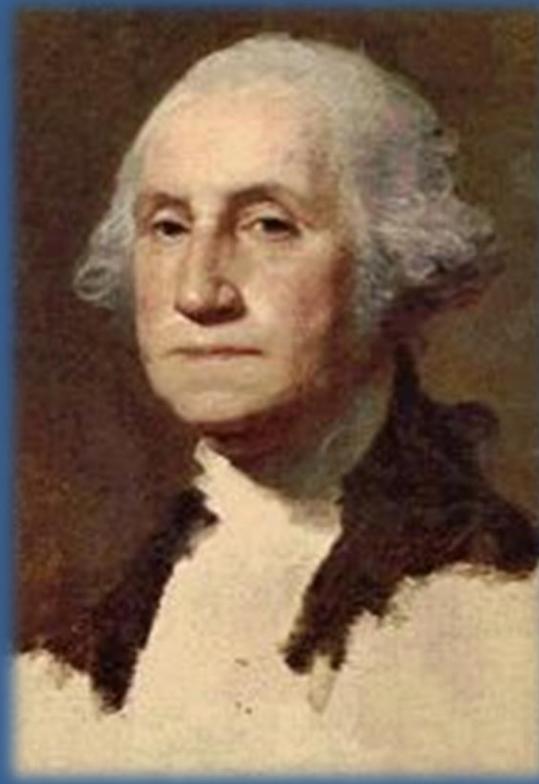


GEORGE WASHINGTON

1789-1797



First President of the United States under the Constitution

George Washington's Presidency

April 30, 1789

George Washington from Virginia
is inaugurated or sworn in as
President.



John Adams from Massachusetts
Becomes the Vice-President.

Washington establishes many
governmental precedents.



PRECEDENT: an example that would
become a standard practice.

Establishment of the Court System

Federal Judiciary Act of 1789:

Passed by Congress.

1. Created an independent federal court system with the Supreme Court and lower level courts.



2. The U.S. Supreme Court is to have a Chief Justice and five associate justices. Currently we have 9 total justices.
3. State courts and laws were maintained but could be derogated by the federal courts.
4. The Supreme Court had the final say in a decision.
5. Washington appoints **John Jay** as Chief Justice.



Establishment of the Presidential Cabinet

The **Constitution** allows Congress to create departments to help the President as his Cabinet.

The first Presidential Cabinet had four departments:

1. State Department
2. War Department
3. Treasury Department
4. Justice Department

The First Presidential Cabinet

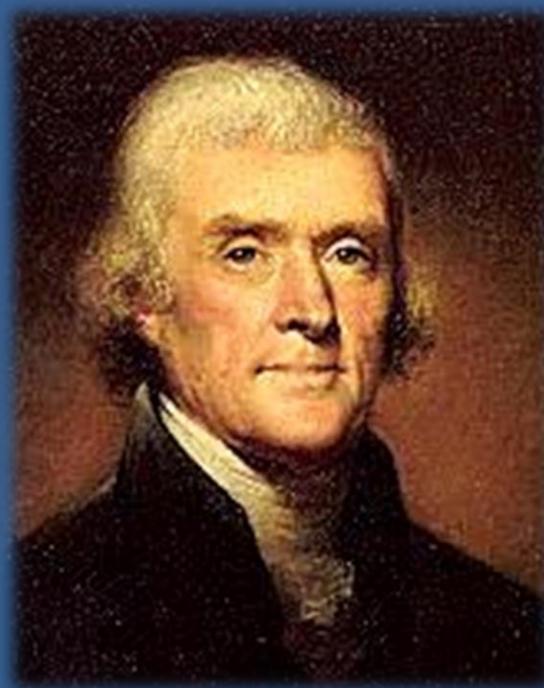
1. **Secretary of War** oversee the nation's defenses.

First Secretary: **Henry Knox**



2. **Secretary of State** oversee the relations between the U.S. and other countries.

First Secretary: **Thomas Jefferson**



3. **Secretary of the Treasury** to manage the government's money.

First Secretary **Alexander Hamilton**



4. **Justice Department** to advise the government on legal matters.

