5.2

Jefferson as President



As a Young Historian, I will be able to...

- Understand why some saw Jefferson's election as a "Democratic Republican revolution."
- Explain the impact of John Marshall's tenure as Chief Justice of the United States.
- Identity the importance of the Louisiana Purchase.
- Analyze Jefferson's foreign policies.

A New Direction for Government

The Democratic Republicans take control of the Presidency in the 1800s & Thomas Jefferson is elected President

Jefferson was focused on lowering the national debt after issues from Adam's Presidency



Jefferson decided to streamline Bureaucracy Departments & workers that make up the government.

Jefferson sought to appeal to the common man rather than appear wealthy.

The Supreme Court

John Marshall- Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, had a major impact on the court system

Marshall believed in the concept of judicial review-The power to review laws to determine if they were constitutional.

Marbury V. Madison- This ruling set forth the importance of judicial review.

Laws were interpreted broadly to find the implied powers needed for a strong government

Nation Looks West

Jefferson believed that farm ownership was essential to the freedom of Americans

The population of the U.S. also was skyrocketing & people sought more land.

Jefferson sought Spainish land west of the Mississippi river, through war...

...but the France dictator, Napoléon Bonaparte, forced Spain to give him the territory.

The Louisiana Purchase

Jefferson sends delegates to France, where Napoleon agrees to sell the territory.

The Louisiana Purchase- The purchase of "land rights" from the Mississippi River to the Rocky Mountains.

Jefferson purchased this without Congressional approval for a cheap price.

Jefferson sends Meriwether Lewis & William Clark to explore the new territory, The Lewis & Clark Expedition

Foreign Difficulties

Pirates began to seize American ships & sailors in the Mediterranean Sea, forcing protection money to the Barbary States

Jefferson sends a navy blockade to Tripoli to end the Barbary War.



The war in Europe challenged French trade, thus a deal was created for America to "re-export" trade

Americans also began to profit from French trade & plantation owners in the West Indies

Britain Fights Back

British Navy begins impressment- The capture of American sailors to force into the British Navy

Jefferson declares an embargo, suspension of trade, with Britain. This begins to bankrupt American Merchants

Jefferson's popularity drops & he loses to James Madison in next election

This will lead the U.S. into the War of 1812-The second war with Britain.