

# NATIONALISM AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, 1816–1848

*A high and honorable feeling generally prevails, and the people begin to assume, more and more, a national character; and to look at home for the only means, under divine goodness, of preserving their religion and liberty.*

Hezekiah Niles, *Niles' Weekly Register*, September 2, 1815

The election of James Monroe as president in 1816 (less than two years after the last battle of the War of 1812) inaugurated what one newspaper editorial characterized as an “Era of Good Feelings.” The term gained wide currency and was later adopted by historians to describe Monroe’s two terms in office.

## The Era of Good Feelings

The period’s nickname suggests the Monroe years were marked by a spirit of nationalism, optimism, and goodwill. In some ways, they were. One party, the Federalists, faded into oblivion and Monroe’s party, the Democratic-Republicans, adopted some of their policies and dominated politics.

This perception of unity and harmony, however, can be misleading and oversimplified. Throughout the era people had heated debates over tariffs, the national bank, internal improvements, and public land sales. Sectionalist tensions over slavery were becoming ever more apparent. Moreover, a sense of political unity was illusory, since antagonistic factions within the Democratic-Republican party would soon split it in two. The actual period of “good feelings” may have lasted only from the election of 1816 to the Panic of 1819.

## James Monroe

As a young man, James Monroe had suffered through the Valley Forge winter in Virginia politics and had served as Jefferson Madison’s secretary of state. He counted five presidents, four were from Virginia, and Massachusetts.

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## Cultural Nationalism

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## Economic Nationalism

Parallel with cultural nationalism was growth of the nation’s economy. Subsidizing the building of roads and canals) was one budding U.S. industries from European

**Tariff of 1816** Before the War of 1812, on imports as a method for raising government revenue. Manufacturers erected many factories that had been imported from Britain. Now in peacetime, manufacturers feared that British goods would be dumped in the United States, taking away much of their business. Congress passed a tariff of 1816 to protect U.S. manufacturers from competition. This was the first protective tariff in U.S. history—the first of many.

## **James Monroe**

As a young man, James Monroe had fought in the Revolutionary War and suffered through the Valley Forge winter. He had become prominent in Virginia politics and had served as Jefferson's minister to Great Britain and as Madison's secretary of state. He continued the Virginia dynasty: of the first five presidents, four were from Virginia. The other, John Adams, was from Massachusetts.

In the election of 1816, Monroe defeated the Federalist, Rufus King, overwhelmingly—183 electoral votes to 34. By 1820, the Federalist party had practically vanished and Monroe received every electoral vote except one. With no organized political opposition, Monroe represented the growing nationalism of the American people. Under Monroe, the country acquired Florida, agreed on the Missouri Compromise, and adopted the Monroe Doctrine.

### **Cultural Nationalism**

The popular votes for James Monroe were cast by a younger generation of Americans whose concerns differed from those of the nation's founders. The young were excited about the prospects of the new nation expanding westward and had little interest in European politics now that the Napoleonic wars (as well as the War of 1812) were in the past. As fervent nationalists, they believed their young country was entering an era of unlimited prosperity.

Patriotic themes infused every aspect of American society, from art to schoolbooks. Heroes of the Revolution were enshrined in the paintings by Gilbert Stuart, Charles Willson Peale, and John Trumbull. A fictionalized biography extolling the virtues of George Washington, written by Parson Mason Weems, was widely read. The expanding public schools embraced Noah Webster's blue-backed speller, which promoted patriotism long before his famous dictionary was published. The basic ideas and ideals of nationalism and patriotism would dominate most of the 19th century.

### **Economic Nationalism**

Parallel with cultural nationalism was a political movement to support the growth of the nation's economy. Subsidizing internal improvements (the building of roads and canals) was one aspect of the movement. Protecting budding U.S. industries from European competition was a second aspect.

**Tariff of 1816** Before the War of 1812, Congress had levied low tariffs on imports as a method for raising government revenue. Then, during the war, manufacturers erected many factories to supply goods that previously had been imported from Britain. Now in peacetime, these American manufacturers feared that British goods would be dumped on American markets and take away much of their business. Congress raised tariffs for the express purpose of protecting U.S. manufacturers from competition. This was the first protective tariff in U.S. history—the first of many to come.

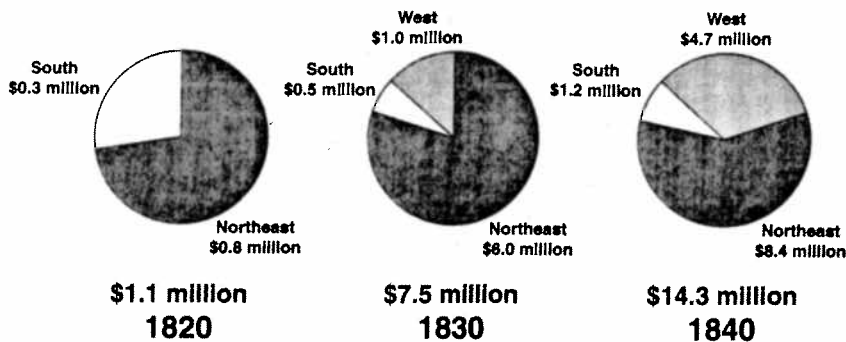
New England, which had little manufacturing at the time, was the only section to oppose the higher tariffs. Even the South and West, which had opposed tariffs in the past and would oppose them in the future, generally supported the 1816 tariff, believing that it was needed for national prosperity.

**Henry Clay's American System** Henry Clay of Kentucky, a leader in the House of Representatives, proposed a comprehensive method for advancing the nation's economic growth. His plan, which he called the American System, consisted of three parts: (1) protective tariffs, (2) a national bank, and (3) internal improvements. Clay argued that protective tariffs would promote American manufacturing and also raise revenue with which to build a national transportation system of federally constructed roads and canals. A national bank would keep the system running smoothly by providing a national currency. The tariffs would chiefly benefit the East, internal improvements would promote growth in the West and the South, and the bank would aid the economies of all sections.

Two parts of Clay's system were already in place in 1816, the last year of James Madison's presidency. Congress in that year adopted a protective tariff and also chartered the Second Bank of the United States. (The charter of the First Bank—Hamilton's brainchild—had been allowed to expire in 1811.)

On the matter of internal improvements, however, both Madison and Monroe objected that the Constitution did not explicitly provide for the spending of federal money on roads and canals. Throughout his presidency, Monroe consistently vetoed acts of Congress providing funds for road-building and canal-building projects. Thus, the individual states were left to make internal improvements on their own.

CANAL BUILDING, 1820 to 1840



Source: Bureau of the Census, *Historical Statistics of the United States, Colonial Times to 1970*

## The Panic of 1819

The Era of Good Feelings was fractured by the panic since the Constitution had been largely the fault of the Second Bank of the United States. The bank had extended credit in a belated effort to control unemployment, bankruptcies, and imbalances. The depression was most severe in the West because they speculated on land during the Panic of 1819. The Second Bank of the United States foreclosed on their land.

