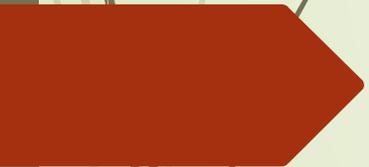


American History

Talk 9: Jefferson's America 1800-1808



Talk	Title	Time Period	Date of Talk
8	The early Republic	1792-1800	October 30th 
9	Jefferson's America	1800-1808	November 6th
10	War of 1812 and its impact	1808-1815	November 20th
11	The Era of Good Feelings	1816-1828	December 4th
12	Jacksonian 'democracy'	1828-1840	January 8th
13	New Spain, Mexico and the Texas Republic	1820-1836	January 22nd
14	Manifest Destiny and the Mexican War	1840 -1850	February 5th
14	California and the Gold Rush	1700-1850	February 19th

Overview

2

- A change in regime
- The first term (1800-1804): pirates, slaves and land
- Second Term (1804-1808): exploration, misadventures and trade war

Transfer of Power

- Federalists out , Democrat Republicans in
- No violence....despite highly contentious result
- Out: regal style, speeches, levees, balls and dances
- In: informality, frugality, partisanship, letters, conversations

Jefferson Goal: 'Recover spirit of Revolution'

Repeals Sedition laws (but not alien laws...still on books)

Shrink government, return power to the states,

Eliminate internal excise taxes, army and navy

Increase import taxes reduce "superfluous" expenditureand use funds to buy New Orleans from France and land from Indians

Job One is to "handle the pirate problem"



First Barbary War

Berbers and America

Thomas Jefferson...



'Dey' of Tunis



British navy suppress Berbers by 1750's
British remove 'protection' for American ships. Encourages Dey to attack American ships... 100's enslaved

Washington /Adams agree to pay tribute To Berbers 1790s... 20% of national budget at \$10million. Jefferson opposed

Berbers increase 'tax' when Jefferson assumes Presidency. Up to 30% US budget. Jefferson refuses to pay

Dey of Tunis declares war on USA US allies with Sweden (ongoing dispute) Builds up fleet. Joint fleet Tunis

Grounding of USS Philadelphia October 1803 ⁸

US and Swedish navy bombards
Berber Coast

USS Philadelphia grounded. Berbers
capture ship, demand ransom,
threaten crew with enslavement
unless ransom paid..and add ship
To their navy

US must avoid humiliation,,,
sends Steven Decatur on night
Attack to rescue ship...and
protect US honour



THE U. S. FRIGATE PHILADELPHIA ON THE ROCKS OFF TRIPOLI.

U.S. Military Magazine.

Oct. 31st 1801.

Army & Navy, Vol. 1st

Burning of Philadelphia February 1804 9



Stephen Decatur returns, boards Ship, burns ship and escapes.
Tunisians in pursuit

Crew of Philadelphia still enslaved

US and Swedish fleet blockades
Tunis

US creates mercenary army (Greeks, Albanians) of 500 led by 8 US marines supports Dey's brother's claim to throne...invaded Tunisia

Blockade of Tunis 1803-1805

10



Joint American and
Swedish fleet blockade
Tunis

Unable to break into port

Ship to ship battles

Fire ship attempt,
premature explosion

Blockade sustained,,
....Army advances

Battle of Derna 1805

11



Mercenaries seize towns across Tunis...move in on capital. Battle of Derna

Dey offers deal...hands over prisoners
Agrees to stop attacks on US ...in
Exchange for \$60,000 'ransom' (not
£300,000 'tribute'....and his brother

Brother spends 14 years in jail...but
survives and gains throne...does not
challenge US....other pirates will
resume piracy during War of 1812

Stephen Decatur (1779- 1820)



Son of merchant, abandons studies
For career on the sea, fiery temper,
Brave, arrogant, involved in duel with recruiting
officer

Leads boarding party to destroy
USS Philadelphia....success

Leads boarding party to rescue captured
Brother, kills Berber captain,

War hero, marries, happy marriage
made captain War of 1812, Captures British
ship, captured by two British ships.
Exchanged. Leads US navy 2nd Barbary war

Considered celebrity, criticizes officer who
surrendered Chesapeake. Dies in duel age 41

Remains ideal American Hero

Impact First Barbary War

13

- US prestige established, confidence boosted
- Jefferson abandons plan to shrink navy
- Funds released for purchase of New Orleans and Indian lands



