

INDUSTRY AND THE
NORTH,
CHAPTER 12
NOTES

Preindustrial Ways of Working

- Farm families worked together to produce food and other goods for their use and for their community network.
- People bartered (traded) instead of using cash
 - 1 chicken in exchange for a half-bushel of wheat
- Home and work were not separate places

Patriarchy

- ⦿ Working families were organized along strictly patriarchal lines—men had the authority to make decisions for women and children
- ⦿ Legally, men had all the power (property rights and legal rights)
- ⦿ Women could not testify on her own behalf in court—husband kept the children because they were his property

Social Order

- ⦿ There was a fixed social hierarchy
- ⦿ But, expanded suffrage after 1800 made politics more relevant for those in lower social classes

Changes in Transportation

- ◎ Pg. 386 of text
 - Travel times in 1800 versus 1857
- ◎ Why the change?
 - National Road was funded in 1808
 - Built of gravel on a stone foundation

Canals and Steamboats

● Erie Canal

- 40 ft. wide, 4 ft. deep, 364 miles long with 83 locks (how the elevation changed)
- Opened in 1825 in Buffalo, NY

NEW YORK STATE CANALS
To be constructed under
Chapter 147 Laws of 1903

MAP SHOWING PRESENT AND PROPOSED CANAL SYSTEM

TO ACCOMPANY REPORT OF
EDWARD A. BOND
State Engineer & Surveyor of N. Y.
Scale of Miles
MADE BY THE STATE ENGINEER

Legend
..... Line of present Canal not to be rebuilt
——— Line of present Canal to be rebuilt
——— Line of new Canal

*Note: This map compiled from a
topographic map by Alfred Walker &
to John Hill, from bearings 1896
and is corrected along the line of the
International Great Survey of the
Years of 1866 and 1867 by the
Board of Engineers on that Survey.*



Railroads

- New in 1830
- Grew to 31,000 miles of rail by 1860

Effects:

- ⦿ Distant markets were made accessible
- ⦿ Reorientation from the East Coast to the Midwest

The Market Revolution

◎ Three Developments:

- Improvements in Transportation
- Commercialization
 - The replacement of household self-sufficiency and barter with the production of goods for a cash market
- Industrialization
 - The use of power-driven machinery to produce goods once made by hand

Accumulation of Capital

- ◎ Capital—money to be invested in business
- ◎ Sources of capital:
 - International trade (East Coast)
 - Banks
 - Southern cotton
 - The development of Northern industry was paid for by southern cotton produced by slaves

The Putting-Out System

- A merchant “put out” the raw materials to people who produced finished products at home
- The merchant sold the product in a distant market
- Preindustrial system: one worker made a complete pair of shoes
- Putting-Out system: an unskilled worker often made one part of hundreds of shoes

Commercial Agriculture in the Old Northwest

- ⦿ Advances in transportation made it easier for farmers to get their produce to market
- ⦿ Settlement accelerated
- ⦿ Federal land was cheap
- ⦿ New Tools for farming:
 - John Deere's steel plow
 - Cyrus McCormick's reaper—much more efficient at harvesting wheat

The Lowell Mills

- ◎ Francis Cabot Lowell, of Boston made a tour of British textile mills in 1810
 - He memorized the machines and duplicated them in Boston
 - He and a Boston mechanic, Paul Moody, invented a power loom
 - Lowell had access to his family's network and was able to raise the capital necessary to start a factory
- ◎ 1823—a new industrial community was created

Standardized Parts

- Called the American system, a product is broken down into component parts and an exact mold was made for each
- The system spread slowly
- American businesses mass-produced high-quality goods for ordinary people earlier than manufacturers in Britain or any other European country

Wealth and Class

- ◎ Social Classes (Pre-Market Revolution):
 - Wealthy Elite
 - Planters (South)
 - Merchants (North)
 - Middling Sort
 - Lawyers, ministers, teachers, doctors, public officials, prosperous farmers, wealthy artisans
 - Mechanics and Farmers
 - Laboring Poor
 - Paupers—dependant on charity
 - Slaves

⦿ Market Revolution changed the hierarchy:

- Upper
- Middle
- Working Class

⦿ New Attitudes Needed:

- Sobriety, responsibility, steadiness, hard work

Religion

- ◎ Second Great Awakening made conversion and repentance a community experience
 - New religious belief fostered individualism and self-discipline
 - Converts felt responsible to demonstrate their faith through the way they lived

Transcendentalism

⦿ Ralph Waldo Emerson

- Popularized transcendentalism, a romantic philosophical theory claiming that there was an ideal, intuitive reality transcending ordinary life
- Inspirational, but down to earth
- Inspired businessmen to achieve success

⦿ Henry David Thoreau

- Walden (1854)—a criticism of the spiritual cost of the market revolution and materialism