dinners was done pell-mell (without regard to rank)
  - Sent speeches to Congress to be read by his clerk (the Federalist practice of public appearances was seen as monarchical – king-like)
Thomas Jefferson Arriving at His Inauguration
Washington DC in 1800
Responsibility Breeds Moderation

• Once in office, he was forced to reverse many previous positions
  – The theories of a philosopher did not always work in the real world of politics
Responsibility Breeds Moderation

• Spoils of office
  – Spoils - goods stolen or taken forcibly from a person or place
  – Federalists and Democratic-Republicans expected Jefferson would remove many Federalist office-holders in favor of Republicans
  – Jefferson generally did not do this, which pleased Federalists but angered some office-seeking Democratic-Republicans
Responsibility Breeds Moderation

• Democratic-Republicans were united only by opposition to the Federalists
  – Did not have patronage to distribute to supporters (because Jefferson did not fire many Federalists)
  – Well-developed and disciplined parties would not come until later in US history
Jeffersonian Restraint

• Jefferson’s moderate changes
  – Undid Federalist abuses during anti-French hysteria of Alien and Sedition Acts: He pardoned those jailed, the government paid back many fines, and passed the Naturalization Act of 1802 (the time for naturalization of aliens reduced from 14 years back to 5 years)
  – Repealed excise tax that hurt farmer supporters (which cost government $1 million per year in needed money)
Jeffersonian Restraint

• Jefferson and the national budget
  – Appointed Albert Gallatin as very good secretary of the treasury
  – Substantially reduced the national debt while balancing the budget through strict cost-cutting measures
Albert Gallatin
Jeffersonian Restraint

• Jefferson did not change much of the Federalists’ framework
  – Hamilton’s budgetary programs were left intact
  – The Bank of the US was left alone
  – The Federalist tariff was not repealed
Jeffersonian Restraint

- Jefferson’s moderation strengthened the “Revolution of 1800”
  - Showed that a change in the ruling party was not disastrous for the defeated group
  - Led the way for the 2-party system in the US
The “Dead Clutch” of the Judiciary

• Judiciary Act of 1801
  – Last major act of the Federalist Congress (before being replaced by a Republican majority)
  – 16 new federal judgeships were created, along with other judicial offices
  – Adams signed these judgeships up to last day in office

• Known as the “midnight judges,” which came from a story (which probably isn’t true) that Adams had stayed up late on his last night in office signing the judicial appointments
The “Dead Clutch” of the Judiciary

• The judiciary needed reform, but the Republicans reacted angrily
  – Seen as an attempt to pack the court with Federalists
  – Federalists, who had been voted out of 2 branches, would entrench themselves in 1
  – Jefferson called it a violation of the people’s will
The “Dead Clutch” of the Judiciary

• The Republican Congress repealed the Judiciary Act of 1801
  – The 16 federal justices were not seated
The “Dead Clutch” of the Judiciary

- John Marshall
  - Appointed by Adams
  - Had little formal schooling in law (6 weeks), but had a powerful mind that shaped the Supreme Court for 34 years
  - Served in the Revolution at Valley Forge and saw the need for a powerful government
  - His decisions increased the power of the federal government
Chief
Justice John
Marshall
The “Dead Clutch” of the Judiciary

• Marbury v. Madison, the issues
  – William Marbury (a “midnight judge”) had been appointed justice of the peace for the District of Columbia
  – Sued the new secretary of state (Madison) to have it delivered
  – The Court would have had to issue a “writ of mandamus”, forcing Madison to deliver Marbury’s commission, if Marbury had won
William Marbury
The “Dead Clutch” of the Judiciary

• Marbury v. Madison, the decision
  – Marshall ruled that the part of the Judiciary Act of 1789 on which Marbury based his suit was unconstitutional
    • The act had attempted to assign to the Supreme Court powers (original jurisdiction for writs of mandamus) that the Constitution had made appellate
  – Marshall dismissed Marbury’s suit
    • Republicans got what they wanted so they did not oppose Marshall’s claim that he could declare an act of Congress unconstitutional
The “Dead Clutch” of the Judiciary