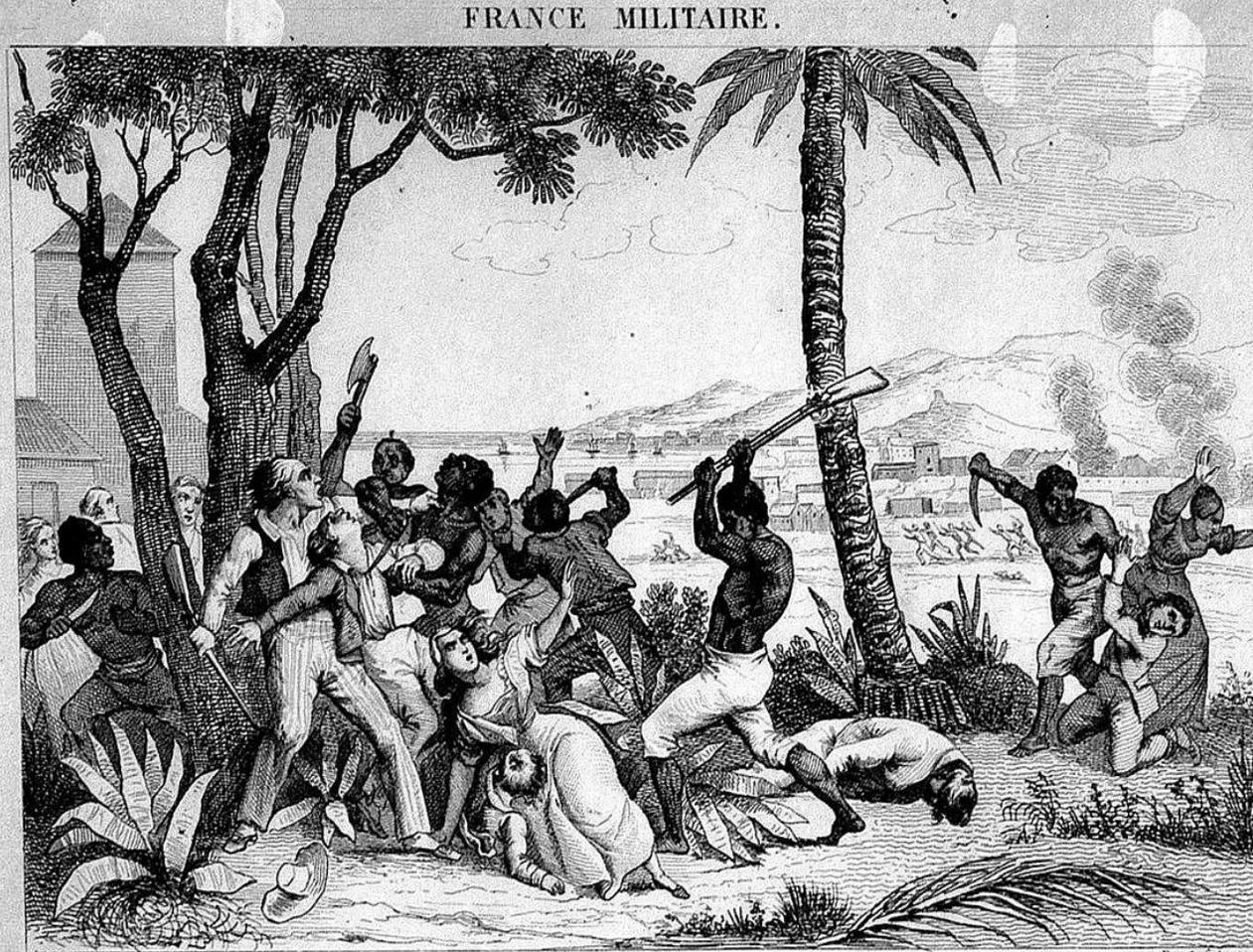
Slave Revolts

Haitian Slave Revolt 1791-1804

- Largest slave revolt since that of Spartacus in 71 BC...and only one successful
- Haiti French colony since 1625, most profitable colony in the world 60% world's coffee, 40% world sugar
- Rigid caste system (40,000 whites, 28,000 free and mixed race, 400,000 blacks)
- Brutal conditions 30% annual death rate among slaves. Most slaves new arrivals from Yoruba (Nigeria) due to high death rate, able to communicate...and unite
- News of French revolution spreads between mixed race, free blacks and slaves together with rumours slavery to be abolished across French Empire (partially true ...but not Haiti)

Revolution and white exodus

16



Incendie de la Plaine du Cap . Massacre des Blancs par les Noirs .

1791 revolution breaks out, 5,000 whites killed, French lose control

British invade Haiti with 40,000 troops (more than troops deployed in Revolutionary war)

Free black leader Toussaint Ouverture supports French in exchange for end of Slavery and equality,

Toussaint Overture (1743-1803)

17



Born a house slave, educated by Jesuits, interested in stoic philosophy, devout Catholic, freed by master, sees himself as French, advocates coexistence

British lose 30,000 men to yellow fever, abandon island 1798. French agree to hand power to Toussaint and abandon slavery

Overture becomes Dictator of Haiti.

Napoleon takes control in France, wants Haiti back, sends army of 50,000 under General Le Clerc, kidnaps Toussaint at 1801 'peace treaty' reintroduces slavery

Overture to France, writes memoirs, dies in jail.

Jean Jacques Dessalines (1758-1806)

18



Born a slave, rises to overseer, develops
Hatred of French and Christianity
supports removal of Overture

War resumes French army of 50,000 nearly
wiped out by Fever and war.

French capitulate in 1803..evacuated by British
navy..leave wounded to Dessalines 'care'

Dessalines drowns wounded French, declares
himself Emperor, arranges extermination of all
French residents. Mixed race and non French
whites untouched...Becomes Dictator of Haiti

Impact of Haitian Slave Revolt

- ➔ Biggest land purchase in human history
- ➔ Triggers first large slave revolt in USA
- ➔ Changes white attitude to enslaved
- ➔ Defines future of Haiti

Louisiana Territory

20



Claimed by France 1625.. not occupied

Transferred to Spain after 7 years (French Indian war)..only town New Orleans

Napoleon in power 1799 recovers Territory in exchange for conquests in North Italy...has big plan for New France...decides to recover Haiti

Peace of Amiens (1802-1803) collapsing, war with Britain imminent, Napoleon needs cash...and fast

N decides to cut losses...and block British expansion

Louisiana Purchase

21

- ➔ Jefferson sends ambassadors to buy New Orleans for \$10 million
- ➔ Napoleon offers entire Louisiana Territory (828,000 square miles) for \$15 million dollars (£300 million in 2023 currency: £300 sq. mile)
- ➔ Ambassadors accepts offer, sign treaty w/o consulting Jefferson
- ➔ Jefferson approves deal overcomes Federalist opposition in Congress (fear growth of South & expansion of slavery)
- ➔ Inhabitants (500,000 indigenous people and 5,000 settlers) not consulted.

