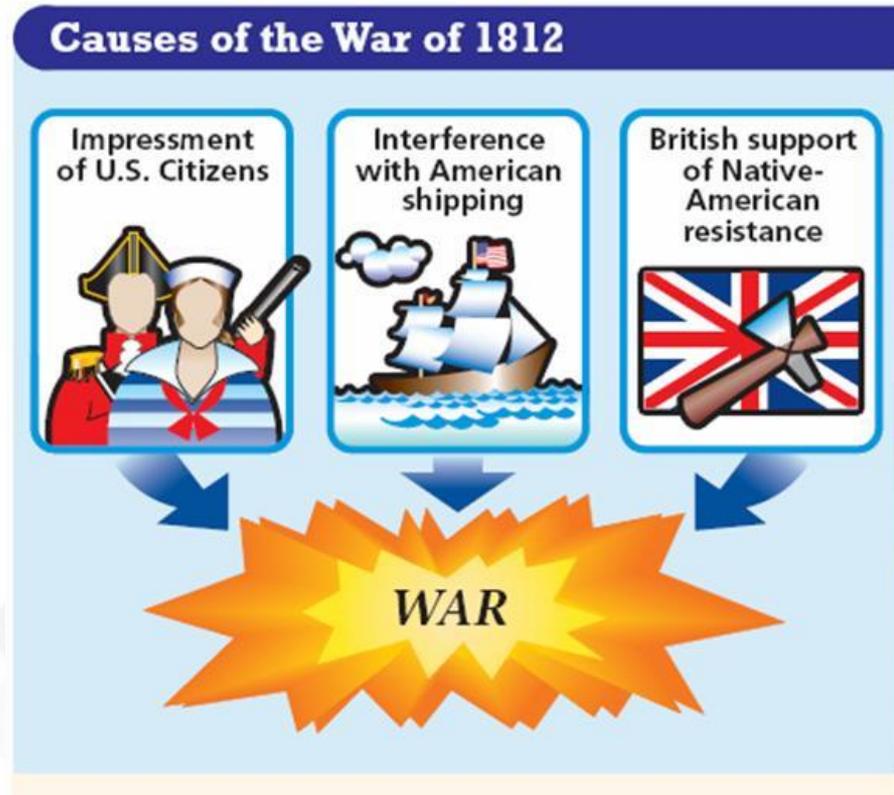


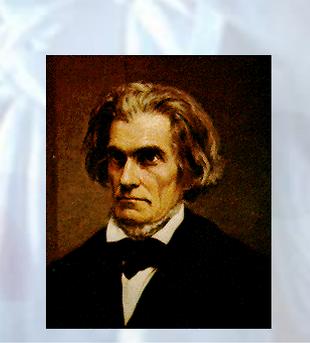
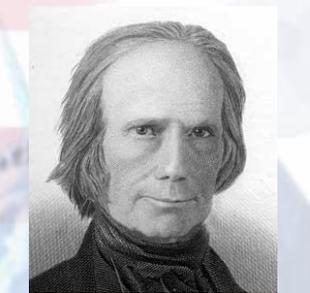
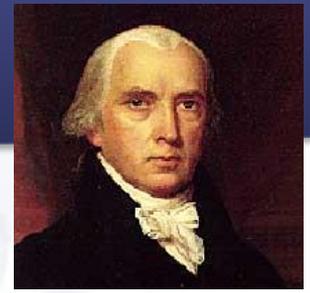
James Madison

