The Second War for Independence and the Upsurge of Nationalism

1812 – 1824
Effects of War of 1812

• Primarily lesson was the foolishness of leading a divided people into war
• Brought a stronger sense of nationalism to the US that led to increased economic activity and greater power of the federal government
On to Canada over Land and Lakes

- The state of the US army in 1812
  - Poorly trained and disciplined
  - Supplemented by an even worse militia
  - Led by old generals from the Revolutionary War
On to Canada over Land and Lakes

• Fighting in Canada
  – Attacked by the US because Britain was weakest there
  – If the US had had an effective offense, and had taken Montreal, Britain might have been beaten out of Canada
  – Instead, the 3-pronged invasion (from Detroit, Niagara, and Lake Champlain) was quickly beaten back
  – Britain fought much better: they captured US Fort Michilimackinac (which controlled the Great Lakes area) and defended against US invasions
The Three U.S. Invasions of 1812
On to Canada over Land and Lakes

- In 1813 the 2nd group of US attacks on Canada are stopped by the British
Campaigns of 1813
On to Canada over Land and Lakes

• US Navy during the war of 1812
  – US had fewer, but better ships than Britain
  – US had better crews (many on British ships had been pressed for service)
  – US had several important ships (especially the Constitution – “Old Ironsides”) with thicker sides and better guns than Britain
USS Constitution versus HMS Guerriere
On to Canada over Land and Lakes

• Control of the Great Lakes was very important during the war
  – September 1813 – Oliver Hazard Perry built ships on the shores of Lake Erie and captured a British force on the lake
Campaigns of 1813
Brilliant Victory!! Obtained by Commodore O. H. Perry Over the British Fleet on Lake Erie
On to Canada over Land and Lakes

• After Perry’s important victory, Britain was forced to retreat from Detroit and Fort Malden

• October 1813 – Battle of Thames
  – General Harrison pursued the retreating British and defeated them
Campaigns of 1813
On to Canada over Land and Lakes

• April 1814 – Napoleon defeated for the 1st time
  – Britain could now concentrate on fighting in the US
• Britain set up a tight blockade over the entire US coast by 1814
  – Started at the mid-Atlantic and move north and south from there
The Abdication of Napoleon Before His Exile to Elba
On to Canada over Land and Lakes

- September 1814 – Britain transported 10,000 troops down Lake Champlain for an attack on New York
  - A weaker US fleet under Thomas Macdonough barely defeated the British
  - Britain was then forced to retreat
  - This victory saved New York from attack and New England from possible secession; it also gave the US a stronger negotiating position for a peace treaty in Europe
Washington Burned and New Orleans Defended

• August 1814 – 4,000 British troops landed in the Chesapeake area
  – 6,000 US militia were easily defeated at Bladensburg
  – Washington, DC was burned (including the Capitol and the White House)
  – Fort McHenry (at nearby Baltimore) did not surrender, despite heavy bombardment by British ships
  – Fort McHenry inspired Francis Scott Key to write “The Star Spangled Banner”
The War in 1814
The Taking of the City of Washington
Fort McHenry and the Baltimore Area

Legend:
- - - American Troop Movements
  - - - British Troop Movements
  □ - Land
  □ - Water (rivers)
The Star-Spangled Banner

- O say, can you see, by the dawn's early light, What so proudly we hail'd at the twilight's last gleaming? Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro' the perilous fight, O'er the ramparts we watch'd, were so gallantly streaming? And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air, Gave proof thro' the night that our flag was still there. O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?
The Bombardment of Fort McHenry, September 13, 1814
Washington Burned and New Orleans Defended

- 1814 – 1815 – Britain attacked at New Orleans
  - Andrew Jackson and 7,000 US soldiers defended this vital US port
  - January 8, 1815 – a British force of 8,000 made the mistake of a frontal assault on entrenched US shooters
    - Britain lost 2,000 men in 1/2 an hour (compared to 70 for the US)
  - This battle was fought 2 weeks after the Treaty of Ghent had been signed, ending the war; this news had not reached New Orleans in time
- Effects of the battle:
  - Jackson became national hero
  - US nationalism and pride greatly increased
Jackson’s Florida Campaigns

- Battle of Horseshoe Bend (March 1814)
- Battle of New Orleans (Jan. 1815)