As a result of the bank panic and the depression, the West was shaken. In the West, the economic crisis was severe. Westerners began calling for land reform and a new national bank and debtors' rights.

## Political Changes

A principal reason for the rapid decline of the Federalist party was its failure to adapt to the changing needs of the country after the War of 1812 and presided over a recession. The party seemed completely out of step with the times. Its crushing defeat in the election of 1824 failed to nominate a presidential candidate.

**Changes in the Democratic-Republican Party** The Democratic-Republican party, as the only major party, as it adjusted to the changes of the times. Randolph clung to the old party ideals and the interpretation of the Constitution. Most members of the party were Federalist ideas, such as the need for a strong navy and support for a national bank. The party was strong from one decade to the next. For example, the party strongly opposed both the tariffs of 1816 and 1828. John C. Calhoun, a Democratic-Republican leader who was a hawk and nationalist in 1812, Calhoun was a leading figure in the party.

Political factions and sectional interests emerged during Monroe's second term. When Monroe declined to be a candidate again, the party was divided. The election of 1824 was a result of this and led to the emergence of two rival parties.

## Marshall's Supreme Court Government Powers

One Federalist official continued to hold the reins of power of Democratic-Republican ascendancy. The Supreme Court in 1800 by Federalist John Marshall leading the Court as its chief justice.

### **The Panic of 1819**

The Era of Good Feelings was fractured in 1819 by the first major financial panic since the Constitution had been ratified. The economic disaster was largely the fault of the Second Bank of the United States, which had tightened credit in a belated effort to control inflation. Many state banks closed and unemployment, bankruptcies, and imprisonment for debt increased sharply. The depression was most severe in the West, where many people were in debt because they speculated on land during the postwar euphoria. In 1819, the Bank of the United States foreclosed on large amounts of western farmland.

As a result of the bank panic and depression, nationalistic beliefs were shaken. In the West, the economic crisis changed many voters' political outlook. Westerners began calling for land reform and expressing strong opposition to both the national bank and debtors' prisons.

### **Political Changes**

A principal reason for the rapid decline of the Federalist party was its failure to adapt to the changing needs of a growing nation. Having opposed the War of 1812 and presided over a secessionist convention at Hartford, the party seemed completely out of step with the nationalistic temper of the times. After its crushing defeat in the election of 1816, it ceased to be a national party and failed to nominate a presidential candidate in 1820.

**Changes in the Democratic-Republican Party** Meanwhile, the Democratic-Republican party, as the only remaining national party, underwent serious internal strains as it adjusted to changing times. Members such as John Randolph clung to the old party ideals of limited government and a strict interpretation of the Constitution. Most members, however, adopted what had once been Federalist ideas, such as the need for maintaining of a large army and navy and support for a national bank. Some members reversed their views from one decade to the next. For example, Daniel Webster of Massachusetts, strongly opposed both the tariffs of 1816 and 1824 but then supported even higher tariff rates in 1828. John C. Calhoun of South Carolina was another Democratic-Republican leader who reversed positions. An outspoken war hawk and nationalist in 1812, Calhoun championed states' rights after 1828.

Political factions and sectional differences became more intense during Monroe's second term. When Monroe, honoring the two-term tradition, declined to be a candidate again, four other Republicans sought election as president in 1824. How this election split of the Democratic-Republican party and led to the emergence of two rival parties is explained in Chapter 10.

### **Marshall's Supreme Court and Central Government Powers**

One Federalist official continued to have major influence throughout the years of Democratic-Republican ascendancy: John Marshall. He had been appointed to the Supreme Court in 1800 by Federalist President John Adams and was still leading the Court as its chief justice. His decisions consistently favored the

central government and the rights of property against the advocates of states' rights. Even when justices appointed by Democratic-Republican presidents formed a majority on the Court, they often sided with Marshall because they were persuaded that the U.S. Constitution had created a federal government with strong and flexible powers. Several of Marshall's decisions became landmark rulings that defined the relationship between the central government and the states. The first of these cases, *Marbury v. Madison* (1803), established the principle of judicial review. It was described in Chapter 7. Six other influential cases are described below.

***Fletcher v. Peck* (1810)** In a case involving land fraud in Georgia, Marshall concluded that a state could not pass legislation invalidating a contract. This was the first time that the Supreme Court declared a state law to be unconstitutional and invalid. (In *Marbury v. Madison*, the Court ruled a federal law unconstitutional.)

***Martin v. Hunter's Lease* (1816)** The Supreme Court established that it had jurisdiction over state courts in cases involving constitutional rights.

***Dartmouth College v. Woodward* (1819)** This case involved a law of New Hampshire that changed Dartmouth College from a privately chartered college into a public institution. The Marshall Court struck down the state law as unconstitutional, arguing that a contract for a private corporation could not be altered by the state.

***McCulloch v. Maryland* (1819)** Maryland attempted to tax the Second Bank of the United States located in Maryland. Marshall ruled that a state could not tax a federal institution because "the power to tax is the power to destroy," and federal laws are supreme over state laws. In addition, Marshall settled the long-running debate over constitutionality of the national bank. Using a loose interpretation of the Constitution, Marshall ruled that, even though no clause in the Constitution specifically mentions a national bank, the Constitution gave the federal government the *implied power* to create one.

***Cohens v. Virginia* (1821)** A pair of brothers named Cohens were convicted in Virginia of illegally selling lottery tickets for a lottery authorized by Congress for Washington, D.C. While Marshall and the Court upheld the conviction, they established the principle that the Supreme Court could review a state court's decision involving any of the powers of the federal government.

***Gibbons v. Ogden* (1821)** Could the state of New York grant a monopoly to a steamboat company if that action conflicted with a charter authorized by Congress? In ruling that the New York monopoly was unconstitutional, Marshall established the federal government's broad control of interstate commerce.

## Western Settlement and the Missouri Compromise

Less than ten years after the start of the War of 1812, the population west of the Appalachian Mountains had doubled. Much of the nationalistic and economic interest in the country was centered on the West, which presented both opportunities and new questions.

## Reasons for Westward Movement

Several factors combined to stimulate during the presidencies of Madison and

**Acquisition of American Indian Territory** After American Indians were driven west by General William Henry Harrison in the 1810s, settlement in Florida and the South.

**Economic Pressures** The economic embargo and the war caused population to move across the Appalachians. In the South, farmers replaced the soil exhausted by years of planting cotton in Alabama, Mississippi, and Georgia.

**Improved Transportation** Pioneering as a result of the building of roads.

**Immigrants** More Europeans were coming to the West, offering cheap land in the Great West, Ohio, Cumberland, and Mississippi river valleys.

