

The Early American Republic

1789 - 1800

Mr. McAtee, Iroquois High School
November 2017



Gen. George Washington at Trenton
John Trumbull (1792)

North America in 1783



From the time
of its founding,
the U. S.
was
surrounded by
stronger
foreign nations

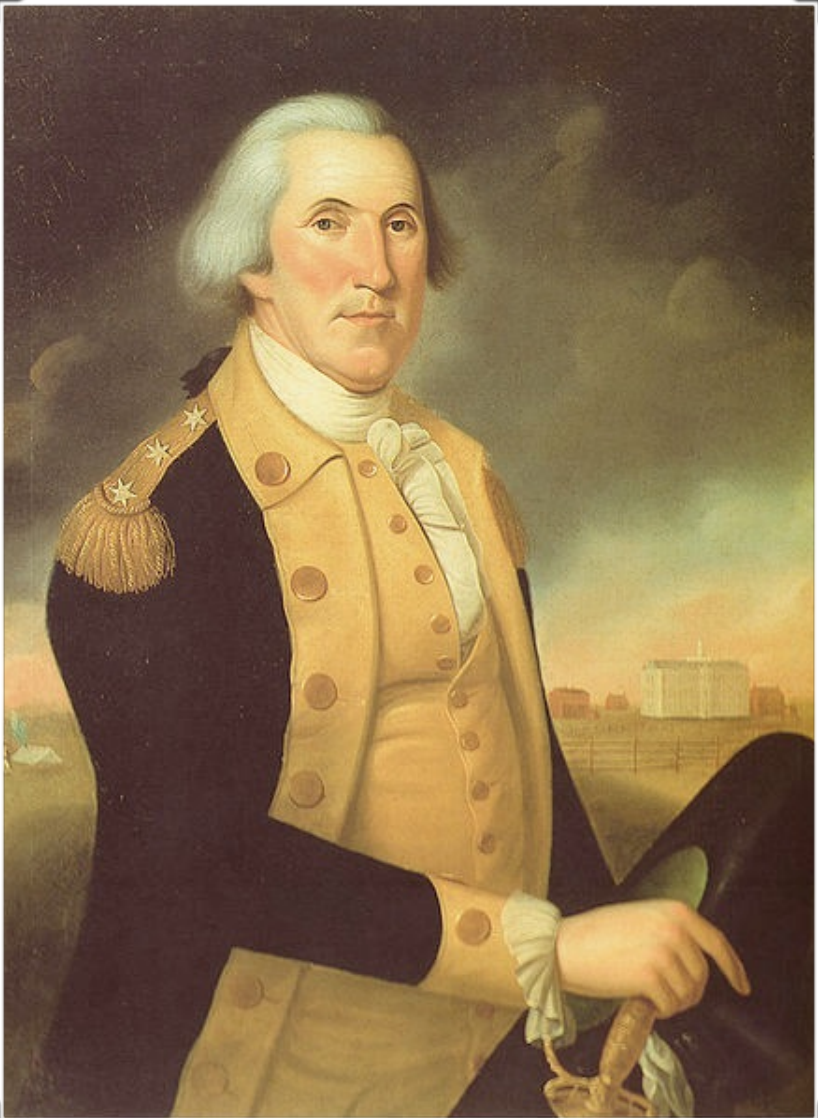


http://www.emersonkent.com/images/washington_inaugural_address.jpg

The Inauguration of George Washington (April 30, 1789)
(Ramon de Elorriaga [Spanish] 1889)

Challenges faced as President

- ❑ The model for all future presidents -- his actions set precedents
- ❑ Had to deal with America's financial problems
- ❑ Had to guide America's Foreign Policy - Hopefully avoid getting dragged into the ongoing conflict between England and France.
- ❑ Had to select advisors -the "cabinet"
- ❑ Had to deal with Native Americans
- ❑ Had to appoint judges
- ❑ He had to unify the people of the nation



Financial Hardships

The total cost of fighting the Revolutionary War has been estimated at \$21.6 billion (in 2010 currency)

http://allthingsliberty.com/2015/02/how-was-the-revolutionary-war-paid-for/#_edn14

After the war, America's economy fell and the U.S. headed toward bankruptcy - unable to pay its debts

Alexander Hamilton, the Secretary of the Treasury, was in charge of fixing America's economy