First Attorney General **Edmond Randolph**



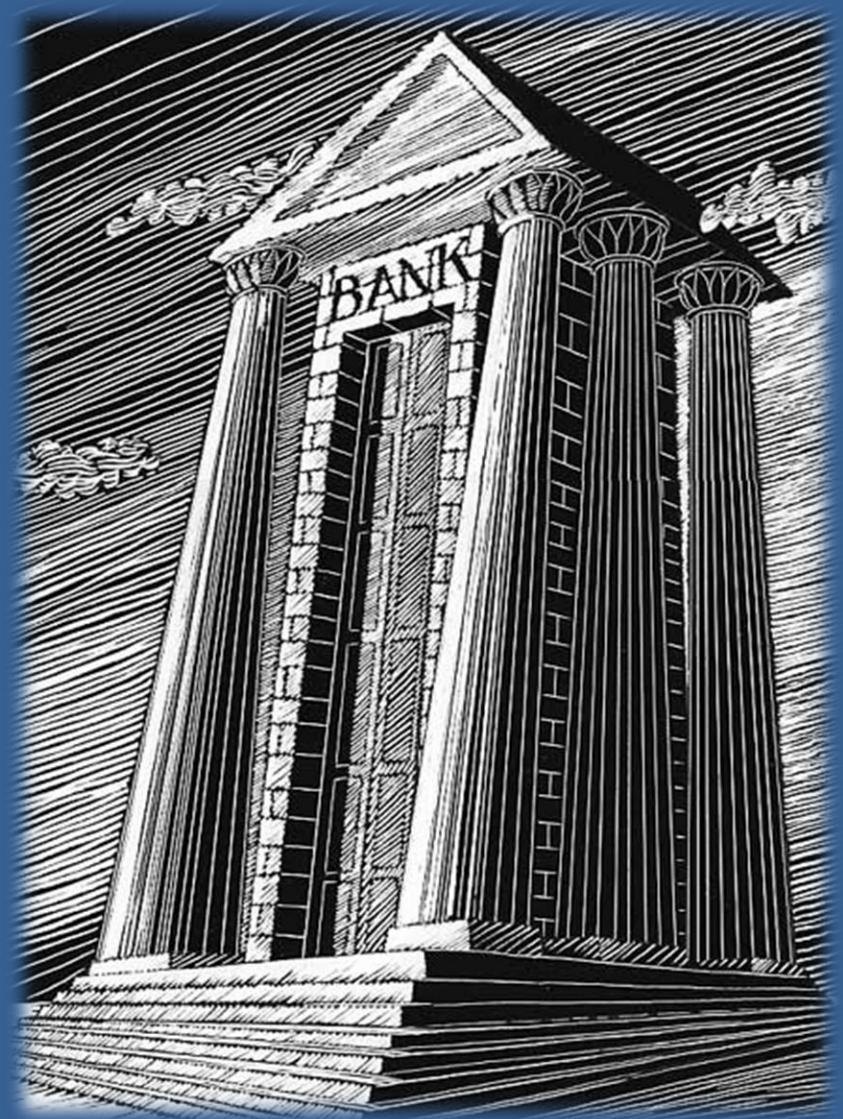
Hamilton's Financial Plan

Alexander Hamilton believed that the federal government should be stronger than the state governments.

- Pay off the war debt to develop the trust of other nations for trade.
- Raise the federal government's revenues through tariffs and taxes. (tariffs - a tax on imported goods)
- Tariffs would...
 - a. encourage the growth of American industry (buy American-made).
 - b. raise money for the federal government.

D. **Create a NATIONAL BANK:**

1. safe place to keep the government's money.
2. can make loans to businesses.
3. would issue paper currency.
4. strengthen the federal government.



The United States owed \$11.7 million to foreign countries and \$40.4 million to U.S. citizens.

Hamilton planned to pay foreign debt first, and all debt at full value.

Some politicians, including **Thomas Jefferson**, opposed the plan, but Hamilton went ahead with it.

States owed \$25 million for Revolutionary War expenses.

Hamilton wanted the federal government to pay part of the states' debts to help the national economy.

The South did not want the federal government to pay states' debts.

Hamilton won the South's support by getting northern approval to move the national capital from Philadelphia to south of the Potomac River,
Washington, D.C.

Jefferson and Madison said Hamilton's economic plans gave too much power to the national government and that the Constitution did not give Congress the power to create the bank.

Debate on Interpretation of the Constitution

- **STRICT CONSTRUCTION:** only what the Constitution clearly states - favored by Jefferson and Madison.

- **LOOSE CONSTRUCTION:** the Constitution should be flexible to meet the needs of the country (Elastic Clause) - favored by Hamilton and Adams.

Jefferson and Hamilton argue these points on the creation of the National Bank.

President Washington and **Congress** agreed with Hamilton that it would provide stability for the U.S. economy.

The Bank of the United States—the country's first national bank—was chartered in **1791**.

