

- By 1812, the United States had been changing rapidly from the republic of 1776
- Its leaders were still those patriots that engineered the brave transition from colonialism to independence
- - Counter-Clockwise from lower left: Washington, Adams, Jefferson, Madison



America in 1783

- Britain controlled bases and fur trade in Northwest;
- Spain did not recognize the British cession and closed Mississippi next year; hoped Tennessee & Kentucky settlers would join a Spanish-governed region
- Weak American central government
- Massive debts from the Revolutionary War



The Constitution; Ratified in 1788, strengthened the county to:

- Negotiate treaties, declare war and manage international relations
- Manage a uniform currency, and regulate commerce, leading to establishment of a US Bank
- Reduce conflicts among states and supplement state militias with a national army & navy

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PHILO-PUBLIUS,

AND THE

Articles of the Convention,
As agreed upon at Philadelphia, Septem-

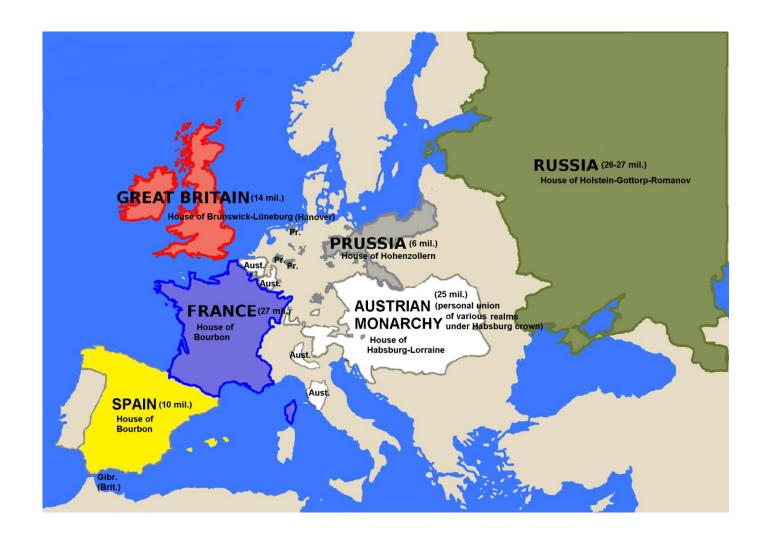
St. Claire's Defeat 1791 Northwest Indian War of 1783-95

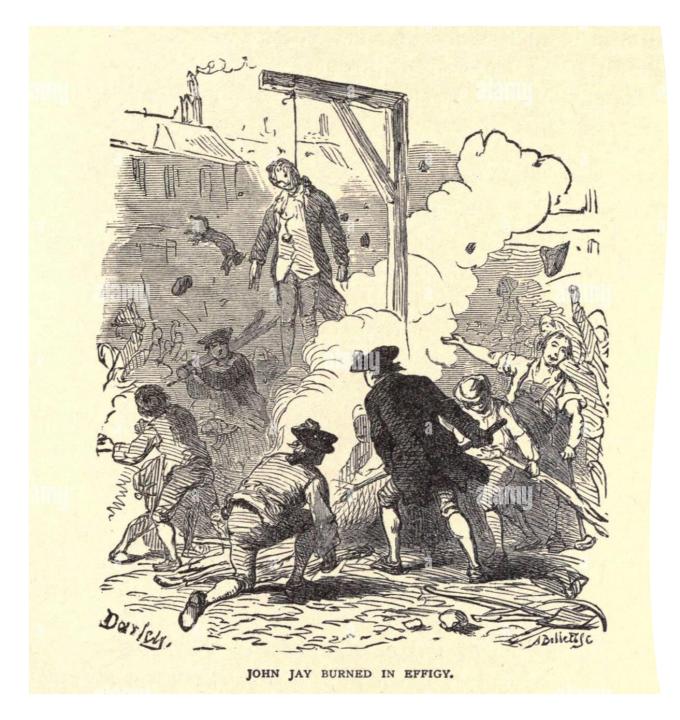
- Biggest loss for US; against 1,000 Indians
- Killed or wounded all but 24 of the 1,000 member American force
- The later Jay Treaty and growth of US military turned the fortunes against the Indians