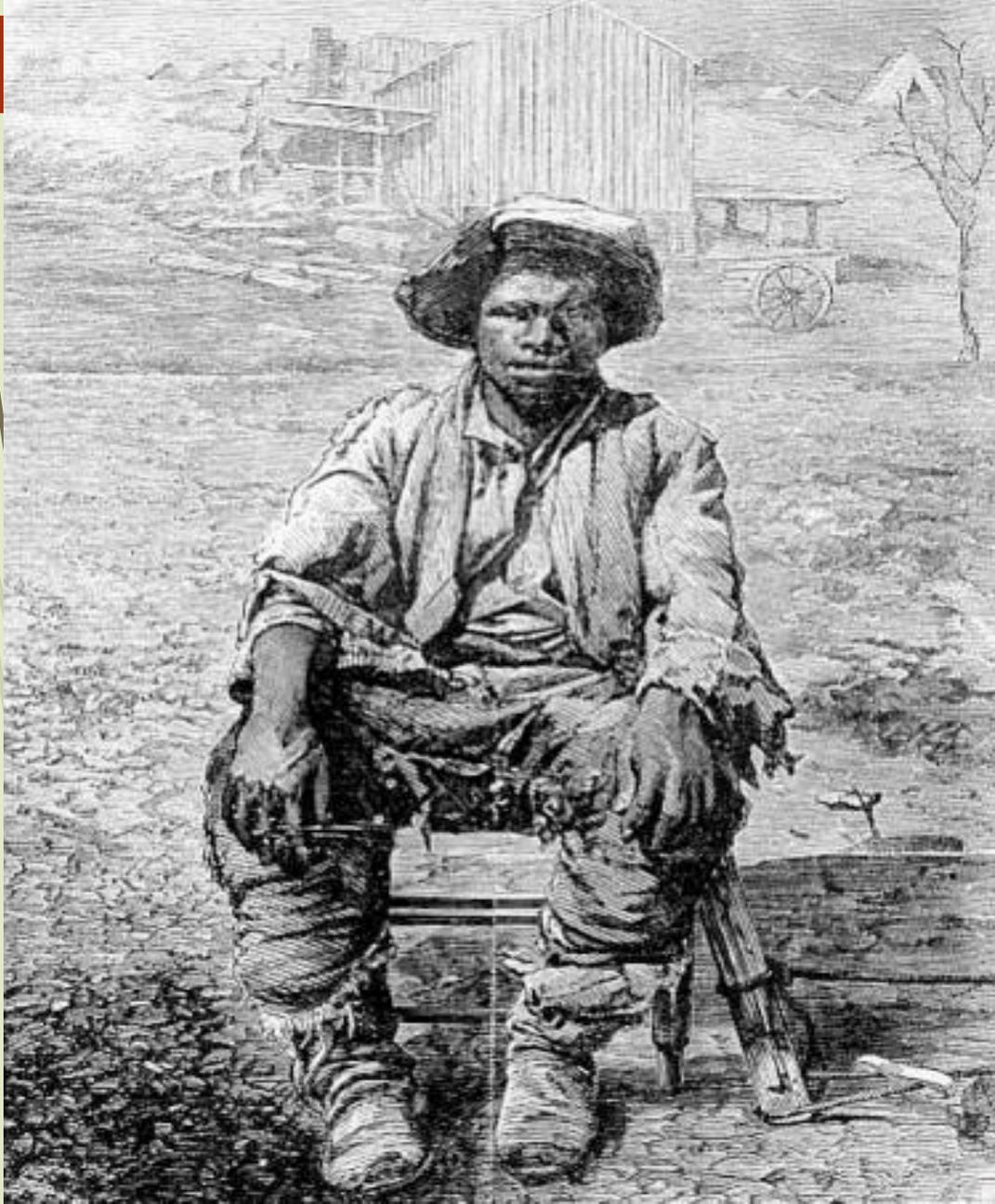
Haitian Revolt impact on blacks

22

- News spreadsAfricans can defeat white man
- Fuelled by rise of Methodists preaching gospel direct to slave populations...all people are equal to God
- Secret meetings take place across plantations
 - Whites consider Africans incapable of organizing, and harmless
 - “House slaves commonly shared between plantations, overhear Master conversations

Prosser's Rebellion 1800

23



Gabriel Prosser.. Literate slave and blacksmith lent out.. Mixes with poor whites Virginia,

Organises revolt, stock pile of arms, sets date, assembles army of 1,000 assemble

Thunderstorm disperses army, plot betrayed by slaves seeking freedom. Prosser hanged along with 25 leaders



Testimony of one of the leaders on receiving sentence....

“I have nothing more to offer than what General Washington would have had to offer, had he been taken by the British and put to trial by them. I have adventured my life in endeavoring to obtain the liberty of my countrymen, and am a willing sacrifice in their cause.”

Reaction among whites

25

- Shock and horror at brutality of massacres of whites
- Fear and panic as news of 'Prosser Rebellion' spreads ...especially where blacks high proportion of population (Carolina 60% population black, Virginia 40%)
- Resentment grows across South towards northern Abolitionists
- States impose 'negro laws"
 - Free blacks ordered to leave Virginia
 - Bans imposed on preaching gospel, reading, education, and movement

Changed view vs blacks as new technology makes slavery profitable

The Cotton 'Gin'

26



Cotton growing uneconomic due to effort to remove seeds

Eli Whitney, New England inventor
Develops 'engine' to filter seeds
in 1793 ...use spreads across south

Cotton yields increase 500% 1790-
1810, value of slaves doubles from
\$200 to \$400 by 1820

Plantation owners seek to exploit
land to West (Mississippi
Alabama, Arkansas...Land rush

Impact on Haiti

27

- ▶ Revolution occurs before creation of institutions
 - ▶ Chaos as Dessalines assassinated,
 - ▶ Progression of dictators
- ▶ Jefferson and US refuse to recognise regime...considers in an abomination and threat to South...imposes Trade Embargo. France and Britain do same....fear of slave revolts
- ▶ French return in 1825 demand payment for loss of slaves....and control of finance...Impose debt of \$30Bn in todays money (10X Louisiana Purchase...up to 80% of GDP...paid off 1971
- ▶ Haiti...poor, violent, anarchy....US seize gold then occupy to pay debts ...country poorest in world and miserable

Jefferson's First Term

28

Jefferson re-elected 1804 with 162 electoral votes vs 14 for Federalists ...73% of 150,000 popular vote

- US doubled in size without a war
- Barbary war popular, tributes payments stopped
- Economy improving as new industries protected by tariffs expand in North and cotton industry takes off across South

Seeks to use second term to continue western expansion

- Fears British will expand west from Canada to settle, exploit fur trade
- Seeks navigable waterways to Pacific
- Commissions Corps of Discovery in 1803 to chart and assess West



