

APUSH

1776-1789

ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION

& CONSTITUTION

REVIEWED!

American Pageant (Kennedy) Chapter 9

American History (Brinkley) Chapter 5-6

America's History (Henretta) Chapter 6

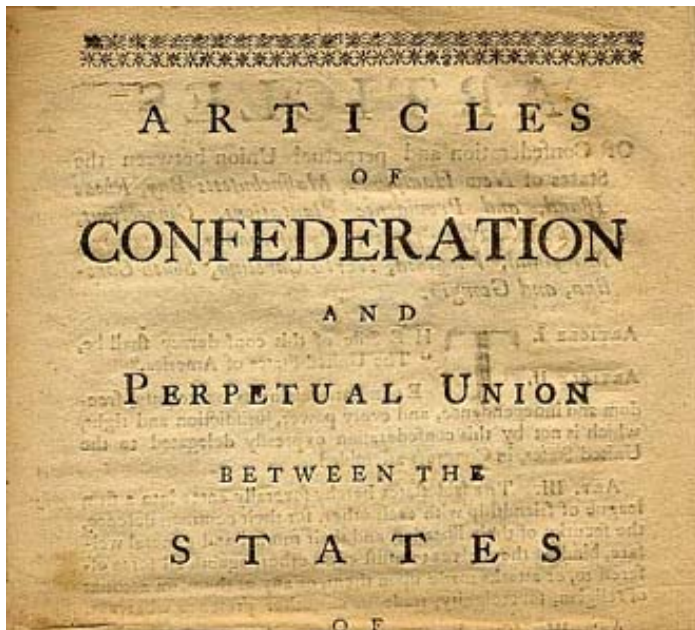
STATE GOVERNMENTS



THE UNITED STATES
UNDER THE ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION, 1787

- Each state setup its own written plan of government (**constitution**)
- Characteristics of these new governments:
 - **Separation of powers:** power was typically split between 3 branches of government
 - **Property requirements** were typical for voter eligibility
 - Many states included **bill of rights** that outlined basic freedoms (religion, trial by jury, etc.)
 - **Virginia Statue for Religious Freedom** by Thomas Jefferson
- Government was set up based upon **republicanism** (power comes from the people)
 - Debate over what republicanism would look like

ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION



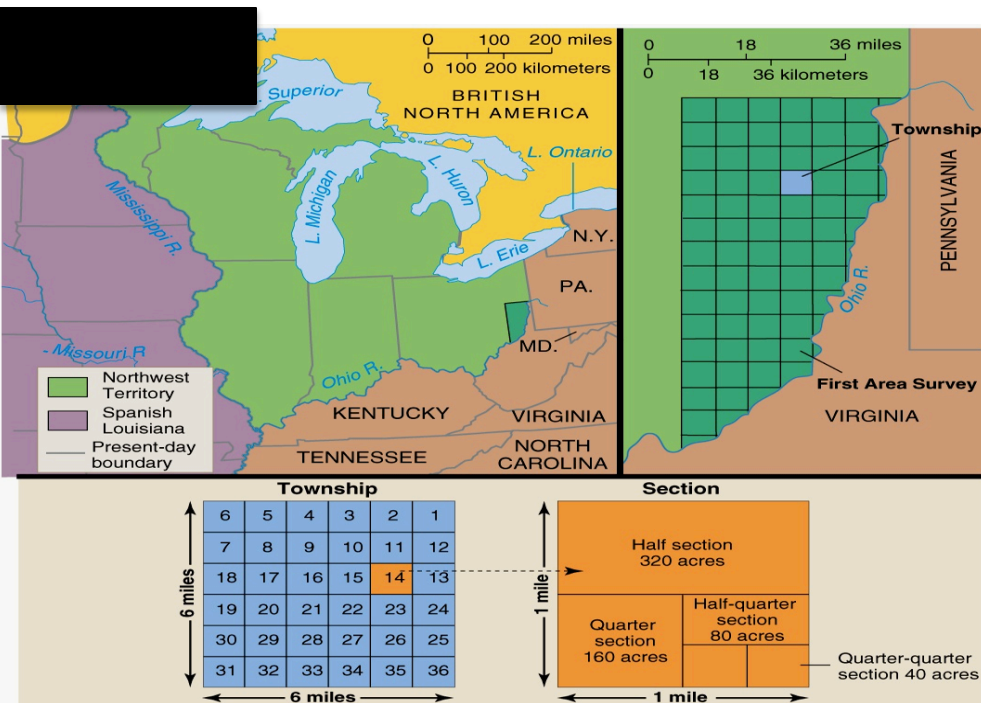
- **1st national government** of the United States
- **Government could:**
 - Conduct foreign policy, borrow money, make treaties
- Created a **central** government with **limited power**
 - Unicameral congress
 - No executive branch or court system
 - **No power to tax**
 - Could not regulate trade



Other Problems

- 9 votes out of 13 to pass laws
- All states regardless of size had **one vote**
- **All 13 states** must agree to amend the Article

