

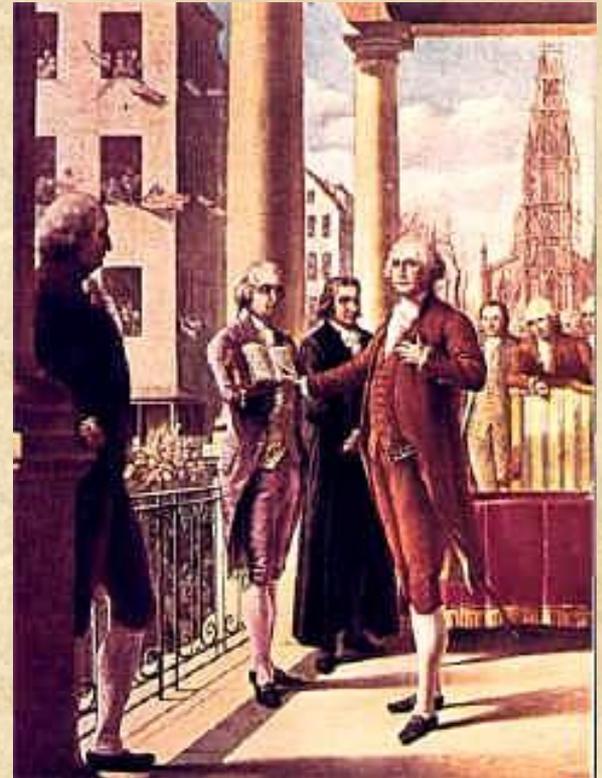
# The Federalist Era

1789 - 1800

American History 11R

# Washington Becomes President

- April 30<sup>th</sup>, 1789 – George Washington becomes the 1<sup>st</sup> president of the United States.
- Takes oath on porch of Federal Hall on Wall St in New York City, our 1<sup>st</sup> national capital.
- Only president elected unanimously by the Electoral College

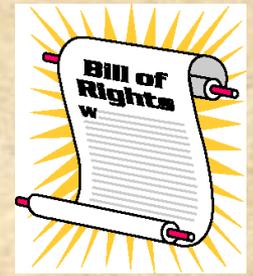


# Washington's Presidency



- Washington reluctant to leave retirement in Mount Vernon and become president
- Realized importance of his participation in new government
- President and New Congress have to
  - Create a bureaucracy to carry out new laws.
  - Provide a federal judicial system
  - Raise money for operating expenses and pay debt from revolution

# Bill of Rights Adopted



- Listed freedoms that the federal government could not take away from the people
- Originally thought it was unnecessary to have these guarantees
- Congress approved 12 Amendments for State consideration.
  - Two Amendments Defeated
    - Congressional Salaries – passed in 1992
    - Congressional Reapportionment - restricted the original size of the House of Representatives to 100 representatives, with later enlargements to be determined by Congress.
  - 10 Ratified and become part of Constitution in 1791

# Judiciary Act of 1789

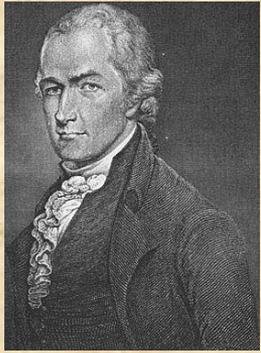
- Established Supreme Court
  - One Chief Justice, (John Jay)
  - 5 Associate Justices
- 16 lower federal courts
  - 3 Federal Circuit Courts
  - 13 Federal District Courts
- Provided for prosecuting attorneys
- Federal marshals hired, who conducted first census in 1790.
- Court met in the Merchants Exchange Building in New York City.
- State court decisions could be appealed to federal courts when constitutional issues raised. Federal laws guaranteed as “**Supreme Law of the Land**”



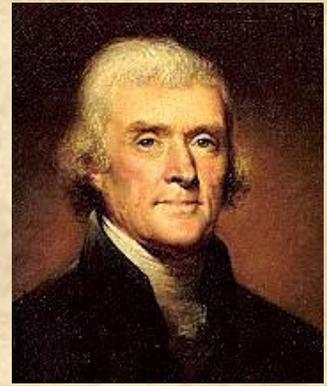
Court met in Capital Building  
from 1810 to 1860

# New Cabinet Formed

- 1789 – Executive consisted of President and Vice President, John Adams.
- Three new departments created
  - Department of War – Henry Knox Secretary
  - Department of State – Thomas Jefferson
  - Department of Treasury – Alexander Hamilton
  - Attorney General – Edmund Randolph
- This group was eventually the Cabinet
- Within the Cabinet, development of a two party system.
- George Washington viewed political parties as a
  - danger to national unity.
- Despite criticism – Two party system was well established by the time he left office.