## New Questions and Issues

Despite their rapid growth, the new states were not as influential relative to those of the other two sections. The new states' influence in Congress, western representation, and the other sections to obtain their objectives were: (1) "cheap money" (easy credit from the Bank of the United States), (2) low taxes, and (3) improved transportation.

However, on the critical issue of slavery, the new states were divided. To permit it or to exclude it. Those settling in the West for economic reasons (labor for the cotton plantations) in the north had no use for slavery. In 1819, when Missouri applied for statehood, the slavery issue was a major concern.

## The Missouri Compromise

Ever since 1791–1792, when Vermont and Kentucky entered as a slave state, politicians had sought to serve a sectional balance between the North and South. In the House of Representatives, the balance was growing more rapidly than in the Senate. In 1819, the majority of 105 to 81 in the House. However, the House was divided evenly: 11 slave and 11 free states. If the new state served, southern senators could block legislation that would harm the interests of their section.

Missouri's bid for statehood alarmed the North. The Missouri Compromise established there. If Missouri came in as a slave state, the balance would be tipped.

### ***Reasons for Westward Movement***

Several factors combined to stimulate rapid growth along the western frontier during the presidencies of Madison and Monroe.

**Acquisition of American Indians' Lands** Large areas were open for settlement after American Indians were driven from their lands by the victories of Generals William Henry Harrison in the Indiana Territory and Andrew Jackson in Florida and the South.

**Economic Pressures** The economic difficulties in the Northeast from the embargo and the war caused people from this region to seek a new future across the Appalachians. In the South, tobacco planters needed new land to replace the soil exhausted by years of poor farming methods. They found good land for planting cotton in Alabama, Mississippi, and Arkansas.

**Improved Transportation** Pioneers had an easier time reaching the frontier as a result of the building of roads and canals, steamboats, and railroads.

**Immigrants** More Europeans were being attracted to America by speculators offering cheap land in the Great Lakes region and in the valleys of the Ohio, Cumberland, and Mississippi rivers.

### ***New Questions and Issues***

Despite their rapid growth, the new states of the West had small populations relative to those of the other two sections. To enhance their limited political influence in Congress, western representatives bargained with politicians from other sections to obtain their objectives. Of greatest importance to the western states were: (1) "cheap money" (easy credit) from state banks rather than from the Bank of the United States, (2) low prices for land sold by the federal government, and (3) improved transportation.

However, on the critical issue of slavery, westerners could not agree whether to permit it or to exclude it. Those settling territory to the south wanted slavery for economic reasons (labor for the cotton fields), while those settling to the north had no use for slavery. In 1819, when the Missouri Territory applied to Congress for statehood, the slavery issue became a subject of angry debate.

### ***The Missouri Compromise***

Ever since 1791–1792, when Vermont entered the Union as a free state and Kentucky entered as a slave state, politicians in Congress had attempted to preserve a sectional balance between the North and the South. Keeping a balance in the House of Representatives was difficult because population in the North was growing more rapidly than in the South. By 1818 the northern states held a majority of 105 to 81 in the House. However, in the Senate, the votes remained divided evenly: 11 slave and 11 free states. As long as this balance was preserved, southern senators could block legislation that they believed threatened the interests of their section.

Missouri's bid for statehood alarmed the North because slavery was well established there. If Missouri came in as a slave state, it would tip the political

balance in the South's favor. Furthermore, Missouri was the first part of the Louisiana Purchase to apply for statehood. Southerners and northerners alike worried about the future status of other new territories applying for statehood from the rest of the vast Louisiana Purchase.

**Tallmadge Amendment** Representative James Tallmadge from New York ignited the debate about the Missouri question by proposing an amendment to the bill for Missouri's admission. The amendment called for (1) prohibiting the further introduction of slaves into Missouri and (2) requiring the children of Missouri slaves to be emancipated at the age of 25. If adopted, the Tallmadge Amendment would have led to the gradual elimination of slavery in Missouri. The amendment was defeated in the Senate as enraged southerners saw it as the first step in a northern effort to abolish slavery in all states.

THE UNITED STATES IN 1821  
AFTER THE MISSOURI COMPROMISE



**Clay's Proposals** After months of debate, Henry Clay won major support. He represented a compromise:

1. Admit Missouri as a slave-holding state.
2. Admit Maine as a free state.
3. Prohibit slavery in the rest of the Louisiana Purchase north of latitude 36° 30'.

Both houses passed the bills, and President James Monroe signed them in March 1820 to what became known as the Missouri Compromise.

**Aftermath** Sectional feelings on the Missouri question were deep. The Missouri Compromise preserved sectional balance and provided time for the nation to mature. Although sectional feelings existed, it was badly damaged by the Missouri crisis. After this political crisis, American nationalism (loyalty to the Union) on the one hand and regionalism (loyalty to one's own region) on the other hand grew.

### Foreign Affairs

Following the War of 1812, the United States took a more nationalistic approach to its relations with other nations. Under President James Monroe, when problems with the British under Stephen Decatur was sent in 1815 to allow American shipping the free use of the high seas, and Secretary of State John Quincy Adams pursued a policy that actively advanced American interests.

### Canada

Although the Treaty of Ghent of 1814 ended the War of 1812, it left unresolved issues including many involving Canada.

**Rush-Bagot Agreement (1817)** Due to the War of 1812, British and American negotiators agreed to the Rush-Bagot Agreement which strictly limited the number of warships on the Great Lakes. In time the agreement was extended to the Atlantic coast as well. Ultimately, the border between the United States and Canada became the longest unfortified border in the world.

**Treaty of 1818** Improved relations with Great Britain continued in a treaty that provided for (1) joint occupation of the Northwest Territory; (2) joint occupation of the Florida Territory; (3) the setting of the northern limits of the Louisiana Purchase, thus establishing the western U.S.-Canada border.

**Clay's Proposals** After months of heated debate in Congress and throughout the nation, Henry Clay won majority support for three bills that, taken together, represented a compromise:

1. Admit Missouri as a slave-holding state.
2. Admit Maine as a free state.
3. Prohibit slavery in the rest of the Louisiana Territory north of latitude 36° 30'.

Both houses passed the bills, and President Monroe added his signature in March 1820 to what became known as the Missouri Compromise.

**Aftermath** Sectional feelings on the slavery issue subsided after 1820. The Missouri Compromise preserved sectional balance for more than 30 years and provided time for the nation to mature. Nevertheless, if an era of good feelings existed, it was badly damaged by the storm of sectional controversy over Missouri. After this political crisis, Americans were torn between feelings of nationalism (loyalty to the Union) on the one hand and feelings of sectionalism (loyalty to one's own region) on the other.

## Foreign Affairs

Following the War of 1812, the United States adopted a more aggressive, nationalistic approach to its relations with other nations. During Madison's presidency, when problems with the Barbary pirates again developed, a fleet under Stephen Decatur was sent in 1815 to force the rulers of North Africa to allow American shipping the free use of the Mediterranean. President Monroe and Secretary of State John Quincy Adams continued to follow a nationalistic policy that actively advanced American interests while maintaining peace.

