

United States History Glossary

Abolitionist – A person who fought to end slavery and to give rights to freedmen.

Adams, Abigail - Wife of the second President of the United States and known for her elegant letters and influence on her husband's Presidency.

Adams, John – Born October 30, 1735 in Braintree, Mass., Adams was a lawyer and a Federalist who served as vice President under George Washington. He became President in 1797 and was the first resident of the White House. During his term, he fortified the Navy to avoid hostilities with the French who were at war with Britain. He was known as the “Atlas of Independence.” Adams died in the town where he was born on July 4, 1826, the same day as Thomas Jefferson.

Adams, John Quincy – The son of the second President of the United States, John Adams, was born in Braintree, Mass on July 11, 1767. He was a prominent lawyer and became a senator on the Federalist ticket in 1803. His disagreements with others in the Federalist Party led him to resign and he essentially became President in 1825 with no political affiliation. Adams accomplished more as a state representative after his Presidency than he did when he was in office. He was called “Old Man Eloquent.” He died in Washington DC, February 23, 1848.

Adams, Samuel – Former governor of Massachusetts and signer of the Declaration of Independence, he was a major instigator in the American Revolution and the Boston Tea Party. He was very much opposed to British rule in America.

Agriculture – Practice of cultivating soil, producing crops, and raising and selling livestock and resulting products.

Albany Plan of Union - July 10, 1754 – A proposed union of several colonies (Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina) for their mutual defense and for creating more English settlements in America.

Alien and Sedition Acts - Passed in 1798 to control criticism of the federal government. The acts lengthened the period before an immigrant could obtain citizenship, gave the President power to deport dangerous aliens, and allowed prosecution of people who wrote "false, scandalous and malicious" propaganda against the U.S. government.

Antietam, Battle of – Fought on September 17, 1862 in Maryland, this battle was considered the “bloodiest day of the Civil War.” The South was led by General Lee, who commanded 30,000 troops and General McClellan led the North with 60,000 troops. In the days leading up to the war, each army knew that the other was in the area. At daybreak on the 17th, the first shots rang out. There were more casualties on this day than

on any other day of the Civil War. Neither side gained much ground, and it was considered a failure for Lee. Because of the outcome of this battle, Great Britain postponed its decision to recognize the Federal government.

Archeology – The study of the objects left behind from past cultures and peoples.

Armistad Case - Portuguese slave traders illegally abducted a large group of Africans from Sierra Leone and shipped them to Havana, Cuba in 1839. At this time there were treaties banning further slave exportation from Africa. Spanish planters bought 53 of the slaves and put them on a ship called the *Amistad* bound for the Caribbean. On July 1, 1839, the slaves took over the ship, killed the captain and the cook, and ordered the slave holders to sail to Africa. But on August 24, 1839, the U.S. navy took control of the ship and the slaveholders were freed and the Africans were imprisoned in the United States for murder. The charges were dismissed, but the courts did not know what to do with the Africans. After going before the Supreme Court it was decided that they had been illegally forced into slavery and thus were allowed to go back to Africa.

Arnold, Benedict - American general who won several battles against the British and then joined them and tried to help them win the war. He had planned to give his keys to West Point, a U.S. army base, to Britain's Major John Andre. Before he could, Andre was captured and hanged. Arnold got away and commanded British troops later in the war. He died in Britain, unrecognized and alone, a traitor to his country.

Artifact – Any object made by humans, especially one that has archeological interest.

Barton, Clara – Barton was the organizer of the first American Red Cross. Also known as the “Angel of the Battlefield,” she had supplies brought to doctors and nurses in the field during the Civil War.

Battle of San Jacinto - American victory over Mexican forces on April 21, 1836. After defeats at the Alamo and Goliad, 910 Americans, led by Sam Houston, marched on San Jacinto and defeated a Mexican force of 1,500. All of the Mexican fighters were either killed or captured. As a result, Texas became a Republic.

Battle of the Alamo - San Antonio fort that was attacked by Mexican forces on March 6, 1836. The Mexican army under General Santa Anna killed all of the 189 American defenders, including Davy Crockett and Jim Bowie.

Bering Strait – A small channel of water that connects the Bering Sea to the Arctic Ocean, between Siberia and Alaska

Bickerdyke, Mary Ann – A popular Civil War nurse who championed the rights of soldiers and fought for pensions for Civil War nurses and doctors.

Bison – A large, shaggy-manned mammal with a large head, short horns and a fleshy hump on its back.

Black Codes – Laws that limited the rights of slaves that were passed by Southern state legislatures during the Reconstruction, while Congress was out of session. These codes led Congress to ratify the Fourteenth Amendment.

Blackwell, Antoinette Brown – She was the first female ordained minister to be recognized by any denomination, even though there was strong opposition to having women in the ministry.

Blackwell, Elizabeth – She was the first female medical doctor in America. Blackwell founded the New York Infirmary for Women and Children and the Women's Medical College, when other New York hospitals would not let her practice medicine.

Bleeding Kansas - The Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854 established the territories of Kansas and Nebraska and allowed settlement of the land. The residents of these territories were allowed to decide whether to become free or slave states. In Kansas, violence broke out between people who were pro-slavery versus those who were for a free state and the abolitionists. This continued until 1861, when Kansas became a free state in the U.S.

Booth, John Wilkes – Born in 1835, Booth was an actor who assassinated President Abraham Lincoln. He was a Confederate sympathizer who wanted to punish Lincoln for the Civil War.

Boston Massacre - The Boston Massacre occurred on March 5, 1770, five years before the American Revolution, between British troops and a group of citizens of Boston. British troops were being housed in Boston to discourage the citizens from uprising over the Townshend Acts. Citizens constantly harassed the troops. While they were practicing maneuvers in the city, objects thrown by the colonists struck a group of British soldiers. The soldiers fired into the crowd and killed five men. The soldiers were tried for murder and two soldiers were found guilty of manslaughter and were branded on the thumb. The other soldiers were acquitted.

Boston Tea Party – The Boston Tea Party occurred when a group of Boston citizens decided to protest the British tax on tea imported to the colonies. In November of 1773, the colonists would not allow British ships to unload tea in Boston. The royal governor of Massachusetts would not let the tea ships return to England until the duty had been paid. On December 16, a group of Bostonians led by Samuel Adams, many of them disguised as Native Americans, boarded the ships and emptied the tea into Boston Harbor. When the government of Boston refused to pay for the tea, the British closed the port.

Boyd, Belle – She was a Confederate spy during the Civil War. She later went to Europe and became a stage actress. When she returned to the United States, she toured the country telling tales of her life during the Civil War.

Brown, John - Brown was an American abolitionist who aided slaves trying to escape the South via the Underground Railroad. He was a radical who planned and executed a raid on the arsenal at Harper's Ferry. He was hanged for his deeds in 1859.

Bryant, William Cullen – He was an American poet who wrote the poem "Thanatopsis."

Buchanan, James – A Democrat who held office from 1857-1861, he had been a lawyer with a reputation as a brilliant speaker. Buchanan was born in Cove Gap, PA in April of 1791. He won the Presidency and took office just as tension over slavery between the North and the South come to a head. He was constantly torn between states' rights and the Constitution. He left office just before the secession of the southern states. "Old Buck", died in Pennsylvania on June 1, 1768.

Bull Run, First Battle of (First Manassas) – This Civil War battle took place on July 21, 1861 in Virginia. It was the first major battle of the war. Brig. General Irvin McDowell led the Union army; and the Confederate leader was General Beauregard. The Confederate forces pushed back the attacking Union forces and the Confederate forces were victorious. This battle proved that this would not be an easy war to win for the Union and Lincoln realized that the war would be a long and deadly one.

Bull Run, Second Battle of - Considered a victory for the South, this Civil War battle in Virginia took place on August 28 – 30, 1862 between General Lee (Confederacy) and General Pope (Union). It was an important victory for the morale of the South.

Burgess - A representative in the popular branch of the legislature of colonial Maryland and Virginia.

Cabot, John - Cabot is best known for rediscovering Newfoundland in Canada in 1497, while looking for a shorter route to Asia. He was an Italian explorer who was born in 1450 and died in 1498.

Carpetbaggers - People who moved to the South during or following the Civil War, became active in politics.

Cartier, Jacques – A French explorer born in 1491, he left France in 1534, looking for a passage through or around North America to East Asia. He forged a relationship with the Native Americans in the region around the St. Lawrence River. It was a relationship that he would ultimately betray. He died at the age of 66, never having discovered a Northwest Passage.

Cartographer – A person who makes maps.

Champlain, Samuel de – A great French explorer, born in 1567; he was looking for a Northwest Passage when he mapped the northeastern part of North America. He formed a settlement in Quebec and discovered Lake Champlain.

Chancellorsville, Battle of - This battle took place April 30 – May 6, 1863 in Virginia. The Confederate forces led by Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson defeated the Union forces of Major General Joseph Hooker. There were 24,000 total casualties, including Stonewall Jackson.

Chart - An outline map exhibiting something in its geographical aspects, related to climate and magnetic variances.

Charter - A grant or guarantee of rights, or privileges from the sovereign power of a state or country.

Chattanooga, Battle of – This battle took place on November 23-25, 1863 in Tennessee between Union leader Ulysses S. Grant and Confederate leader Braxton Bragg. A major victory for the North, Chattanooga became a major supply base for further campaigns in the South by the North.

Chief Joseph – A Native American of the Nez Perce tribe, Joseph resisted when the government wanted to take his tribe's land and move them to a reservation in Oklahoma. He retreated and tried to move his people to Canada so that they could align with the Sioux. Just 40 miles from the border he had to surrender and his tribe was moved to the reservation.

Circumnavigate - To go completely around the earth, especially by water.

Civil Rights Act of 1866 – An act giving citizenship to African-Americans. It also gave them the right to sue, enter into contracts, and enjoy equality under the law. President Andrew Jackson vetoed the Civil Rights Act of 1866, but Congress overturned his veto and made it into law.

Colony - A body of people living in a new territory but retaining ties with the parent state.

Columbus, Christopher – Columbus was an Italian explorer who was born in 1451 to a family of weavers. He became an experienced sailor and eventually convinced the King and Queen of Spain to finance his expeditions. Columbus wanted to find new routes to the Far East, but in 1492 he landed in the Bahamas and claimed the land for Spain. He is credited with the European discovery of America.

Command of the Army Act – This act was passed in 1867 and required that all military orders given by the President go through the General of the Army, who could not be removed unless it was approved by the Senate.

Committee of Correspondence – A network of communication set up between the colonies in reaction to the threat of a British plan to take away their rights. It was an effort by the colonists to keep each other informed about the perceived British threat.

Common Sense – A popular pamphlet by Thomas Paine, published in 1776, that denounced the British monarchy, called for American independence, and called for a Republican government. Paine's writings helped people believe that it was possible to stand up to Britain and to eventually win.