Britain and France at War 1793-1815

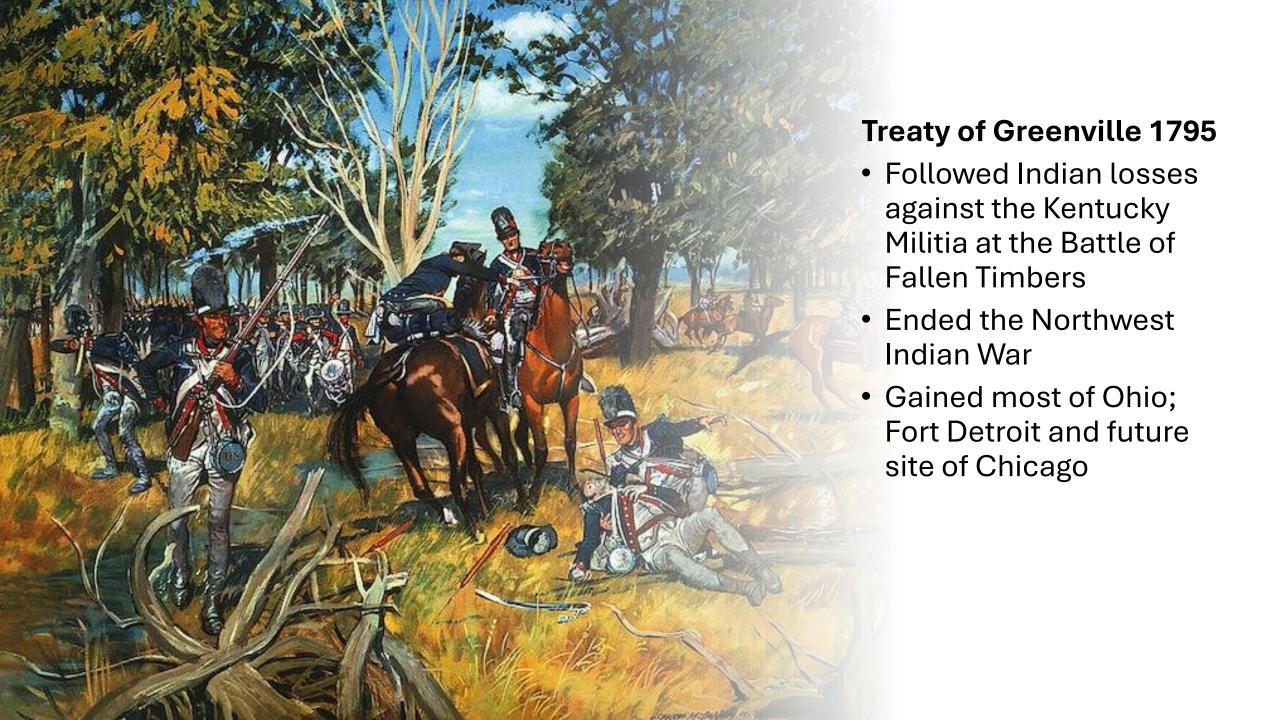
- Britain favored better relations with America
- Jay Treaty from 1796-1806
- Britain changes its relations with Indians in Northwest USA





Jay Treaty - 1794 (ratified 1796)

- America and Britain resolved issues remaining since 1783
- Facilitated ten years of peaceful trade and turned fort in Northwest over to US
- Angered France and bitterly divided Americans, encouraging divisions between two opposing parties:
 - Federalists
 - Jefferson-Republicans (aka Republicans)