### Canada

Although the Treaty of Ghent of 1814 had ended the war between Britain and the United States, it left unresolved most of their diplomatic differences, including many involving Canada.

**Rush-Bagot Agreement (1817)** During Monroe's first year as president, British and American negotiators agreed to a major disarmament pact. The Rush-Bagot Agreement strictly limited naval armament on the Great Lakes. In time the agreement was extended to place limits on border fortifications as well. Ultimately, the border between the United States and Canada was to become the longest unfortified border in the world.

**Treaty of 1818** Improved relations between the United States and Britain continued in a treaty that provided for (1) shared fishing rights off the coast of Newfoundland; (2) joint occupation of the Oregon Territory for ten years; and (3) the setting of the northern limits of the Louisiana Territory at the 49th parallel, thus establishing the western U.S.-Canada boundary line.



## Florida

During the War of 1812, U.S. troops had occupied western Florida, a strip of land on the Gulf of Mexico extending all the way to the Mississippi delta. Previously, this land had been held by Spain, Britain's ally. After the war, Spain had difficulty governing the rest of Florida (the peninsula itself) because its troops had been removed from Florida to battle revolts in the South American colonies. The chaotic conditions permitted groups of Seminoles, runaway slaves, and white outlaws to conduct raids into U.S. territory and retreat to safety across the Florida border. These disorders gave Monroe and General Andrew Jackson an opportunity to take military action in Spanish Florida, a territory long coveted by American expansionists.

**Jackson's Military Campaign** In late 1817, the president commissioned General Jackson to stop the raiders and, if necessary, pursue them across the border into Spanish west Florida. Jackson carried out his orders with a vengeance and probably went beyond his instructions. In 1818, he led a force of militia into Florida, destroyed Seminole villages, and hanged two Seminole chiefs. Capturing Pensacola, Jackson drove out the Spanish governor, and hanged two British traders accused of aiding the Seminoles.

Many members of Congress feared that Jackson's overzealousness would precipitate a war with both Spain and Britain. However, Secretary of State John Quincy Adams persuaded Monroe to support Jackson, and the British decided not to intervene.

**Florida Purchase Treaty (1819)** Spain, worried that the United States would seize Florida and preoccupied with troubles in Latin America, decided to get the best possible terms for Florida. By treaty in 1819, Spain turned over all of its possessions in Florida and its own claims in the Oregon Territory to the United States. In exchange, the United States agreed to assume \$5 million in claims against Spain and give up any U.S. territorial claims to the Spanish province of Texas. The agreement is also called the Adams-Onís Treaty.

## The Monroe Doctrine

Although focused on its own growth, the United States did not ignore the ambitions of Europe in the Western Hemisphere. The restoration of a number of monarchies in Europe after the fall of Napoleon in 1815 produced a backlash against republican movements. Restored monarchies in France, Austria, and Prussia, together with Russia, worked together to suppress liberal elements in Italy and Spain. They also considered helping Spain to return to power in South America, where a number of republics had recently declared their independence. In addition, Russia's presence in Alaska worried both Britain and the United States. Using their trading posts in Alaska as a base, Russian seal hunters had spread southward and established a trading post at San Francisco Bay. British and U.S. leaders decided they had a common interest in protecting North and South America from possible aggression by a European power.

**British Initiative** British naval power was making a comeback in Latin America. But American republics required diplomatic support. Canning proposed to Richard Rush, the American minister in London, an American warning to the European powers.

**American Response** Monroe and Adams had the idea of a joint declaration, but Adams disagreed. He believed that joint declarations would create opportunities for further expansion in the Americas. He proposed the following: (1) If the United States acted alone, it would stand behind the U.S. policy. (2) No European power should establish colonies in South America, and if it did, the British would support it. President Monroe decided to act alone and to tell the world that did not have Britain as a model.

**The Doctrine** On December 2, 1823, in his annual message to Congress, Monroe declared the Monroe Doctrine, a policy of opposition to European colonialism in Latin America. The Monroe Doctrine,

as a principle in which the rights of nations are involved, that the American continent is the condition which they have assumed to be considered as subjects for future European powers.

Monroe declared further that the United States would oppose any European power to interfere in the Western Hemisphere.

**Impact** Monroe's bold words of opposition to European colonialism in Latin America were soon forgotten with domestic issues. In Britain, Canning recognized that it applied, not just to his country as well. The British too were seeking new territory in the Western Hemisphere and were angry to Monroe's message. Still, they were thwarted, not by his words, but by the actions of other powers.

The Monroe Doctrine had less significance when it would be hailed by politicians. It became a part of U.S. foreign policy toward Latin America. It was the first of many presidents to justify their actions by Monroe's warning words.

## A National Economy

In the early 1800s, the Jeffersonian dream of a national economy remained strong in rural areas. An increasing percentage of the American population was engaged in agriculture.

**British Initiative** British naval power deterred the Spanish from attempting a comeback in Latin America. But to maintain British trade with the Latin American republics required diplomacy. British Foreign Secretary George Canning proposed to Richard Rush, the U.S. minister in London, a joint Anglo-American warning to the European powers not to intervene in South America.

**American Response** Monroe and most of his advisers thought Canning's idea of a joint declaration made sense. However, Secretary of State John Quincy Adams disagreed. He believed that joint action with Britain would restrict U.S. opportunities for further expansion in the hemisphere. Adams reasoned as follows: (1) If the United States acted alone, Britain could be counted upon to stand behind the U.S. policy. (2) No European power would risk going to war in South America, and if it did, the British navy would surely defeat the aggressor. President Monroe decided to act as Adams advised—to issue a statement to the world that did not have Britain as a coauthor.

**The Doctrine** On December 2, 1823, President Monroe inserted into his annual message to Congress a declaration of U.S. policy toward Europe and Latin America. The Monroe Doctrine, as it came to be called, asserted

as a principle in which the rights and interests of the United States are involved, that the American continents, by the free and independent condition which they have assumed and maintain, are henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by any European powers.

Monroe declared further that the United States opposed attempts by a European power to interfere in the affairs of any republic in the Western Hemisphere.

**Impact** Monroe's bold words of nationalistic purpose were applauded by the American public but soon forgotten, as most citizens were more concerned with domestic issues. In Britain, Canning was annoyed by the doctrine because he recognized that it applied, not just to the other European powers, but to his country as well. The British too were warned not to intervene and not to seek new territory in the Western Hemisphere. The European monarchs reacted angrily to Monroe's message. Still, they recognized that their purposes were thwarted, not by his words, but by the might of the British navy.

The Monroe Doctrine had less significance at the time than in later decades, when it would be hailed by politicians and citizens alike as the cornerstone of U.S. foreign policy toward Latin America. In the 1840s, President James Polk was the first of many presidents to justify his foreign policy by referring to Monroe's warning words.