Northwest Ordinances



- **Land Ordinance of 1784** established principle that territories could become states as their populations grew
- **Land Ordinance of 1785:** set up system for surveying and selling land in Northwest
 - Section set aside for **public education**
- **Northwest Ordinance of 1787:** set up the system for territories to enter the union as new states
 - **Banned slavery** in the Northwest Territory

FOREIGN POLICY PROBLEMS

1) **British** built forts in the west, disrupted trade, and armed Natives

2) **Spain** banned American shipping along the Mississippi in 1784

3) **France** demanded repayment of loans

4) **Barbary Pirates** harassed American shipping



Shay's Rebellion

- Following the American Revolution the economy suffered a **postwar depression**
 - Particularly hard hit were farmers
- **Shay's Rebellion (1786-87)** Daniel Shay veteran of the revolution and farmer in **Mass.** led a rebellion of poor farmers
 - **Demands:** lower taxes, end of foreclosures, paper \$, end of imprisonment for debt
- Government was **TOO WEAK** to put the rebellion down
 - Increased calls for a **stronger central government**

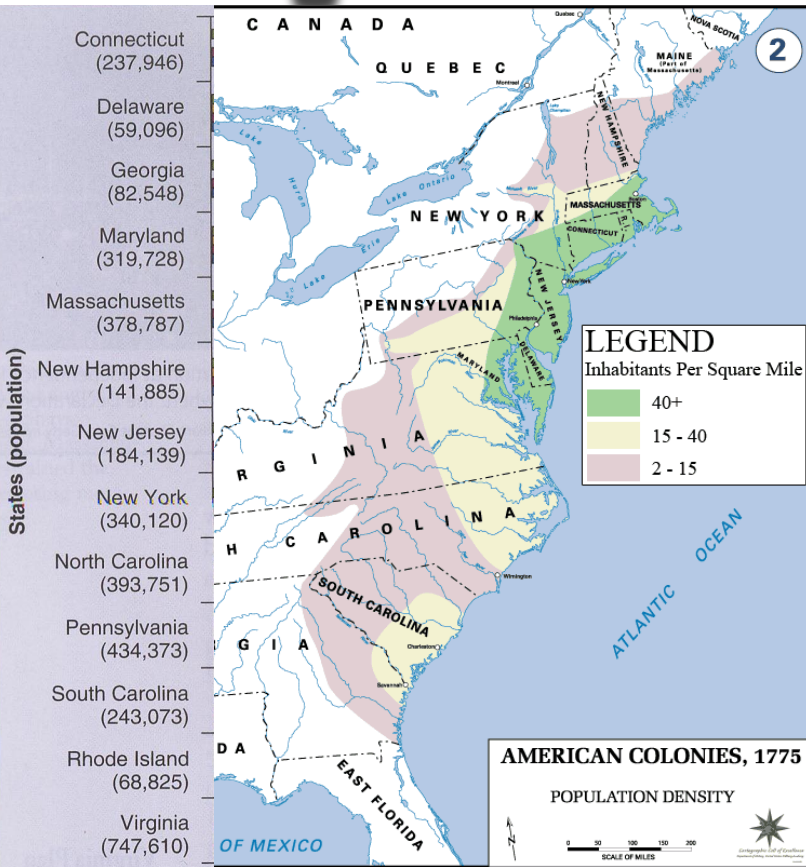


CREATING A NEW GOVERNMENT

- **Growing demand to address the problems facing the nation (intl trade, finances, interstate commerce, foreign relations, & internal unrest)**
- **Annapolis Convention (1786): 5 states attend to discuss trade and commerce**
 - **Plan to meet up in Philly in 1 year**
- **Constitutional Convention (1787) meets for the purpose of revising the Articles**
 - **55 delegates sent “for the sole and express purpose of revising the Articles of Confederation”**
 - **Very quickly they decided to create an entirely new stronger central government**



Compromises of the Convention:



- **Big issue at the convention was about representation in Congress**
- **James Madison introduced the Virginia Plan (Large State Plan)**
 - **Bicameral (2 house) legislature**
 - **Representation would be based on population size**
- **New Jersey Plan was favored by the small states**
 - **Unicameral (1 house) legislature**
 - **Each state would have equal representation**
- **Roger Sherman introduced the Great Compromise**
 - **Bicameral legislature**
 - **Upper house (**Senate**) 2 representatives per state**
 - **Lower house (**House of Reps**) based on population**



