Section 5.4
The New Government Begins
I. Introduction

A. As expected, George Washington elected President
B. John Adams, Vice President
C. New York City – first capital
Election of 1789

Before the ratification of the 12th Amendment in 1804, each elector cast votes for two different candidates. The candidate with the highest number of votes became president, while the candidate with the second highest total became vice president.

Washington (W) 69 electoral votes
Adams (A) 34 electoral votes
Jay (J) 9 electoral votes
Harrison (H) 6 electoral votes
Rutledge (R) 6 electoral votes
Hancock (Han) 4 electoral votes
Clinton (C) 3 electoral votes

Huntington (Hu) 2 electoral votes
Milton (M) 2 electoral votes
Armstrong (Ar) 1 electoral vote
Lincoln (L) 1 electoral vote
Telfair (T) 1 electoral vote

*Two Virginia electors and two Maryland electors did not vote.
Election of 1789

- During the first presidential elections there were no political parties.
- The outgoing Congress, convened under the Articles of Confederation and named January 7, 1789, as the date for all states to declare their electors.
- Electors cast their votes on February 4, 1789.
- George Washington could not be named President until Senate was organized which happened on April 6, 1789.
Capitals of the United States

Congress under the Articles of Confederation

March 1, 1781 to June 21, 1783:  
*Philadelphia, State House*

June 30, 1783 to November 4, 1783:  
*Princeton, New Jersey, “Prospect,” then Nassau Hall*

November 26, 1783 to August 19, 1784:  
*Annapolis, Maryland, State House*

November 1, 1784 to December 24, 1784:  
*Trenton, New Jersey, French Arms Tavern*

January 11, 1785 to Autumn 1788:  
*New York, City Hall, then Fraunce’s Tavern*

Congress under the Constitution

March 4, 1789 to August 12, 1790:  
*New York, Federal Hall*

December 6, 1790 to May 14, 1800:  
*Philadelphia, Philadelphia County Building–Congress Hall*

November 17, 1800:  
*Washington, U.S. Capitol*
Carpenter’s Hall
Philadelphia

Capital First Continental Congress
(September 5, 1777- October 24, 1774)

When the delegates came to Philadelphia, they chose to meet in Carpenter’s Hall rather than the State House (Independence Hall). It was built in 1770.
Philadelphia State House
Independence Hall

Capital Second Continental Congress
(May 10, 1775 to December 12, 1776)
(March 4, 1777 to September 18, 1777)

Congress under the Article of Confederation
(July 2, 1778 to June 21, 1783)

- Built between 1732 and 1753
- At the time of the signing of the Declaration of Independence it did not have the steeple that we usually associate with it.
Pennsylvania Courthouse, Lancaster
Capital Second Continental Congress
(September 27, 1777)

“To the town of York, seat of our American government in our most gloomy time.” This toast, proposed by the Marquis de Lafayette during a visit to the town in 1825, recalled the bleak months of the winter of 1777-1778 when the Continental Congress met at the courthouse in York, Pennsylvania. Congress had fled from Philadelphia in the early fall of 1777 before a rapidly approaching British Army, and the Declaration of Independence most likely accompanied them. Officials decided to move the assembly to the courthouse in York, after considering Lancaster and keeping the Susquehanna River between them and the enemy. Built in 1756, the neat brick building housed Congress for the nine months that the British Army occupied Philadelphia.
Nassau Hall

Capital Articles of Confederation
(June 30, 1783 – November 4, 1783)

- Built 1754
- Oldest Building at Princeton University
- Suffered damage in Battle of Princeton during American Revolution
Maryland State House
Capital, Articles of Confederation
(November 26, 1783 – August 1784)
• Built 1772
• From November 26, 1783 to June 3, 1784, Annapolis served as the United States capital. The Congress of The Articles of Confederation met in the Maryland State House. Subsequently, Annapolis was a candidate to become the new permanent national capital before Washington D.C. was built.
French Arms Tavern

Capital, Articles of Confederation
(November 1, 1784 to December 24, 1784)
- Built in Trenton, New Jersey
- Leased by the Congress as their meeting place.
- Served as meeting location for New Jersey’s constitutional ratification convention.
- Washington dined at French Arms Tavern on way to his inauguration
Federal Hall

