Chapter 9

The Jefferson Era 1800-1816

Monticello, located in Charlottesville, Virginia, was the home of Thomas Jefferson.

U.S. Events

- 1801: Robert Fulton builds first submarine
- 1803: Supreme Court establishes judicial review
- 1804: Lewis and Clark begin expedition
- 1804: Alexander Hamilton duels with Aaron Burr

World Events

- 1800: Drawing of Fulton's submarine
- 1803: War begins again between France and Britain
- 1804: Napoleon proclaims himself emperor of France
- 1806: Holy Roman Empire officially ends
- 1808: Extensive excavations begin at Pompeii

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Section 1: The Republicans Take Power

**Essential Question** In what ways did Thomas Jefferson and the Republicans limit the powers of the government?

Section 2: The Louisiana Purchase

**Essential Question** How did the Louisiana Purchase affect the nation's economy and politics?

Section 3: A Time of Conflict

**Essential Question** What were the challenges to the nation's stability during the late 1700s and early 1800s?

Section 4: The War of 1812

**Essential Question** How did the United States benefit from its victory in the War of 1812?

Organizing Information

Make this four-tab Foldable to help you learn about the events of the Jefferson era.

**Step 1** Fold the sides of a piece of paper into the middle to make a shutter fold.

**Step 2** Cut each tab at the midpoint to form four tabs.

**Step 3** Label the tabs as shown.

Reading and Writing

As you read the chapter, take notes about each section under the appropriate head. Use your Foldable to help you write a summary for each section.

The U.S. Capitol after it was burned by the British in 1814.
In what ways did Thomas Jefferson and the Republicans limit the powers of the government?

**Reading Guide**

**Content Vocabulary**
- laissez-faire (p. 278)
- judicial review (p. 279)
- customs duties (p. 278)

**Academic Vocabulary**
- similar (p. 278)
- conflict (p. 279)

**Key People and Events**
- Thomas Jefferson (p. 277)
- Aaron Burr (p. 277)
- Judiciary Act of 1801 (p. 279)
- Marbury v. Madison (p. 279)

**Reading Strategy**

Taking Notes As you read, use a diagram like the one below to identify how the Republicans reduced the role of government.

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For eight years, Thomas Jefferson opposed the Federalists and eventually won the presidency as a member of a new political party—the Democratic-Republicans. In his Inaugural Address, Jefferson tried to reach out to Federalists and bridge the gap that developed between the two parties. "We are all Republicans, we are all Federalists. . . . Let us, then, with courage and confidence pursue our own Federal and Republican principles, our attachment to union and representative government."

—from Jefferson's first Inaugural Address, 1801

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The Capitol, Washington, D.C., 1800
The Election of 1800

Main Idea The election of 1800 showed that power could be peacefully transferred even when the political parties were in disagreement.

History and You Think about today's political campaigns. Are they based on emotional appeals or serious discussion of the issues? Read to find out how the presidential election campaign of 1800 was conducted.

The Federalist and Republican Parties fought a bitter election campaign in 1800. Federalists supported President Adams for a second term and Charles Pinckney for vice president. Republicans nominated Thomas Jefferson for president and Aaron Burr as his running mate.

The election campaign of 1800 differed greatly from campaigns of today. Neither Adams nor Jefferson traveled around the country to gather support. This would have been considered inappropriate. Instead, the candidates and their supporters began a letter-writing campaign. They sent hundreds of letters to leading citizens and newspapers to make their views public. Federalists accused Jefferson, who believed in freedom of religion, of being "godless." Republicans warned that the Federalists favored the wealthy and would bring back monarchy.

Election Deadlock

Jefferson and Burr each received 73 electoral votes. Because of the tie vote, the House of Representatives had to decide the election. At this time, the electors voted for each candidate individually. The candidate with the majority of votes became president. The candidate with the next-largest number of votes became vice president.

In the House, Federalists saw a chance to prevent the election of Jefferson. They supported Burr. For 35 ballots, the election remained tied. Finally, at Alexander Hamilton's urging, one Federalist decided not to vote for Burr. Jefferson became president, and Burr became vice president.

To prevent another tie between a presidential and vice-presidential candidate, Congress passed the Twelfth Amendment to the Constitution in 1803. Electors now had to vote for the president and vice president on separate ballots.

