

The First Political Parties:

Chapter 5, Section 3

Citizen participation is essential to the foundation and preservation of the US political system. By the election of 1796, two distinct political parties with different views had developed.

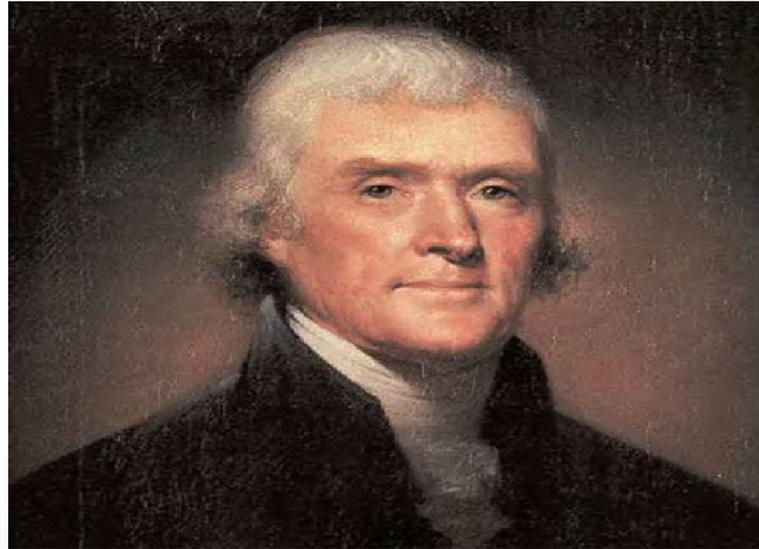
Opposing Views

- Americans began to take opposing sides on issues by 1796, and, as a result, two political parties emerged.
 - Even though he is described as a great leader, Washington still had critics...



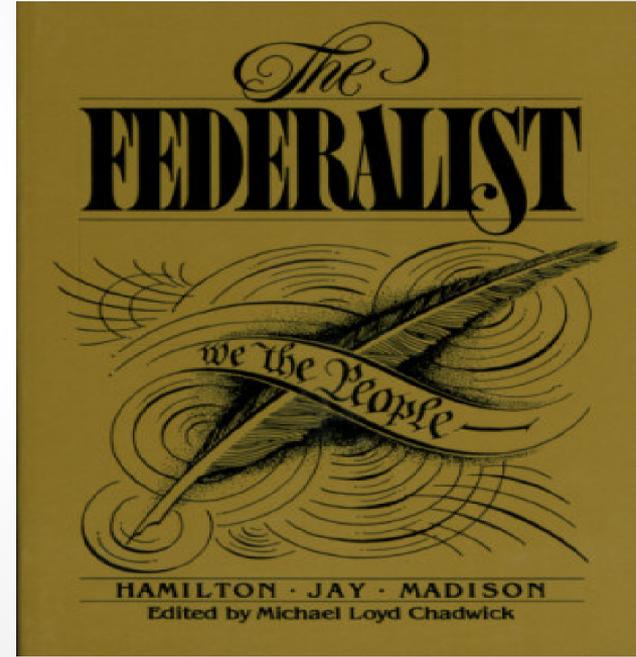
How Did Americans View the President?

- Supporters of Thomas Jefferson tried to discredit the policies of Washington and Hamilton
- Hamilton and Jefferson took opposing sides--disagreeing on foreign policy, economic issues, power of federal government, and how to interpret the Constitution
 - Washington was sometimes **partisan**, supporting Hamilton's positions