New York

Capital, Articles of Confederation
(January 11, 1785 – Autumn 1788)

Capital, U.S. Constitution
(March 4, 1789 – August 12, 1790)

- Built 1700
- Site of John Peter Zenger Trial
- Site of Stamp Act Congress
- Site of Washington’s Inauguration
- Building was destroyed
Congress Hall
Philadelphia

Congress Hall
Capital, U.S. Constitution
(December 6, 1790 – May 14, 1800)

• Capital of the United States while Washington D.C. was being built
• Next door to Independence Hall
• Bill of Rights ratified here
• Site of George Washington’s 2nd Inauguration
• Site of John Adam’s Inauguration
II. Launching the New Government

A. Washington’s inauguration – April 30, 1789
   1. Felt “like a prisoner going to his execution”
   2. Knew that the future of their “experiment in self-government” rested with them

B. A divided Congress
   1. Congress had no money and was ideologically divided
   2. Federalist
      a. Headed by Alexander Hamilton
      b. Strong national government
      c. Put emphasis on solving nation’s money problems
   3. Republicans
      a. Led by Thomas Jefferson
      b. State’s rights-weaker national government
      c. Emphasis on personal liberty
II. Launching the New Government

4. The title debate
   a. Adams asked Congress to create a title for the president
   b. Washington asked to simply be called “Mr. President”
The Title Debate (cont.)

Titles for the President not selected

- His Majesty the President
- His High Mightiness
- Excellency
- His Highness the President of the United States of America and Protector of the Rights of the Same
III. Setting up the Executive Branch

A. Congress created three executive departments
   1. State Department – carry on relations with other nations
      a. Thomas Jefferson
   2. Department of War – defended the country
      a. Henry Knox
   3. Treasury Department – handle the government’s finances
      a. Alexander Hamilton
Henry Knox

- Born: July 25, 1750
- Self-educated
- Book seller who liked to read about military subjects
- Present at Boston Massacre
- Joined Boston Grenadier Corps in 1772
- Served at Bunker Hill
- Made Colonel by George Washington
- Brought cannon captured at Fort Ticonderoga to Boston during middle of winter
- In charge of Washington’s crossing of the Delaware
- Made general and chief of artillery
- Secretary of War under Articles of Confederation (March 8, 1785 to September 12, 1789).
- Secretary of War under Constitution (1789 to 1797)
- Died: October 25, 1806
III. Setting up the Executive Branch

B. Executive Branch Department became known as the President’s cabinet

1. Advise the President and help carry out nation’s laws.
IV. Organizing The Federal Courts

A. Constitution called for Congress to organize a court system headed by the Supreme Court

B. Congress fought over what kind of judicial branch to create
   1. Federalist wanted a court System with broad power
   2. Republicans wanted power reserved to states, preferred no Federal Courts other than Supreme Court
IV. Organizing the Federal Courts

C. 1789 – Congress passed the Judiciary Act
   1. Created a national court system with three levels

[Diagram]
- Supreme Court
- Circuit Court of Appeals (3)
- District Courts (13)
Federal Court System Structure

Federal Courts

Article III of the Constitution invests the judicial power of the United States in the federal court system. Article III, Section 1 specifically creates the U.S. Supreme Court and gives Congress the authority to create the lower federal courts.

State Courts

The Constitution and laws of each state establish the state courts. A court of last resort, often known as a Supreme Court, is usually the highest court. Some states also have an intermediate Court of Appeals. Below these appeals courts are the state trial courts. Some are referred to as Circuit or District Courts.
# Federal Court System

## Types of cases heard

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federal Courts</th>
<th>State Courts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Cases that deal with the constitutionality of a law;</td>
<td>• Most criminal cases, probate (involving wills and estates),</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Cases involving the laws and treaties of the U.S.;</td>
<td>• Most contract cases, tort cases (personal injuries), family law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Ambassadors and public ministers;</td>
<td>(marriages, divorces, adoptions), etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Disputes between two or more states;</td>
<td>• State courts are the final arbiters of state laws and constitutions. Their</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Admiralty law, and</td>
<td>interpretation of federal law or the U.S. Constitution may be appealed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Bankruptcy.</td>
<td>to the U.S. Supreme Court. The Supreme Court may choose to hear or not to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>hear such cases.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IV. Organizing the Federal Courts

a. District Courts try cases involving federal laws
b. Cases could be appealed to circuit courts
c. Final appeal to Supreme Court