# Federalist vs. Democratic-Republicans



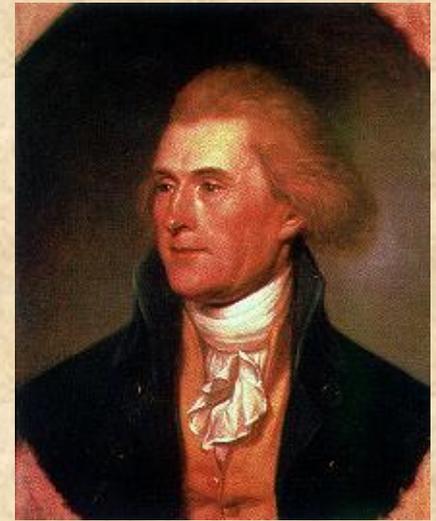
- Two distinct political parties come out of differences of opinion.
- Federalist – Hamilton
  - Rich, Educated, Northern manufacturers
  - Believed in strong national government
- Democratic-Republicans – Jefferson
  - Common people, Gentlemen Farmers, Southern
  - Believed in strong state and local governments with popular participation.



# Hamilton's Financial Plan

- Protective tariff to stimulate industry
- Willingness to assume debts of states
- Willingness to assume Confederation's debts
- Establishment of a national bank. Purposes:
  - Repository of national assets
  - Issue paper money based on assets
  - Source of investment capital

# Jeffersonian Opposition to Hamilton's Plans



- Strict constructionist view - creation of U.S. Bank exceeded Congressional authority
- 10th Amendment forbids the national government exercising powers not delegated to it.
- Commercial and manufacturing interests favored over farming interests.

# Basic Features of Two Parties

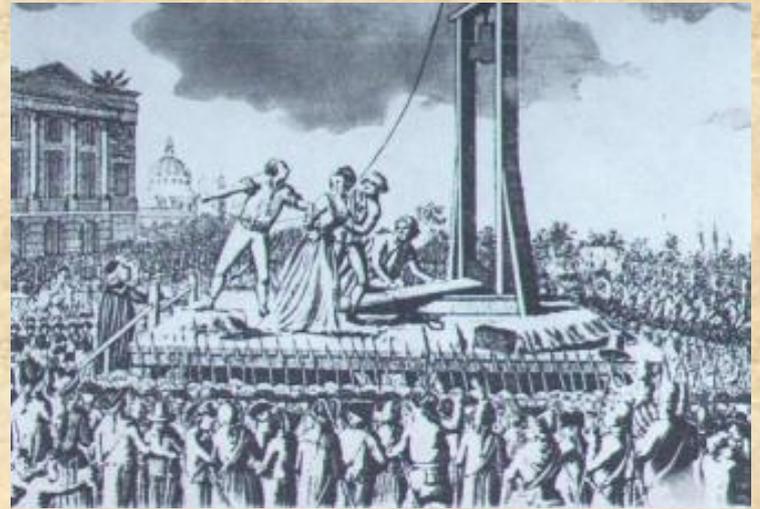
- Hamiltonians (Federalists)
- Power in federal governments
- Fear mob rule
- Republic led by well-educated elite
- Loose Interpretation
- National Bank
- Economy of Shipping and Banking
- Pay National and State Debts
- Supporters – merchants, manufacturers, investors, lawyers
- Pro-British
- Jefferson (Democratic-Republicans)
- Share power between state and federal governments.
- Fear absolute power
- Democracy of farmers and trades people
- Strict Interpretation
- No National Bank (unconstitutional)
- Economy based on farming
- Pay only National Debts
- Supporters – “plain people”, farmers, trades people
- Pro-French

# Whiskey Rebellion



- Whiskey Excise Tax (Sales Tax) – Tax on “sin”
- Burden fell on western farmers
- Whiskey Rebellion (1794)--2000 armed men, threatened to secede from the Union.
- Washington and Hamilton leads militia to put down revolt in Pennsylvania.
- Rebellion ended and no loss of life.
- First major test of Constitution and a young nation. Milestone, Consolidated federal power in domestic affairs.

# French Revolution



- Early sympathy and support turned to divisive feelings following Louis XVI's execution.
- Democrat-Republicans were strongly pro-French and formed Republican clubs advocating war with England and Spain
- Federalists viewed England as the defender of property rights against French anarchy.