By the Numbers Election Results, 1800

By the Numbers Election Results, 1800

Presidential Candidate
Jefferson (Democratic-Republican) 73
Adams (Federalist) 73
Electoral votes

Speculating Do you think a person's political views will always match those of his or her political party?
Inventor and Architect

Invention and Design  Thomas Jefferson was a passionate inventor and architect. He invented a plow that was easy to use on hills, a machine to make macaroni, and a device to encode secret messages. Jefferson also designed his Monticello home and the Rotunda on the campus of the University of Virginia.

"One new idea leads to another, that to a third, and so on through a course of time until some one, with whom no one of these ideas was original, combines all together, and produces what is justly called a new invention."
—The Writings of Thomas Jefferson

Jefferson’s Inauguration

Jefferson, dressed in everyday clothes, walked from his boardinghouse to the Senate to be sworn in as president. President Adams chose not to attend the ceremony.

In his Inaugural Address, Jefferson tried to bridge the gap between the political parties. Then he outlined some of his goals. They included “a wise and frugal government” and “the support of state governments in all their rights.” Jefferson believed a large federal government threatened liberty. The states, he believed, could better protect freedom.

Jefferson believed in reducing the power and size of the government. These ideas were similar to the French philosophy known as laissez-faire (ləˌzhə-fər). This phrase means “let people do as they choose.”

Jefferson’s Presidency

Main Idea  Thomas Jefferson wanted to reduce the power of the federal government.

History and You  How do you think government should balance individual liberty with national interests? Read about Jefferson’s views.

Thomas Jefferson had strong ideas about how to make the United States a great nation. He surrounded himself with those who shared his views.

Cutting Costs

Jefferson and Albert Gallatin, secretary of the treasury, reduced the national debt. They scaled down military expenses. All federal internal taxes, including the whiskey tax, were repealed. Government funds would come only from customs duties—taxes on imported goods—and from the money raised...
from the sale of western lands. Jefferson also limited the number of federal government workers to a few hundred people.

**Judiciary Act of 1801**

Before Jefferson took office, the Federalists passed the **Judiciary Act of 1801**. This act set up regional courts for the United States with 16 judges and other judicial officials.

In his last days as president, John Adams made hundreds of appointments to these judicial positions with the approval of the Federalist-controlled Congress. Adams also asked John Marshall, secretary of state, to serve as chief justice. Thus, Adams shut Jefferson out of the appointment process and ensured Federalist control of the courts.

Adams and Marshall worked around the clock to process these judicial appointments. The appointments could not take effect, however, until the papers, also known as commissions, for these last-minute “midnight judges” were received. When Jefferson became president, a few of the commissions had not yet been delivered. He told his Secretary of State James Madison not to deliver them. One commission was to go to William Marbury.

**Marbury v. Madison**

To force the delivery of his commission, Marbury took his case directly to the Supreme Court. He claimed this court had jurisdiction. John Marshall wrote an opinion turning down Marbury’s claim. He noted that the Constitution did not give the Court jurisdiction to decide Marbury’s case.

In **Marbury v. Madison**, three principles of judicial review were established: (1) the Constitution is the supreme law; (2) the Constitution must be followed when there is a conflict, or disagreement, between it and any other law; and (3) the judicial branch must uphold the Constitution and nullify, or cancel, unconstitutional laws.

Marshall broadened federal power at the expense of the states. In **McCulloch v. Maryland** (1819), the Court held that Congress is allowed to do more than the Constitution expressly authorizes it to do. In **Gibbons v. Ogden** (1824), the Court held that federal law takes precedence over state law in interstate transportation.

**Reading Check** Summarizing Summarize the three principles of judicial review.

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**Section 1 Review**

**Vocabulary**

1. Use the following terms in sentences that show you understand their meanings:

   - Main Ideas
   - Critical Thinking
   - 4. **Identifying Central Issues** Use a diagram like the one below to show how the powers of the Supreme Court and federal law were extended.

   **Case**

   - Marbury v. Madison
   - McCulloch v. Maryland
   - Gibbons v. Ogden

   **Decision**

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   -
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5. **Persuasive Writing** You are a supporter of Thomas Jefferson in the 1800 election. Write a letter to voters that will appear in all the newspapers in your state.

   **Answer the Essential Question**

   In what ways did Thomas Jefferson and the Republicans limit the powers of the government?