

Just the Facts . . .

Age of Jackson & Westward Expansion

Andrew Jackson

- Hero of the Battle of New Orleans; 7th president of the United States; first president from the West (Tennessee)
- Jackson had great appeal to the common man; voter participation increased dramatically during his time.
- Started present day Democratic party

Nullification Crisis

In 1828, the nation passed the highest import tax (tariff) ever. The southern states were outraged since a high tariff meant they would get less value when they sold their crops in exchange for European goods. They called it the "*Tariff of Abominations*". The state of South Carolina, led by John C. Calhoun, who was Jackson's vice president, threatened to secede (or leave the Union). Jackson got permission to use the army to keep South Carolina from seceding. The tariff was eventually lowered without any fighting. However, it brought the issue of states' rights to the attention of the nation.

Closing of the Bank of the United States

(National Bank that was started by Alexander Hamilton)

Jackson opposed the Bank because he thought it was corrupt and refused to loan money to western farmers. Henry Clay and the Whigs, and the Bank's director, Nicholas Biddle, wanted to make it an election issue in 1832, so they pushed the bank's charter up for renewal knowing Jackson would veto the Bank's charter. Jackson moved the money from the National Bank to state banks greatly weakening its power. They thought it would hurt Jackson's popularity among the public, but it did not.

Trail of Tears (1838)

The state of Georgia was eager to remove Indians. The Indians decided to take their case to court. They actually won their case (*Worcester v. Georgia*) when the Supreme Court ruled in their favor. Jackson refused to enforce the Court's decision and used the military to force their removal. One-fourth of the 18,000 Indians died as they were forced to relocate to Oklahoma.

Industrial Revolution

The Industrial Revolution began in America around the War of 1812 causing many changes:

- New inventions made life easier.
- People moved to cities to work in factories.
- The production of goods by machine replaced those made previously by hand.
- Speed of communication (telegraph) and transportation (railroads and canals) increased significantly.

Notable Inventions:

- **Cotton gin:** Machine invented by Eli Whitney to quickly remove the seeds from cotton; increased the demand for slavery.
- **Steamboat:** Ship powered by steam allowing it to travel upstream faster.
- **Telegraph:** Sends electrical current along a wire allowing quick communication over long distances.
- **Bessemer process:** Inexpensive process that produced steel faster than before.

American System: An idea proposed by Henry Clay that to boost the American economy and protect U.S. industries, the federal government should invest money in internal improvements such as the building of roads, canals, bridges, and railroads.

Age of Reform

In the early to mid-1800's, many writers and social workers began to try and improve the quality of life in America.

Reform Movements

- **Abolitionist movement:** people who called for an end to slavery
- **Public education:** movement for all children to be educated at a public school
- **Prison Reform:** Movement to make prison conditions more sanitary and humane
- **Women's Rights:** called for equality for women including the right to vote.
- **Temperance Movement:** called for a ban on sale and consumption of alcohol.

Reformers and Writers

Frederick Douglass: former slave who became a leading abolitionist; published a newspaper called "*The North Star News*"

Elizabeth Cady Stanton: leader of the women's rights movement; organized the *Seneca Falls Convention*

Horace Mann: leader of the common school movement; known as the Father of American Education

Dorothea Dix: Leader who called for prison reform and the mentally unstable to be moved to facilities specifically designed for their care

Henry David Thoreau: Transcendentalist author who protests Mexican War by not paying his taxes; explains his reasoning in *Civil Disobedience*.

Westward Expansion

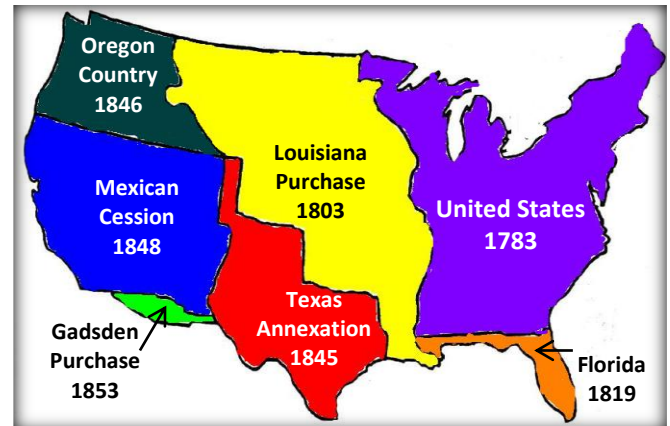
The changes brought about by the Industrial Revolution allow the country to grow to the west quite rapidly.

"Manifest Destiny"- belief that America's growth to the Pacific is unstoppable.

Treaty of Paris (1783) treaty ended the American Revolution and established our western border at the Mississippi River.

Louisiana Purchase (1803) The U.S. doubled in size when the Louisiana Territory was purchased from France for \$15 million.

TERRITORIAL ACQUISITIONS
1783-1853



Texas Annexation (1845) Texas became an independent republic when it won its independence from Mexico in 1836. The U.S. annexed Texas as its 29th state which sparked a war with Mexico. The **Mexican-American War** lasted from 1846-1848.

Mexican Cession (1848) Mexico loses their war with the U.S. and sells what will become modern day California, Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, and parts of Colorado and Wyoming.

Gadsden Purchase (1853) The U.S. buys the southern portion of what will become Arizona for \$10 million to build a railroad.