# Proclamation of Neutrality

- Washington felt avoiding foreign alliances was very important for a young nation
- He did not favor fighting for Great Britain
- Didn't feel United States had to honor treaty with France since they started the war.
- Declaration of Neutrality which said the United States would not support either side.



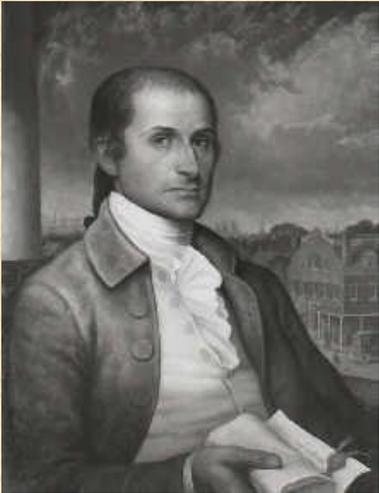


# Citizen Genet



- Lands in pro-French South, begins building revolutionary armies to attack Spanish Florida and Louisiana, and outfits privateers to attack British shipping
- Washington sees Genet officially, but expresses America's intention of remaining neutral
- Increased internal divisions between Federalists and Democratic-Republican societies.

# Foreign Treaties



- Jay Treaty (1794)
  - Trouble with Great Britain arose over fur trading posts in the Northwest and interference with American shipping
  - Jay negotiated with British who agreed to:
    - Abandon posts
    - Limit seizures of American cargoes
  - Same terms as in Treaty of Paris that ended Revolutionary War
- Pinckney Treaty (1795)
  - Gave Americans the right to navigate freely on the Mississippi River.



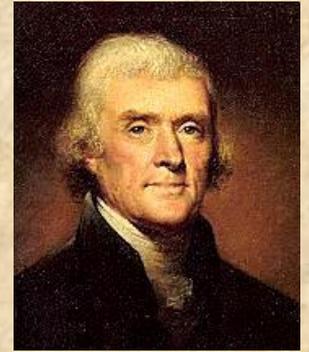
# Farewell Address

- Washington made it clear that he would not serve beyond a 2<sup>nd</sup> term, establishing unwritten rule.
- In final speech, urged the United States to “**steer clear of permanent alliances.**”
- “Temporary alliances” acceptable in “extraordinary emergencies.”
- Retired finally to Mount Vernon and watched as political parties grew.