Treaty of St. Louis 1804

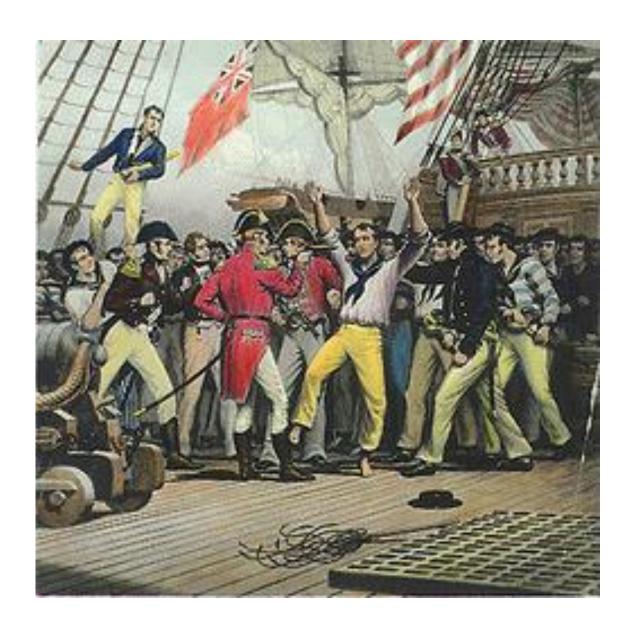
- William Henry Harrison
 - "Tippecanoe and Tyler Too"
 - Future President
 - 1801-1812 Governor of Territory of Indiana
- US purchased huge swath of Indian lands (in yellow) at extremely low price
- Loss of Indian homelands bred new resentment against American settlers





Before the Erie Canal, New Orleans was the Southern Gateway to the World

- The Louisiana Purchase in 1803 and new Indian territory losses gave US control of not only New Orleans but most of a giant river network that led to rapid interior development
- In 1811-1812, Robert Fulton's steamboat "New Orleans" sailed from Pittsburgh to New Orleans
- By 1826 there were 143 steamboats on the river and by the 1830s there were more than 1,000



Britain Impressment of Sailors; An Issue NOT Solved in Jay Treaty

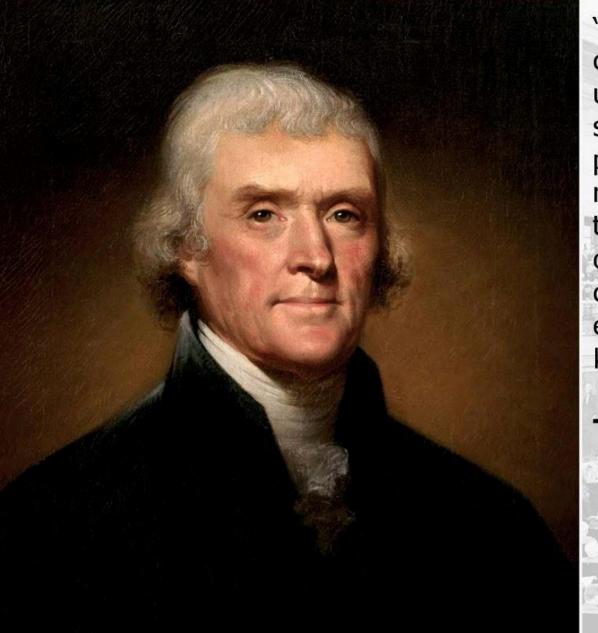
- The number of seaman needed to crew British ships nearly tripled between 1793 and 1812, from 36,000 to 114,000
- The life of a Royal Navy sailor became steadily more brutal
- About half of all seamen manning the Royal Navy were impressed, including 10,000 Americans during the Napoleonic Wars.



The Chesapeake-Leopard Affair

- On June 22, 1807, off the coast of Norfolk, Virginia the HMS *Leopard* opened fire on the American frigate USS *Chesapeake* severely damaging the ship
- Four American sailors were removed
- Considered a violation of American sovereignty and led to the Embargo