• The importance of Marbury v. Madison
  – It had been controversial who had the final authority to determine the ultimate meaning of Constitution
  – Jefferson had argued (in 1798 in the Kentucky resolutions) that states had final authority
  – Marshall asserted the principle that the Supreme Court had the final authority (“judicial review”)
  – This greatly increased the power of the Supreme Court
Judicial Referees
The “Dead Clutch” of the Judiciary

- Republicans took revenge by impeaching Supreme Court justice Samuel Chase
  - Partisan Federalist who had strictly enforced the Sedition Act, jailing several Republican editors, he was hated by Republicans
  - Impeachment is based on “high crimes, and misdemeanors” (from the Constitution)
  - Chase was not guilty of these, and his conviction failed in the Senate
Supreme Court
Justice Samuel Chase
The “Dead Clutch” of the Judiciary

• Importance of Chase’s impeachment
  – If the precedent had been set that political opponents could impeach justices, the independence of courts and the separation of powers would have been destroyed
  – No serious attempt has been made since then to reshape the Court through impeachment
Jefferson, a Reluctant Warrior

• Jefferson reduced the army to 2,500 officers and men
  – Done partly to save money, but primarily done out of Jefferson’s vision of republicanism
  – The US would avoid bloody wars at home and deal with the world with “peaceful coercion,” not military power
  – He distrusted large standing armies as an open invitation to dictatorship
  – The navy was not to be feared as much, since it could not march inland and enslave the people, but still should be limited, so as not to involve the US in foreign wars
Jefferson, a Reluctant Warrior

• Pirates in the North African Barbary States
  – Pirates blackmailed and stole from merchant ships in the Mediterranean
  – Washington and Adams had paid tribute (bribes) to the Barbary States for protection
Four Barbary States of North Africa, c. 1805
Jefferson, a Reluctant Warrior

• War in North Africa
  – 1801 – Tripoli (unhappy with amount of protection money it got from the US) declared war on the US
  – Jefferson (noninterventionist, pacifist, critic of a large navy, political opponent of Federalist shippers) decided to fight
  – 1801 – 1805 – Tripolitan (Tri·pol’i·tan) War
  – Jefferson sent Marines to the “shores of Tripoli”
  – Peace finally came when the US defeated the Africans
The Constitution and Other US Ships
Attack Ships Defending Tripoli
A US Schooner Capturing a Tripolitan Ship, August 1801
US Marine Corps Hymn (Marine Hymn)

From the Halls of Montezuma
To the Shores of Tripoli;
We fight our country's battles
In the air, on land and sea;
First to fight for right and freedom
And to keep our honor clean;
We are proud to claim the title
of United States Marine.

Our flag's unfurled to every breeze
From dawn to setting sun;
We have fought in ev'ry clime and place
Where we could take a gun;
In the snow of far-off Northern lands
And in sunny tropic scenes;
You will find us always on the job--
The United States Marines.

Here's health to you and to our Corps
Which we are proud to serve
In many a strife we've fought for life
And never lost our nerve;
If the Army and the Navy
Ever look on Heaven's scenes;
They will find the streets are guarded
By United States Marines.
Jefferson, a Reluctant Warrior

- Small gunboats had been used with success in Tripolitan War
- Jefferson decided to build 200
  - Valuable to protect the US coast
  - Would not get the US involved in wars on the ocean or in foreign countries
  - Would be built in many small workshops, where the money spent might get Republican votes
  - Criticized by Federalists as too weak to defend the US
The Louisiana Godsend

• Louisiana
  – Before 1763 - France claimed Louisiana
  – 1763 – 1800 – Louisiana belongs to Spain (France had lost it to Spain after the Seven Years’ War)
  – In the Treaty of San Ildefonso (October 1, 1800) Spain ceded the Louisiana Territory back to France
The Louisiana Godsend