Commonwealth - A nation or state founded on law, united by compact or tacit agreement of the people for the common good.

Compact – An agreement between two or more parties.

Compass - A device for determining directions by means of a magnetic needle or group of needles turning freely on a pivot and pointing to the magnetic north

Compromise of 1850 – The Compromise of 1850 was a series of five legislative enactments, passed by the U.S. Congress in 1850. Largely written by Senator Henry Clay of Kentucky, they were designed to reconcile the political differences between the proslavery and antislavery factions in Congress. These enactments dealt with whether slavery was to be allowed or prohibited in the regions acquired from Mexico after the Mexican War. The first and second measure allowed for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia and for California to be a free state. The third bill was the Fugitive Slave Law of 1850, which provided for the return of runaway slaves to their masters. The fourth measure opened up the territories of New Mexico (now New Mexico and Arizona) and Utah for settlement. The fifth measure provided that the state of Texas be awarded \$10 million in settlement of claims to adjoining territory. The compromise resulted in an intensification of the hostility between the slave and free states.

Compromise of 1877 - A deal made between southern Democrats and Republican candidate Rutherford B. Hayes as there was no clear winner in the election of 1876; the southern Democrats agreed to let Hayes take office in return for his promise to withdraw the last of the Union troops from the Southern states. The removal of these troops in 1877 marked the end of the Reconstruction period.

Confederate States of America - The government (1861–65) established by the Southern states of the United States after their secession from the Union.

Confederates (Confederacy) – A name for soldiers that fought for the South during the Civil War.

Conquistador – A Spanish term for a person who is from one country and conquers another country or territory.

Cooper, James Fenimore – American novelist who wrote *The Last of the Mohicans* and *The Deerslayer*.

Copperheads – People in the North who did not want to go to war with the south were called Copperheads. They favored a peace settlement that would allow the South to leave the Union.

Cornwallis, Charles - British general during the American Revolution who won more battles than he lost, but ultimately surrendered at Yorktown, thus ending the war.

Coronado, Francisco – Born in 1510, Coronado was an explorer and conquistador, as well as, he was the first European to explore North America's Southwest. He explored the area for treasure, but found very little. He used his expeditions as an excuse to murder many of the Native Americans that he came in contact with. He died in 1554 and was considered a failure by the Spanish leaders.

Cortez, Hernando – He was born in Spain in 1485 and originally set out to be a farmer, but Cortez's bold nature prompted him to the open seas. He wanted to find silver and spices. Ultimately, he became famous for sailing to Mexico in the early 1500s and conquering the Aztecs.

Crazy Horse – A chief of the Oglala, Sioux Indians, Crazy Horse and his tribe were ordered to move to a reservation. They refused and mounted a successful attack, defeating General George Crook. Eight days later, he also mounted an attack on General George Custer and defeated him as well. He eventually surrendered to American troops in 1877 and was killed by a soldier putting him in a jail cell.

Culture - The customary beliefs, social forms, and material traits of a racial, religious, or social group.

Currency Act – Act instituted by Britain that removed the right of American colonists to issue their own money. This decision was not popular with the American colonists.

Cushman, Pauline – Born in 1835, Cushman was a Union spy during the Civil War. She was caught by the Confederacy in 1863 and scheduled to be hanged, but she escaped and was able to provide Union leaders with even more information about the Confederate plans. After the war, she became a stage actress, but was very unhappy and killed herself in 1893.

Davis, Jefferson – Davis was the President of the Confederate States of America. He was born in 1808 in Kentucky to Samuel and Jane Cook Davis. Davis's father was a Revolutionary War soldier, and had three other sons before Davis. Davis attended Transylvania University in Kentucky before going to West Point and joining the United States Army. He married Sarah Taylor, daughter of Zachary Taylor, in 1833 but she died of malaria three months after their marriage. His health made him resign from the army in 1835 and Davis became a planter. In 1845 Davis married Varina Howell, who gave birth to a son, Joel, and a daughter, Margaret. Also in 1845, Davis became a U.S. Congressman, but just one year later he left Congress to serve in the Mexican War. He became a U.S. senator in 1847 and was Secretary of War under the United States President Franklin Pierce. Davis believed in the institution of slavery and in state's rights. When Mississippi withdrew from the Union, Davis resigned and in 1861 he became the President of the Confederate States. After the Civil War he was captured and

imprisoned, but eventually released. He tried to become a businessman in his later years, but most of his enterprises failed. He died in 1889 in Mississippi.

Declaration of Independence - Document declaring the 13 American Colonies independent from Great Britain. Written by Thomas Jefferson and declared in effect by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776. The British response was to escalate the existing war.

Declaration of Sentiments - The Declaration of Sentiments was written by Elizabeth Cady Stanton for the women's rights convention at Seneca Falls, New York in 1848. Based on the American Declaration of Independence, the Sentiments demanded equality between men and women in law, in education and employment. It also demanded that women be given the right to vote.

Declaratory Act – This act in 1776 stated that the British Parliament had complete authority over the colonies. It said that Parliament had the power to make laws to govern the colonies, to tax them, and declared rule them the same way they ruled England.

Dickinson, Emily - An American poet, known for her imagery, she was virtually unknown until her poetry was found after she died. One of her most famous poems is “I Felt A Funeral In My Brain.”

Dix, Dorothea – An advocate for the mentally ill, she lobbied for humane treatment of mental patients and for a reform the healthcare system.

Donner Party – A group of American colonists who migrated to California in 1846-47. Two families, the Donners and the Reeds, made up most of the 87 members of the party. They left Illinois for California in 1846. They became trapped by heavy snows in the Sierra Nevada in November. The party camped for the winter at a small lake and they suffered enormous hardships. Some members of the group resorted to cannibalism in order to survive. Rescue parties eventually brought 47 of them to California. All of the others died.

Stephen Douglas – Elected senator in 1847, Douglas is best known for his debates with Abraham Lincoln. In 1858, Douglas and Lincoln both ran for the Illinois state Senate. They participated in seven debates. In the end, Douglas won the election. He eventually ran for President, but was unsuccessful.

Dred-Scott Decision – A case in the 1850s in which the Supreme Court declared that African Americans were not U.S. citizens. It also determined that the portion of the Missouri Compromise of 1820 that banned slavery in U.S. territories north and west of the state of Missouri was unconstitutional.

Edmonds, Sarah Emma – Edmonds enlisted in the Union Army by dressing up as a man and calling herself Frank Thompson. She later applied to be a spy for the Union and was accepted. She led eleven successful missions into Confederate territory and supplied the Union leaders with valuable information.

Electoral College - A collective name for the electors who officially choose the President and Vice President of the United States. Each state is entitled to a number of electors equal to the total number of senators and representatives it sends to the Congress of the United States. Thus, each state has at least three electors.

Embargo Act of 1807 - An attempt to stop British and French interference with American shipping by prohibiting foreign trade.

Emerson, Ralph Waldo – American essayist best known for his essay “Self-Reliance.”

Emigration – The act of leaving one's place of residence or country to live elsewhere.

Era of Good Feelings – This was a phrase used to describe the years following the War of 1812, when one party, the Jeffersonian Republicans, dominated politics, and a spirit of nationalism characterized public policy.

Erikson, Leif – Born 980 AD in Norway, this great explorer was blown off course and discovered North America in 1002 AD. He died in 1020 AD.

Evans, Augusta Jane - American novelist best known for her book *St. Elmo*.

Fillmore, Millard – A member of the Whig party, Fillmore was born on January 7, 1800 in Locke Township, NY. He was a successful lawyer before he became President in 1850. He served in office from 1850-1853 and was known as the “American Louis Philippe.” After leaving office, he became the Chancellor of the University of Buffalo. Fillmore died in Virginia January 18, 1862.

First Continental Congress - This was the most important expression of colonial protest activity before 1774. The delegates met in Philadelphia for nearly two months. More radical delegates dominated the deliberations. The Congress called for ongoing resistance, even military preparations to defend American communities. It also called for a second Congress in the event that Britain did not address their grievances.

Florida Territory – Acquired from Spain in 1821 in an effort by Spain to avoid going to war with the United States over the land. Spain ceded the land to America and in exchange the United States agreed to assume claims that American citizens had made against Spain.

Forty-Niners – In March of 1848, gold was found in California and by May of that year a few hundred gold seekers came to California. By the end of 1848, there were thousands. Before long, people flocked to California to make their riches in gold. “Boomtowns” grew very quickly. By the end of the Gold Rush, more than 300,000 people had migrated to California. The gold seekers were called forty-niners for the year 1849 when the Gold Rush was at its peak.

Franklin, Benjamin – He was a statesman, publisher, inventor, and patriot known for writing *Poor Richard's Almanac* and inventing a wide variety of useful things. He was the American representative to England for a few years and cultivated a good relationship between the United States and France. He also served as a delegate to the Constitutional Convention.

Fredericksburg, Battle of – Fought on December 11-15, 1862 in Virginia, Major General Burnside and the Union forces defeated Confederate forces led by General Robert E. Lee. This Civil War battle ended in the death of more than 13,000 Union soldiers and caused confidence in the North to sink.

Free colonist – A colonist who was not indentured or enslaved and lived in the colony of his or her own free will.

Freedman's Bureau - It was established in the War Department by an act of March 3, 1865. It supervised all relief and educational activities relating to refugees and freedmen, including issuing rations, clothing and medicine. The Bureau also assumed custody of confiscated lands or property in the former Confederate States, border states, District of Columbia, and Indian Territory.

Freedmen – Slaves who had bought or won their freedom.

Fugitive Slave Law - An element of the Compromise of 1850, the Fugitive Slave Law provided for the return of runaway slaves to their masters.

Fuller, Margaret - Literary critic, editor, teacher, and author. She was an advocate for liberation for everyone, especially women.

Gadsden Purchase – Land purchased from Mexico in 1853 comprised of southern New Mexico and the southern quarter of Arizona. The purchase resulted from a misunderstanding after the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. Mexico needed the money and the United States purchased the land for \$15 million.

Gama, Vasco de – Born in 1469, he was an accomplished explorer and sea captain who sought a route from Portugal to the East, which he found in 1499. He died in India in 1524.

Gettysburg, Battle of – Considered to be the turning point in the Civil War, this battle was fought July 1-3, 1863 in Pennsylvania. A showdown between Major General George Meade (Union) and General Robert E. Lee, that resulted in a Union victory. It was a major blow to Confederate morale.

Glacier – A large body of ice spreading outward on a land surface.

Gold Rush – The Gold Rush was a huge migration west after the discovery of gold at Sutter's Mill in California in 1848. California's population grew from about 14,000 in 1848 to almost 100,000 in 1850.