State of the Union History



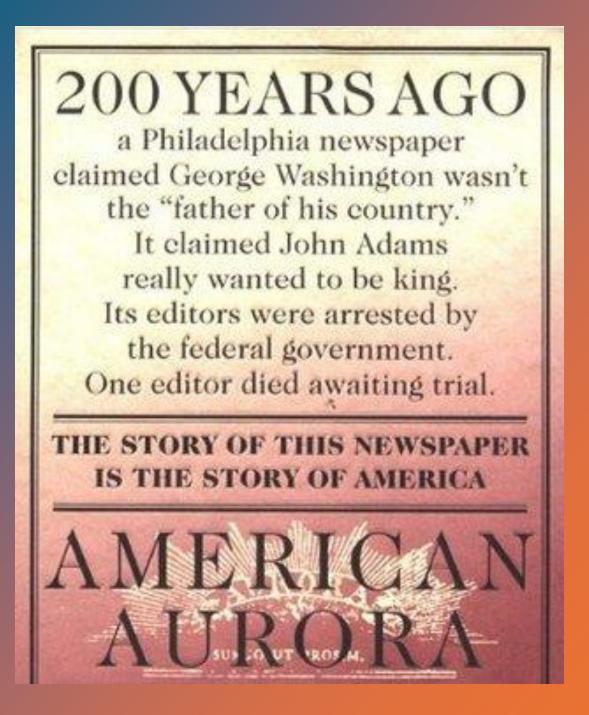
Embargo Act of 1807

"The many injuries and depredations committed on our commerce and navigation upon the high seas for years past, the successive innovations on those principles of public law which have been established by the reason and usage of nations as the rule of their intercourse and the umpire and security of their rights and peace, and all the circumstances which induced the extraordinary mission to London are already known to you."

Thomas Jefferson 1807



stateoftheunionhistory.com



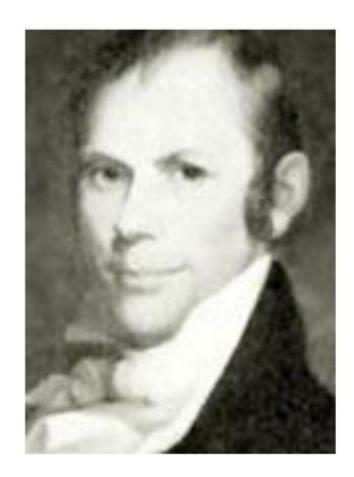
Newspapers

- By 1810 Americans were buying over twenty-two million copies of 376 newspapers annually
- This was the largest aggregate circulation of newspapers of any country in the world
- The most popular Republican paper was the Aurora



The Road to War

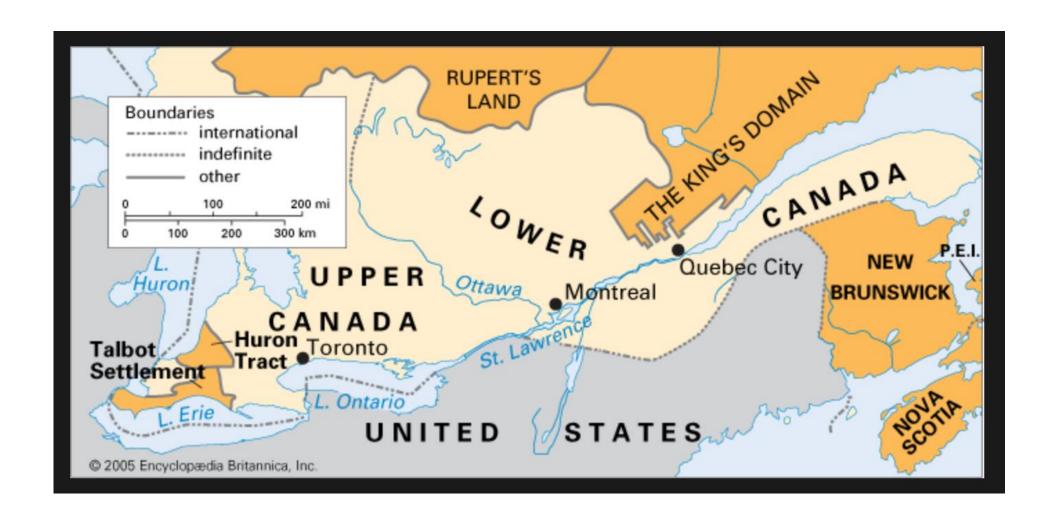
- War Hawks group of young Republicans from the South and West who are pushing for war with Britain
- The northeast is against a war – hurts trade
- In June 1812, Madison asked Congress for a Declaration of War
- Congress voted to declare war; 79-49 in the House and 19-13 in the Senate