- Baton Rouge
- Mobile
- Pensacola
- St. Marks

Legend:
- Yellow: To U.S. 1810
- Pink: To U.S. 1812–1813
- Purple: To U.S. 1819

- Red: Jackson's route, 1814
- Blue: Jackson's route, 1818

Locations:
- MISSISSIPPI TERR.
- WEST FLORIDA
- EAST FLORIDA
The Battle of New Orleans
The Treaty of Ghent

• 1812 – negotiations began after Alexander I (czar of Russia) pushed Britain to do so
  – Alexander wanted Britain to concentrate on Napoleon, not waste strength in the US
  – Britain made strong demands
    • Wanted a neutral Indian buffer state in Great Lakes region (between the US and British Canada)
    • Control of Great Lakes and Maine (conquered by British)
  – US rejected the British terms and the talks stalemated
The Treaty of Ghent

• 1814 – British losses at New York and Baltimore, along with a lack of support at home, led Britain to compromise

• December 24, 1814 – Treaty of Ghent (negotiated in Belgium)
  – Both sides agreed to stop fighting and restore conquered territory
  – Neither side had defeated the other; neither side could impose its will on the other
  – There was nothing about US grievances for which war had been fought, including:
    • British arming of the Indians
    • British violations on sea (seizing US ships, impressment of US soldiers)
Negotiating the Treaty of Ghent
Federalist Grievances and the Hartford Convention

• The Election of 1812
  – Federalists nominated DeWitt Clinton, an antiwar Republican
  – Republicans re-nominated Madison
  – Results
    • Madison won, 128 to 89 electoral votes
    • Clinton carried most of New England, New Jersey and New York (showing the increasing sectionalism of American politics)
    • It was a close election – if Clinton had carried Pennsylvania, he would have won
The Election of 1812

[Map showing the electoral vote distribution for the election of 1812. States are color-coded to indicate the winning candidate: Democratic-Republican (green) and Fusion (De W. Clinton) (orange).]

- **Democratic-Republican** (Madison)
- **Fusion** (De W. Clinton)

**Electoral Vote**
- Total Voting: 217
- Not Voting: 1

Legend:
- **Territories**

The map provides a visual representation of the electoral vote distribution for the election of 1812, highlighting the regions and their electoral votes for each candidate.
Federalist Grievances and the Hartford Convention

- Problems in New England
  - Shippers and merchants made money during the war through illegal trade with Canada (the enemy of the US)
  - A minority proposed secession or a separate peace with Britain
  - “Blue Light” Federalists were rumored to flash lights on the shore to alert British ships to escapes of US ships
Federalist Grievances and the Hartford Convention

- December 15, 1814 – January 5, 1815 – the Hartford Convention
  - Secret meeting at Hartford, Connecticut called by Massachusetts
  - Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Vermont sent representatives
  - A few radicals talked of secession, but actual demands were moderate
Federalist Grievances and the Hartford Convention

- Final report of the Hartford Convention
  - Demanded financial assistance from Washington for lost trade
  - Proposed that constitutional amendments require a 2/3 vote in Congress before an embargo could be imposed, new states admitted, or war declared
  - Other demands reflected Federalist fears that the South was too strong in national politics:
    - Abolish 3/5 clause, limit presidents to 1 term, and prohibit successive presidents from same state (because Washington, Jefferson, and Madison were all from Virginia)
Federalist Grievances and the Hartford Convention

• Hartford Convention representatives arrived in Washington after news of the Battle of New Orleans and Treaty of Ghent
  – US was focusing on its victory
  – New England’s complaints seemed petty (and even treasonous)
  – Failure of the convention ended the strength of the Federalist party
Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island Contemplate Abandoning the Union and Leaping into the Waiting Arms of George III
Federalist Grievances and the Hartford Convention

• Long-term impact of Federalist disunity
  – Until 1815 – far more talk in North about nullification and secession than in South
  • The North’s ignoring the embargo and hurting the war effort were the most serious instances of nullification prior to the Civil War
  – The South followed the North’s lead to secession (leading to the Civil War)
The Second War for American Independence

• Globally, the War of 1812 was unimportant
  – European theater (against Napoleon) was far more important and involved many more men (and deaths)
The Second War for American Independence

• US showed it would fight when it was wronged
  – Other nations developed a respect for the US military
  – Strengthened US ambassadors with foreign nations
The Second War for American Independence

• Increased nationalism and decreased sectionalism
  – New England Federalists (associated with sectionalism) were destroyed as a party
The Second War for American Independence

• New war heroes
  – Andrew Jackson (Battle of New Orleans)
  – William Henry Harrison (various battles around the Great Lakes, especially Thames and Tippecanoe)
  – Jackson and Harrison both became president later
The Second War for American Independence

