

## THE WAR OF 1812: AMERICA'S SECOND REVOLUTION?

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US History

### Investigative Question:

How did the events of  
The War of 1812 change  
the American people's  
perceptions of their new  
nation?

## THE WAR OF 1812

- 1812-1814
- Conflict between US + Great Britain
  - Britain fought two wars at same time - War of 1812 + war against France (Napoleon)
- Afterwards, US enjoys a greater world presence

## CAUSES OF THE WAR (1801-1812)



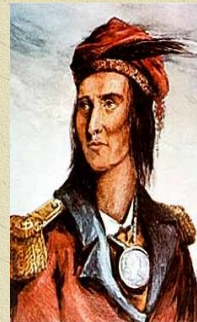
- Impressment
  - Britain forced thousands of US citizens to serve on their ships- needed men b/c fighting France

## USS CHESAPEAKE(1807)

- Ship is fired upon by *HMS Leopard* after captain of *Chesapeake* refuses to give up American sailors
- Event angers US and War Hawks



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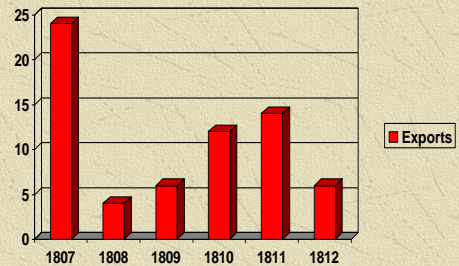


- British support of the Indian Nations against America
  - Citizens settle on Indian land- ILLEGAL
  - Indians organize under Tecumseh/The Prophet
  - The new Tecumseh/Britain alliance angers US

## CAUSES OF THE WAR (1801-1812)

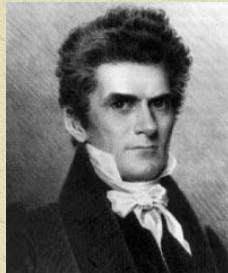
- Embargos
  - Prohibits trade w/country(s)
  - Embargo Act (1807)
    - Banned imports/exports to ALL countries
    - Hoped to hurt Britain + France
    - FAILED b/c ban too general ("All countries")
    - Created economic recession
    - Rescinded in 1809
  - Non-Intercourse Act (1809)
    - FAILED

## EXPORTS TO GREAT BRITAIN

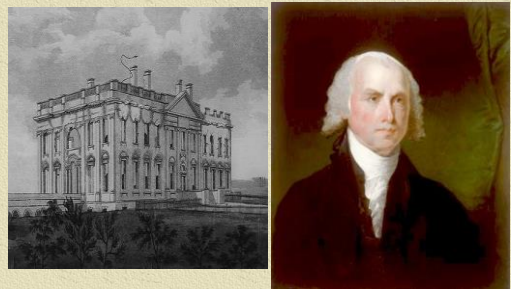


## CAUSES OF THE WAR (1801-1812)

- Nationalism/War Hawks
  - Strong feelings about your country
  - War Hawks (Henry Clay + John Calhoun)
    - Powerful group of Republicans demand war
    - Madison forced to declare war- June 18, 1812



## THE "PRESIDENT'S MANSION"



## THE WAR BEGINS

- US is unprepared for war
  - Poorly-trained men (7,000) - more British soldiers in America (14,000) than US men in America
  - Generals too old (many fought in Rev.)
  - 12 US ships in Navy - British have 800
  - US underestimates British/Indian strength
    - Indians had nothing to lose (would lose land if they didn't act against US)

## KEY EVENTS (1812-1814)

- *British blockades US coast (1812)*
  - Hoped to cut off shipping
- US captures York + burns it (1813)
  - British ask US to stop burning cities
  - US ignores requests/burns two more Canadian villages
  - Britain promises to burn US cities when they invade

## KEY EVENTS (1812-1814)



- Constitution sinks two British ships (1812)
- "Old Ironsides" sinks Guerriere + Java
- Constitution is still in use today (over 200 years old)

## KEY EVENTS (1812-1814)



- Battle of Lake Erie (1813)
- William Perry's navy defeats British
- "We have met the enemy, and they are ours!"