Major Events During Washington's Presidency

The French Revolution 1789-1793

The French people overthrow the French monarchy by executing King Louis XVI.

France and Great Britain later went to war and some Americans, including Thomas Jefferson, supported the French.

President Washington wanted to remain neutral.

The United States issued the **Neutrality Proclamation**, it would not take sides.

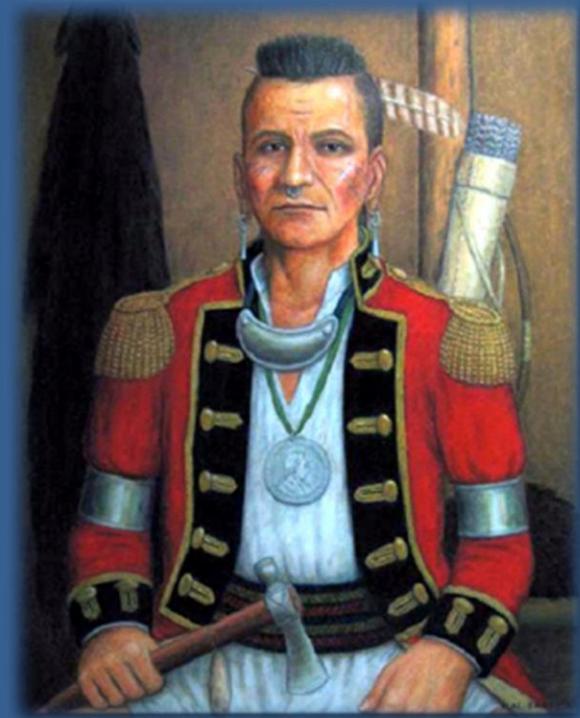


Conflict in the Northwest Territory

Americans settled in the Northwest Territory despite Native Americans' protests, so they went to war.

Battle of Fallen Timbers 1794

After the **Miami** tribe of **Little Turtle** win over the American army, the federalists defeat **Shawnee Tribe's Blue Jacket** and his confederation of Indians over tension in the territory.

