

Unit 2: *New Frontiers*

Name: _____

Lecture 2.1

The Industrial Revolution

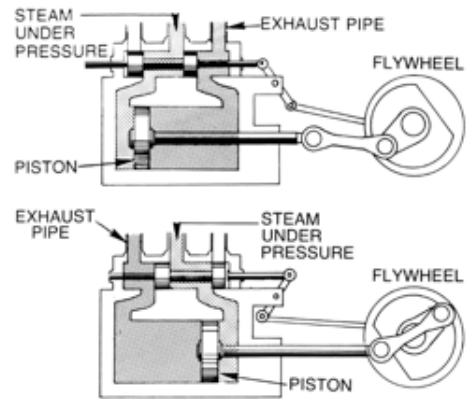
Before 1800, most Americans were farmers, and most goods were produced by hand. That situation began to slowly change in the 1790s. Machines replaced hand tools, and steam power replaced human and animal power.

The Factory System

- In 1791, Samuel Slater introduced the **factory system** to America.
- By the 1820s, towns like Lowell, Mass. had become centers of factory production in America.
- The introduction of **interchangeable parts** by Eli Whitney allowed factories to save time and money.
- The Industrial Revolution would have a profound effect on how Americans lived their lives.

Daily Life

- Life for American factory workers was grueling. Many women & children were hired because they could be paid a lower wage, and workers were on the job for 12 hours, six days a week.
- Despite the conditions though, people accepted the jobs, and moved to the cities. The Industrial Revolution led to rapid **urbanization** in America.
- The Industrial Revolution led to great leaps forward in transportation:
 - 1807** - Robert Fulton launched The *Claremont*, the first successful American steamship.
 - 1818** - the first National Road was built from MD to IL
 - 1824** - the Erie Canal was finished,



What essential part of the steam engine is missing from this diagram?

Personal Reflection:

factory system: a production method where workers and machines are brought together in one place
interchangeable parts: manufacturing strategy where all products have identical, machine-made parts
urbanization: movement of population from farms to cities

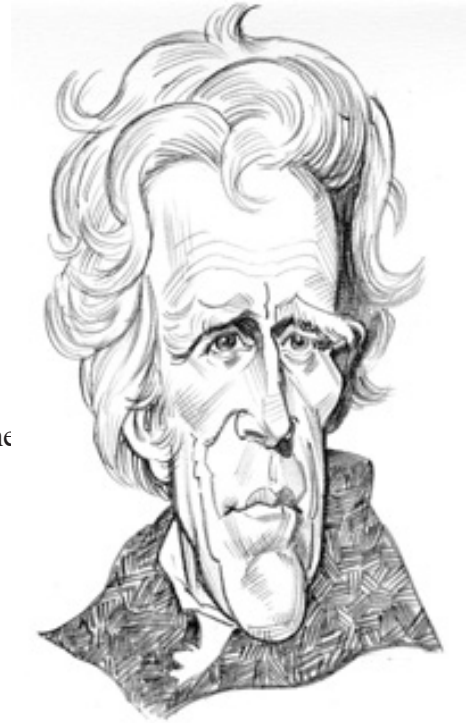
Lecture 2.3 • *Growing Pains*

The War of 1812

- By 1810, inspired by the Louisiana Purchase, and the optimistic reports of the explorers, many Americans became intent on expanding the nation.
- This made the British very nervous, and worried that the U.S. was becoming too powerful.
- Some Americans thought the British were supplying weapons to the Indians on America's frontier in order to halt American expansion.
- All of the anti-British fears fueled a growing sense of **nationalism** across the country. Those feelings were so strong, that in 1812, Congress declared war against Great Britain.
- In the first year of the war, the U.S. invaded British outposts in British North America (Canada), and strengthened its hold on the Northwest Territories.
- In 1814 though, the British dominated. U.S. ports were blockaded by the British Navy; Washington D.C. was captured; and the U.S. government fled to Philadelphia. That same year, Francis Scott Key wrote the Star-Spangled Banner while watching the bombing of Fort McHenry in Baltimore.
- The war officially ended in 1814, but the biggest battle actually took place in 1815, when Colonel Andrew Jackson defeated the British at the Battle of New Orleans.

Indian Conflict

- Between 1800 and 1820, 900,000 white settlers moved west across the Appalachian mountains. This new wave of expansion pushed into Indians lands, and led to a series of conflicts.
 - 1811 - the Shawnee War in Ohio
 - 1814 - the Creek War in Georgia
 - 1817 - the Seminole Wars in Florida
- As a result of these wars, in 1830 Congress, and now *President* Jackson, passed the Indian Removal Act, which required all Indians east of the Mississippi River to be “relocated” to Indian Territory (aka, Oklahoma).
- One part of the “relocation” was the **Trail of Tears** in 1838, when 15,000 Cherokee Indians were force-marched from their homes in Georgia, to Indian Territory. Thousands died along the way.



Who is this?

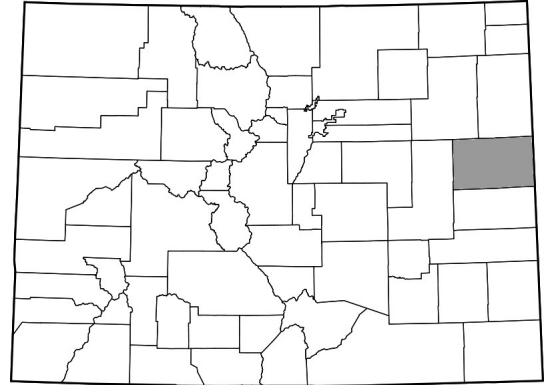
Personal Reflection:

nationalism:
devotion or loyalty to one's own country

Lecture 2.4 • *Trappers & Traders*

Fur Trapping

- Following on the heels of the western explorers were fur trappers, or “mountain men”. Nearly all of them were trapping for beaver.
- Trappers had very hard lives due to (a) tough work, (b) harsh working conditions, (c) long hours, and (d) little time for play, relaxation or family.
- During the spring and summer, trappers stayed in the mountains, but during the fall and winter they moved into the warm valleys to trap, and go to the “**rendezvous**”.
- Famous mountain men include, Jim Bridger, Kit Carson, Jedediah Smith, and John Johnson.



The Colorado county shown above is named after what famous mountain man?

The Traders

- While most trappers worked independently, they were all part of a larger fur trading network that was centered in the frontier town of Saint Louis.
- Most of the profit from fur trapping went to the merchants and traders ... not the trappers.
- The first trade route in the West was the **Santa Fe Trail**, which started in St. Louis, and linked America to the territory of Mexico in New Spain..
- One of the largest trading posts on the Santa Fe Trail was **Bent's Fort**, which was built in Colorado in 1831, by brothers Charles and William Bent.

The Impact of Trapping

- The trapping era was mostly over by the 1840s because silk became more fashionable than beaver fur in hat-making, and the beaver were nearly trapped to extinction.
- Despite the fact that the trapping era was short, it did have a profound impact on the West. It proved that there was money to be made in the far West. And it exposed the plains Indians to white goods and diseases for the first time.
- Most importantly though, trapping and trading linked the years of western exploration with the years of western settlement that would follow.

Personal Reflection:

rendezvous:
yearly trading, social, & sporting gathering between fur trappers and Indians