2. Federalists were pleased with court system

3. John Jay appointed first Chief Justice of Supreme Court
V. Funding the New Government

A. Biggest problem facing the new government was money
B. Congress decided to fund the government through tariffs
   1. Could not agree on which imports to tax
   2. Congress finally passed a very weak tariff bill in 1792
A. **Federal and State governments had borrowed large sums of money to fight the Revolutionary War**

1. **It was now time to pay back the debts**

2. **If they did not, America’s international reputation would be severely damaged.**

3. **Who would ever loan the government money again?**
VI. Paying the Nation’s Debts

B. The Federal Debt

1. During the war, Congress had issued bonds to citizens and foreign banks
2. After the war, Congress had no money to pay off the bonds
3. People in need of money sold their bonds to speculators for less than face value
4. Speculators were gambling that one day the government would pay the bonds.
5. Hamilton proposed to pay back the bonds in full
6. Critics argued that this would unfairly reward the speculators, and was unfair to patriots who supported the war effort.
IV. Paying the Nation’s Debts

C. The States’ Debts

1. Hamilton also proposed that the federal government pay off the debts of the states.

2. Northern states favored this plan because they had large war debts.

3. Most southern states had paid off their debt, they opposed this plan.
   a. Why should they help pay another state’s debt?

4. Hamilton offered a compromise.
   a. Offered that the new, permanent capital would be in the south.
   b. Federal government would pay all states’ debts.
   c. Hamilton’s plan became law.
IV. Paying the Nation’s Debts

D. The Whiskey Rebellion

1. 1791- Congress put an excise tax on whiskey

2. Backcountry farmers were furious

   a. They used grain to make whiskey to purchase goods

   b. Farmers protested loudly to Congress

3. Congress lowered the tax in 1794

   a. Most farmers began to pay the tax

4. Rebels known as the “Whiskey Boys” began terrorizing

   farmers who paid the tax and tax collectors

5. Washington led 13,000 soldiers across the mountains

6. Stamped out the rebellion
VII. Establishing a National Bank

A. Hamilton asked Congress to set up a national bank
   1. Keep tax funds
   2. Issue paper money
   3. Make loans

B. Proposal had many opponents

C. Hamilton’s view
   1. Believed that the future of the country was in manufacturing and trade
   2. A national bank would make loans to business to build factories and ships
   3. The nation would prosper and all would benefit through more and better paying jobs.
VI. Establishing a National Bank

D. Jefferson’s view

1. Believed the country’s future was with farming

2. A national bank would only help bankers, merchants and manufactures

3. Government should deposit its money in small local banks that would help the common people
VIII. The Election of 1792

A. Washington did not want to run for re-election

B. Only fear of a rift between Jefferson and Hamilton convinced him to run again
VIII. Election of 1792

Before the ratification of the 12th Amendment in 1804, each elector cast votes for two different candidates. The candidate with the highest number of votes became president, while the candidate with the second highest total became vice president.

Washington (Federalist [F-W]) 132 electoral votes
Adams (Federalist [F-A]) 77 electoral votes
Clinton (Democratic-Republican [DR]) 50 electoral votes
Jefferson (J) 4 electoral votes
Burr (B) 1 electoral vote

*Two Maryland electors and one Vermont elector did not vote.
IX. Political Parties Develop

A. The framers of the Constitution did not envision political parties

B. By the early 1790’s, two political parties fought for control of the government
   1. The Republicans
      a. Backed Thomas Jefferson in election of 1792
      b. Believed in states’ rights over the federal government
      c. Believed that the federal government had grown too large
      d. Accused Federalist of helping the wealthy rather than the common people
      e. Support from farmers and common people particularly in south and west
IX. Political Parties Develop

2. The Federalists
   a. Backed John Adams in election of 1796
   b. Favored a strong national Government
   c. Make laws that help trade and business
   d. Appealed to business people and merchants in the north
X. Election of 1796

A. John Adams won the presidency by 3 electoral votes

B. Thomas Jefferson came in second, thus making him vice-president

C. The two leaders were from different political parties
   1. Tried to work together at first, but had political differences
   2. Adams’ most trusted adviser was his wife Abigail Adams
X. Election of 1796

Before the ratification of the 12th Amendment in 1804, each elector cast votes for two different candidates. The candidate with the highest number of votes became president, while the candidate with the second highest total became vice president.