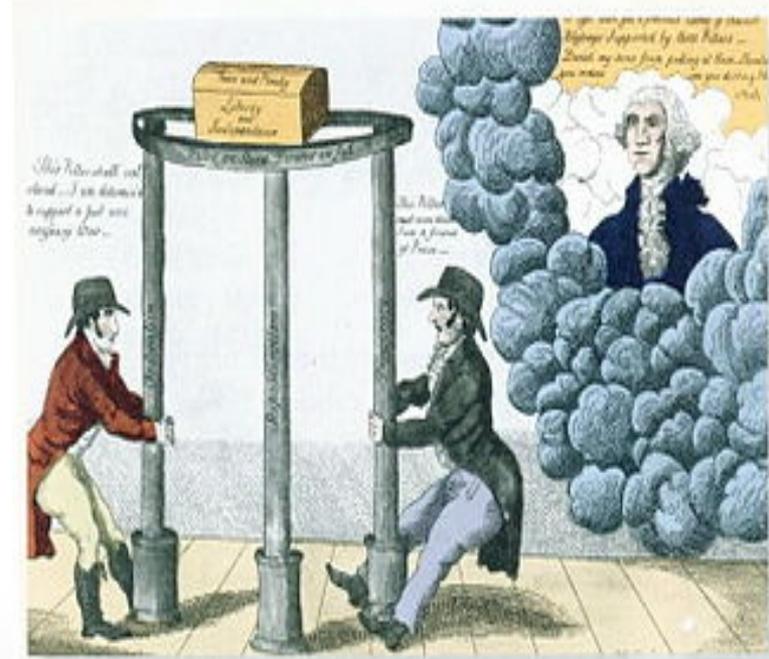
Political Parties Emerge

- Congress & nation had disagreements, so political parties began to emerge
- *Federalist* = someone who supported ratification of Constitution and later those who support Washington
 - Stood for a strong federal government
 - Admired Britain's stability
 - Distrusted France's violent changes
 - Favored banking/business
 - Supported in Northeast and wealthy southern plantation



Democratic-Republicans (Republicans)

- Philip Freneau, Jefferson, and Madison organized party with group against Hamilton
- Wanted to limit government
 - Fear of endangering liberties
- Supported French
- Appealed to small farmers, urban workers (Mid Atlantic and South)



Views of the Constitution

- Major difference = basis of government power
- Hamilton: Constitution consisted of implied powers, those suggested but not written
 - Implied Powers allowed him to create national bank because Constitution gave power to issue money and regulate trade
- Jefferson & Madison had a strict interpretation of the Constitution in more limited sense

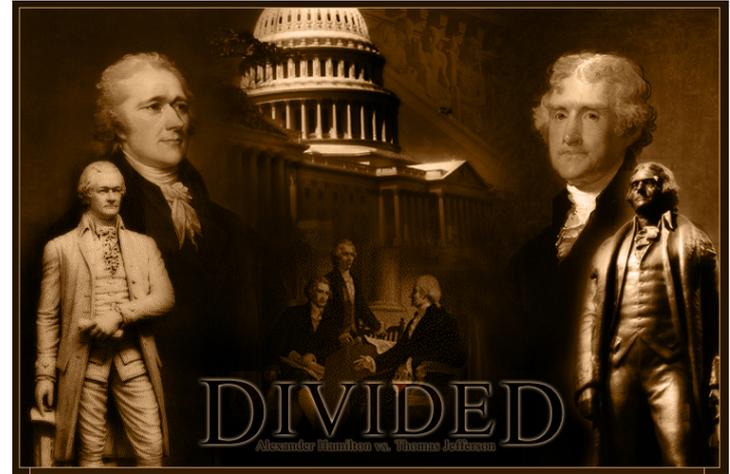


The People's Role

- Federalists: supported representative government but didn't want people too involved
- Republicans: wanted people to participate in all aspects and honest men in office, feared a strong government controlled by few



- Washington failed to get Jefferson/Hamilton to work out differences
 - Jefferson resigned (1793)
 - Hamilton resigned (1795)
- Parties moved further apart