- Indians
  - Deserted by the British after the war
  - Forced to make peace with the US on the best terms possible; had to give up huge tracts of land north of the Ohio River
The Second War for American Independence

• Manufacturing
  – Strengthened in the US because of the embargo and British blockade
  – This made the US less dependent on factories in Europe
The Second War for American Independence

- Increase in nationalism in Canada leading to less positive feelings toward the British
- Canada felt betrayed by the Treaty of Ghent:
  - No Indian buffer zone between US and Canada
  - No British control of Great Lakes
The Second War for American Independence

- Continued conflict on the US-Canadian border
  - Canadians expected the US to invade
  - Led to a small naval arms race on the Great Lakes after war
  - Ended with the Rush-Bagot Treaty (1817) which limited naval warships on the Great Lakes
  - Better relations with Canada led to a long demilitarized border by 1870s
The Second War for American Independence

- Increased US isolationism
  - Europe after Napoleon (defeated in June 1815) returned to the conservative rule of kings with restrictions on freedom
  - The US avoided these events; ignored Europe and looked West instead
Nascent Nationalism

• Nationalism – a spirit of national consciousness or national oneness

• America emerged from war as 1 nation, which showed in its national culture
  – 1820s – James Fenimore Cooper and Washington Irving became internationally recognized authors, using American settings and themes
  – School textbooks had been British; now they were written in America
  – Painters painted American landscapes
Nascent Nationalism

• Government and nationalism
  – The Bank of the United States was rechartered in 1816 (after being disbanded in 1811)
  – Washington, DC was rebuilt
  – The army was expanded to 10,000 men
  – 1815 – the navy beat North African pirates in the Mediterranean
“The American System”

• Americans were very proud of post war manufacturing
  – After the war, British manufacturers sold inventory in the US at below cost to get rid of excess inventory and stop the spread of factories (and competition) in the US
  – Tariff of 1816 passed which put a 20% – 25% rate on imports
    • The first tariff raised primarily for protection, not revenue
    • Not high enough to fully protect US industry, but a big first step
“The American System”

- Henry Clay’s “American System” to establish a profitable home market
  - Strong banking system for easy and abundant credit
  - Protective tariff to allow manufacturing to spread (especially in the Northeast)
  - Network of roads and canals (especially in the Ohio Valley)
    - Paid for by tariffs
    - Raw materials shipped from South and West to North
    - Finish goods shipped from North to South and West
This 1831 cartoon ridiculing Clay's American System depicts monkeys, labeled as being different parts of a nation's economy, stealing each other's resources (food) with commentators describing it as either great or a humbug.
“The American System”

• Many around the country wanted government-financed roads

• Attempts to get federal financing for roads were blocked
  – 1817 – Republican constitutional concerns stopped a plan to distribute $1.5 million to the states for internal improvements (vetoed by Madison as unconstitutional)
  – New England opposed federal aid for internal improvements because they would take population from the Northeast and create new states to west

• States were forced to carry out their own improvements
  – 1825 – the Erie Canal was completed by New York
The So-Called Era of Good Feelings

• Election of 1816
  – James Monroe swept over weak Federalist opposition, 183 to 34 electoral votes
  – Madison's election continued the Virginia domination of the presidency
  – Federalist opponent Rufus King lost badly; he was the last Federalist candidate to run for president
The Election of 1816

1816

ELECTORAL VOTE
TOTAL VOTING: 217
NOT VOTING: 4

Democratic-Republican (Monroe)  
Federalist (King)
The So-Called Era of Good Feelings

• James Monroe
  – Least impressive of the first 8 presidents
  – But he was an experienced, rational executive who interpreted the will of the people well
  – 1817 – took goodwill tour of the US, pushing deep into politically hostile New England
    • Received warm welcome; newspaper called this the “Era of Good Feelings”
James Monroe
The So-Called Era of Good Feelings

• Why the era was not one of “good feelings” in reality
  – Prosperity and peace were there after the war
  – But difficult new issues appeared at the same time, including:
    • Tariff, Bank of the US, internal improvements, sale of public lands, sectionalism, conflict over slavery
The Panic of 1819 and the Curse of Hard Times

- 1819 – an economic panic occurred that brought deflation, depression, bankruptcies, bank failures, unemployment, soup kitchens, and debtors’ prisons
  - First panic since Washington had taken office
- Why the panic occurred
  - Largest cause was overspeculation in land in west
  - The Bank of the US had helped cause this through easy lending and speculating itself
The Panic of 1819 and the Curse of Hard Times