Election of 1796

- J. Adams (Federalist [F-A])
  71 electoral votes

- Jefferson (Democratic-Republican [DR])
  68 electoral votes

- T. Pinckney (TP)
  59 electoral votes

- Burr (B)
  30 electoral votes

- S. Adams (A)
  15 electoral votes

- Ellsworth (E)
  11 electoral votes

- Clinton (C)
  7 electoral votes

- Jay (J)
  5 electoral votes

- Iredell (I)
  3 electoral votes

- Henry (H)
  2 electoral votes

- Johnston (Jo)
  2 electoral votes

- Washington (W)
  2 electoral votes

- C. Pinckney (CP)
  1 electoral vote
Washington’s Farewell Address

- Washington decides not to run for a third term
- He announces his intention in his farewell address that is published on September 17, 1796
- Washington warns against forming permanent alliances with other countries, only temporary alliances in emergencies.
- He warns against factions and party politics.
Washington’s Retirement

- On next to last day as President Washington wrote “To the wearied traveller, who sees a resting place, and is bending his body to lean thereon, I now compare myself.”
- He said in retirement “The remainder of my life . . . Will be occupied in rural amusement.”
- In retirement he ran Mount Vernon, still followed national troubles, followed building of Federal City, and lived a quiet life.
- He predicted that he would “not quit the theatre of this world” before the new century.
- He died December 14, 1799
United States 1789-1800

TERRITORIAL GROWTH

COLONIAL PERIOD: 1775
- Original Thirteen Colonies
- Other British territories

UNITED STATES: 1790–1920
- States
- State claims
- Special status areas
- Territories
- Unorganized territories
- Claimed areas
- Foreign areas

1803 Dates of territorial acquisitions
1805 Dates of initial territorial organization
(1809) Dates of latest change within given time period
1812 Dates of admission to the Union

Map scale 1:34,000,000

District of Columbia established as Federal territory 1800
IX. Alien and Sedition Acts

A. Wild rumors fueled fears that French spies were plotting to burn churches and chop off heads.

B. Republican newspapers criticized Adams harshly.

C. Fearful Federalists passed the Alien and Sedition Acts in 1798
   1. Alien Act gave the president the power to jail or deport any aliens who were causing trouble
   2. Sedition Act banned speech that stirred up hatred for Congress or the President

D. Several Republican newspaper editors were arrested.

E. Critics argued that this violated 1st Amendment free speech and freedom of the press.
Abigail Adams

- Born: 1744 in Weymouth Massachusetts
- No formal education but an avid reader
- Married: John Adams in 1764
- Had three sons and two daughters
- One son, John Quincy Adams became President of the United States
- Wrote hundreds of letters to her husband
- Join her husband when he became minister to France and then England
- Was a confidant to her husband
- During debate on Independence she reminded John to “remember the ladies”.
- Died 1818
XII. Election of 1800

A. Tension of Adams presidency led to bitter election

B. Adams ran as a Federalist

C. Jefferson ran as a Democratic-Republican
   1. Supported Aaron Burr as Vice-President

D. Jefferson and Burr each received 73 electoral votes

E. House of Representatives would now decide
   1. House voted 35 times each time a tie
   2. Hamilton finally switched vote to Jefferson
XI. Election of 1800

Before the ratification of the 12th Amendment in 1804, each elector cast votes for two different candidates. The candidate with the highest number of votes became president, while the candidate with the second highest total became vice president.