Henry Clay

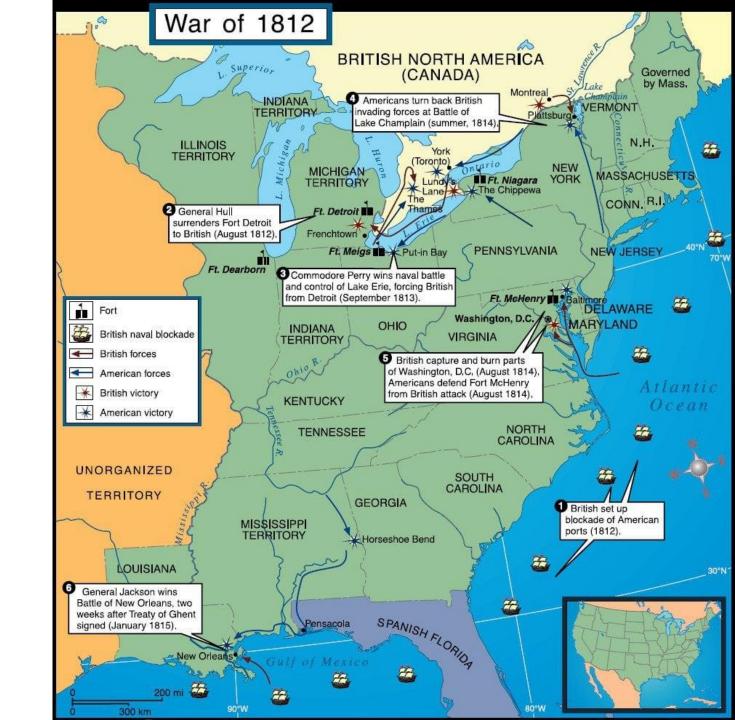
Canadian Population Distribution

- Upper Canada was mostly recent immigrants from America
- Lower Canada was mostly French-speaking colonists from the period of French rule
- Neither population was motivated mainly by patriotism or a desire to fight for either side



Attack Canada by Splitting America's Small Army:

- Northwest (Michigan & Illinois Territories in Upper Canada)
- Niagara Frontier (Buffalo region in Upper Canada)
- Montreal and Quebec (St. Lawrence River region in Lower Canada)



- Siege of Fort Mackinac: Indians and British surprised US garrison, convincing Indians that bold leadership could face the larger American population
- **Siege of Detroit**: American General Hull surrendered to smaller attacking British force
- Raisin River: British & Indian allies won the deadliest encounter for US in the War, but stiffens American resolve for vengeance
- Queenston Heights: British secured the strategic Niagara Peninsula after death of their best general
- **Battle of York** 4-1813 US defeats smaller Canadian & Indian forces, burn city and destroy a warship, before departing
- **Thames**: 10-1813 Shawnee leader Tecumseh died, weakening Indian support for British *SEE Lake Erie

Early Battles

- US routed in 1812
- Harrison victory at Thames in 1813 gives a boost



American Success at Sea

- US heavy Frigates surprised British public with a string of victories
- US privateers garnered most of the war prizes
- James DeWolf of Bristol RI was #1 with \$4 million prize share totals
- Manufacturing expertise allowed quick construction of US vessels for a string of wins in inland waters
- Control of invasion routes and supply lines to both US and British forces due to US naval supremacy



Battle of Lake Erie

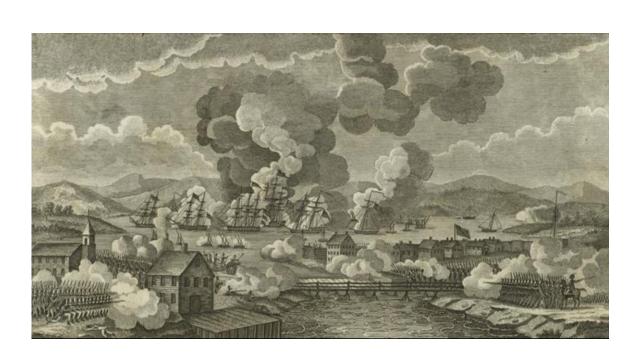
- America had zero ships ready at start of conflict
- American victory due to extraordinary ship construction efforts by skilled American shipbuilders that provided a superior force for:
- Oliver Hazard perry who demonstrated superb skills in a lengthy sea battle
- Control of the lake led to American victory at Battle of the Thames and recapture of Detroit and waning Indian threat