Intermission



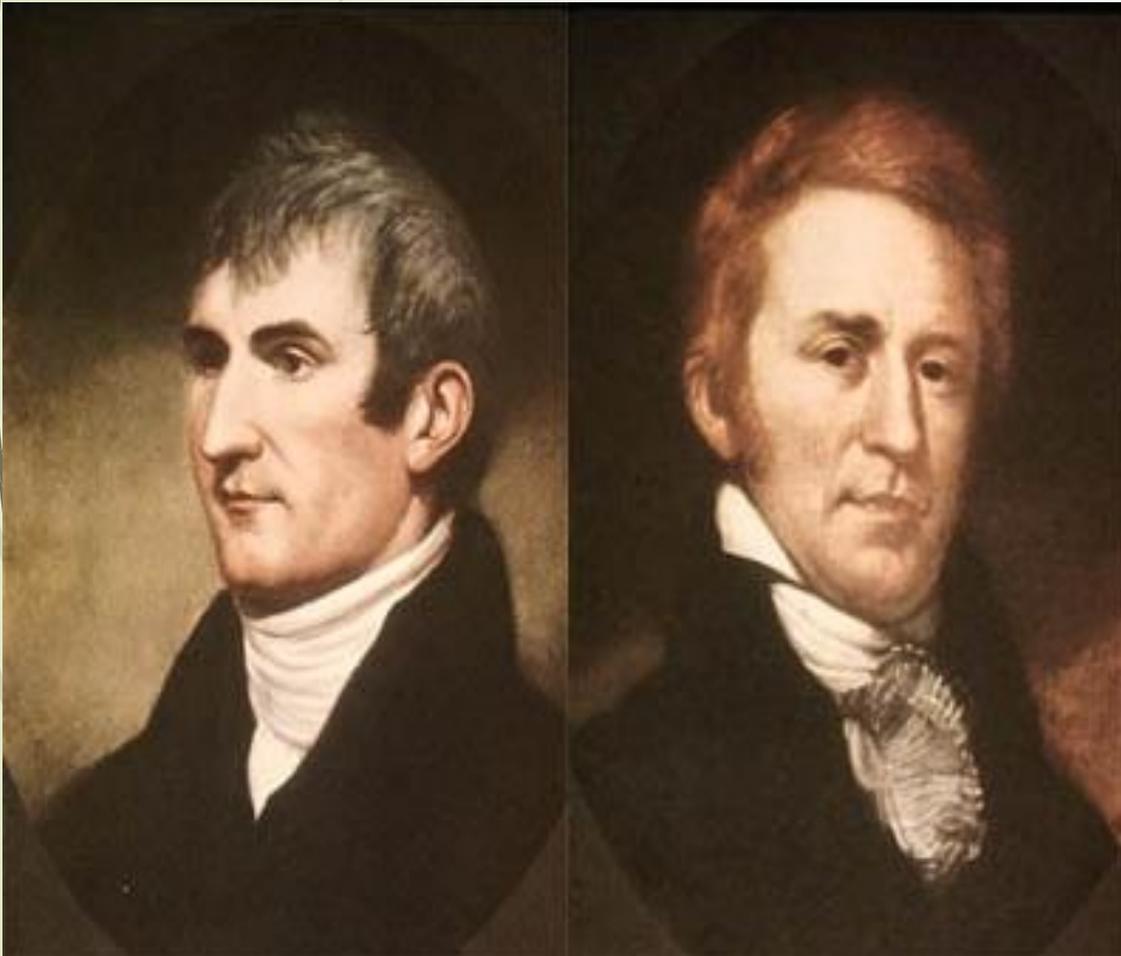
Jefferson's Second Term

Lewis and Clark

30

Merriweather Lewis

William Clark



Army officers, self educated, masons and slave owners, veterans of Indian wars

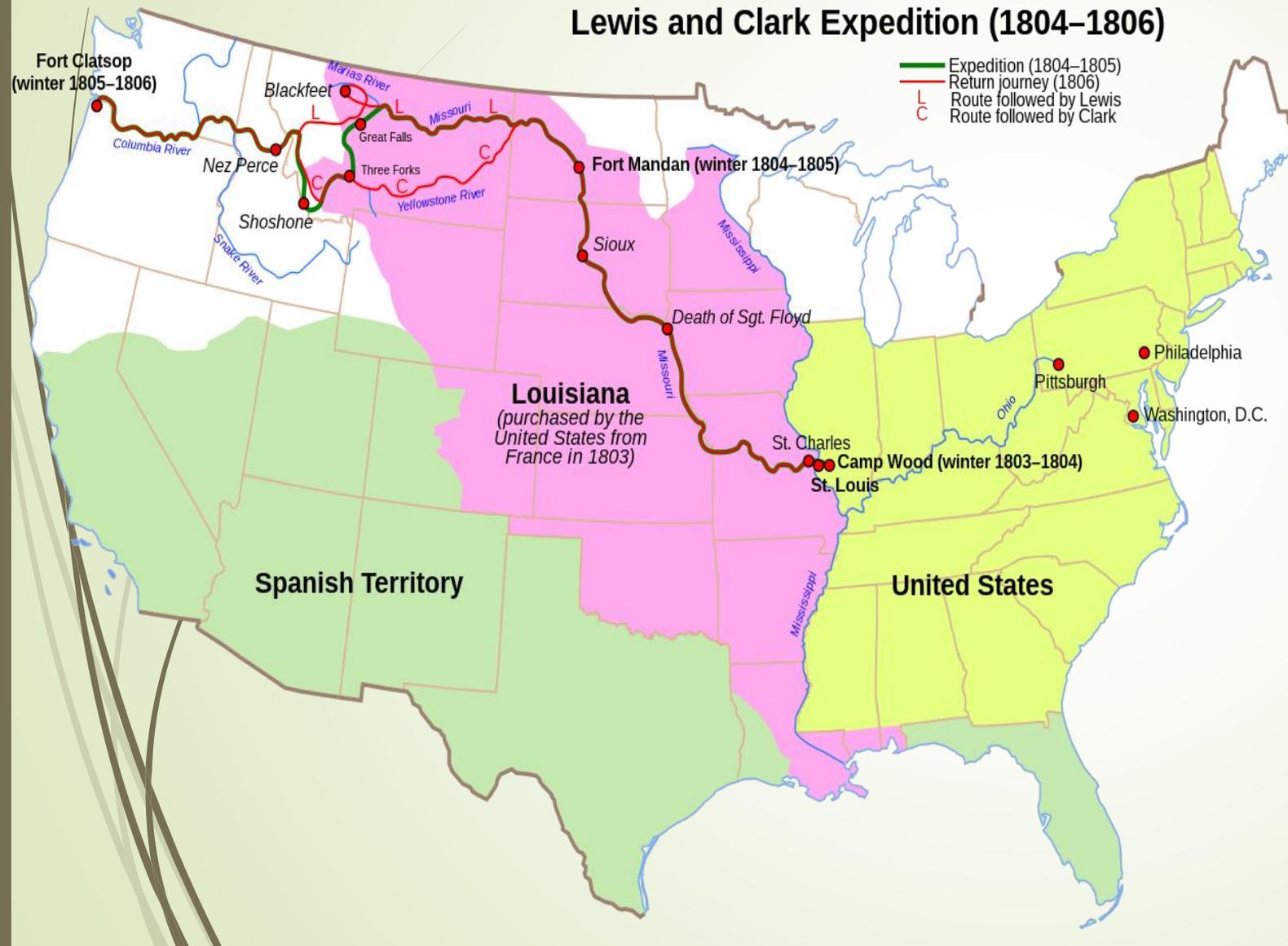
Personally appointed by Jefferson, Clark Lewis superior officer but Lewis made leader
Become co leaders