• 1802 – The Spanish at New Orleans withdrew the right of deposit (warehouse) to US farmers
  – Important because farmers sent produce down the Mississippi to be loaded onto ships
  – Americans were very angry; they talked of attacking New Orleans, that would have put the US into war with Spain and France
The Louisiana Godsend

• Why French ownership of Louisiana was bad for the US
  – Spain was weak and did not have any control over the area (except at New Orleans) and the US could take the area from Spain when it was ready
  – France was much more powerful; Napoleon was the greatest military genius at the time
    • The US would eventually have to fight to remove Napoleon, probably being forced to ally with a stronger country (like Britain)
The Louisiana Godsend

• Early 1803 – Jefferson sent James Monroe to work with the US ambassador to France (Robert R. Livingston)
  – Instructed to buy New Orleans and as much land as possible for up to $10 million
  – If this failed, instructed to open negotiations with Britain for an alliance
  – Jefferson (a friend of France and hater of alliances) was willing to ally with Britain (which he hated) to stop France from taking New Orleans
The Louisiana Godsend

• Napoleon suddenly decided to sell all of Louisiana
  – Had failed to reconquer Santo Domingo (the Dominican Republic)
  – Decided to begin a war (after a 20-month truce) against Britain again
  – Hoped the US would eventually be a power that would defeat Britain
The Louisiana Godsend

- Had failed to reconquer Santo Domingo (the Dominican Republic)
  - Louisiana was to serve as the supplier of food to the sugar-rich island
  - Slaves under Toussaint L’Ouverture resisted (although they were eventually defeated)
  - Yellow fever (spread by mosquitoes) killed thousands of French troops
  - Since Santo Domingo was not (yet) reconquered in 1803, food from Louisiana was not needed
The Louisiana Godsend

• Decided to begin a war (after a 20-month truce) against Britain again
  – Since Britain controlled the sea, it might be able to take Louisiana anyway
  – Would use money from the US to fight Britain in Europe
The Louisiana Godsend

- Hoped the US would eventually be the power that would defeat Britain
  - “The sale assures forever the power of the United States, and I have given England a rival who, sooner or later, will humble her pride.” – Napoleon
The Louisiana Godsend

• The US ambassador (Livingston) was negotiating with France for New Orleans
  – Suddenly, the French ambassador asked how much the US would pay for all of Louisiana
  – April 30, 1803 – Livingston and the French representatives sign the treaty to purchase all of Louisiana for $15 million
Monroe and Livingston Negotiate the Louisiana Purchase with French Minister Talleyrand
Exploring the Louisiana Purchase and the West
The Louisiana Godsend

• Jefferson’s was surprised when he heard of the Louisiana Purchase
  – The treaties for Louisiana had been negotiated without his approval
  – He had only authorized $10 million for New Orleans, not $15 million for Louisiana
The Louisiana Godsend

• Jefferson now fought with himself over Louisiana
  – Strict construction: nowhere in the Constitution was he authorized to purchase huge new tracts of land
  – Land of democracy: the Louisiana purchase would guarantee the US would become “empire of liberty” because of its vast land for independent American farmers
The Louisiana Godsend

• Jefferson finally submitted the treaty to the Senate
  – He had privately proposed a constitutional amendment, but the idea was rejected because Napoleon might withdraw the offer if the US took too long
  – The Senate quickly ratified the treaty
  – The US got 828,000 acres at .03 cents per acre, an incredible bargain
The States in the Louisiana Purchase
Louisiana in the Long View

• Effects of the Louisiana Purchase
  – Had avoided a war with France (and a forced alliance with Britain)
  – Huge amount of land allowed the US to expand
  – Established the precedent for future expansion: foreign people and land was brought in on an equal partnership with US citizens
  – Allowed the US to put into practice the isolationism of Washington’s Farewell Address
  • The US could avoid alliances with Europe because the European powers were removed from North America
Louisiana in the Long View