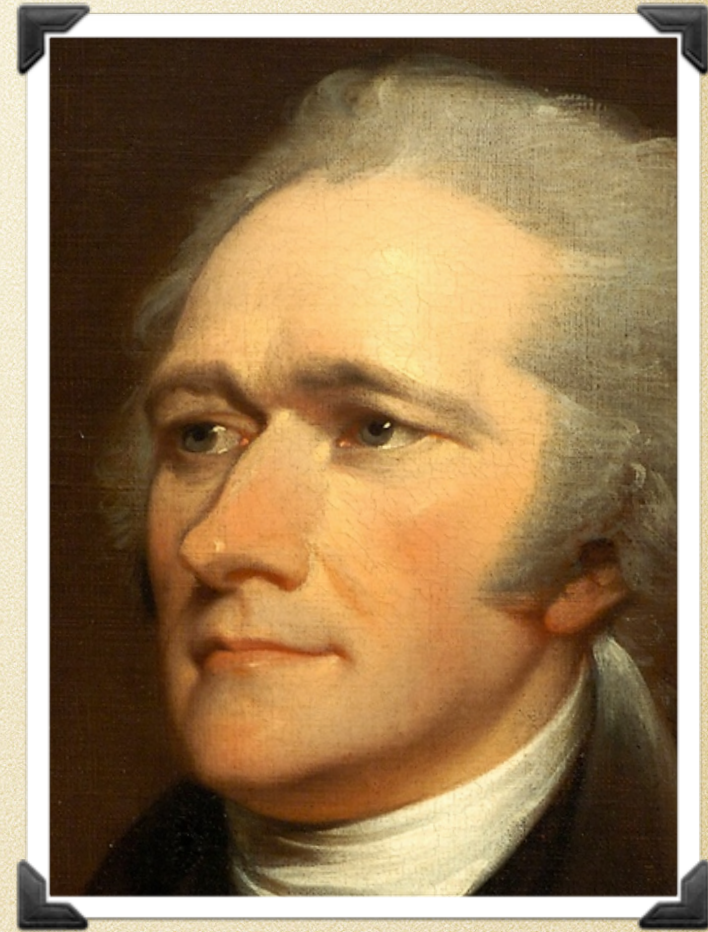
Hamilton's Financial Plan

Assumption Policy

The U.S. government will pay-off all debts from the Revolutionary War - both national debt and state debts

A tariff (tax) was placed on goods coming into the United States

A tax was placed on whiskey made in the United States.



Created a national bank

- a place where the government could safely deposit money
- provide loans to businesses

Thomas Jefferson



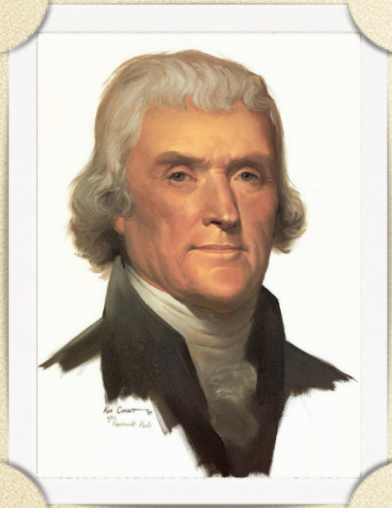
Jefferson was a member of Washington's Cabinet - serving as Secretary of State

Jefferson believed in a strict interpretation of the Constitution.

The national government could only do what was stated in the Constitution.

Jefferson disagreed with Hamilton's plan - gave the government too much power

Guiding America's Foreign Policy



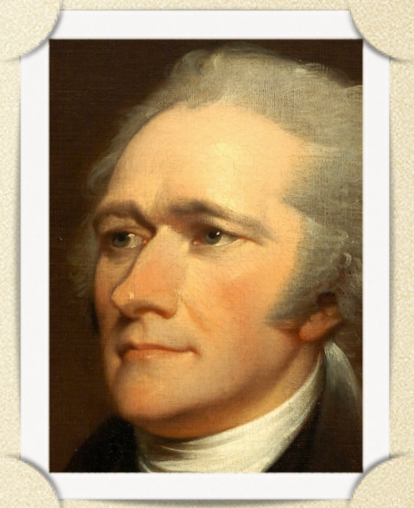
Jefferson

Inspired by
events in France

Wanted a strong
relationship
with France



French Revolution
began in 1789



Hamilton

Wanted a strong
relationship
with England

Horrified by
events in France

Please turn to page 123
in your workbook

Washington's Farewell Address

Letter written to *"The People of
the United States"*

Published on Sept. 19, 1796

*"It is our true policy to steer
clear of permanent alliance with
any portion of the foreign world"*

*Cautioned about the dangers of
political parties*



George Washington
by Gilbert Stuart (1796)

John Adams, President 1797-1801



John Adams
by Gilbert Stuart (1800)