Jefferson personally tutors both in science, and botany. Wants both scientific and economic assessment

Secures special grant from Congress to ensure expedition well supplied, notifies Spanish and British expedition for science

Lewis and Clark leave 1805 , 30 men including 2 slaves

Lewis and Clarke Expedition 1804-1806



Prime objective: find navigable route to Pacific

Secondary: assess Indian strengths and weaknesses
soil fertility, study nature

Expedition peaceful, lose only one man...supported by teen age Indian girl and her Quebecois husband

Sakakawea (1788-1812)

33

Sakakawea ((imagined likeness))



Shoshone Indian (Idaho) captured Sioux Indians, sold to Quebecois Jean Baptiste Charboneau at 15 years of age

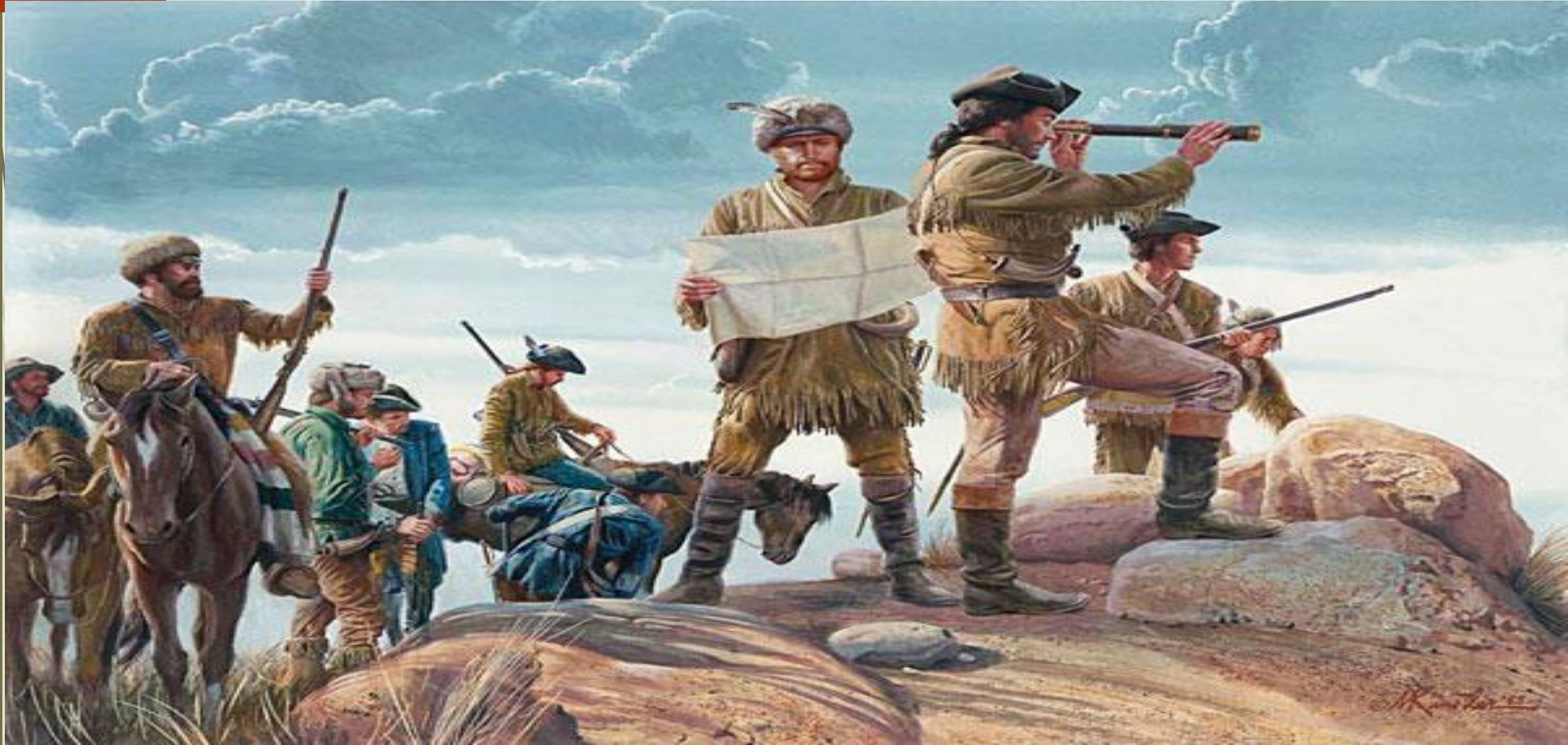
Lewis and Clark meet Jean and hire both as Interpreters...Saka pregnant

Valuable guide, speaks languages. Remembers passes from childhood, rescues maps that fall into river. Has baby boy. Keeps up with expedition sees Pacific. Her presence and child reassures other Indians expedition peaceful Relationships amicable and respectful with Lewis an Clark and throughout 2 year journey

