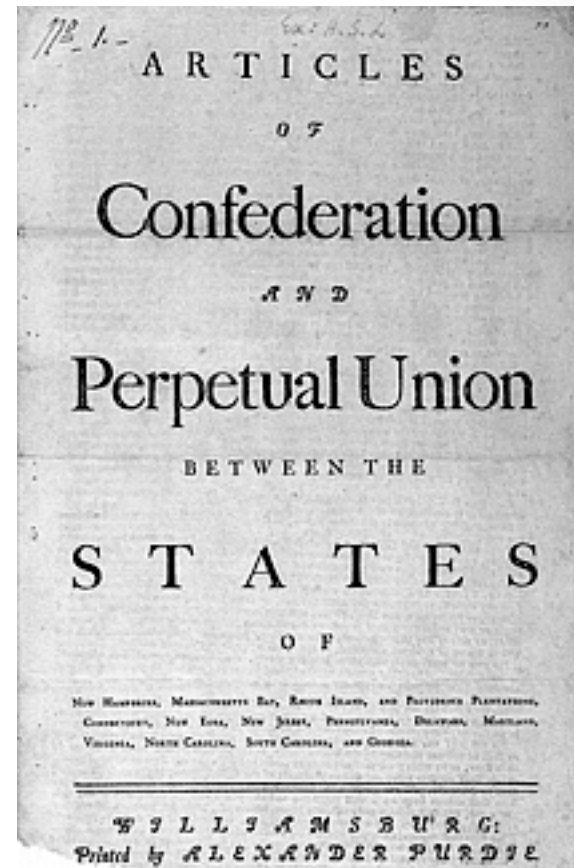


VUS SOL Review Packet 2

The Articles of Confederation

- First attempt at a workable government based on republican principles
 - Provided for a weak national government
 - Gave Congress no power to tax or regulate commerce among the states
 - No common currency
 - Gave each state one vote regardless of size
 - Provided for no executive or judicial branch



Key Leaders:

- George Washington: president of the Convention
 - Presided at the Convention and, although seldom participating in the debates, lent his enormous prestige to the proceedings



Key Leaders:

- James Madison: Virginian, “Father of the Constitution”
 - A brilliant political philosopher, often led the debate and kept copious notes of the proceedings – the best record historians have of what transpired



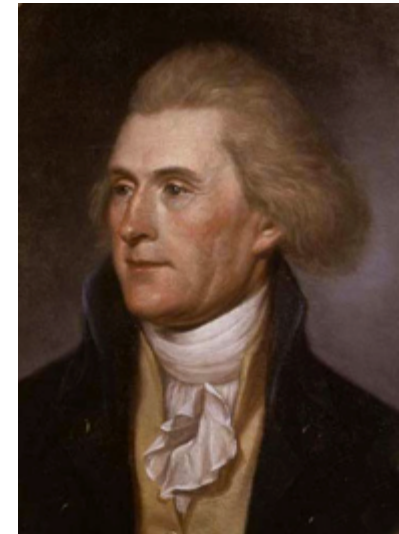
James Madison (cont.)

- Authored the “Virginia Plan,” which proposed a federal government of three separate branches:
 - Legislative - bicameral
 - Executive
 - Judicial
- Later authored the Bill of Rights



Framing the Bill of Rights

- Inspired by:
 - George Mason's Virginia Declaration of Rights
 - Reiterated the notion that basic human rights should not be violated by governments
 - Thomas Jefferson's Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom
 - Outlawed the established church – that is, the practice of government support for one favored church



Key Issues and Resolutions

- Made federal law the supreme law of the land when constitutional, but otherwise gave the states leeway to govern themselves
- Balanced power between large and small states
 - Senate: each state has two senators
 - House of Representatives: membership based on population

Key Issues and Resolutions

(cont.)

- Made peace with the Southern states by counting slaves as 3/5 of the population when determining representation in the House of Representatives
- Avoided too-powerful central government by establishing three co-equal branches with checks and balances among them
- Limited the powers of the federal government to those identified in the Constitution

Ratification of the Constitution

- Federalists: advocated importance of a strong central government, especially to promote economic development and public improvements
- Today, those who see a primary role for the federal government in solving national problems are heirs to this tradition



Ratification of the Constitution

- Anti-Federalists: feared an overly powerful central government destructive of the rights of individuals and the prerogatives of the states
- Today, the more conservative thinkers echo these concerns and champion liberty, individual initiative, and free markets



The Marshall Court

- Marbury v. Madison – set forth doctrine of judicial review
- McCullough v. Maryland – set forth doctrine of implied powers
- Gibbons v. Ogden – set forth doctrine of broadly national view of economic affairs