Grant, Ulysses S. – Born in 1822 in Point Pleasant, Ohio, Grant was the commander of the Union army during the Civil War and was elected President in 1869, and was again elected for a second term in 1873. His first term was absorbed in the reconstruction of the South and his second term was beset by rumors of impropriety in the White House. He died in 1886 of throat cancer.

Greenhow, Rose O’Neal – She was a widowed Washington socialite and Confederate sympathizer who gave information about the Union plans at Bull Run (Manassas) in 1861 to the Confederacy. She was captured and sent to prison, but left America, for England. She was returning in 1864 when she was killed in a shipwreck.

Hale, Sarah Josepha – Feminist and editor of the *Ladies Magazine*. She wrote “Mary Had A Little Lamb” and was an advocate of higher education for women.

Harper’s Ferry – In 1859, John Brown led a party of 21 men in an attack on the Federal armory at Harper's Ferry. Brown encouraged slaves to join his rebellion. Two days after the attack, Robert E. Lee and a company of marines stormed the armory. Brown and six men barricaded themselves in an engine-house and continued to fight until Brown was seriously wounded and two of his sons had been killed.

Harrison, William Henry – Born in Berkeley, VA in February 1773, Harrison was a member of the Whig party and an American soldier who fought in the War of 1812. He was known as “Old Tippecanoe” for his defeat of Tecumseh at Tippecanoe. Harrison became President in 1841 and died one month later on April 4th in Washington DC.

Hawthorne, Nathaniel – American novelist whose novel *The Scarlet Letter* is considered a classic.

Hayes, Rutherford B. – The 19th President of the United States, Hayes, a Democrat, was elected in 1877 and served one term in the office. Born in Delaware, Ohio in 1822, Hayes was a Harvard trained lawyer and was elected governor of Ohio for three terms. His Presidency was marked by partisan politics and resulted in his inability to pass many of the reforms that he sought to put in place. Hayes retired after his Presidency and died in 1893.

Henry, Patrick - Orator and passionate advocate of American independence best known for his speech ending with, "Give me liberty, or give me death!" He was critical of the Stamp Act and introduced seven resolutions against it to the Virginia House of Burgesses. He was the first governor of Virginia and fought for the adoption of the Bill of Rights.

Holy Alliance – 1815 agreement among the emperors of Russia and Austria and the King of Prussia. The alliance was an attempt by the conservative rulers to preserve the social order.

Homestead Act – This Act was passed by the U.S. Congress in 1862. It provided for the transfer of 160 acres of unoccupied public land to each homesteader on payment of a small fee after five years of residence. Land could also be acquired after six months of residence at \$1.25 per acre.

Hudson, Henry – Born in England in 1570, this experienced explorer was hired to find a shorter route from England to the Spice Islands. While looking for a Northwest Passage in North America, Hudson discovered a river and noted it in his logs. This river is now found in New York and is called the Hudson River.

Ice Age – It was a period of history, 34,000 BC to 30,000 BC, when most of the world's water was frozen into very large sheets of ice.

Immigration – The act of migrating to a country of which one is not a native for permanent residence

Indentured servant - In order to get English people to the colonies, some businesses offered legal bonded contracts that would exchange the cost of passage across the Atlantic for up to seven years of labor in America.

Indian Removal Act – A law signed by President Andrew Jackson in 1830 providing for the resettlement of Native Americans to lands west of the Mississippi River. From 1830 to 1840 about 60,000 Native Americans were forced to migrate.

Industrial Revolution – Historic period in the 18th and 19th centuries in which society greatly increased focus on machines, factories, and industry.

Intolerable Acts – The name given by American patriots to five laws adopted by Parliament in 1774 that limited the political and geographical freedom of the colonists.

Irving, Washington – Novelist best known for *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*.

Jackson, Andrew – This Democrat was born in Waxhaw, South Carolina in March of 1767. He was a lawyer and a soldier before becoming President. Jackson's years in office, 1829-1837, marked a couple of firsts for the U.S. Presidency. He was the first President to set up a panel of informal advisors he called a "cabinet." It was during his Presidency that the United States became debt free for the first time. He left office in 1837, just a year after the Battle of the Alamo. "Old Hickory," as he was known, died June 8, 1845 in Nashville, TN.

Jackson, Stonewall – Known as Stonewall for his actions in the face of battle, Thomas Jonathan Jackson was a Confederate general who also served in the Mexican War. He was born in Virginia and was a career military man who graduated from West Point in 1846 at the age of 22. From 1851 to 1861, he taught at the Virginia Military Institute, but

went back into combat at the beginning of the Civil War. In 1863, Jackson was accidentally killed by his own men during the Battle of Chancellorsville.

Jefferson, Thomas – Jefferson was known as the “Man of the People” and was one of the most prominent statesmen of his time. He was born in Albemarle County in Virginia on April 13, 1743. He was a planter and surveyor, as well as, a Republican. He was the drafter of the Declaration of Independence and began his Presidency in 1801. It was during his time in office, 1801-1809, that he purchased the Louisiana territory from Napoleon. At the end of his term in office, Jefferson retired to Monticello, VA, where he died, July 4, 1826.

Johnson, Andrew – Johnson, a Democrat, inherited the Presidency after the death of Abraham Lincoln. He was born on December 29, 1808 in Raleigh, NC. He was a tailor with a passion for public speaking and public service. He took over the Presidency in 1865 and continued, albeit with difficulty, the reconstruction of the South, which was still in turmoil after the Civil War. In 1869 the Senate tried to impeach Johnson, but the resolution failed by one vote. He left office in 1869. He died in Tennessee in July of 1875.

Joint-stock company – A company given the right to develop trade between England and other countries. Investors would pool their capital, in return for shares of stock, to underwrite trading ventures.

Joliet, Louis – Canadian explorer who explored the Canadian wilderness and also discovered the Mississippi River in 1673 at the age of 28. He was mapping the area with Father Jacques Marquette.

Kansas-Nebraska Act - Controversial 1854 legislation that opened Kansas and Nebraska to white settlement, repealed the Compromise of 1820, and led opponents to form the Republican Party. It would have allowed settlers to determine whether the territory would have become free or slave.

Know Nothings - An anti-foreign, anti-Catholic political party that arose following massive Irish and Catholic immigration during the late 1840s.

La Salle, Robert de – He was a French explorer who was sent by King Louis XIV to travel from Canada down the Mississippi River. He was supposed to establish trade routes along the way. He was successful in establishing trade routes, but failed to find a passage from the Mississippi to the Atlantic Ocean. He was born in 1643 and was killed during a mutiny in 1687.

Latitude - Angular distance north or south from the Earth's equator measured through 90 degrees.

Lee, Robert E. – Lee led the Confederate Army toward the end of the Civil War. Born in 1807 in Virginia, his father was Henry Lee, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Lee graduated from West Point Academy in 1829 served in the Mexican War and became the superintendent of West Point. He was a member of the U.S. Army and was torn when the Civil War began. He did not support slavery and had loved

-serving in the army, but when Virginia seceded from the Union, he resigned from the army and joined the Confederate forces. Eventually, Lee commanded the Army of Northern Virginia, worked his way up the ranks and was leader of the Southern forces before he ultimately surrendered to Grant at Appomattox Courthouse, thus ending the Civil War. Lee died in 1870 having spent his last years as the President of Washington College.

Leon, Ponce de – He was the Spanish explorer who discovered Florida. He was searching for the fountain of youth and other valuables. He also discovered the Atlantic current now known as the Gulf Stream and established a settlement in Puerto Rico. He was born in 1460 and died in 1521.

Lincoln, Abraham – The sixteenth President of the United States, Lincoln was known as “Honest Abe”. He was born in Hardin County, KY on February 12, 1809 to poverty-stricken parents Thomas and Nancy Hanks Lincoln, who had given birth to Lincoln’s sister Sarah two years before Lincoln was born. Lincoln’s mother also gave birth to another son who died as a baby. Lincoln’s mother died when he was nine and his father married a widow, Sarah Johnston, who had three children of her own. Lincoln taught himself how to read and eventually became a lawyer. He was elected to the Illinois state legislature in 1834, where he served four terms. In 1842, he married Mary Todd with whom he had four sons, though only one of them reached adulthood. Lincoln then served one term in Congress beginning in 1847. At one time he decided to retire from politics, and returned to practicing law. However, Lincoln could not stay away from politics and became President of the United States in 1861 on the Republican ticket. His years in office were marked with the Civil War. He issued the Emancipation Proclamation abolishing slavery in America and delivered his famous speech now known as the “Gettysburg Address.” He also brought an end to the Civil War. Lincoln was assassinated on April 14, 1865 and died the next day in Washington DC.

Literacy – The ability to read or write.

Longfellow, Henry Wadsworth – American poet known for his poems “Evangeline” and “A Psalm of Life.”

Longitude – The angular distance measured on a great circle of reference from the intersection of the adopted zero meridian with this reference circle to the similar intersection of the meridian passing through the object. In other words, longitude is to precisely locate a position relative to east or west.

Ludington, Sybil – A 16 year old girl who rode 40 miles warning colonists that the British soldiers were coming their way, April 26, 1777.

Louisiana Territory purchase – Land purchased by Thomas Jefferson in 1803 from France for about \$15 million. Jefferson wanted to acquire land west of the Mississippi so that trade routes, especially those in New Orleans, would not be interrupted; France

wanted to sell to avoid having the United States take this area by force. Jefferson went to France there and signed the treaty to acquire the land.

Lyon, Mary – She was the founder of the first college for women, Mt. Holyoke. It became the model for women's higher education.

Madison, James – A Democratic-Republican, Madison was born in Port Conway Virginia on March 16, 1751. He was a lawyer and is now known as the “Father of the Constitution”. He was President from 1809-1817. His Presidency was marked by the War of 1812, which ended with the Treaty of Ghent in 1812. Madison died in Montpelier, VA in June of 1836.

Magellan, Ferdinand – Attempting to reach Southeast Asia and to then sail around the world, this 39-year-old Portuguese explorer set sail in 1519. He discovered a pass through the tip of South America from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. He never completed his circumnavigation of the globe, because he was killed by natives in the Philippines in 1521.

Manifest Destiny – The belief held by many Americans in the 1840s that the United States was destined to expand across the continent, by force, if necessary.

Marbury v. Madison – This landmark 1803 Supreme Court decision, which established the principle of judicial review, marked the first time that the Court declared an act of Congress unconstitutional.

Married Women's Property Act - In 1848, laws were passed giving women the right to own, control and inherit property. It also gave women the right to sue people in a court of law. Before this time, women had very few rights concerning property.

Marquette, Father Jacques – Born in 1637, Marquette was a French Jesuit priest and an explorer intending to convert Native Americans to Christianity. He discovered the Mississippi with Louis Joliet in 1673.