- Impact of the depression
  - Nationalism declined
  - The West was hurt the most
    - Bank of the US forced western banks (built on speculation) to pay debts owed to the Bank of the US
    - Western banks then would be forced to foreclose on farms to get money to pay the Bank of the US
    - The West came to see the Bank of the US as evil
  - Poor people who experienced the worst of the depression eventually became part of Andrew Jackson’s constituency
  - Led to legislation against imprisonment of debtors
Growing Pains of the West

• By 1819 – 9 states had been added to the original 13
  – Most added alternately (free / slave) to preserve the balance between free and slave states
Growing Pains of the West

• Why the west expanded
  – Continuation of westward expansion since 1607
  – Cheap land (especially for European immigrants)
  – Increased immigration from Europe
  – Land exhaustion (because of tobacco)
  – Many speculators only required a small down payment to buy land
  – Economic problems for many during the embargo years
  – Defeat of the Indians in the North (Harrison) and South (Jackson) opened up large areas of land
  – Better transportation
    • Cumberland Road (Maryland to Illinois) and steamships
Cumberland (National) Road and Main Connections
Growing Pains of the West

• The West was too weak politically (because of its small population), so it had to ally itself with other sections (North and South)
  – Demanded cheap land, cheap transportation, cheap money
  – The Land Act of 1820 – authorized buying 80 acres at $1.25 per acre ($15.05 in 2005 dollars)
  – Internal improvements (canals, roads) were slowly built
  – Cheap money issued by local (“wildcat”) banks; westerners fought the power of the Bank of the US for cheap money
Slavery and the Sectional Balance

• 1819 – Missouri requested admission as a slave state
  – Revealed sectional tension between the North (free) and South (slave) over control of the West
  – The House of Representatives passed the Tallmadge amendment
    • No more slaves could be brought into Missouri and provided for the gradual emancipation of children of slaves already there
    • Eventually defeated in the Senate
Slavery and the Sectional Balance

- Southern view of the sectional balance
  - In 1788, the North and South had been equal in population and wealth
  - 1788 – 1819 – the North grew more populous and richer
  - The North grew in strength in the House of Representatives
  - However, the North and South both had 11 states each in the Union, allowing for equality in the Senate
    - South could stop any Northern effort to stop expansion of slavery
Slavery and the Sectional Balance

• South’s concern over future of slavery
  – Tallmadge Amendment might set a precedent for rest of Louisiana Purchase area (because it was the first state to be carved entirely out of the Louisiana Purchase)
  – If Congress could stop slavery in Missouri, could it try to do the same in the South itself?

• North’s concern over the future of slavery
  – Small (but loud) agitators began to question the morality of slavery; wanted to stop the spread of slavery into the territories
The Uneasy Missouri Compromise

1820 – collection of 3 compromises worked out (primarily by Henry Clay, representative from Kentucky)

- Congress agreed to admit Missouri as a slave state
- Maine (which had been part of Massachusetts) admitted as a free state to preserve the balance between slave and free states
- Slavery prohibited below the 36° 30’ line except for Missouri
The Missouri Compromise, 1820–1821

- Free
- Slave
- Missouri Compromise line
- Spanish-United States treaty line, 1819

OREGON COUNTRY
(Joint occupation by United States and Great Britain)

UNORGANIZED TERRITORY
(Free Soil by Missouri Compromise, 1820)

SPANISH TERRITORY

36°30'

(Adamitted as a Slave State, 1821)
The Uneasy Missouri Compromise

• Gains and losses from the Missouri Compromise
  – The South won Missouri as a slave state
  – The North got the concession that Congress could forbid slavery in the remaining territories (in the future)
    • Southerners had accepted the argument that slaves were not like other forms of property that could be moved around at will by the owner
  – Separately, the North also got Congress to forbid slavery in the territory north of the 36° 30’ line
  – The South accepted restrictions since prairie land in the West did not seem suited to slavery
  – Most southern congressmen still voted against the Compromise
The Uneasy Missouri Compromise

• Effects of the Missouri Compromise
  – Neither side was completely happy, but the compromise lasted 34 years
  – Dispute over slavery predicted eventual Civil War

• The morality of slavery was an issue that would not go away
• Missouri Compromise avoided the issue of slavery; it did not resolve it
The Uneasy Missouri Compromise

• Election of 1820
  – Monroe was popular despite the Panic of 1819
    • He was reelected against John Quincy Adams, 231 to 1 electoral votes
  – Federalists as a force in national politics were finished
The Election of 1820