Federalists vs. Democratic-Republicans

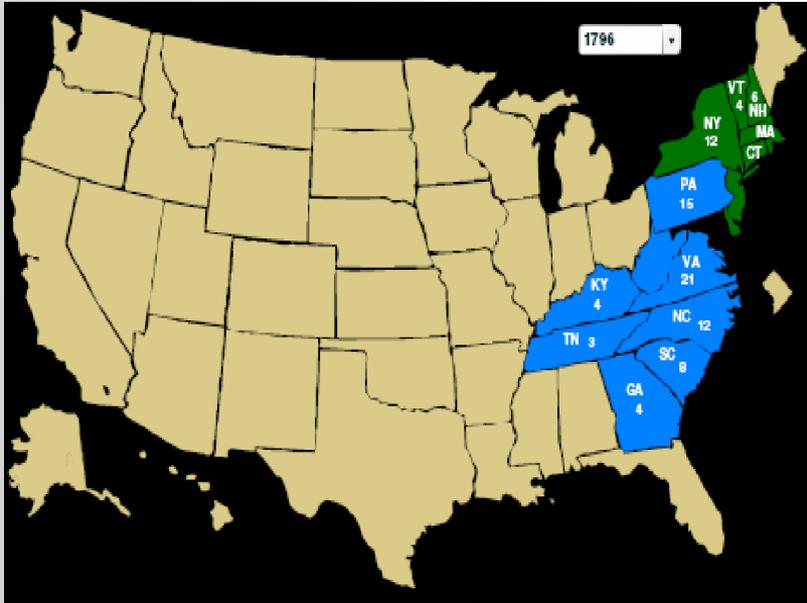
Federalists:

1. Hamilton
2. Wealthy class rule
3. Strong fed govt
4. Emphasis on business & manufacturing
5. Loose interpretation of Constitution (implied powers)
6. British alliance
7. National bank
8. Protective tariffs

Dem-Reps

1. Jefferson
2. Rule by people
3. Strong state govt
4. Emphasis on agriculture
5. Strict interpretation of Constitution
6. French alliance
7. State banks
8. Free Trade

The Election of 1796



- Voting/elections based on political parties, candidates ran as members
- **Caucuses** were events for Congress to elect members for office
- Feds: John Adams (P) & Charles Pinckney (VP)
- D-R: Jefferson (P) & Aaron Burr (VP)
- Adams won for Pres and Jefferson won for VP because he had second most votes (once friends, now rivals)
- Federalist president, Dem-Rep VP...



1. Did Jefferson and Madison believe that the federal government had *no* implied powers? How did their position differ from Hamilton's?
2. Which political party would a Boston factory owner most likely support?
3. What roles did political parties play in the election of 1796?

President John Adams



- Main idea: John Adams dealt with many things in office, including a dispute with France, which led to a group of measures called the Alien and Sedition Acts.
 - Massachusetts patriot, ambassador to France & Britain, negotiated treaty of Paris, two terms as VP

Abigail & John Adams

- Married in 1764, lived on farm in Braintree, MA with 5 children
 - She remained home with farm and business, while he participated in government
 - Lived in Europe together
- As first lady, she presided over unfinished white house
 - No formal education, but developed talent as letter writer, advocated for women's rights



JOHN ADAMS,
SECOND PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES



A. Adams

The XYZ Affair

- France had seized American ships as punishment for Jay's Treaty with Britain
- President Adams sent delegates to France to settle dispute, but **Charles de Talleyrand** refused to meet them
 - He sent 3 agents (X, Y, Z) who demanded a personal bribe of \$250,000 and loan of \$12 million dollars to France.
 - When affair became public, the American people were incensed, demanding war with France.
 - Adams refrained from declaring war, but a quasi-war took place for two years



Undeclared War With France



- Because of XYZ Affair, US strengthened/increased the Navy Department in April 1798, set aside money for building warships
 - Washington appointed commanding general
- Finally made an agreement with France for peace
- US became anti France and voted Republicans out of office

