

# Unit 2: *New Frontiers*

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## Lecture 2.1

### *The Industrial Revolution*

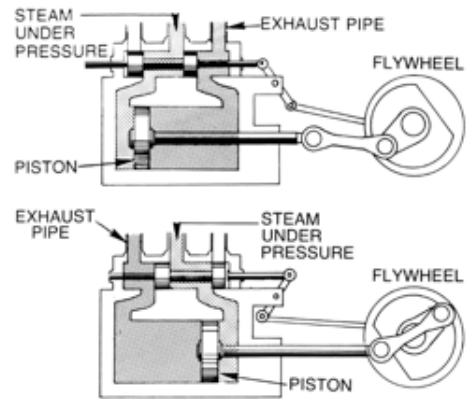
Before 1800, most Americans were farmers, and most goods were produced by hand. That situation began to slowly change in the 1790s. Machines replaced hand tools, and steam power replaced human and animal power.

#### *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 less than men, 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:**

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**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 • *The War of 1812*

### ***Trouble with Great Britain***

- 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.

### ***An Army of Engineers***

- The problem with declaring war in 1812 though was the fact that America didn't have a standing army!
- The founders feared that a permanent army trained solely for fighting could too easily be turned against the citizens of the nation, and used to oppress the people.
- So America's "army" was really more a collection of "engineer-soldiers" who were trained not only to fight, but also to deliver the mail, build roads, bridges, and canals, and explore the frontier.

### ***"The Dawn's Early Light..."***

- 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.



**Who is this?**

#### **Personal Reflection:**

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**nationalism:**  
devotion or loyalty to one's own country

## Lecture 2.4 • *Conquering the Midwest*

Between 1800 and 1820, nearly a million white settlers moved beyond the Appalachian mountains. This new wave of expansion pushed into Indians lands, and led to a series of conflicts across the Midwest & South.

### *Tecumseh's War*

- From 1810 to 1813, Tecumseh's War exploded all across the Ohio River Valley.
- The war was fought between a confederation of Indian tribes led by Shawnee chief **Tecumseh**, and elements of the U.S. Army led by **General William Henry Harrison**.
- The war ended at the battle of **Tippacanoe**, which later launched William Henry Harrison into the White House as the 9th president in 1841.

### *The Creek War*

- The Creek War of 1813-14 was fought between the U.S. with its Cherokee tribe allies, and the Creek Indians of Mississippi Territory (Alabama), and Georgia.
- The war cost over 3,000 lives, and ended with the surrender of the Indians, who were forced to give over 21,000,000 acres of land to the U.S. government.

### *The Seminole War*

- The Seminole War of 1818 was the costliest of all the wars that the U.S. fought against the Indians. It went on for 40 years up and down the Florida peninsula.
- It lasted so long because the Seminoles were masters at using the swamps to their advantage, and in fighting a **guerrilla war** against the U.S. Army.

### *Indian "Removal"*

- 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 Terr. Over 4,000 Cherokee died along the way.



**This is the logo of what college? And what is their mascot?**

#### **Personal Reflection:**

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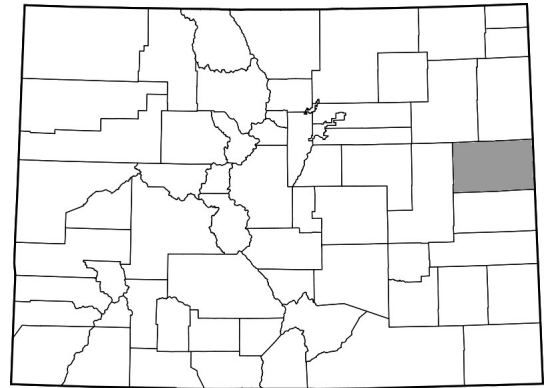
#### **guerrilla warfare:**

a type of warfare in which small groups use tactics like ambushes and raids to fight a larger, less

## Lecture 2.5 • 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:**

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