The War of 1812



Steps to War

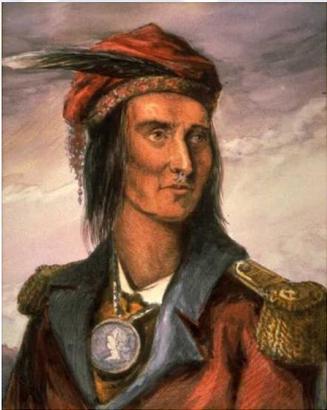
- In 1808 James Madison easily won the election to become President.
- By 1810 Napoleon had agreed to Macon's Bill #2 saying he would stop bothering U.S. ships so America reestablished trade with France.
- Madison hoped to avoid war but some of the Congressmen representing the Southern and Western states wanted war. They became known as the War Hawks.
- The War Hawks were led by Henry Clay and John C. Calhoun.
- Clay had 3 reasons why he wanted the U.S. to go to war with Britain:
 1. Protect free trade & stop impressment of American sailors.
 2. Stop Native American attacks on settlers
 3. Increase American territory into Canada
- Because of the speeches made by the War Hawks a sense of nationalism (pride in or devotion to one's nation) started to spread through America.



Trouble With Native Americans



- Since the early 1800's trouble with Native Americans had been increasing.
- In 1804, a Shawnee named Tenskwatawa had a vision which he shared with his people.
- His vision warned that the Native Americans must give up all white ways if they hoped to regain control of their lands.
- Many Native Americans traveled long distances to hear him talk and he became known as the Prophet.
- His brother, Tecumseh, organized the Native American nations into a confederation.
- In 1809, Tecumseh became angered over the sale of 3,000 acres of land to the state of Indiana.
- He called for a meeting, on Native American land, with the Governor of Indiana, William Henry Harrison.
- Tecumseh warned Harrison that the U.S. government needed to stop driving the Native Americans out of their homeland.
- He asked Harrison to pass his words on to President Madison.

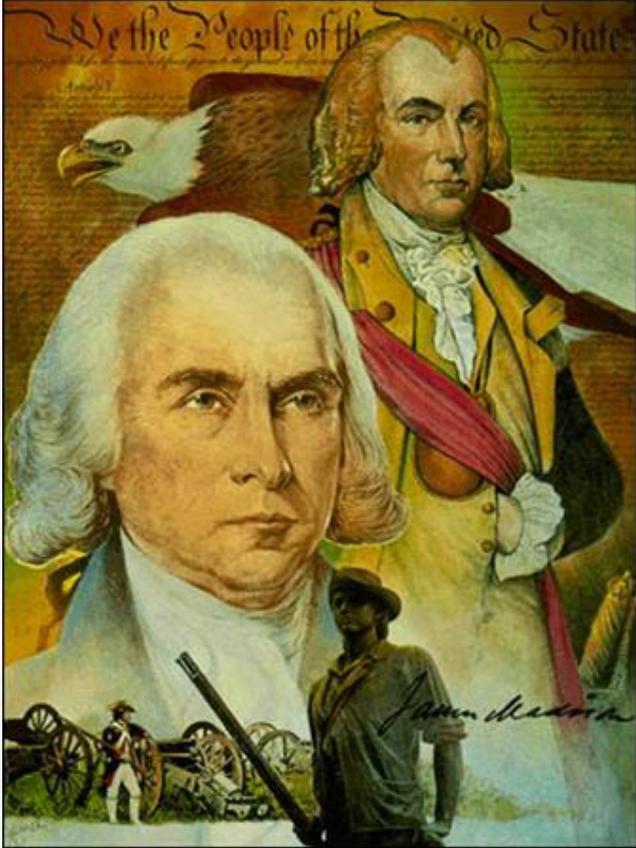


Battle of Tippecanoe



- In 1811, Harrison worried that Tecumseh would attack so he decided to send 1,000 troops to Prophetstown.
- The Prophet heard of Harrison's approach and sent warriors out to meet him.
- They came together at a place called Tippecanoe and a battle began.
- Despite heated fighting there was no clear victor in the battle but Harrison claimed it as a U.S. victory.
- After the battle soldiers reported finding British rifles at Tippecanoe.
- The War Hawks were convinced the British were supplying weapons to the Native Americans and called even louder for war.