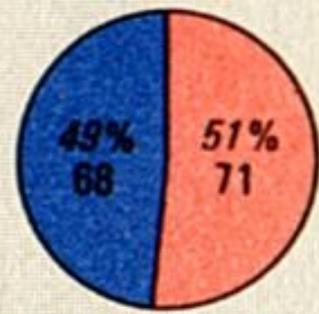
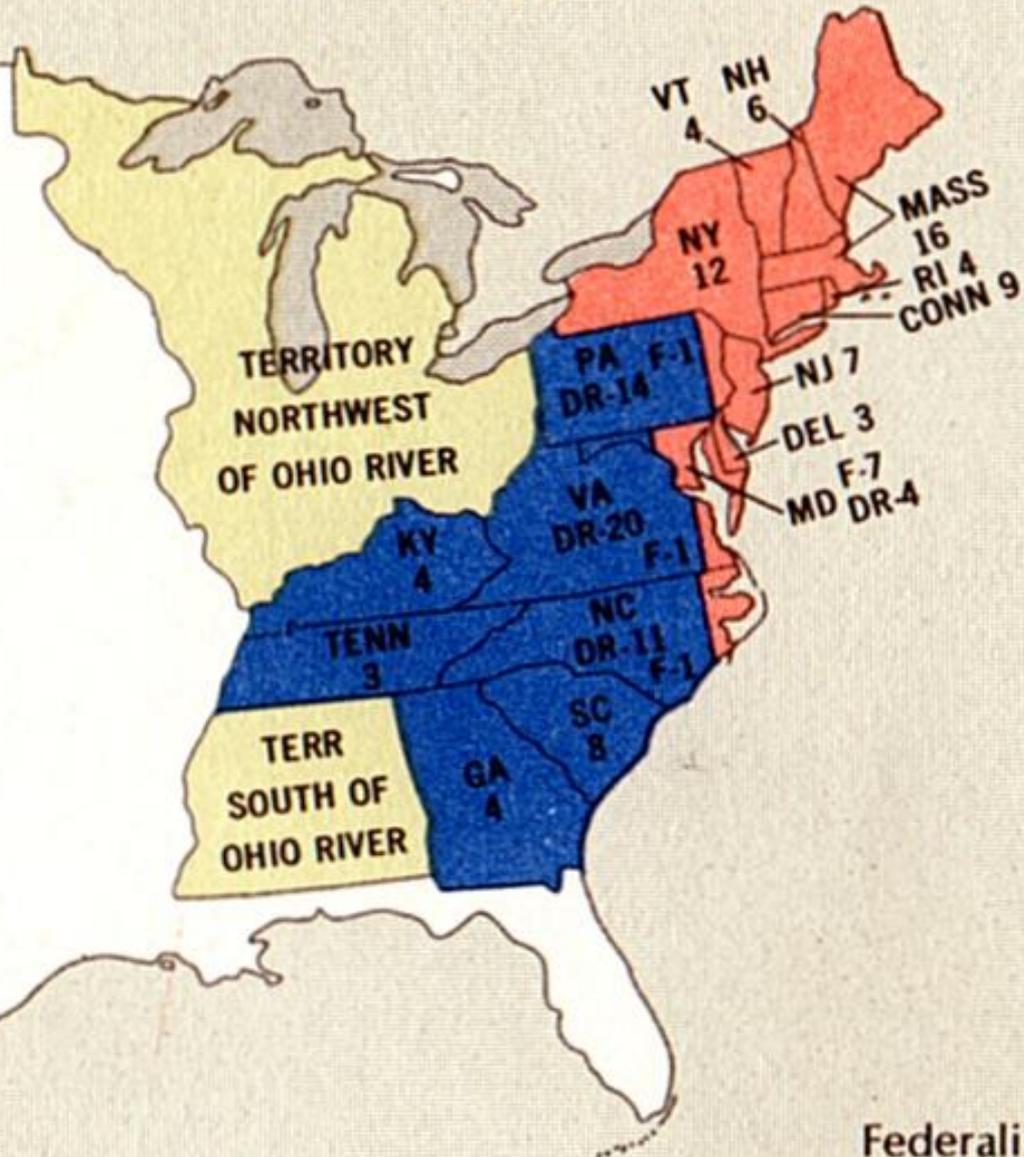


## Election of 1796



- Federalists felt logical that John Adams, the Vice-President run for President.
- Democratic-Republicans nominated Thomas Jefferson
- Adams won but according to the Constitution, the second highest vote getter became Vice-President, in this case, Thomas Jefferson
- Sectionalism – placing the interests of one region ahead of the welfare of the nation as a whole was apparent during the election.

1796



ELECTORAL VOTE  
TOTAL 139

 Territories

Election of 1796

Federalist (Adams)   
Democratic-Republican (Jefferson) 

# XYZ Affair

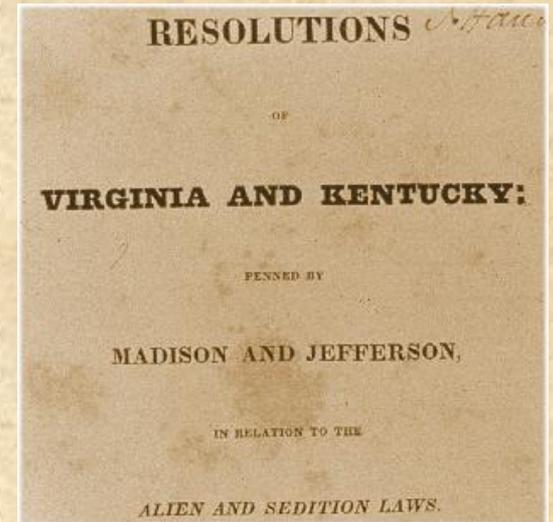
- Adams - problems with the French
- Send American representatives to France
- French demands for a bribe before negotiating with Americans creates problems.
- Angered U.S. citizens that they called for war.
- Congress armed privateers, commissioned an army, and ordered new ships built
- Naval war with France raged for two years, with 90 French ships captured.
- France agreed to American terms in the Convention of 1800



# Alien & Sedition Acts (1798)

- Sought to lessen criticism of the Federalists politicians
- **Alien Acts** made it more difficult to become a citizen, provided for detention of aliens in time of war, and allowed the president to deport any alien
- **Sedition Act** outlawed criticism of the government or the president (10 convictions obtained)