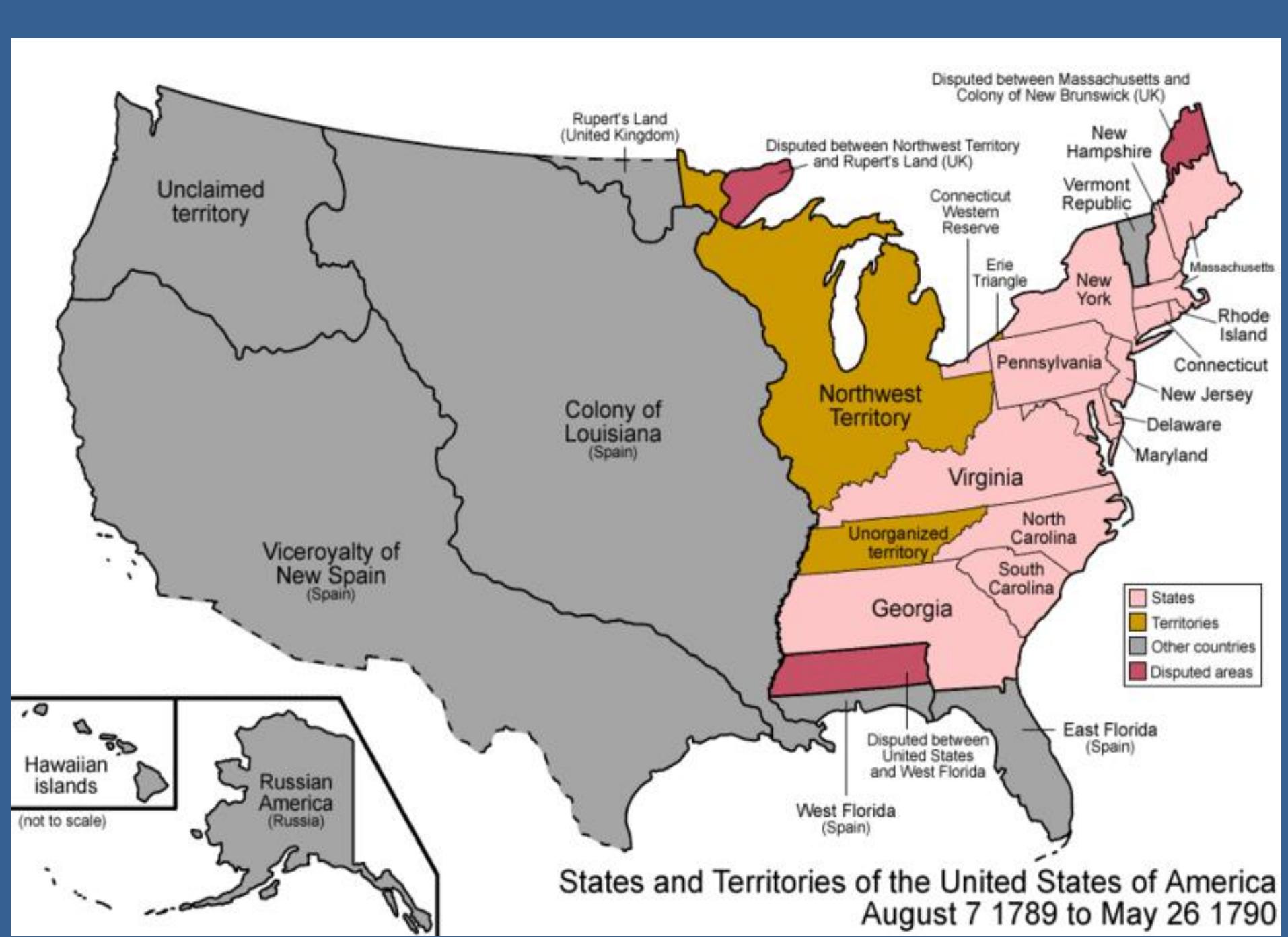


Shawnee Tribe's Blue Jacket

The Treaty of Greenville ended the war in 1795.

The tribes agreed to cede to the United States large parts of Ohio, the Fort Detroit area, Maumee, Ohio Area, and the Lower Sandusky Ohio Area. The US agreed that no more settlers would take the land remaining with the tribes..

The Native American tribes were promised an "annuity" system: yearly grants of federal money and supplies of cloth. They were promised a payment of goods to the value of \$20,000 (such as blankets, utensils, and domestic animals).



Jay's Treaty

The British were seizing American ships in the French West Indies.

Washington wanted to prevent another war; so did the British.

Jay's Treaty was signed in 1794.

It settled disputes that had arisen between the two countries in the 1790's.

The treaty was unpopular in the United States.

The Whiskey Rebellion (1794)

Pennsylvania farmers refused to pay tax on their American made whiskey. Washington used the American army to enforce it. This upheld the power of the new federal government.



Pinckney's Treaty

The Spanish disputed the U.S. and Florida border.

Spain closed the New Orleans port to U.S. trade in 1784 hurting the American economy.

1795 Spain gave the Americans the right to freely travel on the **Mississippi River** and use the **port of New Orleans**.



Pinckney's Treaty



The southern U.S. border was set at 31° N latitude.

Washington Retires

Established the precedent of only a two-term presidency, which becomes the 22nd Amendment only in 1951, after the presidency of Franklin Delano Roosevelt.



President George Washington:

Wanted to leave public life in 1796.

- Warned against dangers of foreign ties.
- Warned the nation to work out its political differences.
- Warned against too much public debt.



JOHN ADAMS

■ 1797-1801



The Rise of Political Parties

Political parties began to form in the 1790s.

The **Federalist Party**, founded by **Alexander Hamilton** supported a strong federal government.

The **Democratic-Republican Party**, founded by **Thomas Jefferson and James Madison** wanted to limit the power of the federal government.

The Federalist John Adams defeated the Democratic-Republican candidate, Thomas Jefferson, in the election of 1796.

Adams became president, and Jefferson, vice president.