## A National Economy

In the early 1800s, the Jeffersonian dream of a nation of independent farmers remained strong in rural areas. As the century progressed, however, an increasing percentage of the American people were swept up in the dynamic

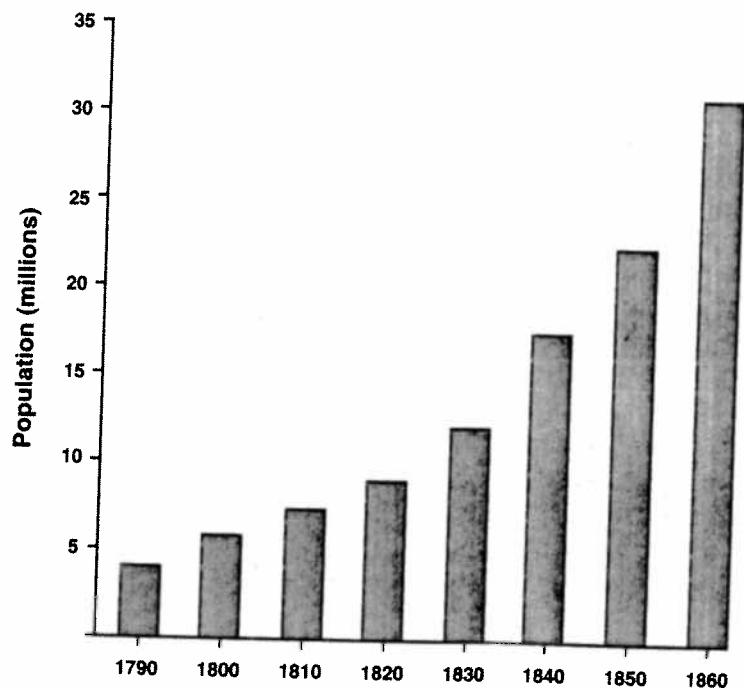
economic changes of the Industrial Revolution. Political conflicts over tariffs, internal improvements, and the Bank of the United States reflected the importance to people's lives of a national economy that was rapidly growing.

### Population Growth

Population growth provided both the laborers and the consumers required for industrial development. Between 1800 and 1825, the U.S. population doubled; in the following 25 years it doubled again. A high birthrate accounted for most of this growth, but it was strongly supplemented after 1830 by immigrants arriving from Europe, particularly from Great Britain and Germany. The nonwhite population—African Americans and American Indians—grew despite the ban on the importation of slaves after 1808. However, as a percentage of the total population, nonwhites declined from almost 20 percent in 1790 to 15 percent in the 1850s.

By the 1830s, almost one-third of the population lived west of the Alleghenies. At the same time, both old and new urban areas were growing rapidly.

UNITED STATES POPULATION, 1790 to 1860



Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census. *Historical Statistics of the United States, Colonial Times to 1970*

### Transportation

Vital to the development of both a national and an efficient network of interconnecting roads, materials, and manufactured goods.

**Roads** Pennsylvania's Lancaster and Philadelphia with the rich farmlands and the construction of other privately built roads in the mid-1820s, connected most of the country.

Despite the need for interstate roads, federal funds on internal improvements and state lines was therefore unusual. One example was the Cumberland Road, a paved highway more than a thousand miles from Maryland and completed in the 1850s, using both federal and state funds. Different states receiving ownership of segments.

**Canals** The completion of the Erie Canal was a major event in linking the economic regions of the country. The success of this canal in stimulating canal-building in other states. In linking together all of the major lakes and rivers, transportation meant lower food prices in the West, and stronger economic ties between the East and West.

**Steamboats** The age of mechanization began with the successful voyage up the Hudson River by the steamboat developed by Robert Fulton. Commerce made round-trip shipping on the national waterways.

**Railroads** Even more rapid and reliable with the building of the first U.S. railroad. Early railroads were hampered at first because they were competing directly with canals for carrying passengers and freight. The combination of canal and railroad improvements in transportation rapidly expanded the economy. Cleveland, Cincinnati, Detroit, and Chicago were among the expanding national economy.

### Growth of Industry

At the start of the 19th century, a man in the United States. By midcentury, however, agriculture in value, and by century's end industrial growth was the result of a union of agriculture and industry.

**Mechanical Inventions** Protected by patent laws and handsome rewards if their ideas were practical. Eli Whitney was only one of the many inventors whose long hours of tinkering in

## **Transportation**

Vital to the development of both a national and an industrial economy was an efficient network of interconnecting roads and canals for moving people, raw materials, and manufactured goods.

**Roads** Pennsylvania's Lancaster Turnpike, built in the 1790s, connected Philadelphia with the rich farmlands around Lancaster. Its success stimulated the construction of other privately built and relatively short toll roads that, by the mid-1820s, connected most of the country's major cities.

Despite the need for interstate roads, states' righters blocked the spending of federal funds on internal improvements. Construction of highways that crossed state lines was therefore unusual. One notable exception was the National, or Cumberland Road, a paved highway and major route to the west extending more than a thousand miles from Maryland to Illinois. It was begun in 1811 and completed in the 1850s, using both federal and state money, with the different states receiving ownership of segments of the highway.

**Canals** The completion of the Erie Canal in New York State in 1825 was a major event in linking the economies of western farms and eastern cities. The success of this canal in stimulating economic growth touched off a frenzy of canal-building in other states. In little more than a decade, canals joined together all of the major lakes and rivers east of the Mississippi. Improved transportation meant lower food prices in the East, more immigrants settling in the West, and stronger economic ties between the two sections.

**Steamboats** The age of mechanized, steam-powered travel began in 1807 with the successful voyage up the Hudson River of the *Clermont*, a steamboat developed by Robert Fulton. Commercially operated steamboat lines soon made round-trip shipping on the nation's great rivers both faster and cheaper.

**Railroads** Even more rapid and reliable links between cities became possible with the building of the first U.S. railroad lines in the late 1820s. The early railroads were hampered at first by safety problems, but by the 1830s they were competing directly with canals as an alternative method for carrying passengers and freight. The combination of railroads with the other major improvements in transportation rapidly changed small western towns such as Cleveland, Cincinnati, Detroit, and Chicago into booming commercial centers of the expanding national economy.

## **Growth of Industry**

At the start of the 19th century, a manufacturing economy had barely begun in the United States. By midcentury, however, U.S. manufacturing surpassed agriculture in value, and by century's end, it was the world's leader. This rapid industrial growth was the result of a unique combination of factors.