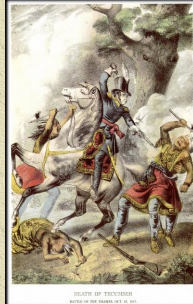
## BATTLE OF LAKE ERIE



## KEY EVENTS (1812-1814)

- Battle of Tippecanoe (1813)
- Tecumseh killed by General William Henry Harrison
  - Later became president (1840)
  - "Tippecanoe and Tyler, Too!"
- Tecumseh's death ended the "Indian Nation" idea

## THE BATTLE AT THAMES (1813)



## MARY PICKERSGILL CREATES OUR NATIONAL FLAG

- At the time, no standard flag approved by Congress (7-9 different styles)
- Officers ask Mary to make two flags for Fort Mchenry (One is HUGE - 30'x42')
- Mary makes flags with help from mother and daughter- job gets so big that she moves to beer factory to finish
- Paid \$544.74 when finished on 8/19/1813- took 6 weeks to complete

## PRE-WAR AMERICAN FLAGS



1818 - 1819



1777 - 1795



1775 - 1777



1777-1795: "Betsy Ross" Flag

## MARY PICKERSGILL BACKGROUND

- Born 2/12/1776 in Philadelphia
- Husband died in 1805
- Moved to Baltimore with mother and daughter in 1805
- Made ship flags before making Fort McHenry flags



Mary Pickersgill

## KEY EVENTS (1812-1814)

- *Battle of Chesapeake Bay (1814)*
  - Strengthened British force burns Washington
    - Retaliation for burning of Canadian York (present-day Toronto)
    - Burned down White House + offices
    - Fire could be seen for 60 miles



## KEY EVENTS (1812-1814)



- *Battle of Chesapeake Bay (1814)*
  - James Madison out defending the city
  - Dolley Madison escapes w/"keepsakes"
    - Portrait of Washington
    - "Federalist Papers"
  - Army eats Madison's dinner, THEN burns the White House

## KEY EVENTS (1812-1814)

- British advance to Ft. McHenry + Baltimore
  - Attacked it for days
  - Failed to capture it
  - Pickersgill's 30'x42' flag flew from fort
    - 1<sup>st</sup> time Congressionally-approved flag flies
  - Francis Scott Key writes song as he watches fort battle- "The right place at the right time."
  - "The Star-Spangled Banner" is born
    - British drinking song + Keys' lyrics

## KEY EVENTS (1812-1814)

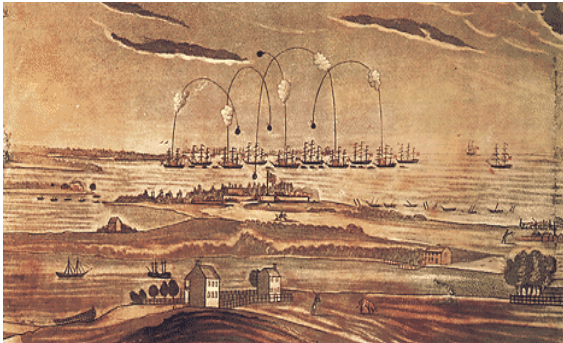


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## KEY EVENTS (1812-1814)



- The Battle of New Orleans
  - Fought after the treaty ending the War was signed
  - Pirates and frontiersmen fight alongside US troops
  - Made Andrew Jackson a national hero and household name



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## END OF THE WAR

- Madison tried to negotiate since 1812
- British decides war too costly
  - Defeat of Napoleon in 1814 a key goal
  - US **NOT** a key goal
- Treaty of Ghent ends the war (12/24/1814)
  - NEITHER SIDE GAINED OR LOST
  - No land traded ("Status Quo")
  - Indians dealt major blow- NEVER RECOVERED

## EFFECTS OF THE WAR

- Gave the US a national identity
- Creates a hero in Andrew Jackson
- Federalists lose power after they try to convince Northern states to secede
- Republicans gain great power
  - Control presidency for over 20 years
  - Madison, Monroe, John Quincy Adams, Andrew Jackson

## Investigative Question:

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