McCulloch v. Maryland – A landmark 1819 Supreme Court decision establishing Congress's power to charter a national bank and declaring unconstitutional a tax imposed by Maryland on the bank's Baltimore branch.

Melville, Herman – American novelist who wrote *Moby Dick*.

Mercantile System – An economic system of the major trading nations during the 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries; it was based on the idea that national wealth and power were best served by increasing exports and collecting precious metals in return.

Meridian - A great circle of the Earth passing through its poles and the zenith of a given place.

Mexican Cession – An area of land given up by Mexico at the end of the Mexican war as part of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. This territory included all of the present-day

states of California, Nevada, and Utah and also parts of Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming.

Mexican War – This war was an armed conflict between the United States and Mexico from 1846–48. The United States' victory allowed the U.S. to acquire vast amounts of territory from Mexico.

Migrant – A person who continually moves from one place to another looking for work.

Minutemen - American soldiers who could be ready to fight "at a minute's notice."

Missouri Compromise – 1820 piece of legislation that regulated the extension of slavery. In 1818 there were 11 slave states and 11 free states, and when Missouri applied to be a slave state, it would have made the number of slave and free states uneven. The Senate tried to reach a compromise and by 1820 another free state had been admitted to the Union. Missouri was then allowed to become a slave state, but only with the understanding that the land in the rest of the Louisiana Purchase would not be slave holding.

Molasses Act - An act passed by the British Parliament in 1733, placing a large tax on all sugar, molasses, and rum imported into the American colonies from non-British islands in the Caribbean. The Molasses Act was ineffective. Colonists simply smuggled the goods to the colonies and Parliament to enforce the act. It was repealed by the Sugar Act.

Monroe Doctrine – In 1823, President James Monroe declared that the United States would not allow European countries to create new colonies in the Western Hemisphere or to expand the boundaries of existing colonies.

Monroe, James - A member of a Democratic-Republican Party, Monroe was a lawyer from Virginia. He was born in April of 1758 in Westmoreland County. His Presidency lasted from 1817 until 1825. In 1819 he helped the United States acquire Florida from Spain. His Presidency also saw the Missouri Compromise of 1820 and he devised the Monroe Doctrine of 1823. He was known as the "Era-of-Good-Feeling President" and died in New York, NY on July 4, 1831

Morrill Land Grant Act - In 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed into law a new piece of legislation introduced by U.S. Representative Justin Smith Morrill. It granted to each state 30,000 acres of public land for each Senator and Representative. Proceeds from the sale of these lands were to be invested in a perpetual endowment fund, which would provide support for colleges of agriculture and mechanical arts in each of the states.

Morrill Tariff Act – Representative Justin Morrill sponsored the Tariff Act of 1860, which introduced high import duties aimed at protecting American industry from overseas competition.

Mott, Lucretia – A Quaker who was a leader in the women's rights movement. She fought against slavery. She was one of the organizers of the first women's rights

convention at Seneca Falls.

Mounds – Burial sites erected by early Native Americans.

Nashville, Battle of – Led by Major General George Thomas, Union soldiers claimed a victory against General John Hood's Confederate army on December 14-15, 1864 in Tennessee.

National Woman Suffrage Association - An organization formed in 1890 to seek a constitutional amendment to grant women the right to vote throughout the nation, an effort eventually leading to the Nineteenth Amendment.

Navigation – During travel, the method of determining position, course, and distance traveled.

Nonimportation Act of 1806 – This act, passed in 1806, forbade the importation of specified British goods in order to force Great Britain to relax its strict rulings on cargoes and sailors.

Northwest passage - During the Age of Exploration, explorers and traders from England, France, and the Netherlands kept seeking an all-water route across North America. They wanted to gain faster access to the Orient for trade; they also wanted to avoid contact with the Spanish empire in Central and South America.

Nullification - The doctrine, devised by John C. Calhoun, that a state has the power to nullify a federal legislation within its borders.

Olive Branch Petition - During the American Revolution, this was a last attempt at a peaceful end to the revolution. On July 5, 1775, Congress drafted the Olive Branch Petition. It outlined their issues and asked the British government to respond, but King George III of England refused to accept the petition. He thought that he would be able to quell the American rebellion without any concessions.

Ordinance of Nullification - A doctrine drafted by supporters of extreme states' rights. It asserted that states could declare null and void any federal law that they deem unconstitutional.

Oregon Territory – After being settled in the early 1800s, the Oregon territory was shared by Britain and America. Since it was primarily settled and explored by the United States, Britain gave up any rights to the land. The area was rich in fur and other valuable goods that could be traded. In 1848, President James Polk signed a bill creating the Oregon Territory.

Pacific Railroad Act – In 1862, Congress passed the Pacific Railroads Act, which set the framework for the construction of a central transcontinental rail route.

Paine, Thomas – A patriot and American soldier who wrote *Common Sense* and *The Crisis*, both of which inspired the American population and furthered the Revolutionary cause.

Peace of Paris - Ben Franklin, John Adams, and John Jay traveled to Paris, France after Cornwallis surrendered at the end of the American Revolution. They went to negotiate a peace treaty between the U.S. and Britain.

Persecution - The act or practice of treating others unfairly, especially those who differ in national origin, race, religion, or social outlook.

Petersburg, Battle of – This 10 month battle took place in Virginia in 1864 and 1865. Union commander Ulysses S. Grant hoped to take Petersburg and move south to the Confederate capital of Richmond, but the Confederate armies led by Robert E. Lee and P.G.T. Beauregard were able to defend their position against the Union armies for quite some time before Grant cut off their supply lines and forced a Confederate retreat.

Pierce, Franklin – “The Young Hickory of the Granite Hills,” was born November 23, 1804 in Hillsborough, NY. This Democrat and former lawyer was President from 1853 through 1857. During his time in office, he saw the passing of the Kansas-Nebraska Act and oversaw the 1853 Gadsden Purchase. Pierce died on October 8, 1869 in Concord, NH.

Pitcher, Molly – Her real name was Mary McCauley. During the Battle of Monmouth, Mary carried water to the soldiers as they fought. When her husband, a soldier, was wounded, she took over and fired his cannon until the end of the battle.

Pizarro, Francisco – A Spanish conquistador who intended to plunder the riches of other civilizations. Born in 1478, Pizarro, like most Spanish conquistadors, was known for his brutality. He discovered the Incan empire, which he subsequently conquered. He founded the city of Lima in South America and was eventually assassinated by another explorer who wanted the town’s riches.

Plantation – An agricultural estate usually worked by resident laborers.

Poe, Edgar Allan – American novelist and poet known for his macabre tales, like the poem “The Raven” and the short story *The Cask of Amontillado*.

Polk, James Knox – A lawyer from Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, Polk was born on November 2, 1795. He was a Democrat who became President in 1845. It was through the Treaty of 1848 that Polk helped the United States acquire California, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, Utah, parts of Colorado, and Wyoming. His term ended in 1849. “Young Hickory,” as he was nicknamed, died in Nashville, TN on June 15, 1849, just a few months after leaving office

Polo, Marco – Born in Venice, Italy in 1254, Polo’s exploration of the Orient is well documented. Polo traveled with his father and uncle and explored China between 1260

and 1275, endearing themselves to the ruler Kublai Khan. He wrote extensively about his travels and died in 1324.

Popular sovereignty – A doctrine under which the status of slavery in the territories was to be determined by the settlers themselves. See Kansas-Nebraska Act.

Predestination – The doctrine that God has already chosen those who are destined for salvation.

Prince Henry the Navigator – Henry was the son of King Joao of Portugal and was born in 1394. He is famous for rounding the tip of southern Africa and finding a route to the East Indies in the 1420s. He was also a Governor of Christ from 1420 until his death in 1460.

Protectionism – The policy of governmentally enforced economic protection for domestic producers through restrictions, such as tariffs, on foreign imports.

Pueblo – A Native American village with flat-roofed stone or adobe houses that can be several stories high and are connected together.

Quartering Act – This 1766 act forced American colonists to pay for British soldiers' needs, such as food, clothing, weapons, and housing.

Quebec Act – Passed in 1774 by the British Parliament, it implemented a permanent administration in Canada, which until then had only a temporary government.

Reconstruction – A term for the time of the rebuilding of the South after the Civil War.

Refugee - A person who flees to a foreign country or power to escape danger or persecution.

Representative assembly – A group, usually elected, representing a larger group of people.

Rose, Ernestine – One of the first vocal advocates for women's rights and the abolishment of slavery. Her voice led the way for others to speak out.

Ross, Betsy – Seamstress credited with sewing the first American stars and stripes flag.

Royal colony – The legal right granted by the King to settle a new colony.

Sacagawea – A Shoshone Native American woman who accompanied Lewis and Clark on their wilderness expedition.

Scalawags – A derogatory term for white Southerners who became Republicans during the Reconstruction; they came from every class and had a variety of motives but were depicted by their opponents as ignorant interlopers.

Secession - Formal withdrawal from an organization.

Seneca Falls Convention – Held in 1848 in New York, this convention is recognized as the beginning of the women’s rights movement in America. Over three hundred women attended and spent two days refining Elizabeth Cady Stanton’s *Declaration of Sentiments*, a document calling for more rights for women.

Serra, Father Junipero – Serra was a Spanish priest who went to Mexico to convert the natives to Christianity. He established missions in Mexico and California. He used the native populations to build his missions though many of them died in the effort. He was born 1713 and died in 1784. He was eventually canonized by the Catholic Church as a saint.

Sequoia – A Cherokee tribe member who invented a written language for the Cherokees.

Seven Days’ Battle – This battle was fought from June 25 until July 1, 1862 around Richmond, Virginia. Robert E. Lee’s Confederate army attacked General McClellan’s numerically superior army. After several engagements, Lee was unable to destroy McClellan’s army but was able to force him to retreat.

Seven Years War – During 1756–63, this worldwide war was fought in Europe, North America, and India with France, Austria, Russia, Saxony, Sweden, and Spain on one side and Prussia, Great Britain, and Hanover on the other.

Shareholder – A person who holds or owns a share in property.

Sherman, William Tecumseh – Born in 1820, Sherman was a Union general during the Civil War. After serving in the Mexican War, he became a banker and a lawyer and served as the head of the Louisiana state military academy. When Louisiana seceded, he joined the U.S. Army, where he distinguished himself and practically reinvented the art of war. He served in the army until 1884, when he retired.

Shiloh – This Civil War battle took place on April 6th and 7th in 1861 in Tennessee. Led by General Ulysses S. Grant, the Union troops were encamped in Shiloh and had been advised that Confederate troops were very far away, so they felt they were under no threat of attack. Albert Johnston and his Confederate soldiers caught them by surprise and forced the retreat of the Union army, but the Union soldiers were given orders to stand their ground, which they did. Hundreds of men died, including Johnston, on April 6th. On April 7th, reinforcements from Don Carlos Buell came to support Grant, and the Confederate army was steadily pushed back and eventually forced to retreat. During the battle, the North lost 13,000 men and the South lost almost 11,000. Despite the Union victory, Grant was subsequently criticized for his handling of the army and many people pressured Lincoln to relieve him of command. Fortunately for the Union, Lincoln did not.