- Exploring the Louisiana Purchase
  - Spring 1804 – Meriwether Lewis (Jefferson’s personal secretary) and William Clark (an army officer), with Sacajawea (a Shoshoni woman who served as a guide) set out on a 2 1/2 year exploration of North America
  - Traveled north up the Missouri River, across the Rocky Mountains, to the Columbia River
The Journey of Lewis and Clark
Louisiana in the Long View

- The achievements of Lewis and Clark
  - Scientific observations, maps, knowledge of Indians
  - Demonstrated the possibility of traveling overland to the Pacific
Louisiana in the Long View

• Zebulon Pike
  – 1805 – 1806 – traveled north to the headwaters of Mississippi River
  – 1806 – 1807 – explored the southern part of Louisiana Purchase
Exploring the Louisiana Purchase and the West
The Aaron Burr Conspiracies

• Short-term problems with the Louisiana Purchase
  – This huge new area of the US was ungovernable by the weak US government
  – Raised fears of secession and foreign plots
The Aaron Burr Conspiracies

• Aaron Burr and Federalists in New England
  – Burr had been Jefferson’s 1st term vice president, but was dropped in 1804
  – Plotted with the Federalists to have New England and New York secede from the US
  – Hamilton exposed Burr’s plan
  – An angry Burr challenged Hamilton to a duel and killed him (July 11, 1804)
The Aaron Burr Conspiracies

• Aaron Burr and Louisiana Territory
  – After being exposed by Hamilton, Burr next plotted with the Louisiana territory governor General James Wilkinson
  – Plots are still not fully known, but they seemed to want to separate Louisiana from the US and invade Spanish-controlled Mexico and Florida
  – Burr was betrayed by Wilkinson (after Jefferson had learned of the plot)
The Aaron Burr Conspiracies

• Burr on trial for treason
  – Marshall insisted that a guilty verdict required proof of open acts of treason (not just intentions)
    • This followed the Constitution (Art III, Sec III) but seemed too lenient on Burr for most Republicans
  – Burr was acquitted and fled to Europe where he tried to get Napoleon to stop fighting Britain and invade America
A Precarious Neutrality

• Election of 1804
  – Charles C. Pinckney and Rufus King were nominated on the Federalist ticket
  – The Federalists had no national issue on which to oppose Jefferson
  – Jefferson was reelected, 162 to only 14 electoral votes
Election of 1804
A Precarious Neutrality

• 1803 – renewal of the war in Europe between France and Britain
• 1803 – 1805 – US shipped to both countries and made lots of money
A Precarious Neutrality

• 1805 – Battle of Trafalgar
  – British admiral Horatio Nelson defeated the French and Spanish fleet off the coast of Spain
  – Cemented Britain’s strength on sea

• 1805 – Battle of Austerlitz (Battle of the Three Emperors)
  – In modern-day Czechoslovakia
  – Napoleon defeated the combined Russian and Austrian armies
  – Cemented France’s strength on land
The Battle of Trafalgar
A Precarious Neutrality

• 1806 – Orders in Council
  – Britain closed European ports under French control to foreign shipping (including American) unless they stopped at British ports first

• Napoleon retaliated with the Continental System
  – Ordered all merchant ships (including American) seized that entered British ports

• America had no way to trade with either nation without facing attack from the other
Napoleon's European Empire

The Orders in Council Blocked American Trade from Ports Controlled by Napoleon
The Continental System
A Precarious Neutrality

• Impressment
  – Forcible enlistment of sailors, using clubs and stretchers (for unconscious men)
  – Britain especially implicated in impressing foreign sailors
  – 1808 – 1811 – over 6,000 US citizens were impressed by Britain from US merchant ships
Impressment
A Precarious Neutrality

