Era of Good Feelings: 1815-1825
After the War of 1812

- Americans finally have international respect
- The Republicans are the only political party
- James Monroe, the third member of the Virginia Dynasty, is president
- A time of economic prosperity
Shift in Republican Ideology: Federalism without Elitism

- Industrialism, not farming as future of America
- Broad, or loose, construction of the Constitution
- Nationalism, not states’ rights
Election of 1816

- Federalist candidate: Rufus King (N.Y.)
- Republican candidate: James Monroe (V.A.)
- Monroe wins 183 to 34; Daniel D. Tompkins is V.P.
- Last election with a Federalist candidate
Laws of 1816

1. Tariff of 1816 - to protect new American industry developed as a result of the Embargo of 1807 and the War of 1812
2. Bank of U.S. re-chartered (had expired in 1811)
3. Military Expansion – (West Point Academy) to avoid mistreatment by foreign nations
Era of Good Feelings

- Refers to lack of political parties
- Coined by James Monroe as he toured the country, it is misleading
- New political factions were forming
- Sectionalism was beginning to heat up between the North and the South
First Wave of Industrialization

- Samuel Slater emigrated from England and had memorized plans for machinery
- Founder of Cotton Textile Industry in America: Pawtucket, Rhode Island, 1793
Working in a Mill

- Workers were from 7 to 12
- Farmers distrusted factory work and thought it shameful – real men work outside with the land
- Few families could survive without children’s income

Slater Mill
Eli Whitney: More than just Cotton

- He created the technique for interchangeable parts
- The muskets his workmen made by methods comparable to those of modern mass industrial production were the first to have standardized, interchangeable parts.

Cotton Gin, 1793
The vast majority of Americans still farmed, but a small percentage began to fill the new factories developing in the North.
Powered by water, these factories depended on women and children. Single women left home to either gain independence or help their family financially.
Transportation Revolution: Part One

As the West opened up it became essential for transportation to improve in order for the North to sell to the West and for the West to get their raw products to market.
By Water

- One of the U.S.’s best natural transportation resources was its rivers and lakes.

- The development of both the steamboat and the canal would make this an even more efficient travel option.
The Steamboat

- Flatboats were the main vessel utilized by farmers and merchants along the Mississippi.
- **Problem:** They only float down river!
- **Solution:** The steamboat, invented by Robert Fulton in 1807, with its engine could also travel upstream!
Erie Canal, 1825

- When it opened in 1825, the Erie Canal was a marvel of engineering and human labor. From Albany to Buffalo, it opened up the American frontier and made westward expansion inevitable.

- It turned New York Harbor into the nation's number one port. It shaped social and economic development. Cities and industries developed along the canal and flourished.
How Locks Work

The downstream lock gate is open.
National (Cumberland) Road

First highway built entirely with federal funds

Authorized by Jefferson in 1806

By 1818 the road stretched from Maryland to Ohio

In the 1830s construction ceased due to lack of funding

The road fell into disrepair
Henry Clay’s American System

- A national bank
- The protective tariff
- National program of internal improvements to bind the country together and build the economy
- The tariff and bank would provide funds for these improvements
American System

- New England and New York were against internal improvements
- South and Southwest were against the protective tariff
- Sectionalism was becoming entrenched
Missouri Compromise 1820

- 1818- Missouri petitions to be admitted as a slave state
- Would upset balance of 11 free and 11 slave states
- Tallmadge Amendment
- Compromise
John Marshall

- Was a loose constructionist who was a strong Federalist (Hamiltonian) that believed in implied powers

- *Dartmouth College v. Woodward*(1819)-

- *McCulloch v. Maryland* (1819)-
“Let the end be legitimate, let it be within the scope of the constitution, and all means which are appropriate, which are plainly adapted to that end, which are not prohibited, but consistent with the letter and spirit of the constitution, are constitutional.”

John Marshall
Foreign Policy

- Adams-Onis Treaty of 1819
- Monroe Doctrine
  - 1821- America recognizes independence of Spain’s Latin America colonies
Hudson River Art School
The Creation of American Culture

A group of painters led by Thomas Cole who painted images of America’s wilderness in the Hudson River Valley (N.Y.) and in the newly opened West.
Noah Webster

- 1828-Webster’s dictionary contained 70,000 words
- He wrote his dictionary to have a uniform American, not British, language since different parts of the country used different spellings
Education

- Most children who received education did so with private tutors in the home.
- **Massachusetts leads way in public financing for education:** Boston’s English Classical School (1821) was the first public high school in the country.
- Concept of training teachers just beginning.
Status of Women

- Women will gain some standing legally
  - Serve on committees in churches
  - Higher education available
  - Divorce is allowed, but difficult
  - Single women can own property, enter into contracts, file law suits and pay taxes
  - CANNOT serve on juries, vote or practice law (New Jersey changed law in 1807)
Federal Architecture 1780-1820

Found mainly in the East in homes owned by the wealthy (or in public buildings) the architecture was inspired by ancient Roman architecture, the first republic!