

# 5.1

## **The New Government Finds Its Way**



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

- Describe how Washington's administration built the federal government.
- Analyze Hamilton's plans for the economy and the opposition to them.
- Explain how a two-party system emerged in the new nation.
- Explain how territorial expansion brought Americans into conflict with the British and with American Indians.
- Describe American relations with Britain, France, and Spain.
- Analyze how the political parties' debates over foreign policy further divided them.

# **Creating a New Government**

**New government started with a debt of \$52 million from the Confederation**

**U.S. only had 3 million people, no navy, & an army of only 400 men**

**New Orleans was shut off from the Spanish to the Mississippi to American Trade**

**British kept forts along Great Lakes in American Territory**

# Fix the Government!

**George Washington is elected President of the United States unanimously!**

**Administration-** Officials in the executive branch of government, consisted of just Washington & Adams

**Precedents-** Acts or statements that become traditions to be followed

**Judiciary Act of 1789-** set up the system of federal courts in the United States & set up a Supreme Court



# Cabinets & Debt

**Cabinet-** Group of federal leaders who head the major departments of the executive branch & advise the president

Nation starts with only 4 branches, now we have 15 branches

Alexander Hamilton was tasked with settling the debt for the nation & believed we needed to combine it

**Tariffs-** Taxes on imported goods, was used to create revenue for the Federal Government & protect American goods

# **Promote Commerce & Industry**

**Hamilton wanted to promote commerce & industrial growth because it...**

**1. Establish the nations financial credibility**

**2. Buy political support from the wealthiest Americans**

**3. Enrich investors who would build factories & ships for the nation**



# **Pushback**

**Goal was to redistribute wealth from farmers & merchants from South to the North**

**Southern states were agricultural & were paying their own debts, South was angry it had to support North**

**Loose Construction-** Broad interpretation for on the Constitution & “implied powers”

**Strict Construction-** Limiting the Federal government powers to those explicitly granted by the Constitution

# Anger in Economics

**Madison & Jefferson hated Hamilton's system & thought he was creating “a kingly government”**

**A narrow vote allowed for the creation of a national bank, new capital was moved to South (Washington D.C.)**

**Farmers were taxed on making whiskey that they were distilling from grain. Began to fight back this was [The Whiskey Rebellion](#).**

**Washington showed the power of the new nation & quickly suppressed it via 12,000 militiamen**



# Political Division

**The Federalists and “Democratic societies”  
argued over the rebellion, split into parties**

**Political Parties-** Groups of people who seek to  
win elections & hold public office in order  
to shape government policy

**The Federalists-** Led by Hamilton & John Adams &  
**The Democratic Republicans-** Led by Jefferson &  
Madison

**Northern voters primarily voted Federalist while Southern  
voters voted Democratic Republicans**

**Democratic Republicans wanted to hold more power in the  
states than Federal Government**

# Indian Affairs

**The British kept forts on the American side of the Great Lakes & supplied weapons to the Miami Indians**

**Little Turtle-** War chief who lead a confederacy of different tribes to force Americans from the Great Lakes region

**Battle of Fallen Timbers-** General Anthony Wayne defeats the tribes opening up Ohio & the Northwest territory for settlement

# **The French Revolution**

**Uprising in France against the royal government,  
killing many royal family members &  
government leaders**

**Americans became divided among party lines  
about support for the war**

**France & Britain engage in war, but the U.S. depended  
on British trade**

**Washington issued a proclamation of neutrality, but  
Britain began seizing American ships**



# Treaties

**John Jay-** Chief Justice who negotiated a compromise with Britain to stay out of war

**Jay Treaty of 1794-** Britain gives up forts & America had to repay prewar debts to England

**Pickeney's Treat of 1795-** Spain allowed trade down the Mississippi & boundary of Spanish Florida

Washington retires from office after 8 terms, setting up a tradition for future presidents

# **Foreign Policy Affects Domestic Policies**

**John Adams becomes the second President & Jefferson became vice in awkward rule**

**Hamilton hated Adams & meddled in government affairs behind the scenes**

**France begins to seize American ships, U.S. tries to negotiate peace but 3 officials from France meddled**

**XYZ Affair-** France tried to negotiate with humiliating terms & U.S. fights French ships with a small navy



# Problems in Nation

**Alien & Sedition Acts-** President could arrest & deport citizens who criticized the government

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**Election of 1800 saw a tie, but Hamilton helped allow Jefferson to become President**

**Aaron Burr challenges Hamilton to a duel, killing him**