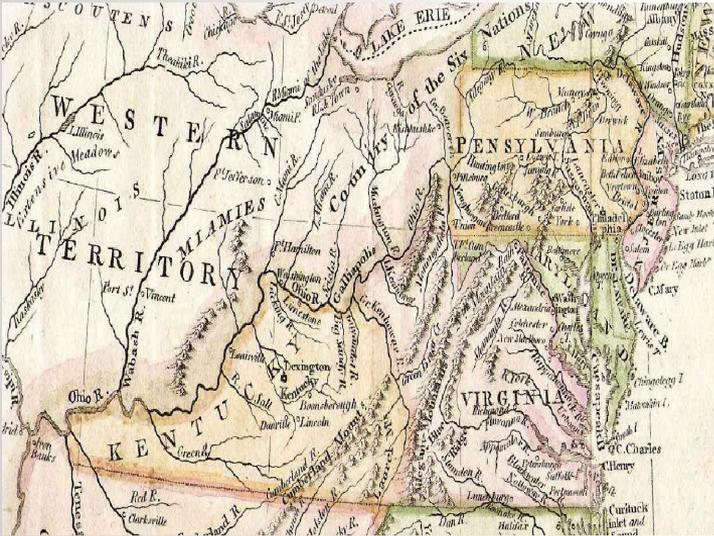
Alien and Sedition Acts

- Threat of war made Americans distrustful of **aliens** (immigrants) and their loyalty as they moved to the US
- Congress responded with strict laws to protect nation's security
 - Alien & Sedition Acts offended many new immigrants and drove people become more Republican (sedition = activity aimed at weakening established government)
 - Many jailed due to support of immigration despite of freedom of press (ex. Matthew Lyon editor of Antifederalist paper, criticized President Adams)

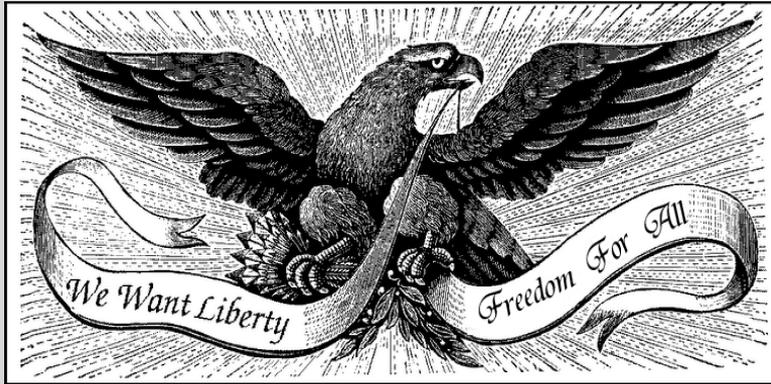


The Republicans Respond

- Fear of strong central government abusing its power...
- Republicans looked to states to preserve people's liberties and to stand up to Federalist tyranny
- Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions of 1798 and 1799 claimed that A & S Acts could not be put into action, unconstitutional and sought to nullify

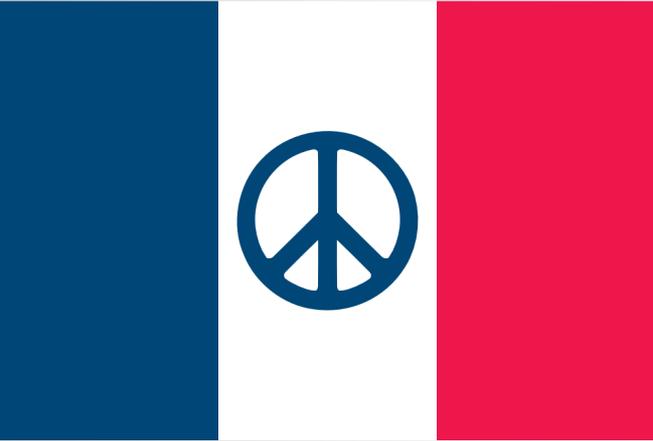


What are States' Rights?



- Right to assert its power to protect its citizens from misuse of federal power
- ...however, fear of breakup of Union if states could nullify federal laws

Making Peace With France



- Federalists urged Adams to step up war with France with hope that they could win reelection
- Adams refused to rush to war, appointed a new commission to seek peace with France
- Signed treaty in 1800 to stop attacks on American ships--this was a nonpartisan act
- Federalists split, Republican prospect for presidency improved (Jefferson 1800)



1. Why would frequent separations from John contribute to Abigail's skill in writing letters?
2. How does *sedition* differ from *treason*?
3. Based on Adam's actions regarding the war with France and the election, what kind of character did he have?
4. How did the peace agreement with France affect the Federalists?
5. Explain the Alien and Sedition Acts.

In class writing prompt...

- Put yourself in their shoes. Imagine you were a part of the decision making in the newly developing country. Which political side would you choose? Would you be a Federalist or a Democratic-Republican? Why?
- In an essay of no less than 3 paragraphs, please answer the above questions using your notes, outlines, and what you have read from