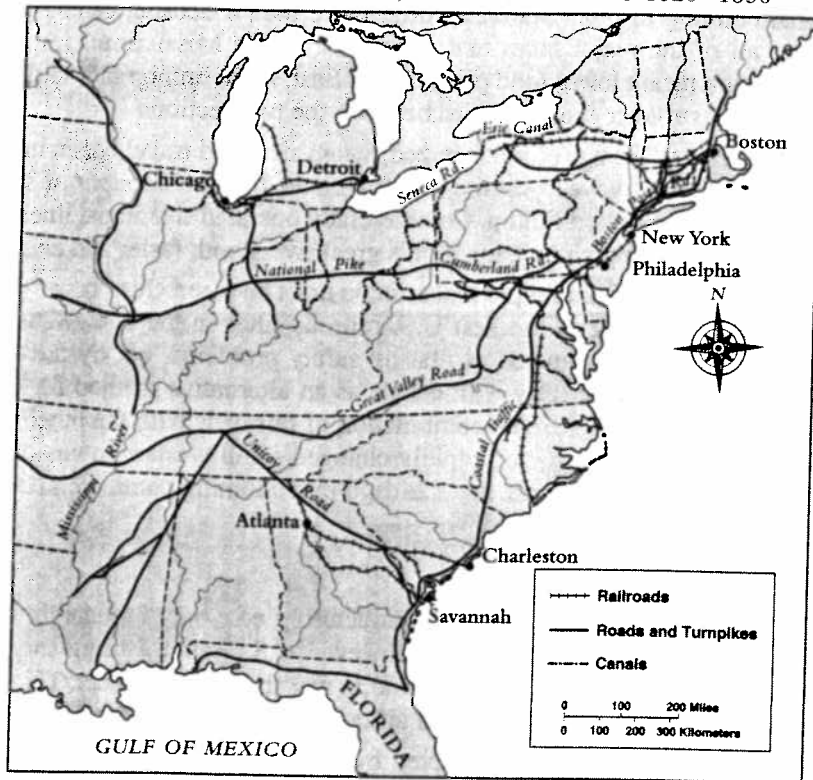
**Mechanical Inventions** Protected by patent laws, inventors looked forward to handsome rewards if their ideas for new tools or machines proved practical. Eli Whitney was only the most famous of hundreds of Americans whose long hours of tinkering in their workshops resulted in improved

technology. Besides inventing the cotton gin in 1793, Whitney devised a system for making rifles out of interchangeable parts during the War of 1812. Interchangeable parts then became the basis for mass production methods in the new northern factories.

**Corporations for Raising Capital** In 1811, New York passed a law that made it easier for a business to incorporate and raise capital (money) by selling shares of stock. Other states soon imitated New York's example. Owners of a corporation risked only the amount of money that they invested in a venture. Changes in state corporation laws facilitated the raising of the large sums of capital necessary for building factories, canals, and railroads.

**Factory System** When Samuel Slater emigrated from Britain, he took with him the British secrets for building cotton-spinning machines, and he put this knowledge to work by helping establish the first U.S. factory in 1791. Early in the next century, the embargo and the War of 1812 stimulated domestic manufacturing, and the protective tariffs enacted by Congress helped the new factories prosper.

MAJOR CANALS, ROADS, AND RAILROADS 1820–1850



In the 1820s, New England emerged as a center as a result of the region's machinery and excellent seaports for England's maritime industry made the decline of farming in the region of northern states with similar resources and Pennsylvania—followed New England—it encouraged the growth of financial

**Labor** At first, factory owners built mills. Factory life could not compete. In response to this difficulty, textile young farm women and housed them in other factories imitated the Lowell System use of child labor. (Children as young factories.) Toward the middle of the century employ immigrants in large numbers.

**Unions** Trade (or craft) unions emerged in the 1790s and increased in number as skilled workers (shoemakers and weavers) joined in factories because their earlier (the crafts system) could no longer produce goods. Long hours, low pay, and poor living content among factory workers. A primary demand was the workday to ten hours. The obstacle was (1) immigrant replacement workers, frequent economic depressions with high

### Commercial Agriculture

In the early 1800s, farming became more profitable as a means of providing subsistence for the growing population brought about by a blend of factors.

**Cheap Land and Easy Credit** Land was available at low prices by the federal government to acquire land by providing farmers with

**Markets** Initially, western farmers used the Ohio and Mississippi rivers and railroads opened new markets in the

### Cotton and the South

Throughout the 19th century, the principal crop of the entire region. Now that they could produce cotton seeds, southern planters found cotton the leading crop of the colonial period. The purchase of slaves and new land in Alabama and their cotton crop overseas for sale to E

In the 1820s, New England emerged as the country's leading manufacturing center as a result of the region's abundant waterpower for driving the new machinery and excellent seaports for shipping goods. Also, the decline of New England's maritime industry made capital available for manufacturing, while the decline of farming in the region yielded a ready labor supply. Other northern states with similar resources and problems—New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania—followed New England's lead. As the factory system expanded, it encouraged the growth of financial businesses such as banking and insurance.

**Labor** At first, factory owners had difficulty finding workers for their mills. Factory life could not compete with the lure of cheap land in the West. In response to this difficulty, textile mills in Lowell, Massachusetts, recruited young farm women and housed them in company dormitories. In the 1830s, other factories imitated the Lowell System. Many factories also made extensive use of child labor. (Children as young as seven left home to work in the new factories.) Toward the middle of the century northern manufacturers began to employ immigrants in large numbers.

**Unions** Trade (or craft) unions were organized in major cities as early as the 1790s and increased in number as the factory system took hold. Many skilled workers (shoemakers and weavers, for example) had to seek employment in factories because their earlier practice of working in their own shops (the crafts system) could no longer compete with lower-priced, mass-produced goods. Long hours, low pay, and poor working conditions led to widespread discontent among factory workers. A prime goal of the early unions was to reduce the workday to ten hours. The obstacles to union success, however, were many: (1) immigrant replacement workers, (2) state laws outlawing unions, and (3) frequent economic depressions with high unemployment.

### ***Commercial Agriculture***

In the early 1800s, farming became more of a commercial enterprise and less a means of providing subsistence for the family. This change to cash crops was brought about by a blend of factors.

**Cheap Land and Easy Credit** Large areas of western land were made available at low prices by the federal government. State banks also made it easy to acquire land by providing farmers with loans at low interest rates.

**Markets** Initially, western farmers were limited to sending their products down the Ohio and Mississippi rivers to southern markets. The advent of canals and railroads opened new markets in the growing factory cities in the East.

### ***Cotton and the South***

Throughout the 19th century, the principal cash crop in the South was cotton. Eli Whitney's invention of the cotton gin in 1793 transformed the agriculture of an entire region. Now that they could easily separate the cotton fiber from the seeds, southern planters found cotton more profitable than tobacco and indigo, the leading crops of the colonial period. They invested their capital in the purchase of slaves and new land in Alabama and Mississippi and shipped most of their cotton crop overseas for sale to British textile factories.