Expedition encounter Spanish and Indians



Crossing the Rockies



Sakakajewa mediates with NW Indians



Sacajewas meets brother...kidnapped same time as her...³⁷



Aftermath of Lewis and Clark expedition

38

- USA claims all territory of North West due to 'right of discovery
 - Expedition proves land fertile and suitable for settlement
 - Reveals Indians few and divided
 - Inspires settlers and entrepreneurs
 - No navigable route to West,
-
- And for the explorers:
 - Lewis appointed Governor of Louisiana, accused of corruption and commits suicide
 - Clark continues military career adopts Sakakajawa's son "Auburn" when she dies of illness in 1812. Auburn gets educated, visits Europe, minor celebrity, returns to US, runs hotel for 10 years and dies at age 61

Exploiting the new lands: the first millionaire

39

Jacob Astor (1763-1848)



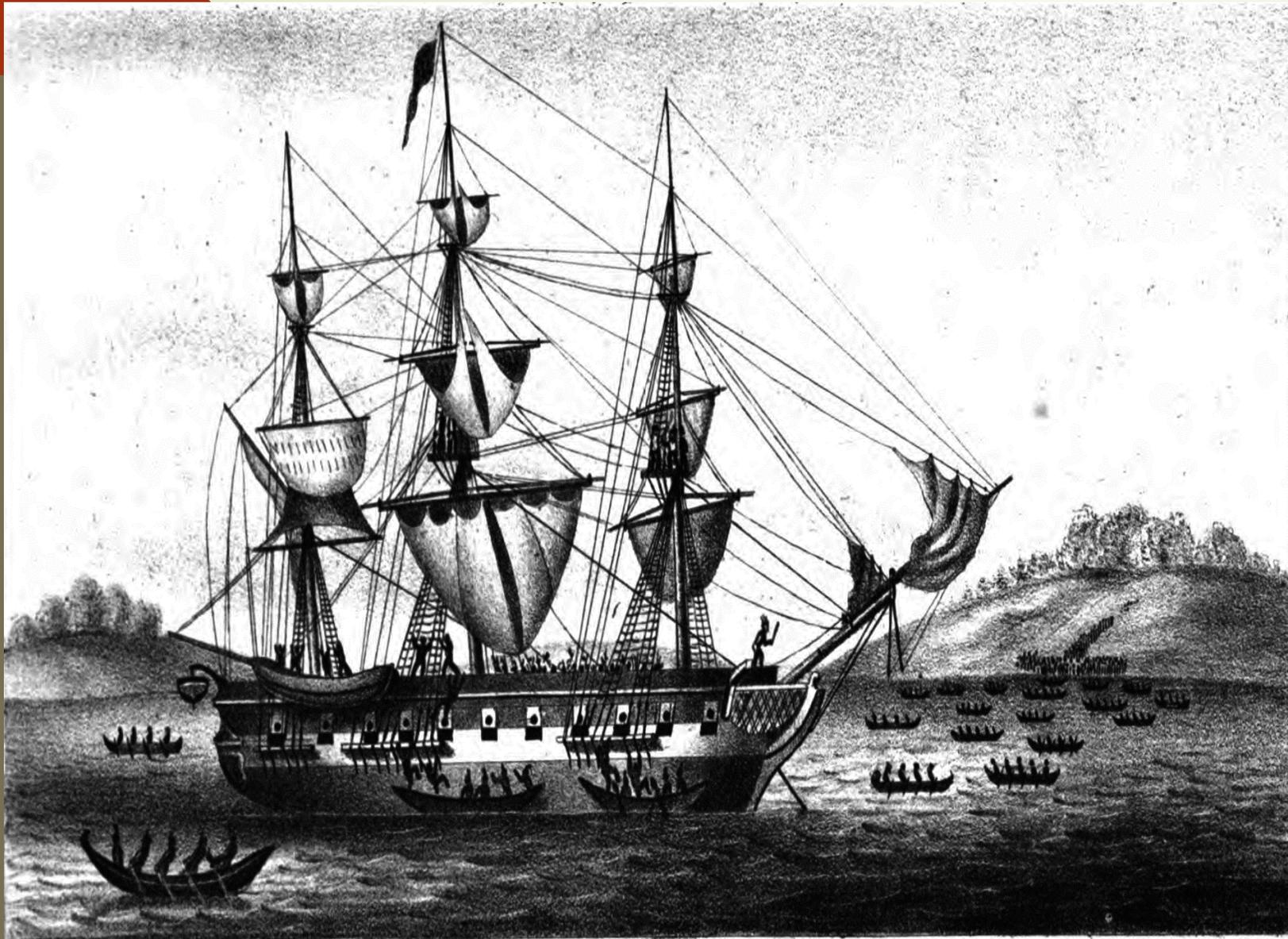
German born, emigrates To England, butcher, emigrates to US 1780's, works as butcher ...till he meets fur traders in tavern

Opens fur shop in New York, then imports Hides directly from Indians, cures, resells To Britain...becomes one of wealthiest Americans by 1790's

Establishes American Fur Company. Expands to Pacific North West diversifies into Opium Trade with China

Sees New York as future and buys Real estate. Worth \$20 million by 1820...1% of entire US economy...Becomes philanthropist and head Of American dynasty...grandfather "Lady Astor"

Tonquin Incident: perils of early fur trade 1811 40



ATTACK AND MASSACRE OF CREW OF SHIP TONQUIN BY THE SAVAGES OF THE N.W. COAST

Purchased by Astor to purchase
Furs off coast of (now) Vancouver
...trip around Cape Horn

Goal trade blankets for furs w
Tia o Kihaut Indians

Negotiations collapse, Indians
Kill all but 4 of 35 crew, 3
escape, One hides in ship

