

Module 8.1: The Coming of War

Big Idea

Challenges at home and abroad led the United States to declare war on Great Britain.

Main Ideas

- Violations of U.S. neutrality led Congress to enact a ban on trade.
- Native Americans, Great Britain, and the United States came into conflict in the West.
- The War Hawks led a growing call for war with Great Britain.

Main Idea 1

The United States and Great Britain settled their disputes over boundaries and control of waterways.

- overseas trade was profitable but risky.
 - Barbary pirates, along the coast of Africa in the Mediterranean Sea, would capture ships. They would steal the cargo and hold ships' crew for ransom.
 - Attacks continued until the United States sent the *USS Constitution* and other warships to stop the pirates.
- British and French tried to stop the United States from supplying goods with the other while they were at war in 1803.
- British stopped American merchant ships to search for British sailors who had run away and steal any war supplies they could get their hands on.
 - British sailors were forced to return. Sometimes U.S. citizens were taken by accident.
 - Impressment, or the practice of kidnapping and forcing people to serve in the army or navy outraged Americans.
 - Americans were stunned when the British ship *Leopard* stopped the U.S. Navy ship *Chesapeake* and took sailors by force.

Embargo Act

- In response to Britain's violation of U.S. neutrality, some Americans wanted war.
- Others wanted an embargo, or a banning of trade against Britain.
- Embargo Act passed in 1807, banning trade with all foreign countries to punish Britain and France
- Devastated American merchants, who lost much money without trade
- Damaged Jefferson's popularity and strengthened Federalists
- Congress hoped that the embargo would punish Britain and France and protect American merchant ships from capture.
- Had little effect on Britain and France

Non-Intercourse Act

- Congress replaced unpopular Embargo Act with Non-Intercourse Act in 1809.
- Banned trade only with Britain, France, and their colonies
- U.S. trade would resume with first side to stop violating American neutrality
- Law was no more successful than Embargo Act

Main Idea 2: Native Americans, Great Britain, and the United States came into conflict in the West.

Conflict in the West

- As thousands of settlers headed west, British and Native Americans clashed with American settlers over land.
- British agents from Canada armed Native Americans along western frontier.

Tecumseh Resists U.S. Settlers

- Tecumseh, a Shawnee chief, emerged as leader. He and his brother “The Prophet” banded together to lead the Natives in the area.
- He was a brilliant speaker who hoped to unite Native Americans of northwestern frontier, the South, and the eastern Mississippi Valley.
- They argued that the Treaty of Greenville wasn’t valid as their tribes did not sign it.

The Battle of Tippecanoe

- Tecumseh founded village (Prophetstown) near Tippecanoe and Wabash rivers in Indiana Territory.
- Governor William Henry Harrison warned Tecumseh not to resist power of the United States.
- Harrison led army in attack on the village in 1811 while Tecumseh was away asking for more allies.
 - He was worried that with British backing, Tecumseh could be a serious threat to U.S. power in the West.
- U.S. forces won Battle of Tippecanoe, and Tecumseh fled to Canada.

Main Idea 3: The War Hawks led a growing call for war with Great Britain.

War Hawks

- Evidence of British support for Tecumseh and Native Americans inflamed Americans.
- Some young members of Congress from the South and West, called War Hawks, demanded war against Britain.
- They were angered by British trade restrictions
- They wanted to invade Canada for more land to settle.

The Opposition

- New England Federalists opposed war.
- British trade restrictions hurt New England’s economy, they wanted to renew friendly business
- Others argued that the United States was not ready to fight (weak army and navy and not enough supplies).

Declaring War

- Republican James Madison was elected president in 1808.
- Felt growing pressure from War Hawks
- Decided Congress must vote on war in 1812
- Congress voted, and the War Hawks won.
- Congress had declared war for the first time in the nation’s history.
- Madison was reelected in 1812.
- Would serve as commander in chief during War of 1812

Module 8 Les. 2 Notes - War of 1812

Big Idea

Great Britain and the United States went to battle in the War of 1812.

Main Ideas

- American forces held their own against the British in the early battles of the war.
- U.S. forces stopped British offensives in the East and South.
- The effects of the war included prosperity and national pride.

Early Battles

Main Idea 1

American forces held their own against the British in the early battles of the war.

War at Sea

- Britain had hundreds of ships, but most were scattered around the globe.
- Americans had less than 20 ships, but had well-trained sailors and new warships like the powerful USS Constitution.
- American ships victorious in one-on-one battles.
- British blockaded seaports.