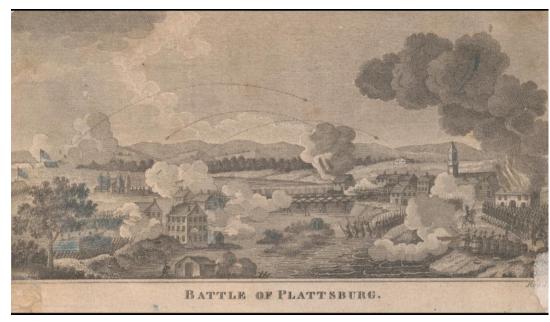


Logic of the British Offensive After Napolean Was Defeated:

- By late summer, 30,000 troops accumulated in Canada.
- While the Americans were distracted by diversionary attacks in the Chesapeake, Britain would invade Niagara and Lake Champlain fronts to secure control of the St. Lawrence River supply lines
- An attack on the Maine coast would create a direct communication between Halifax and Quebec and encourage ultimate secession of New England
- Control of New Orleans would provide bargaining power to produce major and permanent territorial gains at the treaty talks that had been ongoing in Ghent

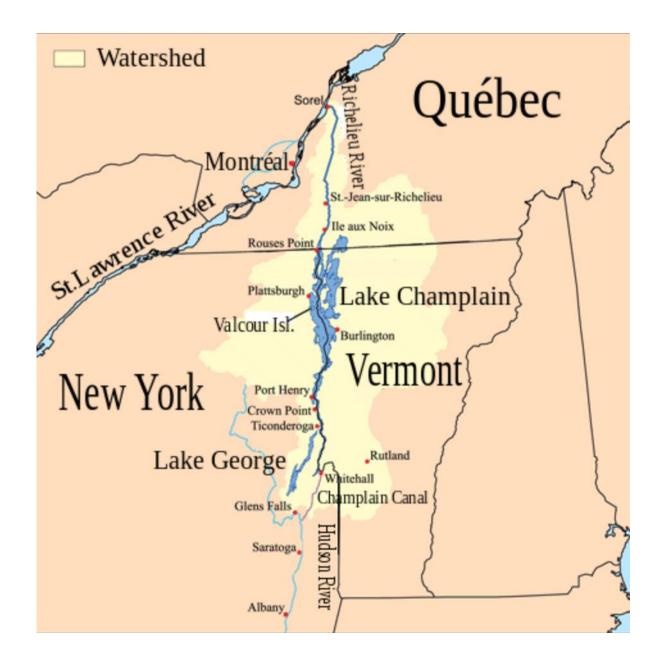
Battle of Plattsburg and Lake Champlain





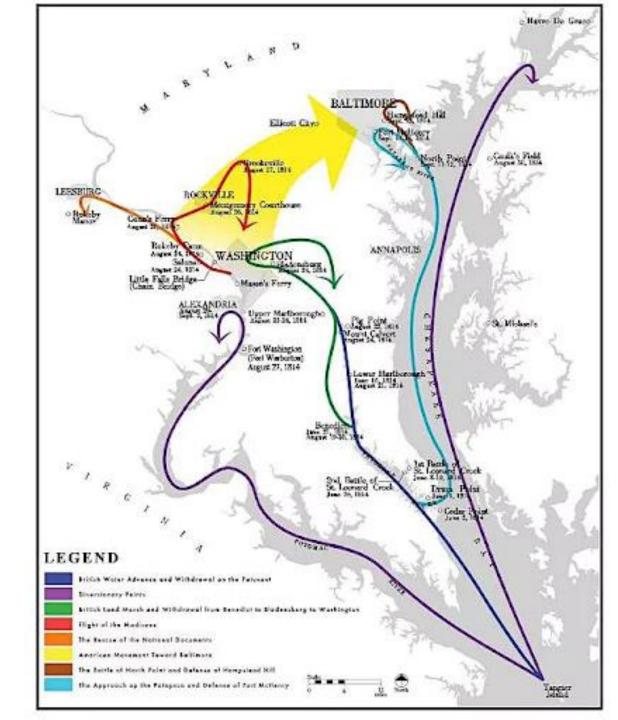
American Troops and Naval Forces Stop British in Northern NY

- Macdonough's victory at Battle of Lake Champlain and Plattsburgh ended the gravest threat of the war
- Gave impetus to peace negotiations then under way
- Baltimore and Plattsburg setbacks reached England simultaneously, aggravating the war weariness of the British and bolstering the efforts of the American peace commissioners to obtain satisfactory terms.