The First Political Parties, 1796

Federalists/North



Alexander Hamilton

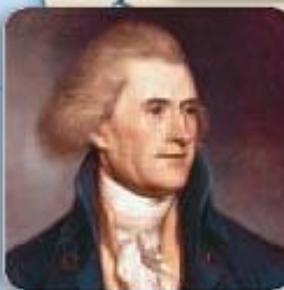


John Adams



John Jay

Republicans/South



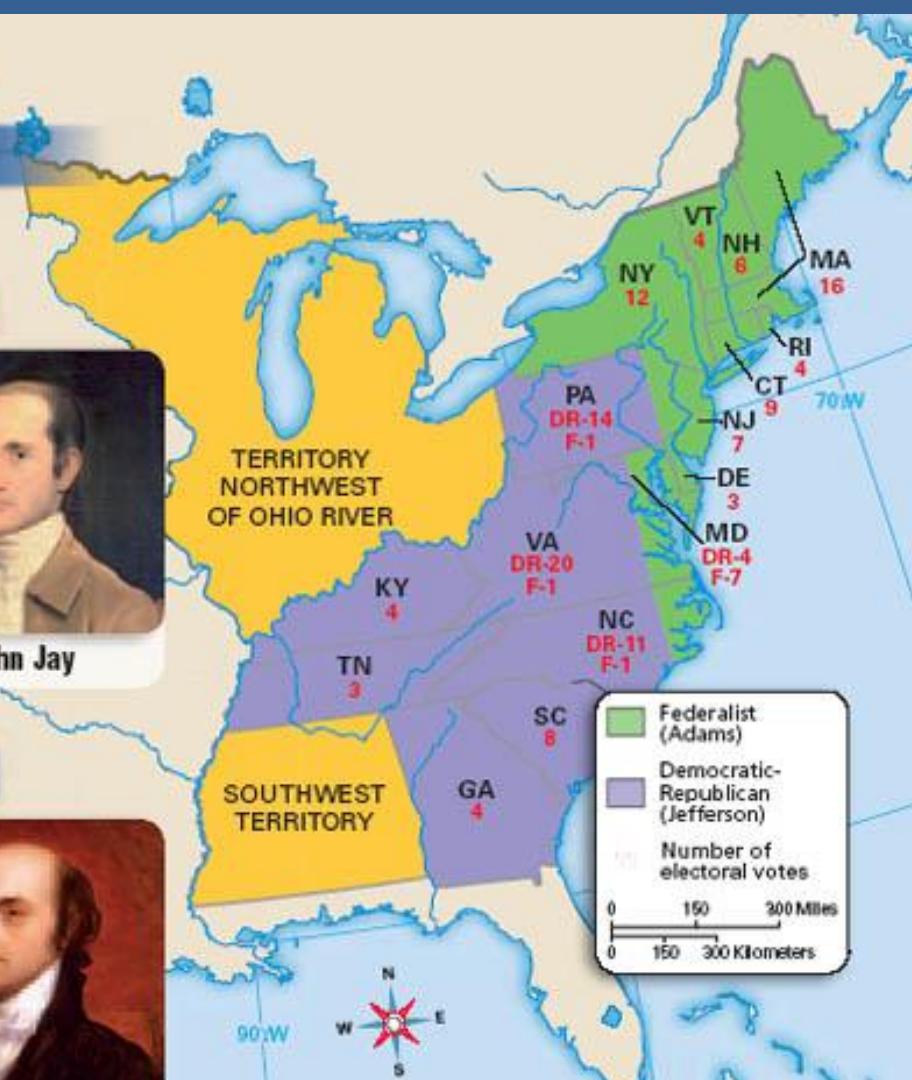
Thomas Jefferson



James Madison



Albert Gallatin



Map of the distribution
of voters in 1796

The XYZ affair

An early goal of Adams was to improve relations with France. U.S. diplomats were sent to France.

The French foreign minister, Talleyrand, would not meet them.

Three French agents secretly demanded a bribe before they would discuss a treaty with the Americans.

The so-called **XYZ Affair** outraged Americans and led to a call for war with France. They would pay “millions for defense, but not one cent for tribute.”

Public Opinion toward France Shifts



The XYZ affair - Maiden America ravaged by the French

War and Peace with France

American merchant ships being seized by French warships.

Adams asked Congress to expand the navy to more than 30 ships and to approve a peacetime army.

The Federalists were stunned by Adams's decision not to go to war.

American and French ships began fighting in the Caribbean but eventually the United States and France signed a treaty.

Controversy during Adams' Presidency

■ Alien and Sedition Acts

The **Alien Act** authorized the president to deport any aliens considered to be dangerous and to detain any enemy aliens in a time of war.

The **Sedition Act** forbade anyone from publishing or voicing criticism of the federal government.

■ Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions

Written by Jefferson and Madison for the Kentucky and Virginia legislatures.

The documents argued that the Alien and Sedition Acts were unconstitutional.

They supported the idea that states could challenge the federal government.

Naturalization Act

What did it do?

- Increases from five to fourteen number of years required to qualify for U.S. citizenship

Why would it favor the Federalists?

- Most immigrants voted with the Democratic-Republicans

Judging Adams

Dislike for the Federalist Congress and the Alien and Sedition Acts cost Adams his reelection and gave control of Congress to the Republicans. But in weighing his presidency, we have to consider the negative along with the positive:

- Relationship with France damaged
- New taxes imposed
- Party politics become entrenched

- Keeps U.S. out of war, preserves neutrality
- Strengthens the Navy
- Peaceful transfer of power in 1800