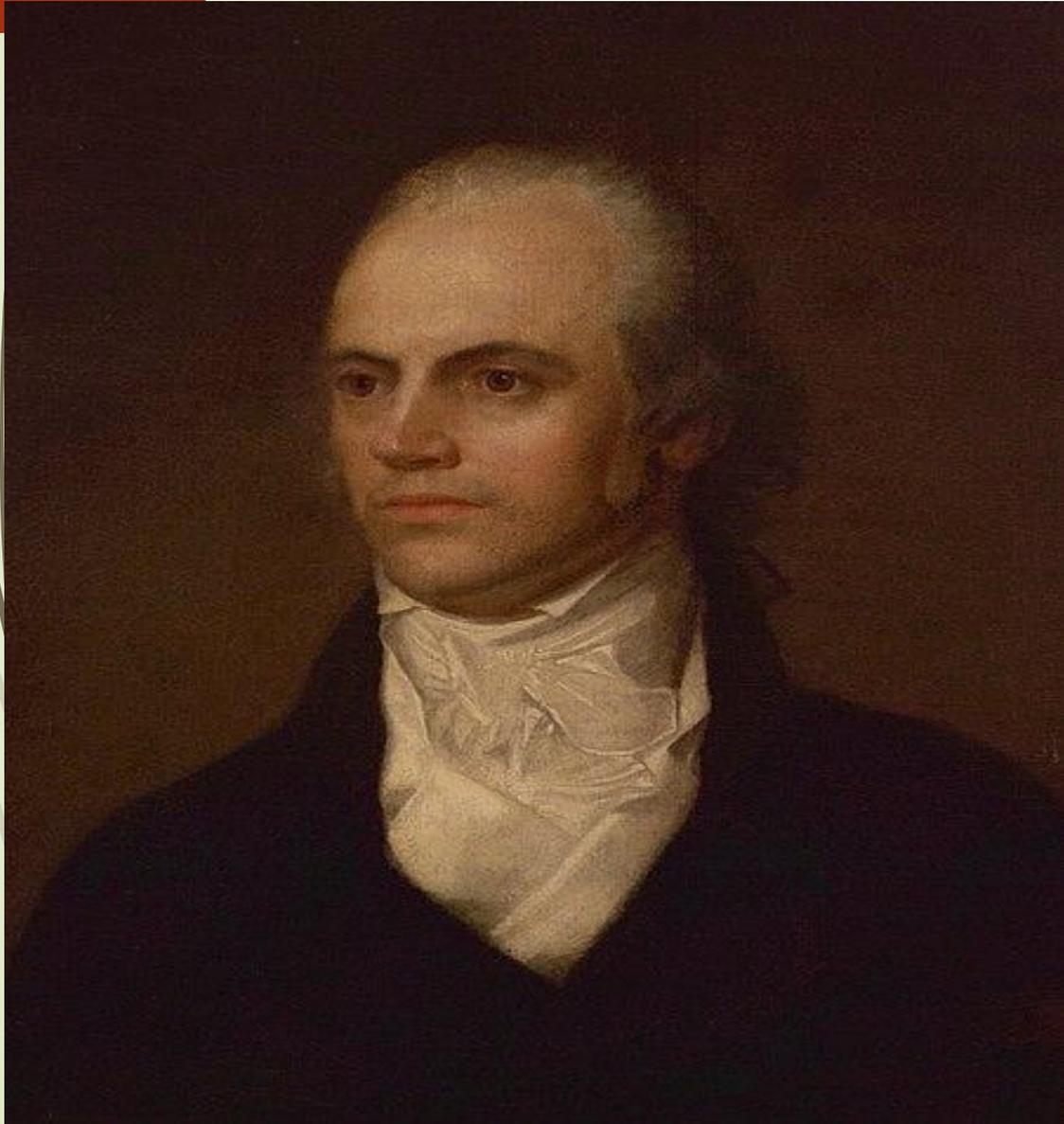
Tia o kihaut return to loot ship
Survivor blows up ship, kills 10
Indians and self

Survivors captured and
Tortured to death, one survivor
from crew, Indian translator..



The misadventures of Aaron Burr

Aaron Burr (1756-1836)



Grandson of Johnathan Edwards, born to Wealth New Jersey Family

Revolutionary war hero....side lined by Washington for attempts to seek recognition

Has affair with wife of British officer...during Revolutionary war.. Marries her when husband dies in 1780...one daughter, Theodosia, wife dies 1794

Qualifies as lawyer after war and becomes Successful business and financier. Creates Chase Manhattan Bank

Advocates women's suffrage and equality , opposes Immigration restrictions, tries to ban slavery

The once up an coming man

43

Initially colleague of Hamilton's
envies H's fame, and success

Disguises creation of new Bank
as Water Company...Angers
Hamilton...leak

Runs for President in 1796 as
Democratic Republican, fails
Runs again in 1800, ties with
Jefferson. Becomes Vice
President...Distrusted

Dropped by Jefferson in 1804,
Runs for Governor of New York.
Hamilton leaks notes that Burr a
man..."never to be trusted"..



Duel with Hamilton 1804

44



Duels normal way to solve problems of Honour. Hamilton's son killed in dual. Burr Prior dual...agreement to miss....

Burr former Vice President, Hamilton Former Secretary of Treasury, still Leader of Federalists

Meet in New Jersey...duelling punishable By death in New York. Crime but prison Fine New Jersey

Hamilton misses (intentionally?), Burr kills Hamilton

and goes on the run

The Burr Conspiracy Trial 1807

45



Burr heads West to Tennessee
Meets Spanish & British ambassadors
plans to create 'Empire' west of
Appalachia's, attempts to raises army
(disputed)

Jefferson sends troops to arrest Burr
Burr on trial 1807 for treason..and his life

Burr acquitted ...but ruined and must leave

Epilogue: Burr to England, tries to set
up scheme to invade Mexico, deported
off to France, shunned by Napoleon
Allowed to return to America 1811
(thanks to Theodosia)...under secret
name

Theodosia and her father

46

Theodosia Burr 1783-1813



Aaron Burr inspired by Mary Wollenscroft
And Rights of Women...wanted daughter
To have best education.