• Chesapeake affair (June 1807)
  – A British warship came upon a US warship (the Chesapeake) 10 miles off the coast of Virginia
  – British demanded 4 men they claimed were deserters
  – Britain had never before asserted the right to take sailors from a foreign warship; the US commander refused
  – British fired at the Chesapeake, severely damaging it, and took the 4 deserters
USS Chesapeake Fired on by HMS Leopard, 1807
A Precarious Neutrality

• US reaction to the Chesapeake affair
  – Britain was in the wrong, which London admitted
  – US was angry and ready for war
  – It was up to Jefferson whether to fight or not
The Hated Embargo

• The US was unprepared for war
  – The army and navy were both weak, partly due to Jefferson’s cuts
  – A defeat by British would weaken America
The Hated Embargo

• Europe depended on the US for raw materials and food
  – Jefferson believed that if the US cut off exports, Britain and France would be forced to give in and respect US shipping rights
The Hated Embargo

• Late 1807 – the Embargo Act passed
  – Forbade export of all goods from the US, in US or foreign ships
  – Jefferson called this “peaceful coercion”
  – If this worked, a new way of conducting foreign affairs would be opened; if not, the US might be dragged into European wars
The Hated Embargo

• The Embargo Act backfired, severely hurting all parts of the US economy
  – Shipbuilders, shippers, and merchants in New England
  – Farmers in the South and West who could not export produce
  – Widespread illegal trade was carried out across Canadian border
  – Americans called the embargo “O Grab Me” and cursed the “Dambargo”
“Oh! this cursed Ograbme”
The Hated Embargo

- Jefferson got Congress to pass strict enforcement laws for the embargo
  - Many saw these as very intrusive and tyrannical
- The Federalist party was revived
  - Some even talked of nullification of the embargo law
- New England even spoke of secession
The Hated Embargo

• March 1, 1809 – Congress repealed the embargo
• Non-Intercourse Act passed in its place
  – Reopened trade with all nations but Britain and France
The Hated Embargo

• Why Jefferson’s embargo failed
  – Underestimated the determination of British
  – Overestimated dependence of Europe on US trade
    • British used their own produce and trade with Latin America
    • France controlled the European continent
  – Underestimated the difficulty of enforcing such an unpopular law
The Hated Embargo

• Long-term benefits to American industry
  – Factories reopened and new ones built to replace goods from England
  – Laid the foundations of US industry
Madison’s Gamble

- Election of 1808
  - Republicans nominated James Madison and George Clinton
  - Federalists nominated Charles C. Pinckney and Rufus King (the same ticket as 1804)
  - Madison won with 122 of 175 electoral votes
  - Despite their loss, the Federalists gained strength in Congress by campaigning against the unpopular embargo
James Madison
Election of 1808

1808

ELECTORAL VOTE
TOTAL VOTING: 175
NOT VOTING: 1

Democratic-Republican (Madison)

Federalist (Pinckney)

Independent Republican (G. Clinton)

Territories
Madison’s Gamble

• Madison inherited a very unpopular foreign policy
  – Especially the embargo and Non-Intercourse Act against Europe
Madison’s Gamble

• Macon’s Bill No. 2 (1810)
  – Would reopen trade with all the world (including Britain and France)
  – If either promised to respect neutral shipping, the US would halt trade with the other
Madison’s Gamble

• Madison’s view of Macon’s Bill No. 2
  – Shameful surrender to Europe
  – Would mean that the US admitted it could not live without European trade
  – Left the choice of who the US would ally with to European powers
Madison’s Gamble

• Napoleon’s maneuvering
  – France promised to respect US shipping (agreeing to the terms of Macon’s Bill No. 2)
  – In reality France just wanted to force the US to be hostile toward Britain; really had no intention of respecting US shipping rights
Madison’s Gamble

• Britain’s reaction
  – According to the law, they had 3 months to lift the Orders of Council, opening Atlantic to neutral trade
  – Britain refused to bargain since they controlled the seas
  – Madison was forced to reestablish the embargo against Britain
  – This was the end of US neutrality and the final step to war
Tecumseh and the Prophet