Sitting Bull – A member of the Sioux tribe, he was the chief “medicine man” at the Battle of Little Bighorn, where U.S. General George Custer was defeated.

Sons of Liberty – A secret organization of American colonists formed to protest the Stamp Act. It was disbanded after the Stamp Act was repealed.

Soto, Hernando de – Born in 1500, this Spanish conquistador explored Florida and the southeastern United States. His goal was to plunder the riches of the tribes of North and South America. He helped Pizarro conquer the Incas. He died during an expedition in 1542.

Species – A class of individuals having common attributes and designated by a common name.

Spotsylvania, Battle of – This campaign in Virginia was another stalemate between Ulysses S. Grant (Union) and Robert E. Lee (Confederacy). The battle took place May 8-21, 1864. Some of the most vicious combat of the war took place here. While neither side could declare victory, Grant was able to lead his men farther toward the Confederate capital of Richmond, VA. There were 18,000 Union casualties and 12,000 Confederate casualties. (Casualties represent both dead and wounded soldiers.)

Stamp Act – A revenue law passed in 1765 by the British Parliament. It was the first direct tax to be levied on the American colonies. It required that all newspapers, pamphlets, legal documents, commercial bills, advertisements, and other papers issued in the colonies have a stamp. This was the first of many taxes levied on the colonies by the British Empire.

Stanton, Elizabeth Cady – She fought for women’s rights, particularly the right to vote. She was one of the primary planners of the earliest women’s rights conventions at Seneca Falls. She had the ability to pull women together for a common cause.

Stone, Lucy – Spent her life fighting for women’s right to vote and the slaves’ right to freedom. She founded *The Women’s Journal*, an archive of women’s history.

Stowe, Harriet Beecher – She was an African-American author who wrote *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* and was an opponent of slavery. She was the first female writer to earn a living solely by writing.

Subsistence farming – Farming not to make a profit, but to raise crops and livestock upon which a family or individual could live.

Sugar Act – Passed by the English Parliament in 1764, this act increased taxes on imported sugar and other items such as textiles, coffee, wines and indigo dye. It also doubled the tax on foreign goods reshipped from England to the colonies.

Suffrage – The right to vote.

Taylor, Zachary – Taylor was born on November 24, 1784 in Orange County, VA. He was a soldier and served in the War of 1812. He was known as “Old Rough and Ready” and was elected to the Presidency in 1849 as a member of the Whig Party. Only a year after becoming President, Taylor became ill with cholera and died in Washington DC in July of 1850.

Tecumseh – A Shawnee leader of the Eastern American “Indians.” He worked to unite all of the tribes into an alliance against the Europeans. He fought on the side of the British against Americans in the War of 1812. He was eventually killed at the Battle of Thames.

Temperance movement – This movement was an organized effort to encourage moderation in the consumption of liquors and/or a call for complete abstinence.

Tenure of Office Act - Passed in 1867 by both houses, but vetoed by the President. It was then re-passed in Congress by the necessary two-thirds margin and became law. It said that any official appointed with the advice and consent of the Senate would require similar consent for dismissal. Presidential cabinet members were to hold their position for a full term unless removed by the Senate.

Texas Territory – The United States acquired this territory in 1845, but Mexico believed that Texas belonged to them and sent troops in. Mexico lost the ensuing war and relinquished their claim to Texas to the United States.

Thoreau, Henry David – American essayist best known for his work, *Walden*.

Tilden, Samuel – Born in 1814, Tilden was the Democratic Presidential nominee in 1876. His opponent was the Republican Rutherford B. Hayes. The results from the election were initially confusing. Tilden received the majority of the popular vote, but there were conflicting reports from the electoral colleges from several states. So, Congress set up a commission to decide the winner of the election. There were eight Republicans and seven Democrats on the commission. Tilden lost the election, because the vote was split along party lines. He went on to help establish the New York Public Library.

Tolerant – Accepting of differences in people and things.

Tompkins, Sally Louise – Tompkins ran a hospital that took care of wounded Confederate soldiers in Virginia during the Civil War. Her hospital had the highest survival rate of any in the Confederacy. When Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederacy, issued a proclamation that all hospitals treating wounded soldiers had to be run by military officers, he made Tompkins a Captain of Cavalry. She was the only woman to ever hold a commission in the Confederate army.

Tories – During the American Revolution, the Tories were colonists who maintained allegiance to Britain. They were also called “Loyalists,” because they were not rebelling against, but supporting, British authority in America.

Townshend Act - Originated by Charles Townshend and passed by the English Parliament in 1767 shortly after the repeal of the Stamp Act. It was designed to collect revenue from the colonists in America by taxing imports of glass, lead, paints, paper, and tea.

Trail of Tears –In 1838, about 7,000 American troops forced hundreds of Cherokee to leave their homes in Georgia and move to an Indian reservation in Oklahoma. The journey was hard, and many Cherokee suffered or even died. Many shed tears during this forced and harsh journey, which came to be named the "Trail of Tears."

Treaty of Alliance – A 1778 alliance between France and the United States that resulted partially because of the success of American forces in the Battle of Saratoga. France and the United States agreed to aid each other in the event of a British attack.

Treaty of Amity and Commerce - This treaty with Sweden was signed in 1783, by Benjamin Franklin and by Baron Gustaf Philip Creutz. It was basically a treaty of peace and friendship between the United States and Sweden.

Treaty of Guadalupe-Hildago - The peace treaty ending the Mexican War gave the United States California, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and parts of Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, and Wyoming in exchange for \$15 million and assumption of \$3.25 million in debts owed to Americans by Mexico.

Treaty Of Paris - Treaty that officially ended the Revolutionary War on September 3, 1783. Under the treaty, Britain recognized the independence of the United States of America. Britain agreed to remove all of its troops from the United States and it set new borders for the United States, including all land from the Great Lakes on the north to Florida on the south, and from the Atlantic Ocean to the Mississippi River. On the other hand, the United States agreed to let British troops still in America to leave and to pay all existing debts owed to Great Britain. The United States also agreed not to persecute loyalists still in America and allow those who left America to return.

Triangular Trade - Triangular Trade was a route set up to receive slaves. Three of its routes formed a triangle. The first route carried fish, lumber, and other goods from New England to the West Indies. In the West Indies, the traders picked up sugar and molasses, a dark brown syrup product made from sugar cane. From the West Indies, merchants carried the molasses-made rum, along with guns, gunpowder, and tools to West Africa. This is where they traded these items for slaves, who were then carried to the West Indies, to be sold.

Truth, Sojourner – A former slave who became a traveling preacher, Truth was an abolitionist and an advocate of women’s rights. She was an enigmatic speaker and was very respected.

Tundra – Treeless land that is usually found in arctic and sub arctic regions.

Tyler, John – Tyler, a Whig and lawyer, was born in Greenway, VA on March 29, 1790. He became President in 1841. His Presidency ended in 1845, the same year that Texas was annexed. He was termed the “Accidental President.” He died January 18, 1862 in Richmond, VA

Uncle Tom’s Cabin – Popular story written in 1852 by African-American Harriet Beecher Stowe against slavery.

Underground railroad – A series of “safe houses” that runaway slaves followed while escaping from the slave-holding South to the free North.

Union – Name given to the North and the Northern soldiers during the Civil War.

Valley Forge - Pennsylvania encampment occupied by the American army from December 1777 to June 1778. The winter was particularly harsh, and the army was short on food, clothing, and supplies. However, with the leadership of Commander George Washington and Baron von Steuben, the soldiers survived and this difficult experience made them hardier soldiers.

Van Buren, Martin – This “Little Magician” was born in Kinderhook, NJ in December of 1782. He was a Democrat and a lawyer who was elected 1837. His Presidency was marked by continued conflicts with the Native Americans; particularly, the “Trail of Tears” in 1838. Van Buren’s term ran from 1837 through 1841. He died on December 5, 1862.

Verrazano, Giovanni da – While looking for a Northwest Passage to Asia, Verrazano explored from the coast between North Carolina and Maine. He was an Italian explorer born in 1485 and was killed by Carib in Indians in 1528.

Vespucci, Amerigo – Vespucci was an Italian explorer born in 1454. He was the first explorer to realize that the Americas were a separate continent from Asia. Like many other explorers, he searched for a shorter route from Europe to Asia. America is named after this explorer.

Vicksburg, Battle of – A Mississippi battle that took place between May 18 and July 4 of 1863, which was led by Ulysses S. Grant (Union) and John Pemberton (Confederacy). The Confederate Army tried to protect the city against the Union army, but the Union army was too strong and took the city. This was an important victory for the Union because it split the Confederacy in half.

Warren, Mercy Otis – Writer and personal friend of most of the leaders of the Revolutionary War. Her book *History of the American Revolution* is valuable because of her first-hand familiarity of many of the key personalities of the war.

Washington, George – The first President of the United States, Washington was born in Westmoreland County, VA on February 22, 1732. He was a farmer before he became a soldier in the American Revolution, where he became commander of the Continental Army in 1775. He became President in 1789. During his tenure, the Judiciary Act was passed, which specified the number of federal courts and judges. The national banking system was also established in 1791, the same year that the Bill of Rights took effect. In 1797, Washington's second term ended and he retired to Mount Vernon, VA, where he died December 14, 1799. He was considered the "Father of Our Country."

Washington, Martha – The wife of American general and president George Washington, she managed his estate in his absence. She often visited him at camp during the American Revolution and helped keep soldier morale up.

Wheatley, Phillis – The first African-American poet.

Whigs – Member of a political party formed during the eighteenth century in England. The Whig Party was an organization of political leaders that opposed political interference from the British monarchy and royally appointed officials in governmental affairs. They viewed themselves as defenders of liberty, which is one reason why many American leaders called themselves Whigs.

Whitman, Walt – American poet known for his book *Leaves of Grass*.

Wilderness, Battle of – This battle took place in Virginia on May 5-7, 1864. It was a showdown between Ulysses S. Grant's Union army and a Confederate army led by George Meade and Robert E. Lee. This was not a decisive victory for either side, but the Union forces were not repulsed and continued on to Spotsylvania.

Willard, Emma – The first woman to publicly support higher education for women. She established a boarding school for girls where she encouraged hundreds of young women to go to college.

