

It's The [Final Countdown](#)

Declaration of Independence / Revolution / US Constitution

John Smith: Colonial leader at Jamestown

Thomas Jefferson: Primary author of the Declaration of Independence

Thomas Paine: Wrote "Common Sense"

General Howe: British general who captured Philadelphia

General Burgoyne: British general who lost the battle at Saratoga

George Washington: Commander of American forces during the Revolution

Benedict Arnold: American officer who rallied the troops at Saratoga, winning the battle

Ben Franklin: American diplomat to France during the Revolution

Per the Declaration of Independence, governments are established to protect the natural rights of citizens, and that said governments derive their authority from the consent of those being governed.

Under the Articles of Confederation, the federal government no authority to regulate interstate commerce, collect taxes, or raise an army.

Under the Constitution, each state gets two senators and a number of representatives proportionate to the population. The current totals are 100 senators and 438 representatives.

Although the president is the commander of the armed forces, he cannot declare war.

The first ten amendments to the US Constitution are (collectively) the Bill of Rights.

To become president, a person must be born a US citizen, be at least 35 years old, and have lived in the US for at least 14 years.

Voting was limiting to white men who owned property and paid taxes. The justification was that someone with nothing to lose wouldn't make good decisions when it came to politics.

Andrew Jackson

Beginning around this time, property requirements for voting were reduced or eliminated, making the pool of eligible voters much larger.

Presidential candidate in 1824. Won both the popular vote and the electoral vote, but nobody won a majority. In accordance with the Constitution, the decision went to the House of Representatives, who chose John Quincy Adams.

Jackson oversaw the Indian Removal Act, which led to the Trail of Tears. The Cherokee Nation brought a case to the Supreme Court, and won, but Jackson refused to enforce the court's decision.

18th Century Reforms

Elizabeth Cady Stanton: A lead organizer of the Seneca Falls Convention

Horace Mann: Implemented major education reform

Republican Motherhood: Idea centered around women raising the next batch of male citizens

Abolition: Movement to end slavery

The [Instant Gratification Monkey](#): Concerned with things that are easy and fun, fears the Panic Monster

Temperance: Movement to restrict alcohol

Shakers: Utopian society characterized by dancing and celibacy

Nat Turner: American slave who led a violent revolt

Carrie Nation: Temperance activist who attacked alcohol serving establishments with a hatchet

Common schools: relatively uncommon in the south because rich planters wanted to keep education out of the hands of poor whites and (even more so) slaves

To many, "Freedom" meant restricting access to vices, thus freeing the populous from the temptation to use them. Vices to include alcohol, tobacco, cellphones, Facebook, and Snap Chat.

US Expansion and Slave Revolts

Gabriel's Rebellion: Sparsely attended rebellion in Virginia under the banner "Liberty or Death" (1800)

Stono Revolt: Slave revolt in South Carolina involving several slaves with previous military experience, many had been soldiers in Angola before being enslaved (1739)

German Coast Uprising: A large (125 or so) slave uprising in Louisiana inspired by the Haitian Revolution (1811)

New York Conspiracy: Not a revolt because it was discovered before anyone could take action (1741)

Stephen Austin: Empresario of the Tejas colony, Assumed this responsibility after his dad died

Sam Houston: First president of the Lone Star Republic

Gadsden Purchase: Plot of land, mostly in Arizona, purchased by the US from Mexico

Other expansions: Louisiana Purchase, Oregon Division, Mexican Cession, Adams-Onis Treaty (FL)

Downsides to a trip on the Oregon Trail:

Six months long, walking the whole way, disease, injuries, family members dying, yourself dying, animals dying, foods like hardtack, running out of food, bad water, being attacked by Indians, being attacked by rogue soldiers, and many more.

Empresario: colonial administrator, given a land grant in exchange for recruiting colonists

Compromises, Mostly

Popular Sovereignty: Allowing the franchised population to decide an important issue

36 Degrees 30 Minutes Latitude: Line of Demarcation established in 1820

Compromise of 1850: Desperate five part plan to keep the country together

Anyone, including people who opposed the law: Could be deputized to help capture a runaway slave

Stephen Douglas: Illinois senator who helped to broker the Compromise of 1850

Dred Scott: Missouri slave who sued for his freedom

Missouri Compromise: Deal made in 1820 to maintain a free/slave balance in the senate

Henry Clay: Speaker of the House, Crafted the Missouri Compromise

Missouri Compromise

*Missouri enters the union as a slave state

*Maine enters the union as a free state

*Slavery is prohibited in new states north of the line 36 degrees 30 minutes

Compromise of 1850

* Texas dropped a claim on land in present day New Mexico

* California enters the union as a free state

* Slave trade (but not slavery itself) banned in Washington DC

* Popular sovereignty regarding slavery in new states, regardless or location

* Passage of a harsh new Fugitive Slave Law

Election of 1860 and Southern Secession

Out of four candidates, Lincoln was elected with a majority in the electoral college. However, he only received about 40% of the popular vote, and was absent from the ballot in nine southern states.

Although he said he wouldn't interfere with slavery where it existed, state legislatures began to secede in December of 1860. Last ditch efforts to compromise failed. The CSA fired on Ft. Sumter 4/12/1861.