Battles along the Canadian Border

- American leaders wanted to invade Canada.
- Attacks in 1812 failed.
- In April 1813 U.S. forces defeated and burned York (Capitol of British Canada)
- **Oliver Hazard Perry** won naval **Battle of Lake Erie** in September 1813.
- American control of Lake Erie established.
- British driven out of Northwest in 1813.

The Creek War

- War erupted in the South with Native Americans, who were angry at settlers pushing into their lands.
- Creeks attacked Fort Mims in Alabama, killing about 250 defenders.
- **Andrew Jackson**, leading 2,000 volunteers, defeated the Creeks at the Battle of Horseshoe Bend in Alabama in 1814.
- **The Treaty of Fort Jackson** ended war in 1814 and forced the Creeks to give up millions of acres of their land.

Great Britain on the Offense

Main Idea 2

U.S. forces stopped British offensives in the East and South.

British Attacks in the East

- British attacked Washington, D.C., in 1814.
- Set fire to White House, Capitol, and other buildings
- British shelled Fort McHenry at Baltimore, Maryland.
 - Francis Scott Key writes the Star-Spangled Banner about the battle.
- Americans refused to surrender, and British retreated.

Battle of New Orleans

- British moved against New Orleans.
 - Hoped to capture city and control Mississippi River
- Andrew Jackson commanded U.S. forces at New Orleans.
 - Troops included regular soldiers, free African Americans, Choctaws, state militia, and pirates.
- Battle began on January 8, 1815, with 5,300 British troops against about 4,500 Americans.
- British caught in open field; more than 2,000 British casualties.
- American victory at **Battle of New Orleans** made Jackson a hero and was last major conflict of the war.

Effects of War

Main Idea 3

The effects of the war included prosperity and national pride.

Hartford Convention

- Group of New England Federalists at the **Hartford Convention** agreed to oppose the war. War's end made the party lose power.

Treaty of Ghent

- The **Treaty of Ghent** signed on December 24, 1814, ended the war.
- Each nation returned land it acquired during the war.

Consequences

- Victory in the War of 1812 increased American patriotism.
- The war broke the power of Native American groups. Many American Indians lost their tribal lands.
- The lack of goods caused by blockades boosted American manufacturing. They had to produce goods needed because they couldn't trade for them.

Big Idea

The Monroe administration secured and expanded its borders by settling issues with other nations.

Main Ideas

- The United States and Great Britain settled their disputes over boundaries and control of waterways,
- The United States gained Florida in an agreement with Spain.

Main Idea 1

The United States and Great Britain settled their disputes over boundaries and control of waterways.

- Elected president in 1816, **James Monroe's** administration achieved a series of diplomatic successes from 1817 to 1825.
- The **Rush-Bagot Agreement (1817)** helped settle disputes over naval and fishing rights on the Great Lakes between the U.S. and Britain by limiting naval power on the Great Lakes. Each country was allowed 8 ships total
- The **Convention of 1818** helped settle disputes the U.S. and Canada, such as fishing rights off Canada, fur trade in Oregon Country, and the U.S.–Canadian border.
- The treaty:
 - allowed U.S. fishing off of New Foundland and Labrador coast
 - set the border between the United States and Canada at the 49th parallel as far west as the Rocky Mountains.
 - specified that the U.S. and Britain agreed to share Pacific Northwest. Both will use the Oregon Country for fur trapping

Main Idea 2

The United States gained Florida in an agreement with Spain.

- The U.S. also settles disputes with Spain that arose from American settlers near the U.S.–Florida border.
- Some Americans entered Spanish territory to settle. Others came to capture escaped slaves, who had been welcomed by the Seminoles.
- The conflicts over runaway slaves between the Americans and Seminoles became known as the First Seminole War.
- In April 1818 General Andrew Jackson's troops invaded Florida, taking Spanish forts without U.S. authority.
- In 1819, the **Adams-Onís Treaty** settled all border disputes between the U.S. and Spain.
 - Spain agreed to give Florida to the United States.
 - The U.S. gave up claims to land in Texas and agreed to pay for \$5 million of U.S. citizens claims against Spain.

Key

Treaty / Resolution	Date	Nations Involved	Outcomes
Rush - Bagot Treaty	April 20 1817	U.S. Great Britain	- Limited naval power on Great Lakes - 8 ships each
Convention of 1818	1818	U.S. Great Britain	- U.S. gained Fishing rights off New Foundland/ Labrador - Border between U.S. & Canada set at 49°N - Agreed to occupy & trap in Pacific NW (Oregon territory)
Adams - Onis Treaty	Feb. 22 1819	U.S. Spain	- U.S. got Florida territory - Spain got \$5 million - Drew border lines for Texas (Spain got)