## Effects of the Market Revolution

Specialization on the farm, the growth of cities, industrialization, and the development of modern capitalism meant the end of self-sufficient households and a growing interdependence among people. These changes combined to bring about a revolution in the marketplace. The farmers fed the workers in the cities, who in turn provided farm families with an array of mass-produced goods. For most Americans, the standard of living increased. At the same time, however, adapting to an impersonal, fast-changing economy presented challenges and problems.

**Women** As American society became more urban and industrialized, the nature of work and family life changed for women, many of whom no longer worked next to their husbands on family farms. Women seeking employment in a city were usually limited to two choices: domestic service or teaching. Factory jobs, as in the Lowell System, were not common. The overwhelming majority of working women were single. If they married, they left their jobs and took up duties in the home.

In both urban and rural settings, women were gaining relatively more control over their lives. Marriages arranged by one's parents were less common, and some women elected to have fewer children. Nevertheless, legal restrictions on women remained. For example, they could not vote.

**Economic and Social Mobility** Real wages improved for most urban workers in the early 1800s, but the gap between the very wealthy and the very poor increased. Social mobility (moving upward in income level and social status) did occur from one generation to the next, and economic opportunities in the United States were greater than in Europe. Extreme examples of poor, hard-working people becoming millionaires, however, were rare.

**Slavery** At the outset of the 19th century, many people throughout the nation believed and hoped that slavery would gradually disappear. They thought that the exhaustion of soil in the coastal lands of Virginia and the Carolinas and the constitutional ban on the importation of slaves after 1808 would make slavery economically unfeasible. However, the rapid growth of the cotton industry and the expansion of slavery into new states such as Alabama and Mississippi ended hopes for a quiet end to slavery. As the arguments over the Missouri Compromise suggested, the slavery issue defied easy answers.

Population of Selected States, 1800	
New York	20,613
Maryland	106,635
Virginia	346,671
Georgia	59,699
Alabama	-----
Mississippi	-----
Arkansas	-----
All States	893,605

Source: State-level data from Historical Census of the United States, 1790-1860; Virginia, Geospatial and Statistical Data Center.

## HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES: WHAT

The Monroe Doctrine is an example of a basic fact—the words of the document—but disagree on the interpretation. (1) Who was chiefly responsible for the Monroe Doctrine? (2) What was its purpose was, and (3) the extent to which it was a diplomatic success.

Some historians argue that the doctrine came from Thomas Jefferson, while others credit Secretary of State John Quincy Adams. Adams argued for the policy of nonintervention in the affairs of the other American nations. Those stressing Adams argue that Adams (1) had no authorization by a European power and (2) that Monroe's message to Congress contained the real credit for having made the policy a reality.

A second area of contention concerns the doctrine. Was it aimed primarily at the territorial ambitions of Spain, France, and Russia? France was threatening to reconquer Spanish territory and Russia was advancing southward along the coast. A contrary view is that Monroe

Population of Enslaved African Americans

	1800	1830	1860
New York	20,613	75	0
Maryland	106,635	102,994	87,189
Virginia	346,671	469,767	490,865
Georgia	59,699	217,531	462,198
Alabama	-----	117,549	435,080
Mississippi	-----	65,659	436,631
Arkansas	-----	4,576	111,115
All States	893,605	2,009,043	3,953,760

Source: State-level data from Historical Census Browser from the University of Virginia, Geospatial and Statistical Data Center. Data drawn from the U.S. Census

### HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES: WHAT LED TO THE MONROE DOCTRINE?

The Monroe Doctrine is an example of where historians agree on the basic facts—the words of the document and the events that led up to it—but disagree on the interpretation of them. They disagree on (1) who was chiefly responsible for the Monroe Doctrine, (2) what its primary purpose was, and (3) the extent to which it was influenced by British diplomacy.

Some historians argue that the original inspiration for the doctrine came from Thomas Jefferson, while others attribute the astute thinking of Secretary of State John Quincy Adams. Those crediting Jefferson with the policy of nonintervention in the Western Hemisphere point to his idea of the political world falling into “two spheres,” one European and the other American. Those stressing the key role played by John Quincy Adams argue that Adams (1) had consistently opposed further colonization by a European power and (2) had written the original draft of Monroe’s message to Congress containing the doctrine. Other historians say that, regardless of the roots of the doctrine, Monroe himself deserves the real credit for having made the policy choice and issuing the doctrine.

A second area of contention concerns the real purpose behind the doctrine. Was it aimed primarily, as some historians argue, at stopping the territorial ambitions of Spain, France, and Russia? In the early 1820s, France was threatening to reconquer Spanish colonies in South America, and Russia was advancing southward from Alaska toward the California coast. A contrary view is that Monroe and Adams were chiefly concerned

*continued*



about sending a message to Great Britain. Not only was Britain the dominant seapower in 1823, but it was also regarded with suspicion as a traditional foe of American liberty.

A third question revolves around the role of British Foreign Secretary George Canning, whose suggestion for a joint Anglo-U.S. communiqué against the restoration of the Spanish colonies precipitated President Monroe's declaration. Historians disagree about Canning's motivation for suggesting the communiqué. Was he more concerned with protecting British political interests by attempting to block a European alliance? Or was he chiefly concerned with cultivating U.S.-British economic cooperation so as to lower U.S. tariff barriers and promote British trading interests?

Historians also disagree on the impact of the Monroe Doctrine. They take conflicting positions on Latin Americans' perception of U.S. policy and on the influence of the doctrine on U.S. policy in the second half of the 20th century. Amassing facts is just the start of a historian's task. Equally important is applying critical thought and analysis.

## MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS

Questions 1–3 refer to the excerpt 1

“The only encouragements we hold . . . tile soil, wholesome air and water, p kind neighbors, good laws, a free gov depends on a man's own industry and

“If a European has previously res the Allegheny or Ohio rivers, . . . a fev land . . . from whence the public roac mountains. . . .

“You will, however, observe that 1 without proper precautions; to secure unworthy should, if practicable, be r importance of good moral habits, ever

—Clemens

- Which phrase by Burleigh best ac number of immigrants coming to 1816 to 1848?
  - “a good climate”
  - “good pay for labor”
  - “kind neighbors”
  - “a hearty welcome”
- In the 1830s and 1840s, the sectic immigration was the
  - states in the East and North
  - states with large plantations
  - states west of the Allegheny
  - territories that were not yet s
- Which of the following reinforced to people who wanted to move to
  - American System
  - Industrialization
  - Protective tariff
  - Rush-Bagot Agreement

### KEY TERMS BY THEME

#### Public Confidence (ID)

Era of Good Feelings  
sectionalism  
James Monroe  
cultural nationalism  
economic nationalism

#### Industry (WXT)

Tariff of 1816  
protective tariff  
Henry Clay; American System  
Second Bank of the United States  
Panic of 1819  
Lancaster Turnpike  
National (Cumberland) Road

#### Erie Canal

Robert Fulton;  
steamboats  
railroads  
Eli Whitney; inter-changeable parts  
corporations  
Samuel Slater  
factory system  
Lowell System; textile mills  
industrialization  
specialization  
unions  
cotton gin  
market revolution

#### Making the Law (POL)

John Marshall  
*Fletcher v. Peck*  
*McCulloch v. Maryland*  
*Dartmouth College v. Woodward*  
*Gibbons v. Ogden*  
implied powers  
Tallmadge Amendment  
Missouri Compromise (1820)

#### Foreign Affairs (WOR)

Stephen Decatur  
Rush-Bagot Agree-ment (1817)  
Treaty of 1818  
Andrew Jackson  
Florida Purchase Treaty (1819)  
Monroe Doctrine (1823)

## MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS

Questions 1–3 refer to the excerpt below.