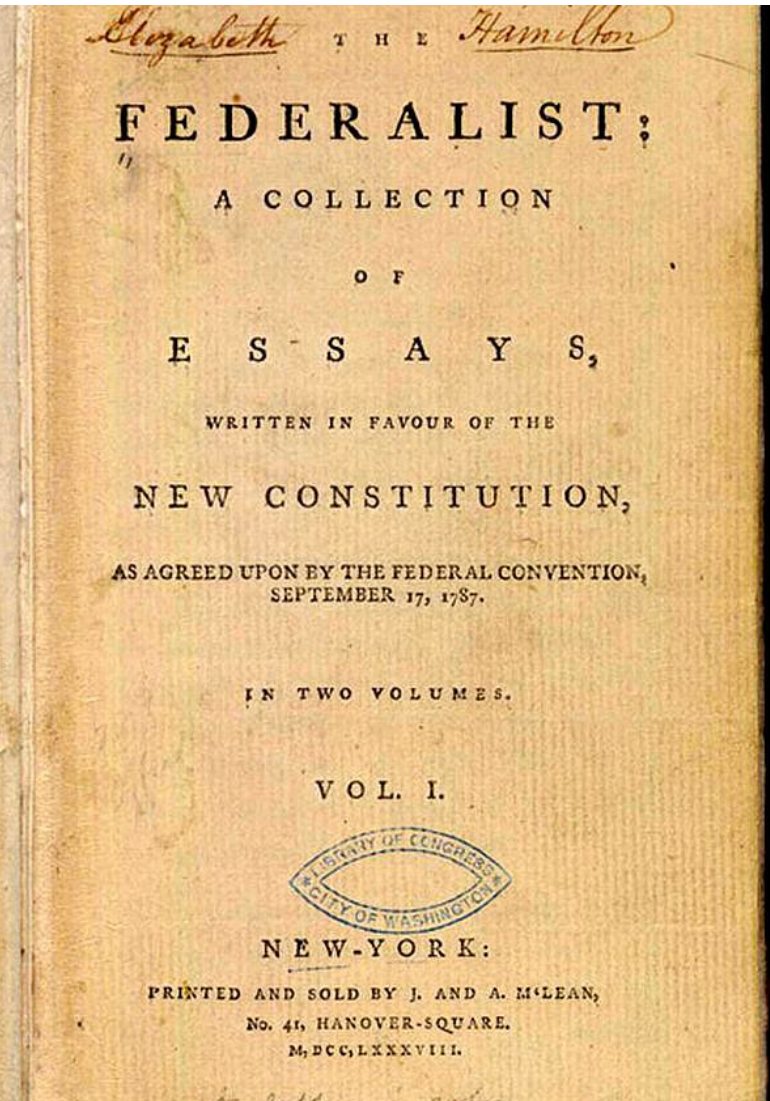
COMPROMISES OVER SLAVERY



- **Debate over whether slaves should be counted in state population?**
- **3/5th Compromise:** slaves would be counted 3/5 of a person when deciding representation in the House of Reps.
- **Slave trade** allowed to continue until 1808
- Although the word “slave” or “slavery” was not used in the Constitution, the **institution of slavery was very much protected** by the original document

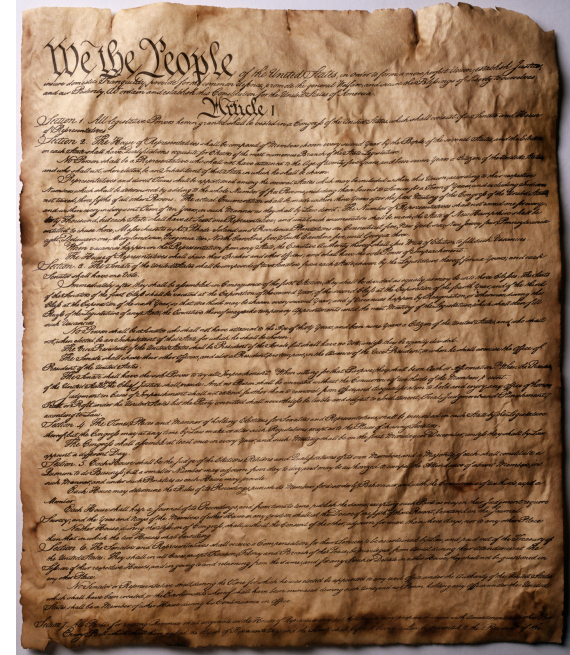
DEBATE OVER RATIFICATION

- **Federalists:** supporters of the Constitution and a strong central government
- **Anti-Federalists:** critics of the Constitution and favored a weak central government
 - Favored state rights
- **The Federalist Papers** (85 essays) written by James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, & John Jay to persuade people to support ratification of the Constitution
- **Guarantee of a Bill of Rights** helped achieve ratification
 - Enumerated individual rights and explicitly restricted powers of the fed govt.
- In 1789 **George Washington** takes office as the nations 1st President



Stuff You Should Know About the Constitution

- **The Constitution set up a government based upon popular sovereignty**
 - Power is in the hands of the people
- **Separation of powers between the 3 branches**
- **The Constitution set up a division of power between the national and state government (Federalism)**
- **Constitution would be “the supreme law of the land”**
- **Presidents would not be elected directly by the voters- wanted to limit excessive popular influence**
 - Feared too much democracy would lead to mob rule
 - Created the **electoral college**





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