# Kentucky & Virginia Resolutions

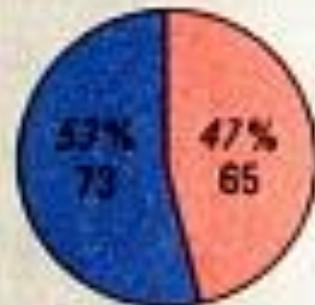
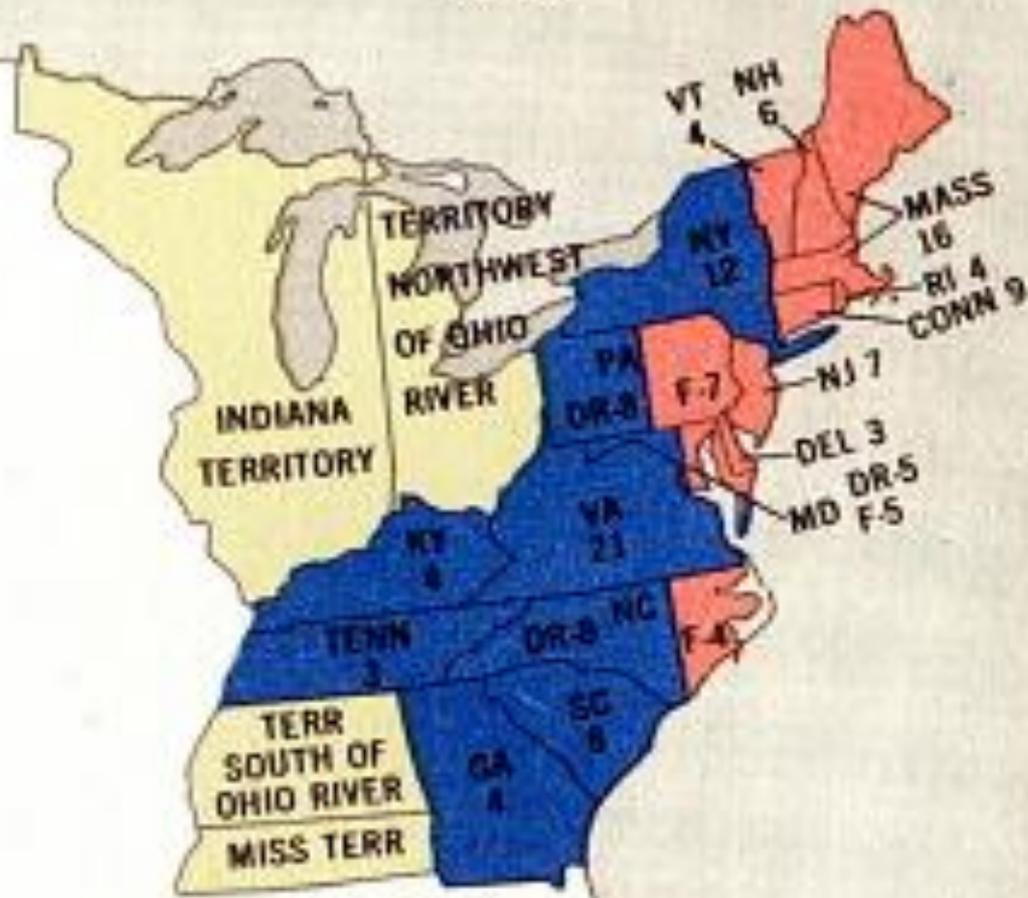


- Jefferson and Madison wrote the Kentucky & Virginia Resolutions
- Stated right of states to disobey Congress if laws exceeded Constitutional authority.
- First statement of nullification.
- Reminded Americans that relationship between states and national government not settled.

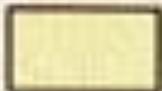
# Election of 1800

- John Adams vs. Thomas Jefferson again
- Jefferson won with 73 electoral votes but Aaron Burr, his Vice-Presidential candidate also received 73.
- Election sent to House of Representatives to decide the election.
- Federalists dominated House. Took 6 days and 36 ballots to decide winner.
- Hamilton key - gave the election to Jefferson.

1800



ELECTORAL VOTE  
TOTAL: 138



Territories

Election of 1800

Democratic-Republican  
(Jefferson)



Federalist (Adams)



# End of the Federalist Era

- Politicians recognized the need to change the system of voting in the electoral college
- 12<sup>th</sup> Amendment provided for separate ballots for President and Vice-President.
- Before leaving office, Adams appointed numerous Federalist judges to the courts, extending their legacy.
- Still, power transferred peacefully from one political party to another.