“The only encouragements we hold out to strangers are a good climate, fertile soil, wholesome air and water, plenty of provisions, good pay for labor, kind neighbors, good laws, a free government, and a hearty welcome. The rest depends on a man’s own industry and virtue.”

“If a European has previously resolved to go to the western country near the Allegheny or Ohio rivers, . . . a few day journey will bring him to Cumberland . . . from whence the public road begun by the United States, crosses the mountains. . . .

“You will, however, observe that the privilege of citizenship is not granted without proper precautions; to secure that, while the worthy are admitted, the unworthy should, if practicable, be rejected. You will from hence deduce the importance of good moral habits, even to the acquisition of political rights.”

—Clements Burleigh, Shamrock Society of New York,  
“Advice to Emigrants to America,” 1817

1. Which phrase by Burleigh best addresses the motives of the largest number of immigrants coming to the United States during the years from 1816 to 1848?
  - (A) “a good climate”
  - (B) “good pay for labor”
  - (C) “kind neighbors”
  - (D) “a hearty welcome”
2. In the 1830s and 1840s, the section of the United States most affected by immigration was the
  - (A) states in the East and North
  - (B) states with large plantations
  - (C) states west of the Allegheny Mountains
  - (D) territories that were not yet states
3. Which of the following reinforced the message that Burleigh was sending to people who wanted to move to America?
  - (A) American System
  - (B) Industrialization
  - (C) Protective tariff
  - (D) Rush-Bagot Agreement

Questions 4–6 refer to the excerpt below.

“With the existing colonies or dependencies of any European power we have not interfered and shall not interfere. But with the governments who have declared their independence and maintained it, and whose independence we have acknowledged, we could not view any interposition for the purpose of oppressing them, or controlling . . . by any European power in any other light than as the manifestation of an unfriendly disposition toward the United States. . . .

“Our policy in regard to Europe . . . which is not to interfere in the internal concerns of any of its powers . . . but in regard to those continents [the Americas], circumstances are eminently and conspicuously different. It is impossible that the allied powers should extend their political system to any portion of either continent without endangering our peace and happiness; nor can anyone believe that our southern brethren if left to themselves, would adopt it of their own accord.”

—James Monroe, The Monroe Doctrine, 1823

- Who of the following provided the strongest influence on President Monroe in the writing of the Monroe Doctrine?
  - George Washington
  - John Adams
  - Thomas Jefferson
  - John Quincy Adams
- Monroe counted on which of the following European nations to be an ally if any nation challenged the Monroe Doctrine?
  - Britain
  - France
  - Russia
  - Spain
- Which best explains why the American people were so supportive of the Monroe Doctrine?
  - Nationalism
  - Sectionalism
  - States' rights
  - Dislike of Britain

Questions 7–8 refer to the chart below.

Region	Fr
New England	1
Middle States	3
West	4
South	2
Total	11

Source: Jeffrey B. Morris and R  
*Encyclopedia of American Histo*

- Based on the voting patterns shown, support for funding for internal improvements would have been strongest in:
  - agricultural regions
  - undeveloped regions
  - regions where slavery was strong
  - regions where the Federalist party was strong
- Support for the bill would have been strongest in:
  - American System
  - Cultural nationalism
  - Specialization
  - Factory system

Questions 7-8 refer to the chart below.

Region	For	Against
New England	12	26
Middle States	37	26
West	43	0
South	23	34
Total	115	86

Source: Jeffrey B. Morris and Richard B. Morris, editors.  
*Encyclopedia of American History*

7. Based on the voting patterns shown in the chart, support for federal funding for internal improvements was strongest in
  - (A) agricultural regions
  - (B) undeveloped regions
  - (C) regions where slavery was strong
  - (D) regions where the Federalist party had been strong
8. Support for the bill would have been consistent with support for which of the following?
  - (A) American System
  - (B) Cultural nationalism
  - (C) Specialization
  - (D) Factory system

## SHORT-ANSWER QUESTIONS

Briefly answer the questions in complete sentences. A thesis is not required.

**Question 1.** Answer a, b, and c.

- a) Choose ONE of the choices below, and explain how your choice had an impact on the industrial growth during this period from prior to the War of 1812 to the middle of the 19th century.
  - factory system
  - inventions
  - labor unions
- b) Contrast your choice against one of the other options, demonstrating why that option is not as good as your choice.
- c) Briefly explain whether there were any variations in industrial growth in different sections of the country.

**Question 2.** Answer a, b, and c.

- a) Briefly explain ONE of the parts of Henry Clay's proposed American System, a comprehensive plan to bring about economic improvement. Provide at least ONE piece of evidence to support your explanation.
  - protective tariffs
  - National Bank
  - internal improvements
- b) Briefly explain how ONE of the parts of Henry Clay's proposed American System would bring about economic improvement. Provide at least ONE piece of evidence to support your explanation.
- c) Identify and briefly explain the role played by ONE individual or group that was critical of one of the parts or the entire plan for an American System.

**Question 3** is based on the following

"Congress possesses the power of making a condition of the act of admitting a new state that of slavery impairs the industry and the portion to the multiplication of its slave laborers."

"If her laborers are slaves, Missouri will be unable to raise soldiers or to have proved that manufacturers do not depend on slaves. . . ."

"If Missouri, and the other states of the Union, are permitted to . . . establish a slave market, the Union may be endangered . . . if not only will the slave markets be broken up, but the Union will be extended."

—Senator Rufus B. Sargent

"It were charity to hope that the motive for introducing restrictions into the constitution as they affect to be. . . ."

"Shall we adopt the barbarous principle of putting a check on the increase of black population to a country more salubrious than this?"

"It behooves us to contest at the table the compact of the states; which sets a precedent for the government; which will prove an apple of discord, and threaten to subvert our government, and deal a deadly blow at the rights of a part of the population, and the money and tranquility of the whole."

—A. A. Phelps

3. Using the excerpts, answer a, b, and c.
  - a) Briefly explain the main point of the first excerpt.
  - b) Briefly explain the main point of the second excerpt.
  - c) Provide ONE piece of evidence from the excerpts that is not included in the excerpt interpretation in either excerpt.