Jefferson
(Democratic-Republican [DR-J])
73 electoral votes

Adams
(Federalist [F-A])
65 electoral votes

Burr
(Democratic-Republican [DR-B])
73 electoral votes

Pinckney
(Federalist [F-P])
64 electoral votes

Jay
(Federalist [F-J])
1 electoral vote
XII. Election of 1800

F. Judicial Review

1. Marbury v. Madison established the power of judicial review for the Supreme Court.
   a. Power to decide whether or not an act of Congress is constitutional.
   b. Federalists were elated, the Courts now had more power.
   c. Republicans were stunned.
XIII. Jefferson Guides the Nation

A. 1801- Jefferson became the first President to take the oath of office in D.C.
   1. Like his beliefs, it was small and simple
   2. Walked to the ceremony
   3. Wore plain clothes

B. In his Inaugural address, tried to heal the wounds of the election
   1. “... Unite with one heart and one mind ... We are all Republicans, we are all Federalists.”
XIII. Jefferson Guides the Nation

C. Smaller Government
   1. Cut the number of federal officials
   2. Cut the size of the army and navy
   3. Ended the excise tax on whiskey

D. Let Alien and Sedition Acts expire

E. Did not try to undo Federalist economic policies
   1. Continued to pay off national debt
   2. Let the Bank of the United States function

F. Ended many customs
   1. Guests shook hands with the President instead of bowing
   2. Informal dinners instead of formal receptions
XIV. The Louisiana Purchase

A. The U.S. was growing rapidly
   1. Territories being organized

B. West of the Mississippi, a vast land called Louisiana belonged to the French
XIV. The Louisiana Purchase

C. An Unexpected bargain
   1. 1803 – Jefferson sent James Monroe to France to persuade Napoleon to sell New Orleans
   2. Napoleon had received news that his slaves on the colony of Saint Domingue had revolted
   3. Napoleon no longer needed the Louisiana territory to feed slaves
   4. France was also on the brink of war with Britain
   5. Did not have a navy to spare to protect Louisiana
   6. Instead of losing it to Britain, decided to sell it to U.S.
   7. 4/30/1803 – sold Louisiana to U.S. for $15 million
XIV. The Louisiana Purchase

D. Jefferson’s dilemma
   1. Thrilled with the deal
   2. As a Republican, stood for strict construction
   3. No provision in constitution for purchase of lands
   4. Did not have time to pass an amendment
   5. Put aside his ideals and asked the Senate to approve the deal
XIV. The Louisiana Purchase

E. The Purchase Debate
   1. Most Americans thought it a great deal at 3 ¢ an acre
   2. Doubled the size of the country
   3. There was opposition
      a. Can’t afford it
      b. Too much land to govern
   4. Senate approved the purchase in late 1803
   5. In 1803 Jefferson sent Lewis and Clark to explore new territory
Lewis and Clark
XV. The War of 1812

A. Jefferson reelected in 1804
XV. War of 1812

B. Relations with Britain became strained
   1. Britain at war with France
   2. Tried to cut off U.S. trade with France
   3. Seized U.S. ships, impressed sailors
   4. Jefferson placed embargo on trade with Britain and France

C. Jefferson did not run for a third term in 1808

D. James Madison elected president
Election of 1808

- Madison (Democratic-Republican [DR]): 122 electoral votes
- Pinckney (Federalist [F]): 47 electoral votes
- Clinton (Independent-Republican [IR]): 6 electoral votes

*One Kentucky elector did not vote.*
XV. War of 1812

E. Tensions with Britain grew
F. Madison wanted to avoid conflict
G. Many member of Congress pressing for war – “War Hawks”
   1. Wanted to gain Canada and the Northwest Territory
H. Britain also arming Natives in the Northwest Territory
   1. Shawnee Chief Tecumseh united Natives to drive out settlers
   2. William Henry Harrison defeated Shawnee at Tippecanoe
      a. Shawnee carried British guns
XV. The War of 1812

I. Madison declared war on Britain
   1. Britain won most early battles
   2. Burned Washington, D.C. in 1813
   3. Tried to capture Baltimore in 1814 but failed
      a. Could not capture Fort McHenry
      b. All night battle was inspiration for poem which became national anthem
XV. War of 1812
XV. The War of 1812

4. Both sides wanted an end to the war
5. Signed treaty of Ghent in Belgium
   a. Neither side gained territory
6. U.S. Proved it could protect itself
7. This prompted a rise in nationalism