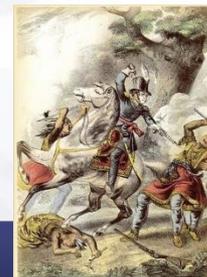
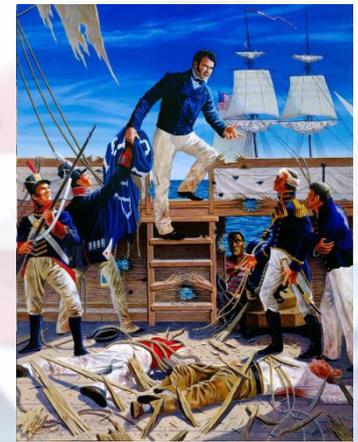
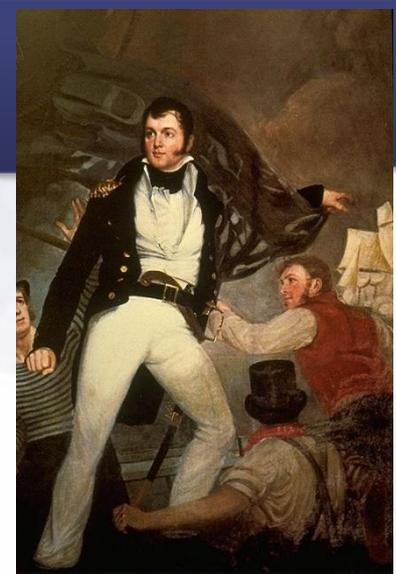
Congress Declares War



- In June 1812, President Madison gave in to the political pressure and asked Congress for a formal Declaration of War against England.
- Madison was unaware that Britain had already voted to stop impressing and attacking American ships.
- News of the British vote arrived two days after the Declaration of War had been approved.
- At the start of the War the U.S. was unprepared. The military had few troops and those enlisted were poorly trained.
- To encourage enlistment of soldiers Congress voted to give \$124 and 360 acres of land to anyone willing to enlist.
- Congress had a hard time paying salaries which led to many desertions.
- However, as the war progressed America's military strength improved.

Battle of Lake Erie 1813

- America had lost Detroit and battles in the swamps around Lake Erie.
- In April 1813 Americans invaded York (Toronto), Canada and burned down their provincial government buildings.
- Captain Oliver Hazard Perry had been gathering his fleet at Lake Erie determined to recapture Detroit.
- Finally in September 1813 Perry blockaded a fleet of six British ships. Perry's ship the Lawrence was battered and all his officers were killed or wounded but he refused to quit. He took a rowboat over to the Niagara and continued fighting until the British fleet surrendered.
- Perry wrote a famous note to General Harrison:
 - Dear General: We have met the enemy and they are ours: two ships, two brigs, one schooner, and one sloop. Yours with great respect and esteem, O. H. Perry.
- Finally America had a victory which forced the British to retreat to Canada.
- In October 1813 the Battle of Thames led to the death of Tecumseh and another American victory.



Washington D.C. Burned By The British

After Britain defeated Napoleon, freeing 18,000 troops for the war in America, the British planned to attack at three places: New York, Chesapeake Bay and New Orleans.



Their first attack on Fort Niagara, New York failed because the American army stopped the British advance.

For their second attack the British landed a force at Chesapeake Bay and defeated the Americans at the Battle of Bladensburg.



The British then marched on Washington D.C. capturing the city.

Dolley Madison refused to leave the White House until she had gathered many of its treasures including a picture of George Washington. She got out just before the British began to burn the city.

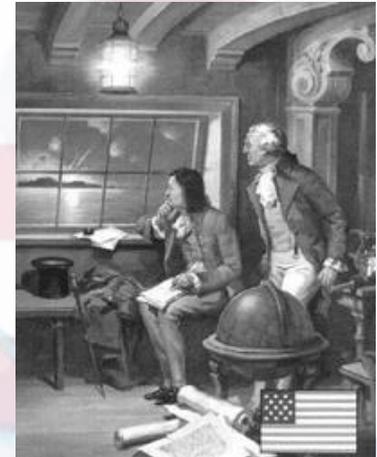


The British then moved to Baltimore.