Attacks on DC and Baltimore

- White House and other government building burned in reprisal for destruction of both government and private buildings in York Canada (Toronto)
- After Baltimore bombardment, British fleet sailed for New Orleans
- Americans regarded the engagement as a victory and celebrated the Francis Scott Key song as a patriotic anthem



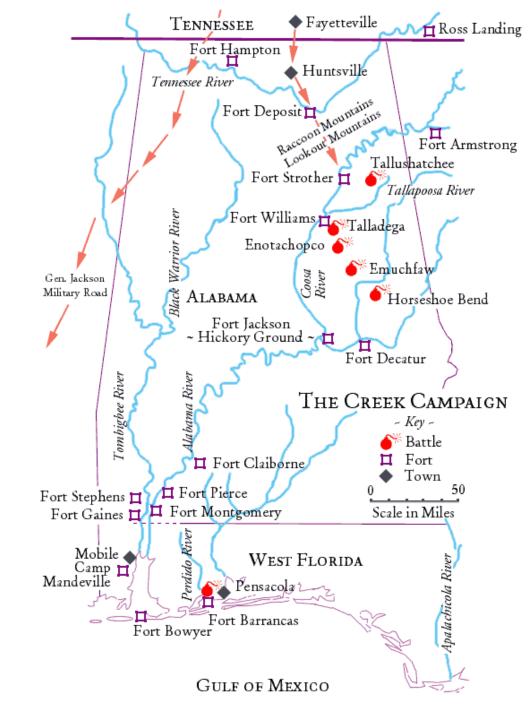
Southern leaders longed to oust the Spanish from Florida

- Native and maroon villages to be replaced with plantations owned by white men and worked by enslaved people
- Andrew Jackson wrote:
- "I hope the government will permit us to traverse the Southern coast and aid in planting the American eagles on the ramparts of Mobile, Pensacola and Fort St. Augustine. . . . British influence must be destroyed, or we will have the whole Southern tribe of Indians to fight and [slave] insurrections to quell in all the Southern states."



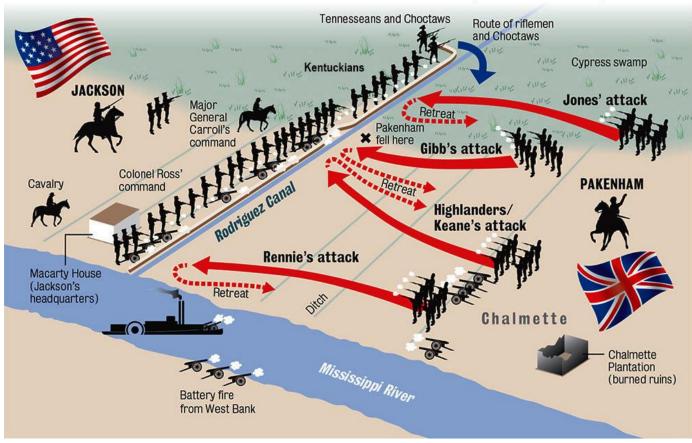
Creek Indian War of 1813-14

- Exploiting tribal divisions, Andrew Jackson secured allies against the British and secured valuable land from the Indians
- He neutralized Spanish power in West Florida after invading Pensacola
- His military success bred both strong discipline and professional competence in the militias that would be key to defeating the British at New Orleans



- Strong American defenses at Rodriguez Canal and the swampy terrain the invaders faced
- British underestimated American forces especially artillery and marksmanship of Kentucky riflemen, leading to great losses in a frontal attack
- Fought after the signing of the Treaty of Ghent, it nevertheless facilitated ratification by US and bred a sense of accomplishment in an otherwise ill-fated war

BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS, JAN. 8, 1815





The Treaty of Ghent



- War of 1812 is considered a "stalemate"...Dec. 1814
- Peace commissioners in Ghent devised the following terms of peace
 - A halt to the fighting
 - The return of all conquered territory to the prewar borders
 - Recognition of the prewar boundary between Canada and the United States
- Treaty was ratified by the Senate



End of Class One