A Federalist,
Was Washington's vice president

Challenged by the ongoing struggle
between Britain & France

Key Ideas / Actions

- X, Y, Z Affair
- Alien & Sedition Acts

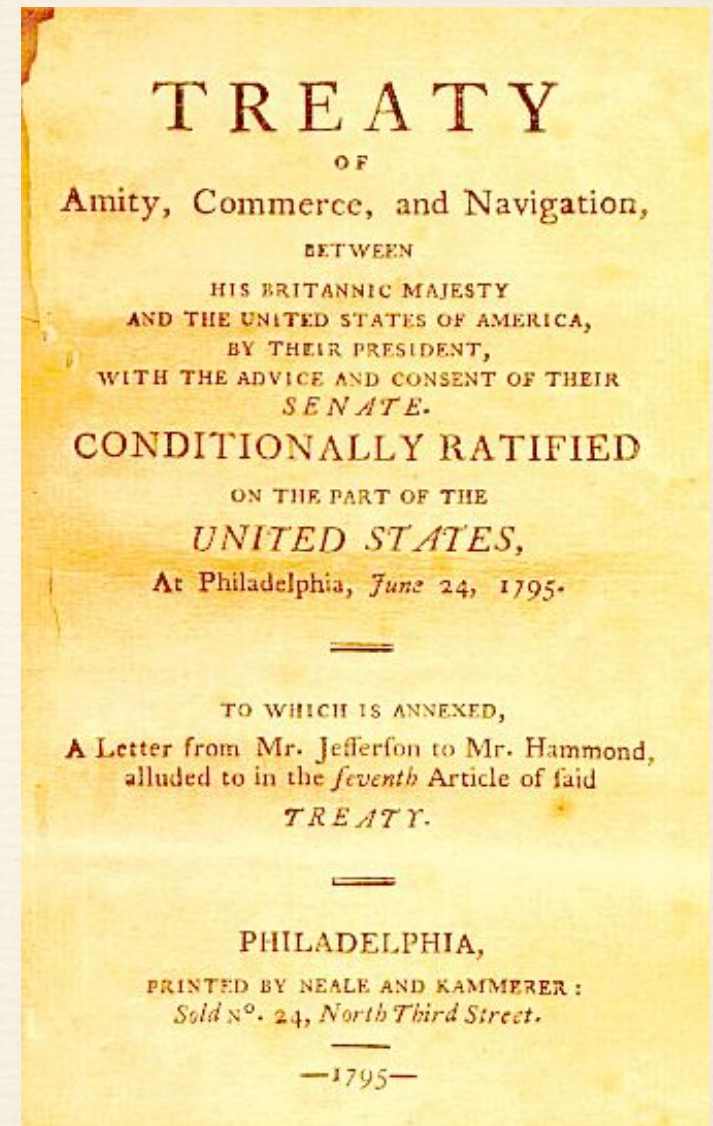
Jay Treaty (1795)

Treaty between **Britain & U.S.** -
promoted trade & resolved issues not
solved in 1783 (Treaty of Paris)

Treaty was supported by
Washington & Hamilton
(*Federalists*)

Jefferson & his supporters
(*Republicans*) opposed the treaty

FRANCE was NOT HAPPY
about this treaty



Jay Treaty (1795)

The X,Y,Z Affair (1797)



<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Charles-Maurice-de-Talleyrand-prince-de-Benevent>

French Foreign Minister,
Charles Maurice de Talleyrand

France responded to Jay Treaty by seizing American ships in the West Indies and by refusing to receive America's ambassador to France

Many Americans were outraged — wanted to go to war with France

Hoping to avoid war, Adams sent three new ministers to France

Talleyrand refused to meet with the Americans unless a bribe was paid to his agents - Adams called them X, Y, Z



The X,Y,Z Affair (1797)



Bust of John Adams

[http://www.mountvernon.org/digital-encyclopedia/
article/xyz-affair/](http://www.mountvernon.org/digital-encyclopedia/article/xyz-affair/)

Many Americans were outraged —
wanted to go to war with France

Adams enacted legislation creating
the U.S. Navy

The U.S. began to build ships and it
created a 10,000 man army

Critics attacked Adams and his policies

Some said Adams was too pro-British

Some said that Adams was lying about X,Y,Z

Adams responded to this criticism with
the *Alien Act* and the *Sedition Act*

Alien Act - Gave the federal government power to arrest and deport anyone who was not an American citizen and was considered to be dangerous.

Sedition Act - Gave the federal government power to fine, or jail anyone, including American citizens, who criticized Congress or the President.

The Adams administration used the Sedition Act to arrest writers and shut down several newspapers that were critical of the president and his policies

*Critics felt that these laws violated people's rights —
The federal government that had become too powerful*

The Kentucky & Virginia Resolutions

Kentucky Resolution — written by Thomas Jefferson

Virginia Resolution — written by James Madison

Stated that the Alien & Sedition acts were not constitutional
— violated 1st Amendment

The Kentucky Resolution stated that states had the power
to *nullify* [void / cancel] unconstitutional laws