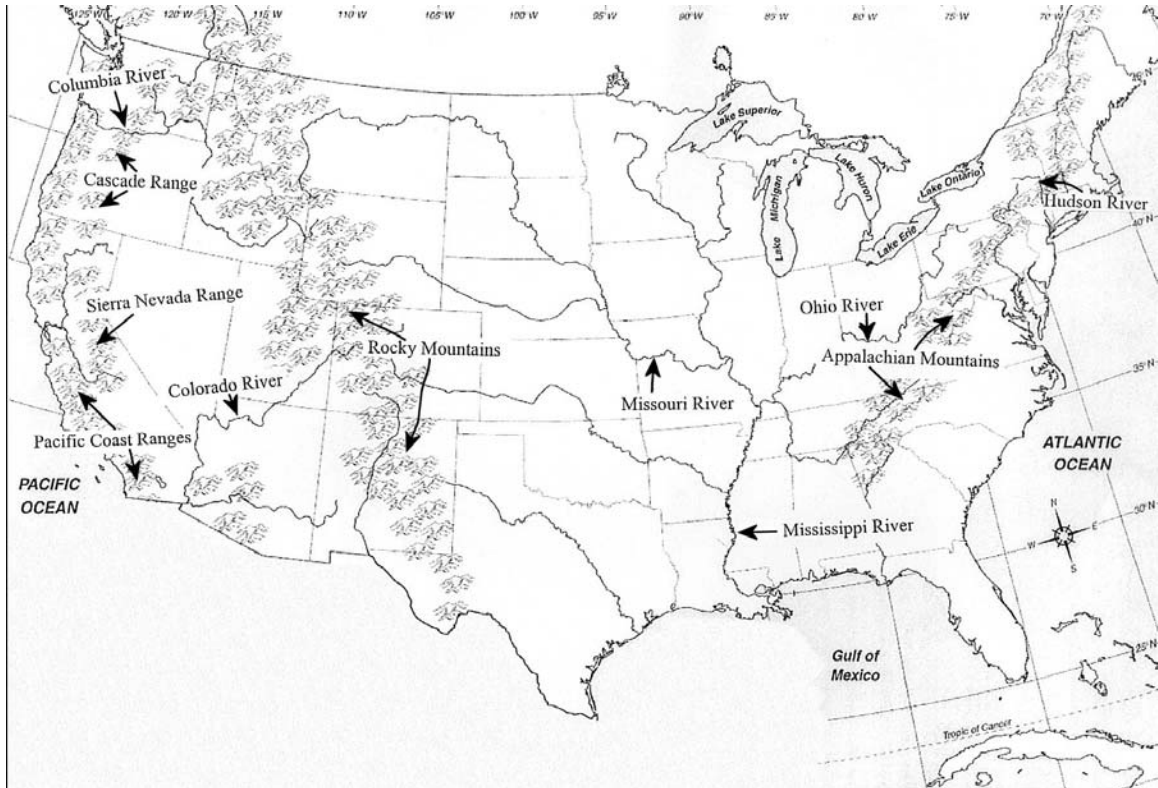
Wright, Frances – Author and founder of the newspaper the *Free Inquirer*, she advocated the end to slavery, equality in education, and women's rights.

Writ of Habeas corpus – Meaning "to free the body," it is a mandate for inquiring into the lawfulness of the restraint of a person imprisoned or detained in another's custody.

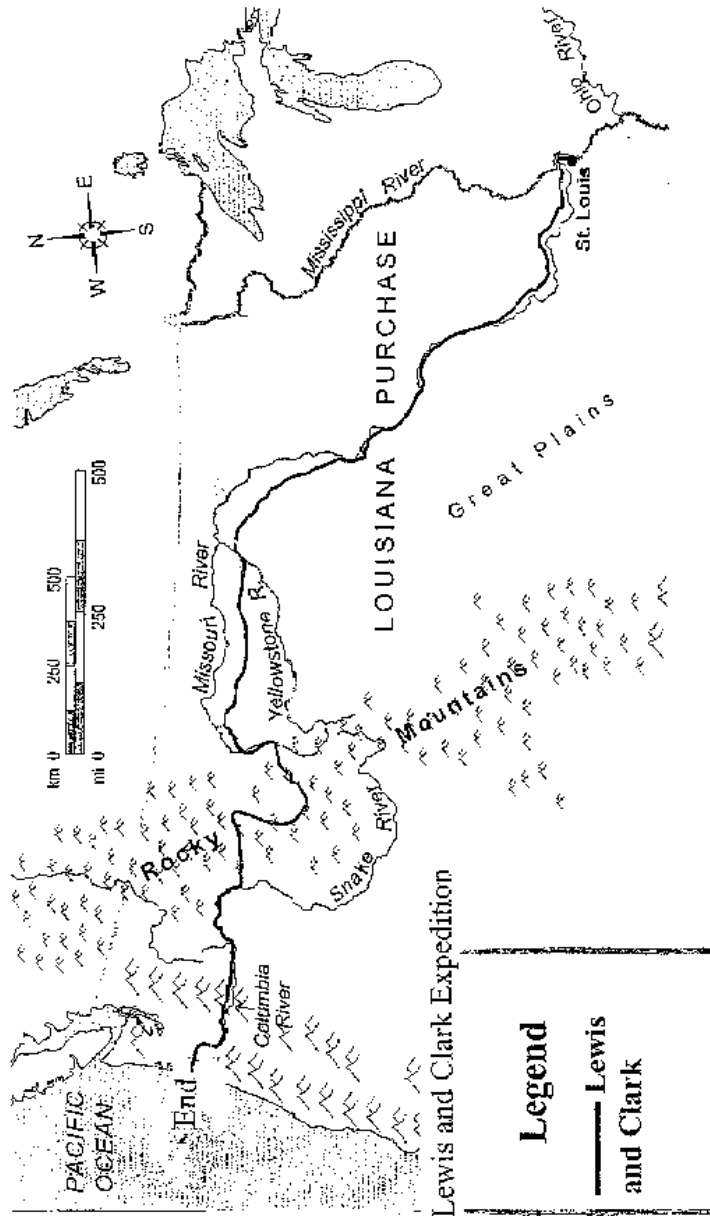
Writs of assistance - Blanket search warrants used by English customs collectors in the colonies to try to catch suspected smugglers. These writs did not require any form of prior evidence to justify searches, which the colonies viewed as yet another imperial violation of fundamental (English) liberties.

XYZ Affair –A negative diplomatic incident in 1797 and 1798 between France and America. In 1778, the United States had entered into an alliance with France, but after the outbreak of the French Revolutionary Wars, it was both unable and unwilling to lend the aid that the French expected.

Maps



Map 2



Map of Lewis and Clark Expedition

13 Colonies



The Declaration of Independence

IN CONGRESS, July 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America,

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, -- That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security.--Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.

He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose

obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.

He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary powers.

He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harrass our people, and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our legislatures.

He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended

Legislation:

For Quartering large bodies of armed troops among us:

For protecting them, by a mock Trial, from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:

For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world:

For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent:

For depriving us in many cases, of the benefits of Trial by Jury:

For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences

For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies:

For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments:

For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is at this time transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to compleat the works of death, desolation and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty & perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions.

In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince

whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have We been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.

The 56 signatures on the Declaration appear in the positions indicated:

Column 1

Georgia:

Button Gwinnett
Lyman Hall
George Walton

Column 2

North Carolina:

William Hooper
Joseph Hewes
John Penn

South Carolina:

Edward Rutledge
Thomas Heyward, Jr.
Thomas Lynch, Jr.
Arthur Middleton

Column 3

Massachusetts:

John Hancock

Maryland:

Samuel Chase

William Paca

Thomas Stone

Charles Carroll of Carrollton

Virginia:

George Wythe

Richard Henry Lee

Thomas Jefferson

Benjamin Harrison

Thomas Nelson, Jr.

Francis Lightfoot Lee

Carter Braxton

Column 4**Pennsylvania:**

Robert Morris

Benjamin Rush

Benjamin Franklin

John Morton

George Clymer

James Smith

George Taylor

James Wilson

George Ross

Delaware:

Caesar Rodney

George Read

Thomas McKean

Column 5**New York:**

William Floyd

Philip Livingston

Francis Lewis

Lewis Morris

New Jersey:

Richard Stockton

John Witherspoon

Francis Hopkinson

John Hart

Abraham Clark

Column 6**New Hampshire:**

Josiah Bartlett

William Whipple

Massachusetts:

Samuel Adams
John Adams
Robert Treat Paine
Elbridge Gerry

Rhode Island:

Stephen Hopkins
William Ellery

Connecticut:

Roger Sherman
Samuel Huntington
William Williams
Oliver Wolcott

New Hampshire:

Matthew Thornton

Bill of Rights

We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

*Article I***Section 1.**

All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Section 2.

The House of Representatives shall be composed of members chosen every second year by the people of the several states, and the electors in each state shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the state legislature.

No person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained to the age of twenty five years, and been seven years a citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that state in which he shall be chosen.

Representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several states which may be included within this union, according to their respective numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole number of free persons, including those bound to service for a term of years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other Persons. The actual Enumeration shall be made within three years after the first meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent term of ten years, in such manner as they shall by law direct. The number of Representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty thousand, but each state shall have at least one Representative; and until such enumeration shall be made, the state of New Hampshire shall be entitled to chuse three, Massachusetts eight, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations one,

Connecticut five, New York six, New Jersey four, Pennsylvania eight, Delaware one, Maryland six, Virginia ten, North Carolina five, South Carolina five, and Georgia three.

When vacancies happen in the Representation from any state, the executive authority thereof shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies.

The House of Representatives shall choose their speaker and other officers; and shall have the sole power of impeachment.

Section 3.

The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each state, chosen by the legislature thereof, for six years; and each Senator shall have one vote.

Immediately after they shall be assembled in consequence of the first election, they shall be divided as equally as may be into three classes. The seats of the Senators of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the second year, of the second class at the expiration of the fourth year, and the third class at the expiration of the sixth year, so that one third may be chosen every second year; and if vacancies happen by resignation, or otherwise, during the recess of the legislature of any state, the executive thereof may make temporary appointments until the next meeting of the legislature, which shall then fill such vacancies.

No person shall be a Senator who shall not have attained to the age of thirty years, and been nine years a citizen of the United States and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that state for which he shall be chosen.

The Vice President of the United States shall be President of the Senate, but shall have no vote, unless they be equally divided.

The Senate shall choose their other officers, and also a President pro tempore, in the absence of the Vice President, or when he shall exercise the office of President of the United States.

The Senate shall have the sole power to try all impeachments. When sitting for that purpose, they shall be on oath or affirmation. When the President of the United States is tried, the Chief Justice shall preside: And no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two thirds of the members present.

Judgment in cases of impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust or profit under the United States: but the party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to indictment, trial, judgment and punishment, according to law.

Section 4.

