

AN AGRARIAN
REPUBLIC,
CHAPTER 9 NOTES
PART 2

Panic of 1819

- ⦿ Wars in Europe wound down
- ⦿ Results:
 - More competition in
 - Shipping
 - Agriculture
- ⦿ Land sales increased in the west
- ⦿ Many settlers bought on credit through irresponsible “wildcat” state banks
- ⦿ Speculators bought land at high prices

Boom Ends

- ① Credit contracts—banks are no longer comfortable with having so much money owed to them
- ① Second Bank of the United States forces small state banks to foreclose in 1819
- ① Urban workers became more involved in urban politics
- ① Tariffs went up because the northern states wanted them—southern states did not want them

Missouri Compromise

Issue: Would slavery move west along with settlers?

Regional Decisions

- Northwest Ordinance of 1787 banned slavery in the current American Midwest
- Northerners moving westward did not want slavery and did not move south
- Southerners moved westward as well, bring slavery with them
- In 1819, Missouri applied for admission to the Union as a slave state

Northern States

- Had all abolished slavery by 1819
- Moral issues
- Political Issues
 - To admit another slave state would mean that slave states would have a majority
 - 11 free
 - 11 slave

Southern States

⦿ Political issues

- Southerners wanted a majority in the Senate
 - Population of the North was growing faster
 - Southern states were outnumbered 105 to 81 in the House of Representatives
- Southerners did not believe Congress had the power to limit slavery
- Southerners believed that slavery was a question of property, so it was a state issue (not a federal issue)

Thomas Jefferson's Response

- ⦿ Jefferson is elderly by this time and retired to Monticello in Virginia
- ⦿ His response:
 - “This momentous question like a fire bell in the night, awakened and filled me with terror. I considered it at once the [death] knell of the Union”.

How will this be resolved?

- Rep. James Tallmadge, Jr. (NY) demanded that Missouri agree to the gradual end of slavery as the price of entering the union
- Religious reformers organized anti-slavery rallies

Senate Debate

- First real debate over slavery
- Many free African Americans in the Senate gallery
- Compromise put into place by Henry Clay

Missouri Compromise

- ⦿ Maintained the balance between slave and free states:
 - Maine was admitted as a free state in 1820
 - Missouri was admitted as a slave state in 1821
- ⦿ Dealt with slavery in the rest of the Louisiana Purchase
 - No slavery north of a line at 36 degrees 30 minutes north (southern border of Missouri)
 - Slavery allowed south of that line

COMPROMISE OF 1820