• “war hawks” in Congress
  – The 1810 elections had brought in many young Republicans from the South and West
  – They wanted the US to stand up to British violations on the sea and against Indians to the west
Tecumseh and the Prophet

- Tecumseh and his brother Tenskwatawa (known as “the Prophet” to whites) united Indians east of the Mississippi
  - They called for a rejection of white clothing, alcohol, and treaties
Tecumseh and the Prophet

Tecumseh, Pawnee Chief, Leader of the Indian Confederacy

The Prophet, Pawnee Mystic, Brother of Tecumseh
Tecumseh and the Prophet

- War hawks believed the British were inciting Indians
- Fall 1811 – William Henry Harrison (governor of Indiana territory) organized an army
  - Attacked Tecumseh’s headquarters at Wabash and Tippecanoe rivers
  - The Prophet and his army were defeated by whites
Ohio Valley, 1750 – 1811
The Battle of Tippecanoe
Tecumseh and the Prophet

- Effects of the Battle of Tippecanoe
  - Made Harrison a national hero
  - Drove Tecumseh into an alliance with the British
- These Indians fought fiercely with the British during the War of 1812
  - The dream of an Indian confederacy died
Mr. Madison’s War

• Madison came to believe war with Britain was inevitable because of:
  – British arming of hostile Indians in the west
  – War hawks’ cries for war and attack on and annexation of Canada
  – Belief that only war could restore American rights
    • The US had tried to avoid war and had been insulted by European powers; if the US could not defend itself, the nation was doomed
Mr. Madison’s War

• June 1, 1812 – Madison called for a declaration of war
  – House vote: 79 to 49 for war
  – Senate vote: 19 to 13 for war
• Support for the war came from the South and West and Republicans in populous middle states
• Federalists opposed the war; strongest in New England
Political Cartoon in Support of the War
Mr. Madison’s War

• Why Federalists opposed the war that was fought (in part) to protect their shipping
  – Pro-British Federalists sympathized with Britain and opposed Napoleon and Republican support for him
  – Federalists did not want to annex Canada
    • Would add more farming land and increase the strength of Republicans
Mr. Madison’s War

• Some Federalists even committed treason during the war
  – Loaned money to the British
  – Sent supplies to Canada, allowing Britain to invade New York

• The US had to fight against some of its citizens, while fighting the world’s most powerful empire
# Road to War: War of 1812

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1807</td>
<td><em>Leopard-Chesapeake Affair</em></td>
<td>British man-of-war H.M.S. <em>Leopard</em> fires upon the American warship U.S.S. <em>Chesapeake</em>, killing three; then the British forcibly remove four alleged deserters, bringing the United States and Great Britain to the brink of war.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1809</td>
<td><em>Embargo Act</em></td>
<td>Prohibits all American trade with foreign nations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1809</td>
<td><em>The Non-Intercourse Act</em></td>
<td>Reopens overseas commerce except to Britain and France; trade with these countries is to be reinstated if they halt interference with American shipping.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1810</td>
<td><em>Macon’s Bill No. 2</em></td>
<td>Restores trade with Britain and France but stipulates that if either country lifts its restrictions on neutral trade, the United States would terminate trade with the other.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1810</td>
<td><em>Trade Disputes</em></td>
<td>France informs the United States that it will repeal its trade restrictions if the United States halts trade with Britain; United States forbids trade with Britain.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1811</td>
<td><em>Congressional Elections</em></td>
<td>Voters sweep the “War Hawks” into Congress.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1811</td>
<td><em>The Battle of Tippecanoe</em></td>
<td>Battle in Indiana Territory shatters the influence of the Shawnee Prophet, Tenskwatawa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1812</td>
<td><em>Declaration of War</em></td>
<td>Congress declares war against Britain on grounds of British impressment of American seamen, interference with trade, and blockading of American ports.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>