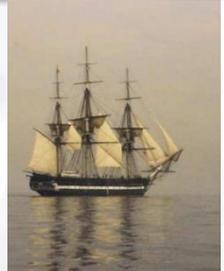
Battle of Fort McHenry

- The British planned a surprise attack on Fort McHenry outside Baltimore, Maryland.
- Francis Scott Key, a lawyer, approached the commander of the British fleet to secure the release of his friend Dr. William Beanes.
- The commander agreed to Beanes' release but insisted both men stay aboard the British ship until after the attack.
- Key watched the British fire on Ft. McHenry throughout the night.
- When dawn came, the American flag was still flying.
- This inspired Key to write an untitled poem which was later named "The Star Spangled Banner" and put to music.
- It is the national anthem of America.



The Constitution vs The Guerriere

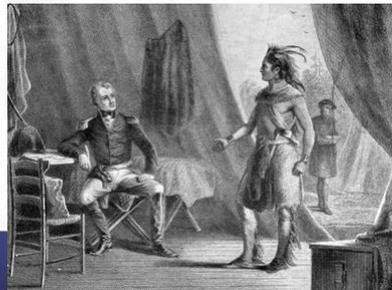
- One of the most famous sea battles involved the USS Constitution and the HMS Guerriere. There are conflicting reports on exactly when this battle occurred.
- Captain Isaac Hull of the Constitution maneuvered his ship so that it was impossible for Captain Dacres and the British crew of the Guerriere to defeat them.
- The Constitution's cannonballs pounded the Guerriere until her crew was forced to abandon ship admitting defeat.
- During the battle the Constitution had also taken canon fire but received minimal damage.
- One of Hull's crew stated that "the sturdy sides must be made of iron because the enemy canon balls bounced off them"
- From that time on the USS Constitution was given the nickname "Old Ironsides" despite the fact that the ship was made from Oak.
- You can still visit "Old Ironsides" at the Charleston Navy Yard in Boston.



Battle of Horseshoe Bend



- In 1813 the Creek Indians, encouraged by the British, attacked American settlements in Alabama and Mississippi.
- Andrew Jackson gathered frontiersmen from the area and succeeded in defeating the Creeks in March of 1814 at the Battle of Horseshoe Bend in Alabama
- Jackson then went on to cut the British supply lines in the south.
- At the end of November 1814 a large British fleet sailed from Jamaica to attack New Orleans and take control of the Mississippi River.
- The British came within seven miles of New Orleans but on December 23rd Jackson attacked the British at night, both sides suffering heavy casualties.
- Jackson withdrew to within five miles of New Orleans to wait for the British.



Battle of New Orleans



- On January 8, 1815 the British attacked outside New Orleans.
- Andrew Jackson had assembled a ragtag army, including French pirates, Choctaw Indians, Western militia and freed slaves to defend the city.
- They were outnumbered more than 2 to 1 but American artillery and sharp shooters stopped the invasion.
- Over 2,000 British soldiers were killed or wounded while the Americans had eight dead and thirteen wounded.
- Unfortunately, Jackson's stunning victory occurred two weeks after the peace Treaty of Ghent was signed ending the War.
- But Jackson, became a national hero and eventually President.



Treaty of Ghent



- The Treaty of Ghent was signed on December 24, 1814 officially ending the War of 1812.
- The agreement stated things would stay the same. Britain would keep their territory and the U.S. would keep their territory.
- Some of the consequences of the War of 1812.
 - Great nationalism and pride in America.
 - Boost to industrialization as Americans were not able to import goods they had to make the goods themselves.
 - Destroyed the Native American's ability to resist American expansion.
 - Rewrote America's boundaries with Spain and sealed our control of the Mississippi River and the Gulf of Mexico
 - Spain abandoned Florida.
 - In 1819 Spain agreed to an American border that extended to the Pacific Ocean.