“She was reading Horace and Terence in the original
Latin, learning the Greek grammar, speaking
French, studying Gibbon, practicing on the piano,
taking lessons in dancing, and learning to skate,”
James Parton..Burr biographer

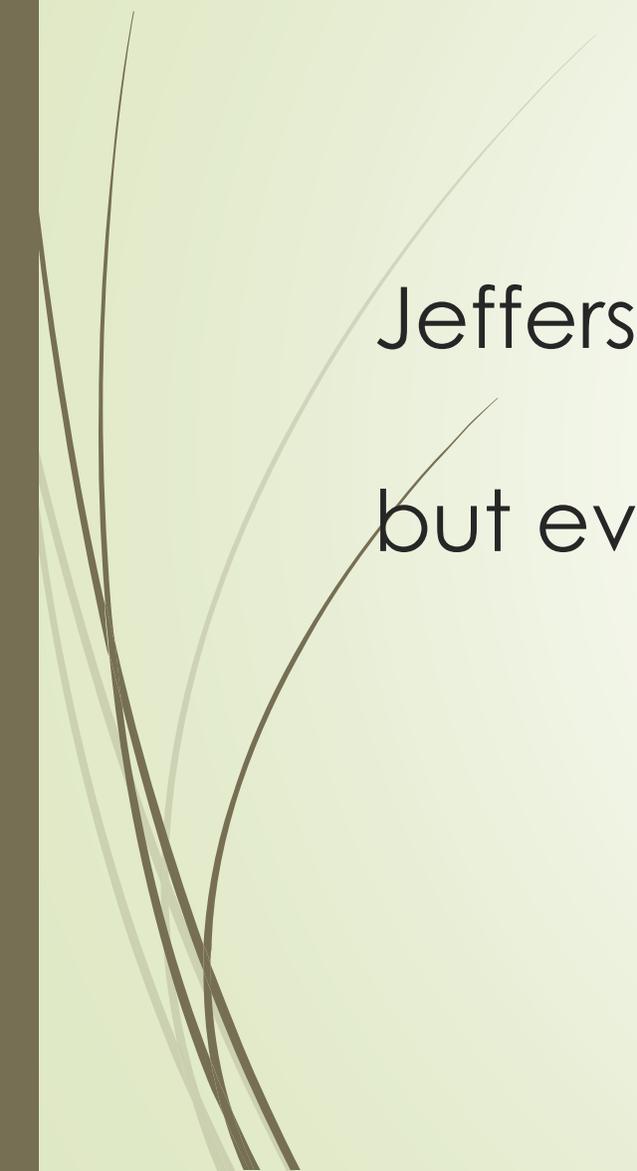
Supported father throughout trial, led
campaign for him to be allowed to return

Marries Governor of South Carolina, one child
dies when Aaron returns, travels to see him
but ..."lost at sea" (pirates?)

Burr dies alone in boarding house 20 years later



Jefferson wants to focus on developing West
but events in Europe make this impossible



The Trade Embargo of 1807

48

➤ Napoleonic war intensifies

- French ban trade to from England
- Britain embargoes all trade to France
- Seize American ships, impress sailors (1/3 American sailors British deserters)

➤ Jefferson reacts: 'a pox on all of you'

- Convinced Americas future agriculture and exploitation of West
- No need for foreigners or trade
- Bans ALL exports to ALL countries
- Economy shrinks by 8%, smuggling intensifies

Napoleonic wars and United States

- US retains neutrality, Jefferson pro French 1800-1804
- Napoleon declares himself Emperor 1804
- 'Total war' between Britain and France
 - French seize American ships with British goods
 - British blockade France, board American ships searching for deserters
 - Jefferson....no longer pro French: "pox on both their houses"

Chesapeake Affair 1807

50

HMS Leopard vs USS Chesapeake 1807



Captain HMS Leopard
Learns 4 deserters on USS
Chesapeake.

Hails Chesapeake in US
waters, demands handover
of deserters

Americans refuse. Broadside
kills 3. Americans surrender.
British board, take 'deserters'
hang 1, 3...found out to
be Americans and returned

USS Chesapeake returns to
port

Americans humiliated....and
respond....

Trade Embargo Act 1807

- ▶ Jefferson bans ALL US trade to both France and Britain
- ▶ US Economy goes into depression
 - ▶ Trans Atlantic trade ends north and East coast ports ruined
 - ▶ South loses market for newly profitable cotton
 - ▶ US based manufacturing start ramps up in North East
- ▶ British continue to blockade France, board US Ships
 - ▶ Divert trade to new Empire in India
 - ▶ Indifferent to American protests.....tempers rising

Jefferson's departure 1808

52

Presidency considered "success"achievements during first term, decides to retire at end of second term

- ▶ Most Jefferson 'ideals' shredded
 - ▶ Central government power increased, not contracted (Pirates, Louisiana, crushing of Burr)
 - ▶ International disputes addressed by violence...not negotiation
 - ▶ Slavery not 'going away', slavery problem to continue....and intensify
 - ▶ Embargo increases power of northern manufactures...US not going agrarian
 - ▶ No significant increase in level of democracy....rule by elite continues
- ▶ Nominates Secretary of State James Madison for President.

'Spirit of the Revolution' replaced by Nationalism and pursuit of prosperity

Jefferson epilogue

- Retires to Monticello in Virginia, makes no mention of his Presidency in future life
 - Considers greatest achievement: Declaration of Independence, religious freedom in Virginia, creating University of Virginia
- Dedicates himself to architecture, study of nature, writing letters and grandchildren
- Befriends Federalist opponent John Adams, mentors Madison
- Sinks into debt, funds lifestyle by selling slaves to cotton plantations,
- Dies bankrupt on July 4th 1826, daughters sell off estate, Sally Hemmings freed

Jefferson self Elogy and hope for America

May it be to the world, what I believe it will be, (to some parts sooner, to others later, but finally to all,) the signal of arousing men to burst the chains under which monkish ignorance and superstition had persuaded them to bind themselves, and to assume the blessings and security of self-government

.... All eyes are opened or opening to the rights of men. The general spread of the light of science has already laid open to every view the palpable truth, that the mass of mankind has not been born with saddles on their backs, nor a favored few, booted and spurred, ready to ride them legitimately by the grace of God. These are grounds of hope for others; for ourselves, let the annual return of this day forever refresh our recollections of these rights, and an undiminished devotion to them.



Next Time: A second war with Britain, the Indians east of Mississippi make their final stand, America becomes a Continental power