The times, places and manner of holding elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each state by the legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time by law make or alter such regulations, except as to the places of choosing Senators.

The Congress shall assemble at least once in every year, and such meeting shall be on the first Monday in December, unless they shall by law appoint a different day.

Section 5.

Each House shall be the judge of the elections, returns and qualifications of its own members, and a majority of each shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner, and under such penalties as each House may provide.

Each House may determine the rules of its proceedings, punish its members for disorderly behavior, and, with the concurrence of two thirds, expel a member.

Each House shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and from time to time publish the same, excepting such parts as may in their judgment require secrecy; and the yeas and nays of the members of either House on any question shall, at the desire of one fifth of those present, be entered on the journal.

Neither House, during the session of Congress, shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which the two Houses shall be sitting.

Section 6.

The Senators and Representatives shall receive a compensation for their services, to be ascertained by law, and paid out of the treasury of the United States. They shall in all cases, except treason, felony and breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at the session of their respective Houses, and in going to and returning from the same; and for any speech or debate in either House, they shall not be questioned in any other place.

No Senator or Representative shall, during the time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil office under the authority of the United States, which shall have been created, or the emoluments whereof shall have been increased during such time: and no person holding any office under the United States, shall be a member of either House during his continuance in office.

Section 7.

All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with amendments as on other Bills.

Every bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall, before it become a law, be presented to the President of the United States; if he approve he shall sign it, but if not he shall return it, with his objections to that House in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the objections at large on their journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If after such reconsideration two thirds of that House shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, together with the objections, to the other House, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if approved by two thirds of that House, it shall become a law. But in all such cases the votes of both Houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the persons voting for and against the bill shall be entered on the journal of each House respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the President within ten days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law, in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the Congress by their adjournment prevent its return, in which case it shall not be a law.

Every order, resolution, or vote to which the concurrence of the Senate and House of Representatives may be necessary (except on a question of adjournment) shall be presented to the President of the United States; and before the same shall take effect, shall be approved by him, or being disapproved by him, shall be repassed by two thirds of the Senate and House of Representatives, according to the rules and limitations prescribed in the case of a bill.

Section 8.

The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

To borrow money on the credit of the United States;

To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes;

To establish a uniform rule of naturalization, and uniform laws on the subject of bankruptcies throughout the United States;

To coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin, and fix the standard of weights and measures;

To provide for the punishment of counterfeiting the securities and current coin of the United States;

To establish post offices and post roads;

To promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries;

To constitute tribunals inferior to the Supreme Court;

To define and punish piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations;

To declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures on land and water;

To raise and support armies, but no appropriation of money to that use shall be for a longer term than two years;

To provide and maintain a navy;

To make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces;

To provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the union, suppress insurrections and repel invasions;

To provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining, the militia, and for governing such part of them as may be employed in the service of the United States, reserving to the

states respectively, the appointment of the officers, and the authority of training the militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress;

To exercise exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten miles square) as may, by cession of particular states, and the acceptance of Congress, become the seat of the government of the United States, and to exercise like authority over all places purchased by the consent of the legislature of the state in which the same shall be, for the erection of forts, magazines, arsenals, dockyards, and other needful buildings;--And

To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

Section 9.

The migration or importation of such persons as any of the states now existing shall think proper to admit, shall not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight, but a tax or duty may be imposed on such importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each person.

The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in cases of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it.

No bill of attainder or ex post facto Law shall be passed.

No capitation, or other direct, tax shall be laid, unless in proportion to the census or enumeration herein before directed to be taken.

No tax or duty shall be laid on articles exported from any state.

No preference shall be given by any regulation of commerce or revenue to the ports of one state over those of another: nor shall vessels bound to, or from, one state, be obliged to enter, clear or pay duties in another.

No money shall be drawn from the treasury, but in consequence of appropriations made by law; and a regular statement and account of receipts and expenditures of all public money shall be published from time to time.

No title of nobility shall be granted by the United States: and no person holding any office of profit or trust under them, shall, without the consent of the Congress, accept of any present, emolument, office, or title, of any kind whatever, from any king, prince, or foreign state.

Section 10.

No state shall enter into any treaty, alliance, or confederation; grant letters of marque and reprisal; coin money; emit bills of credit; make anything but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts; pass any bill of attainder, ex post facto law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts, or grant any title of nobility.

No state shall, without the consent of the Congress, lay any imposts or duties on imports or exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for executing it's inspection laws:

and the net produce of all duties and imposts, laid by any state on imports or exports, shall be for the use of the treasury of the United States; and all such laws shall be subject to the revision and control of the Congress.

No state shall, without the consent of Congress, lay any duty of tonnage, keep troops, or ships of war in time of peace, enter into any agreement or compact with another state, or with a foreign power, or engage in war, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent danger as will not admit of delay.

Article II

Section 1.

The executive power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America. He shall hold his office during the term of four years, and, together with the Vice President, chosen for the same term, be elected, as follows:

Each state shall appoint, in such manner as the Legislature thereof may direct, a number of electors, equal to the whole number of Senators and Representatives to which the State may be entitled in the Congress: but no Senator or Representative, or person holding an office of trust or profit under the United States, shall be appointed an elector.

The electors shall meet in their respective states, and vote by ballot for two persons, of whom one at least shall not be an inhabitant of the same state with themselves. And they shall make a list of all the persons voted for, and of the number of votes for each; which list they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the seat of the government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate. The President of the Senate shall, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the certificates, and the votes shall then be counted. The person having the greatest number of votes shall be the President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed; and if there be more than one who have such majority, and have an equal number of votes, then the House of Representatives shall immediately choose by ballot one of them for President; and if no person have a majority, then from the five highest on the list the said House shall in like manner choose the President. But in choosing the President, the votes shall be taken by States, the representation from each state having one vote; A quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two thirds of the states, and a majority of all the states shall be necessary to a choice. In every case, after the choice of the President, the person having the greatest number of votes of the electors shall be the Vice President. But if there should remain two or more who have equal votes, the Senate shall choose from them by ballot the Vice President.

The Congress may determine the time of choosing the electors, and the day on which they shall give their votes; which day shall be the same throughout the United States.

No person except a natural born citizen, or a citizen of the United States, at the time of the adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the office of President; neither shall any person be eligible to that office who shall not have attained to the age of thirty five years, and been fourteen Years a resident within the United States.

In case of the removal of the President from office, or of his death, resignation, or inability to discharge the powers and duties of the said office, the same shall devolve on

the Vice President, and the Congress may by law provide for the case of removal, death, resignation or inability, both of the President and Vice President, declaring what officer shall then act as President, and such officer shall act accordingly, until the disability be removed, or a President shall be elected.

The President shall, at stated times, receive for his services, a compensation, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the period for which he shall have been elected, and he shall not receive within that period any other emolument from the United States, or any of them.

Before he enter on the execution of his office, he shall take the following oath or affirmation:--"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

Section 2.

The President shall be commander in chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, and of the militia of the several states, when called into the actual service of the United States; he may require the opinion, in writing, of the principal officer in each of the executive departments, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices, and he shall have power to grant reprieves and pardons for offenses against the United States, except in cases of impeachment.

He shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to make treaties, provided two thirds of the Senators present concur; and he shall nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, judges of the Supreme Court, and all other officers of the United States, whose appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by law: but the Congress may by law vest the appointment of such inferior officers, as they think proper, in the President alone, in the courts of law, or in the heads of departments.

The President shall have power to fill up all vacancies that may happen during the recess of the Senate, by granting commissions which shall expire at the end of their next session.

Section 3.

He shall from time to time give to the Congress information of the state of the union, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient; he may, on extraordinary occasions, convene both Houses, or either of them, and in case of disagreement between them, with respect to the time of adjournment, he may adjourn them to such time as he shall think proper; he shall receive ambassadors and other public ministers; he shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and shall commission all the officers of the United States.

Section 4.

The President, Vice President and all civil officers of the United States, shall be removed from office on impeachment for, and conviction of, treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors.

Article III

Section 1.

The judicial power of the United States, shall be vested in one Supreme Court, and in such inferior courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish. The judges, both of the supreme and inferior courts, shall hold their offices during good behaviour, and shall, at stated times, receive for their services, a compensation, which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office.

Section 2.

The judicial power shall extend to all cases, in law and equity, arising under this Constitution, the laws of the United States, and treaties made, or which shall be made, under their authority;--to all cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls;--to all cases of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction;--to controversies to which the United States shall be a party;--to controversies between two or more states;--between a state and citizens of another state;-- between citizens of different states;--between citizens of the same state claiming lands under grants of different states, and between a state, or the citizens thereof, and foreign states, citizens or subjects.

In all cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, and those in which a state shall be party, the Supreme Court shall have original jurisdiction. In all the other cases before mentioned, the Supreme Court shall have appellate jurisdiction, both as to law and fact, with such exceptions, and under such regulations as the Congress shall make.

The trial of all crimes, except in cases of impeachment, shall be by jury; and such trial shall be held in the state where the said crimes shall have been committed; but when not committed within any state, the trial shall be at such place or places as the Congress may by law have directed.

Section 3.

Treason against the United States, shall consist only in levying war against them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or on confession in open court.

The Congress shall have power to declare the punishment of treason, but no attainder of treason shall work corruption of blood, or forfeiture except during the life of the person attainted.

Article IV

Section 1.

Full faith and credit shall be given in each state to the public acts, records, and judicial proceedings of every other state. And the Congress may by general laws prescribe the manner in which such acts, records, and proceedings shall be proved, and the effect thereof.

Section 2.

The citizens of each state shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of citizens in the several states.

A person charged in any state with treason, felony, or other crime, who shall flee from justice, and be found in another state, shall on demand of the executive authority of the

state from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the state having jurisdiction of the crime.

No person held to service or labor in one state, under the laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labor, but shall be delivered up on claim of the party to whom such service or labor may be due.

Section 3.

New states may be admitted by the Congress into this union; but no new states shall be formed or erected within the jurisdiction of any other state; nor any state be formed by the junction of two or more states, or parts of states, without the consent of the legislatures of the states concerned as well as of the Congress.

The Congress shall have power to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to prejudice any claims of the United States, or of any particular state.

Section 4.

The United States shall guarantee to every state in this union a Republican form of government, and shall protect each of them against invasion; and on application of the legislature, or of the executive (when the legislature cannot be convened) against domestic violence.

Article V

The Congress, whenever two thirds of both houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to this Constitution, or, on the application of the legislatures of two thirds of the several states, shall call a convention for proposing amendments, which, in either case, shall be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of this Constitution, when ratified by the legislatures of three fourths of the several states, or by conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by the Congress; provided that no amendment which may be made prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any manner affect the first and fourth clauses in the ninth section of the first article; and that no state, without its consent, shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate.