Controversies:

- Federalists' support of the Bank of the United States, the Jay Treaty, and the undeclared war on France contributed to the emergence of an organized opposition party.
- Democratic Republicans – led by Thomas Jefferson and James Madison



Louisiana Purchase

- Thomas Jefferson, as president in 1803, purchased the huge Louisiana Territory from France
- Doubled the size of the United States overnight



Lewis and Clark

- Authorized Lewis and Clark expedition to explore new territories that lay west of the Mississippi River
- Sacajawea, an American Indian woman, served as their guide and translator



The Monroe Doctrine

- American continents should not be considered for future colonization by any European powers
- Nations in the Western Hemisphere were inherently different from those of Europe – i.e. they were republics by nature, not monarchies



The Monroe Doctrine (cont.)

- The US would regard as a threat to her own peace and safety any attempt by European powers to impose their system on any independent state in the Western Hemisphere
- The United States would not interfere in European affairs



Westward Movement

- “Manifest Destiny
- American settlers streamed westward from the coastal states to the Midwest, Southwest, and Texas, seeking economic opportunity in the form of land to own and farm
- Growth of railroads and canals helped the growth of an industrial economy and supported westward movement of settlers



Impact on the American Indians

- During this period of westward migration, American Indians were repeatedly defeated in violent conflicts with settlers and soldiers
 - Forcibly removed from ancestral homelands
 - Forced to march far from homes – “Trail of Tears” – or confined to reservations



War of 1812

- Causes:
 - British interference with American shipping and western expansion
- Congress and James Madison declared war (“Mr. Madison’s War”)
- Federalists opposed Madison’s war resolution
 - Talked of secession, constitutional amendments (not acted upon)



War of 1812

- American “victory” over the British in the War of 1812 produced an American claim to the Oregon Territory



“Jacksonian Democracy”

- Andrew Jackson personified the “democratic spirit” of the age by challenging the economic elite and rewarding campaign supporters with public office: The Spoils System
- First Democrat to win presidency
- Age of the “Common Man”



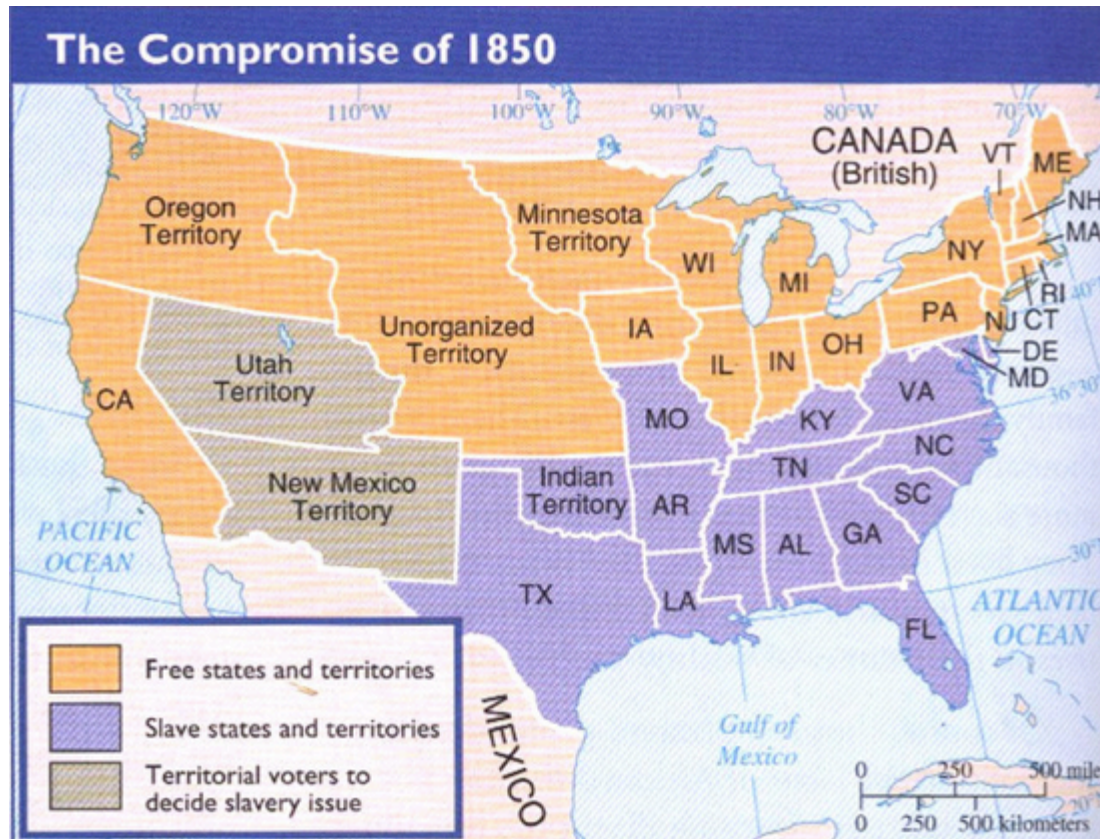
The Missouri Compromise (1820)