The map shows the results of the 1820 presidential election. The states are color-coded to indicate which candidate received the most electoral votes: Democratic-Republican (Monroe) in green, Independent Republican (J. Q. Adams) in yellow, and territories in brown. The electoral vote for each state is indicated by the number next to each state. The total voting was 232, with 3 not voting. The pie chart on the right indicates the total electoral vote, with 99.5% for Monroe and 0.5% for Adams.
John Marshall and Judicial Nationalism

• John Marshall’s decisions on the Supreme Court reinforced the strong sense of nationalism after the War of 1812
Chief Justice John Marshall
McCulloch v. Maryland (1819)

- Involved an attempt by Maryland to tax a branch of the Bank of the US
- Marshall ruled a state could not tax an agency of the federal government (the Bank)
  - "the power to tax involves the power to destroy"
  - A state can’t destroy part of the federal government
- Marshall declared bank constitutional, using the doctrine of “implied powers"
John Marshall and Judicial Nationalism

• Marshall in the McCulloch decision gave an important explanation of “loose construction”
  – Government (based on the Constitution, which rested on the consent of the people) could act for the benefit of the people, even if not specifically authorized by the Constitution
  – The Constitution was “intended to endure for ages to come and, consequently, to be adapted to the various crises of human affairs”
  – “Let the end be legitimate, let it be within the scope of the Constitution, and all means which are appropriate, which are plainly adapted to that end, which are not prohibited, but consist with the letter and spirit of the Constitution, are constitutional.”
John Marshall and Judicial Nationalism

• Cohens v. Virginia (1821)
  – Cohens was found guilty of illegally selling lottery tickets by Virginia courts
  – The Supreme Court upheld Cohens’ conviction
  – Marshall asserted the right of the Supreme Court to review decisions of state supreme courts in all questions involving powers of the federal government
John Marshall and Judicial Nationalism

- Gibbons v. Ogden (1824)
  - New York had granted a monopoly to a company to conduct commerce across the Hudson River to New Jersey
  - Marshall ruled that only Congress could regulate interstate commerce
  - Struck down the New York monopoly, opening commerce to other companies
Judicial Dikes Against Democratic Excesses

• John Marshall’s decisions also reinforced a strong sense of property rights
Judicial Dikes Against Democratic Excesses

• Fletcher v. Peck (1810)
  – The Georgia legislature (after being bribed) granted 35 million acres in the Yazoo River area (Mississippi) to speculators
  – The next legislature cancelled the transaction
  – Marshall ruled that a legislative grant was a contract; the Constitution forbids state laws “impairing” contracts
  – Importance
    • Further protection of private property from popular pressures
    • An early assertion that the Supreme Court had power to invalidate state laws conflicting with the Constitution
Judicial Dikes Against Democratic Excesses

• Dartmouth College v. Woodward (1819)
  – College had been granted a charter by King George III in 1769
  – The New Hampshire legislature changed the charter
  – Dartmouth appealed the case to the Supreme Court
  – Marshall ruled that the original charter must stand because the Constitution protected contracts against infringement by states
  – Importance
    • Protected businesses against control by state governments
    • Eventually allowed corporations to escape any form of public control
Judicial Dikes Against Democratic Excesses

• Daniel Webster
  – Nationalist Senator, similar to Marshall
  – Argued many cases (including Dartmouth) before the Marshall Court
  – Marshall usually ruled for Webster’s side
Daniel Webster
Judicial Dikes Against Democratic Excesses

• John Marshall
  – Increased power of the federal government
  – Created a stable, nationally uniform environment where business could do well
  – Decreased power of elected state legislatures, in spite of the national mood in favor of greater democracy
Sharing Oregon and Acquiring Florida

• Monroe and secretary of state John Quincy Adams teamed to bring nationalism to US foreign policy
John Quincy Adams
Sharing Oregon and Acquiring Florida

• Treaty of 1818 with Britain
  – Permitted the US to share Newfoundland fisheries with Canada
  – Northern limits of Louisiana set at the 49th parallel (from Minnesota to the Rocky Mountains)
  – 10-year joint occupation of Oregon country; under this agreement, Britain and the US did not give up their claims to Oregon
U.S.-British Boundary Settlement, 1818

- Natural boundary of Louisiana Territory
- Treaty boundary

OREGON COUNTRY
(10-year joint occupation, renewable)