Article VI

All debts contracted and engagements entered into, before the adoption of this Constitution, shall be as valid against the United States under this Constitution, as under the Confederation.

This Constitution, and the laws of the United States which shall be made in pursuance thereof; and all treaties made, or which shall be made, under the authority of the United States, shall be the supreme law of the land; and the judges in every state shall be bound thereby, anything in the Constitution or laws of any State to the contrary notwithstanding.

The Senators and Representatives before mentioned, and the members of the several state legislatures, and all executive and judicial officers, both of the United States and of the several states, shall be bound by oath or affirmation, to support this Constitution; but no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States.

Article VII

The ratification of the conventions of nine states, shall be sufficient for the establishment of this Constitution between the states so ratifying the same.

Done in convention by the unanimous consent of the states present the seventeenth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty seven and of the independence of the United States of America the twelfth. In witness whereof We have hereunto subscribed our Names,

G. Washington - Presidt. and deputy from Virginia

New

Hampshire: **John Langdon, Nicholas Gilman**

Massachusetts: **Nathaniel Gorham, Rufus King**

Connecticut: **Wm. Saml. Johnson, Roger Sherman**

New York: **Alexander Hamilton**

New Jersey: **Wil. Livingston, David Brearly, Wm. Paterson, Jona. Dayton**

Pennsylvania: **B. Franklin, Thomas Mifflin, Robt. Morris, Geo. Clymer, Thos. FitzSimons, Jared Ingersoll, James Wilson, Gouv Morris**

Delaware: **Geo. Read, Gunning Bedford jr, John Dickinson, Richard Bassett, Jaco. Broom**

Maryland: **James McHenry, Dan of St Thos. Jenifer, Danl Carroll**

Virginia: **John Blair, James Madison Jr.**

North Carolina: **Wm. Blount, Richd. Dobbs Spaight, Hu Williamson**

South Carolina: **J. Rutledge, Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, Charles Pinckney, Pierce Butler**

Georgia: **William Few, Abr Baldwin**

Bill of Rights

Amendments to the Constitution of the United States

Amendment I (1791)

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

Amendment II (1791)

A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

Amendment III (1791)

No soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

Amendment IV (1791)

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Amendment V (1791)

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service in time of war or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

Amendment VI (1791)

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the state and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.

Amendment VII (1791)

In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise reexamined in any court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

Amendment VIII (1791)

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

Amendment IX (1791)

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

Amendment X (1791)

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people.

Amendment XI (1798)

The judicial power of the United States shall not be construed to extend to any suit in law or equity, commenced or prosecuted against one of the United States by citizens of another state, or by citizens or subjects of any foreign state.

Amendment XII (1804)

The electors shall meet in their respective states and vote by ballot for President and Vice-President, one of whom, at least, shall not be an inhabitant of the same state with themselves; they shall name in their ballots the person voted for as President, and in distinct ballots the person voted for as Vice-President, and they shall make distinct lists of all persons voted for as President, and of all persons voted for as Vice-President, and of the number of votes for each, which lists they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the seat of the government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate;--The President of the Senate shall, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the certificates and the votes shall then be counted;--the person having the greatest number of votes for President, shall be the President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed; and if no person have such majority, then from the persons having the highest numbers not exceeding three on the

list of those voted for as President, the House of Representatives shall choose immediately, by ballot, the President. But in choosing the President, the votes shall be taken by states, the representation from each state having one vote; a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two-thirds of the states, and a majority of all the states shall be necessary to a choice. And if the House of Representatives shall not choose a President whenever the right of choice shall devolve upon them, before the fourth day of March next following, then the Vice-President shall act as President, as in the case of the death or other constitutional disability of the President. The person having the greatest number of votes as Vice-President, shall be the Vice-President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed, and if no person have a majority, then from the two highest numbers on the list, the Senate shall choose the Vice-President; a quorum for the purpose shall consist of two-thirds of the whole number of Senators, and a majority of the whole number shall be necessary to a choice. But no person constitutionally ineligible to the office of President shall be eligible to that of Vice-President of the United States.

Amendment XIII (1865)

Section 1.

Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

Section 2.

Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Amendment XIV (1868)

Section 1.

All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the state wherein they reside. No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

Section 2.

Representatives shall be apportioned among the several states according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each state, excluding Indians not taxed. But when the right to vote at any election for the choice of electors for President and Vice President of the United States, Representatives in Congress, the executive and judicial officers of a state, or the members of the legislature thereof, is denied to any of the male inhabitants of such state, being twenty-one years of age, and citizens of the United States, or in any way abridged, except for participation in rebellion, or other crime, the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens twenty-one years of age in such state.

Section 3.

No person shall be a Senator or Representative in Congress, or elector of President and Vice President, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any state, who, having previously taken an oath, as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any state legislature, or as an executive or judicial

officer of any state, to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress may by a vote of two-thirds of each House, remove such disability.

Section 4.

The validity of the public debt of the United States, authorized by law, including debts incurred for payment of pensions and bounties for services in suppressing insurrection or rebellion, shall not be questioned. But neither the United States nor any state shall assume or pay any debt or obligation incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or any claim for the loss or emancipation of any slave; but all such debts, obligations and claims shall be held illegal and void.

Section 5.

The Congress shall have power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

Amendment XV (1870)

Section 1.

The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

Section 2.

The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Amendment XVI (1913)

The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several states, and without regard to any census of enumeration.

Amendment XVII (1913)

The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each state, elected by the people thereof, for six years; and each Senator shall have one vote. The electors in each state shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the state legislatures.

When vacancies happen in the representation of any state in the Senate, the executive authority of such state shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies: Provided, that the legislature of any state may empower the executive thereof to make temporary appointments until the people fill the vacancies by election as the legislature may direct.

This amendment shall not be so construed as to affect the election or term of any Senator chosen before it becomes valid as part of the Constitution.

Amendment XVIII (1919)

Section 1.

After one year from the ratification of this article the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors within, the importation thereof into, or the exportation thereof from the United States and all territory subject to the jurisdiction thereof for beverage purposes is hereby prohibited.

Section 2.

The Congress and the several states shall have concurrent power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Section 3.

This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of the several states, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the states by the Congress.

Amendment XIX (1920)

The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.

Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Amendment XX (1933)

Section 1.

The terms of the President and Vice President shall end at noon on the 20th day of January, and the terms of Senators and Representatives at noon on the 3d day of January, of the years in which such terms would have ended if this article had not been ratified; and the terms of their successors shall then begin.

Section 2.

The Congress shall assemble at least once in every year, and such meeting shall begin at noon on the 3d day of January, unless they shall by law appoint a different day.

Section 3.

If, at the time fixed for the beginning of the term of the President, the President elect shall have died, the Vice President elect shall become President. If a President shall not have been chosen before the time fixed for the beginning of his term, or if the President elect shall have failed to qualify, then the Vice President elect shall act as President until a President shall have qualified; and the Congress may by law provide for the case wherein neither a President elect nor a Vice President elect shall have qualified, declaring who shall then act as President, or the manner in which one who is to act shall be selected, and such person shall act accordingly until a President or Vice President shall have qualified.

Section 4.

The Congress may by law provide for the case of the death of any of the persons from whom the House of Representatives may choose a President whenever the right of choice shall have devolved upon them, and for the case of the death of any of the persons from whom the Senate may choose a Vice President whenever the right of choice shall have devolved upon them.

Section 5.

Sections 1 and 2 shall take effect on the 15th day of October following the ratification of this article.

Section 6.

This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states within seven years from the date of its submission.

Amendment XXI (1933)

Section 1.

The eighteenth article of amendment to the Constitution of the United States is hereby repealed.

Section 2.

The transportation or importation into any state, territory, or possession of the United States for delivery or use therein of intoxicating liquors, in violation of the laws thereof, is hereby prohibited.

Section 3.

This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by conventions in the several states, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the states by the Congress.

Amendment XXII (1951)

Section 1.

No person shall be elected to the office of the President more than twice, and no person who has held the office of President, or acted as President, for more than two years of a term to which some other person was elected President shall be elected to the office of the President more than once. But this article shall not apply to any person holding the office of President when this article was proposed by the Congress, and shall not prevent any person who may be holding the office of President, or acting as President, during the term within which this article becomes operative from holding the office of President or acting as President during the remainder of such term.

Section 2.

This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states within seven years from the date of its submission to the states by the Congress.

Amendment XXIII (1961)

Section 1.

The District constituting the seat of government of the United States shall appoint in such manner as the Congress may direct:

A number of electors of President and Vice President equal to the whole number of Senators and Representatives in Congress to which the District would be entitled if it were a state, but in no event more than the least populous state; they shall be in addition to those appointed by the states, but they shall be considered, for the purposes of the election of President and Vice President, to be electors appointed by a state; and they shall meet in the District and perform such duties as provided by the twelfth article of amendment.

Section 2.

The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Amendment XXIV (1964)

Section 1.

The right of citizens of the United States to vote in any primary or other election for President or Vice President, for electors for President or Vice President, or for Senator or Representative in Congress, shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any state by reason of failure to pay any poll tax or other tax.

Section 2.

The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Amendment XXV (1967)

Section 1.

In case of the removal of the President from office or of his death or resignation, the Vice President shall become President.

Section 2.

Whenever there is a vacancy in the office of the Vice President, the President shall nominate a Vice President who shall take office upon confirmation by a majority vote of both Houses of Congress.

Section 3.

Whenever the President transmits to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives his written declaration that he is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, and until he transmits to them a written declaration to the contrary, such powers and duties shall be discharged by the Vice President as Acting President.

Section 4.

Whenever the Vice President and a majority of either the principal officers of the executive departments or of such other body as Congress may by law provide, transmit to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives their written declaration that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, the Vice President shall immediately assume the powers and duties of the office as Acting President.

Thereafter, when the President transmits to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives his written declaration that no inability exists, he shall resume the powers and duties of his office unless the Vice President and a majority of either the principal officers of the executive department or of such other body as Congress may by law provide, transmit within four days to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives their written declaration that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office. Thereupon Congress shall decide the issue, assembling within forty-eight hours for that purpose if not in session. If the Congress, within twenty-one days after receipt of the latter written declaration, or, if Congress is not in session, within twenty-one days after Congress is required to assemble, determines by two-thirds vote of both Houses that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, the Vice President shall continue to discharge the same as Acting President; otherwise, the President shall resume the powers and duties of his office.

Amendment XXVI (1971)

Section 1.

The right of citizens of the United States, who are 18 years of age or older, to vote, shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any state on account of age.

Section 2.

The Congress shall have the power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Amendment XXVII (1992)

No law varying the compensation for the services of the Senators and Representatives shall take effect until an election of Representatives shall have intervened.