- Drew an east-west line ($36^{\circ} 30'$) through the Louisiana Purchase, with slavery prohibited above the line and allowed below
- Slavery permitted in Missouri (above the line)



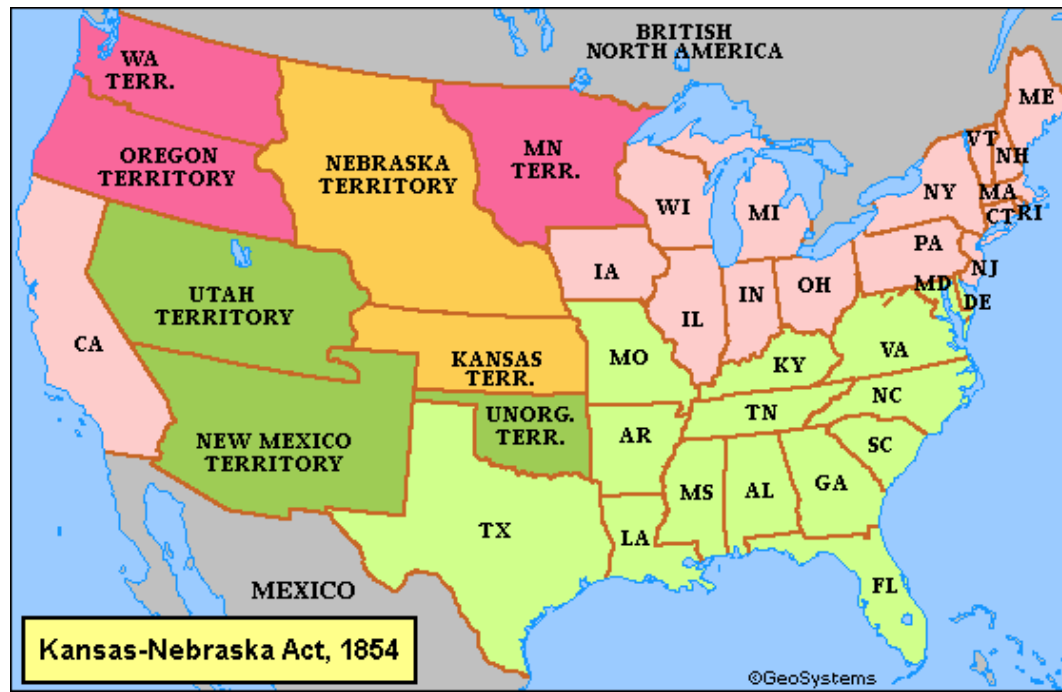
Compromise of 1850

- California entered as a free state, while the new Southwestern territories acquired from Mexico would decide on their own



Kansas-Nebraska Act (1854)

- Repealed the Missouri Compromise line
- Gave people of Kansas and Nebraska the choice of whether to allow slavery in their states or not: “popular sovereignty”
- Law produced bloody fighting in Kansas as pro-slavery and anti-slavery forces battled each other



Sectional tensions caused by debates over the nature of the Union

- South Carolinians argued that sovereign states could nullify the Tariff of 1832 and other acts of Congress
- A union that allowed state governments to invalidate acts of the national legislature could be dissolved by states seceding from the Union in defense of slavery
 - “Nullification Crisis”
- President Jackson threatened to send federal troops to collect tariff revenue



Sectional tensions caused by issue of slavery

- Slave revolts in Virginia, led by Nat Turner and Gabriel Prosser, fed white southerners fears about slave rebellions and led to harsh laws in the South against fugitive slaves. Southerners who favored abolition were intimidated into silence.



The Abolitionist Movement

- Northerners, led by William Lloyd Garrison, publisher of *The Liberator*, increasingly viewed the institution of slavery as a violation of Christian principles and argued for its abolition
- Southerners grew alarmed by growing force of the Northern response to the abolitionists
- Fugitive slave events pitted Southern slave owners against outraged Northerners who opposed returning escaped slaves to bondage



The Women's Suffrage Movement

- At the same time the abolitionist movement grew, another reform movement took root – the movement to give equal rights to women
- Seneca Falls Declaration: Declaration of Independence for Women
- Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony played important roles
 - Became involved in the women's suffrage movement before the Civil War and continued after the war