CANADA

UNITED STATES
Sharing Oregon and Acquiring Florida

- Florida
  - US believed Florida was destined to be part of the US
  - 1810 – US settlers took over part of West Florida
  - 1812 – 1813 – US took more of West Florida (around Mobile, Alabama) during the War of 1812 (when Spain was an ally of Britain)
  - 1816 – 1818 – revolutions against Spanish rule in Argentina, Venezuela, Chile forced Spanish forces to leave Florida to put down rebellions
Sharing Oregon and Acquiring Florida

- Jackson then took the rest of Florida
  - Jackson used the pretext of Seminole Indians hiding fugitive slaves in Florida to get orders to attack Florida
  - His orders said he had to respect Spanish-controlled areas while there
  - 1818 – Jackson marched into Florida; he attacked the 2 most important Spanish posts in Florida (St. Marks and Pensacola) and deposed the Spanish governor
Sharing Oregon and Acquiring Florida

- All of Monroe's cabinet except for nationalist John Quincy Adams wanted to discipline Jackson for disobeying orders
- The Florida Purchase Treaty of 1819 in spite of this
  - Spain ceded Florida to the US and gave up claims to Oregon
  - US gave up claims to Texas
  - The line between Mexico and Louisiana was drawn up to the 42nd parallel, and then to the Pacific Ocean, dividing Oregon from Mexico
The Menace of Monarchy in America

• After French Revolution and Napoleonic Era, European kings worked to restore order and stop democracy from spreading
  – Also were looking to America to retake colonies that had rebelled against Spain
    • Russian, Austrian, Prussian, French armies would act together to put Spain back in charge

• US feared California would be taken by Russia
  – Russian tsar already claimed jurisdiction over open sea down to 51° around Alaska and British Columbia
  – Had trading posts down to San Francisco
The West and Northwest, 1819-1824
The Menace of Monarchy in America

• Britain refused to participate with other European powers in reconquering Latin America for Spain
  – British traders (along with Americans) made good money by trading between new Latin American countries and Europe
  – Before their rebellion, Spain had enjoyed a monopoly over trade with these countries
The Menace of Monarchy in America

• August 1823 – British foreign secretary George Canning proposed a US-British joint declaration
  – Both would renounce any interest in taking territory in Latin America
  – Would warn Europe against retaking any Latin American countries that had rebelled
Monroe and His Doctrine

- Secretary of State John Quincy Adams’ believed an alliance would be undignified – like a tiny American “cock-boat” (a very small boat) sailing “in the wake of the British man-of-war” (a very large warship)
  - Thought Britain was trying to stop future US expansion in the Caribbean (especially Cuba)
  - Believed an alliance was unnecessary
    - European powers had no definite plans to invade Latin America
    - Even if they did, the British navy would stop them to protect its valuable trade with South America
Monroe and His Doctrine

• December 2, 1823 – the Monroe Doctrine announced by the president to Congress
  – Noncolonization
    • The colonial era was over in the New World; what Europe held they could keep, but they could not take more
    • Primarily directed against Russian expansion in Northwest
  – Nonintervention
    • Warned Europe to not interfere with new Latin American republics
    • The US would not intervene in the war for independence Greece was fighting against Turkey
Monroe’s Doctrine Appraised

- Europeans offended by Monroe’s declaration
  - Recognized that the US could not back up its doctrine with military might
  - The reality was that the British navy enforced the Monroe Doctrine

- Latin Americans recognized the US was looking after its own self-interest
  - It was defending itself against future invasion, not looking out for them
Monroe’s Doctrine Appraised

• Importance of the Monroe Doctrine
  – Not important until the mid-1800s when it was revived by President Polk
  – Russia had already decided to move back from California

• The Russo-American Treaty of 1824 fixed the southern limits of Russian-controlled area in America at the 54° 50’ line (the present-day southern tip of Alaskan panhandle)
The West and Northwest, 1819-1824
Monroe’s Doctrine Appraised

• Reality was that the Monroe Doctrine was about self-defense
  – The US wanted to keep foreign powers out of Latin America
  – It was only as strong as the power of the US to stop the intruding country
Monroe’s Doctrine Appraised

• The Monroe Doctrine and subsequent presidents
  – Was never domestic or international law
  – Subsequent presidents ignored and changed the doctrine – mainly by adding new interpretations
Monroe’s Doctrine Appraised

• Monroe Doctrine and isolationism
  – Deepened the illusion of isolationism from Europe
  – Americans came to believe that the US was cut off from European dangers just because Monroe said so
A “Live Wire”