Early Political Parties



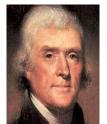


Alexander Hamilton

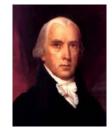
John Adams

Federalists

- 1. Led by merchants, bankers, and lawyers living primarily in New England.
- 2. Favored a strong central government.
- 3. Interpreted the Constitution loosely → loose constructionists ["implied powers"].
- 4. Believed in a government by the elite, educated, and wealthy.
- 5. Anglophiles \rightarrow Pro-England.
- 6. Favored Hamilton's financial policies:
 - Support for the Bank of the U.S.
 - America must have credit for industrial development, commercial activities, and the operations of government.
 - Full payment of the national debt.
- 7. Passed the Alien and Sedition Acts (1798) in which individual rights could be limited.
- 8. Vision for the $US \rightarrow$ trade center, industry, and self-sufficient nation.







Thomas Jefferson

James Madison

Democratic-Republicans

- 1. Led by planters, farmers, and wage earners living primarily in the South and West \rightarrow a decentralized, agrarian republic.
- 2. The "ideal citizen" → yeoman farmer.
- 3. Favored strong state governments over a strong national government.
- 4. Interpreted the Constitution literally → strict constructionists ["enumerated powers"].
- 5. Rule by the educated masses.
- 6. Francophiles → Pro-French.
- 7. Bill of Rights was sacred → passed the VA and KY Resolves.
- 8. Opposed Hamilton's financial policies [especially against the BUS].
- 9. Vision for the $US \rightarrow$ and agricultural society with little trade and industry.