

# The War of 1812

*Causes,  
Consequences, and  
Lasting Impacts*



Marianne Ryan



NORTHWESTERN  
UNIVERSITY

Cathy Jervey Johnson

ProQuest

Introduction:  
“...and our flag was still there”



<http://www.ourflagwasstillthere.org/the-war-of-1812/2011-12-06-17-10-16.html>

## The Napoleonic Wars were raging...

[10th CONGRESS.]

No. 208.

[1st SESSION.]

### GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE.

COMMUNICATED TO CONGRESS, DECEMBER 18, 1807.

DECEMBER 18, 1807.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States:

The communications now made, showing the great and increasing dangers with which our vessels, our seamen, and merchandise, are threatened, on the high seas and elsewhere, from the belligerent powers of Europe, and it being of the greatest importance to keep in safety these essential resources, I deem it my duty to recommend the subject to the consideration of Congress, who will doubtless perceive all the advantages which may be expected from an inhibition of the departure of our vessels from the ports of the United States.

Their wisdom will also see the necessity of making every preparation for whatever events may grow out of the present crisis.

TH: JEFFERSON.

[TRANSLATION.]

Extract of a letter from the Grand Judge, Minister of Justice, to the Imperial Attorney General for the Council of Prizes.

PARIS, September 18, 1807.

SIR:

I have submitted to His Majesty the Emperor and King the doubts raised by His Excellency the Minister of Marine and Colonies, on the extent of certain dispositions of the Imperial Decree of the 21st November, 1806, which has declared the British Isles in a state of blockade. The following are His Majesty's intentions on the points in question:

1. My vessels of war, by virtue of the Imperial Decree of the 21st November last, seize, on board neutral vessels, either English property, or even all merchandise proceeding from the English manufacturers or territory.

Answer. His Majesty has intimated that, as he did not think proper to express any exception in his decree, there is no ground for making any in its execution, in relation to any whomsoever, (à l'égard de qui que ce peut être.)

2. His Majesty has postponed a decision on the question, whether armed French vessels ought to capture neutral vessels bound to or from England, even when they have no English merchandise on board.

REGNIER.

## Leopard and Chesapeake Affair: June 22, 1807



[10th CONGRESS.]

No. 207.

### GREAT BRITAIN.

COMMUNICATED TO CONGRESS, DECEMBER 8, 1807.

DECEMBER 7, 1807.

Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives:

Having recently received from our late minister plenipotentiary at the court of London a duplicate of despatches, the originals of which have been sent by the *Revenge* schooner, not yet arrived, I hasten to lay them before both Houses of Congress. They contain the whole of what has passed between the two Governments on the subject of the outrage committed by the British ship *Leopard* on the frigate *Chesapeake*. Congress will learn from these papers the present state of the discussion on that transaction, and that it is to be transferred to this place by the mission of a special minister.

While this information will have its proper effect on their deliberations and proceedings respecting the relations between the two countries, they will be sensible that, the negotiation being still pending, it is proper for me to request that the communications may be considered as confidential.

TH: JEFFERSON.

## Embargo Act of 1807



## Battle of Tippecanoe: November 7, 1811



## “a system of hostility on the commerce of the United States”

12th Congress.]

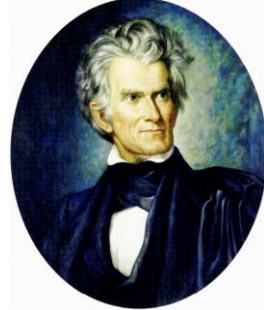
No. 247.

[1st Session.

GREAT BRITAIN.

REPORTED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, JUNE 3, 1812.

Mr. CALHOUN, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, to whom was referred the message of the President of the United States of the 1st of June, 1812, made the following report:



We proceed to bring into view the British order in council of November 11, 1807, which superseded every other order, and consummated that system of hostility on the commerce of the United States which has been since so steadily pursued. By this order all France and her allies, and every other country at war with Great Britain, or with which she was not at war, from which the British flag was excluded, and all the colonies of her enemies, were subjected to the same restrictions as if they were actually blockaded in the most strict and rigorous manner; and all trade in articles, the produce and manufacture of the said countries and colonies, and the vessels engaged in it, were subjected to capture and condemnation as lawful prize. To this order certain exceptions were made, which we forbear to notice, because they were not adopted from a regard to neutral rights, but were dictated by policy, to promote the commerce of England, and, so far as they related to neutral Powers, were said to emanate from the clemency of the British Government.

## Mr. Madison's War: June 18, 1812

CHAP. CII.—*An Act declaring War between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and the dependencies thereof, and the United States of America and their territories.*

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That war be and the same is hereby declared to exist between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and the dependencies thereof, and the United States of America and their territories; and that the President of the United States is hereby authorized to use the whole land and naval force of the United States to carry the same into effect, and to issue to private armed vessels of the United States commissions or letters of marque and general reprisal, in such form as he shall think proper, and under the seal of the United States, against the vessels, goods, and effects of the government of the said United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the subjects thereof.*

APPROVED, June 18, 1812.

STATUTE I.

June 18, 1812.

[Obsolete.]

War declared.

President authorized to employ the land and naval forces to carry on the war.



INFANTRY CAPTAIN, 1812.

## War at Sea: The *USS Constitution* and the British frigate *HMS Guerriere*: August 19, 1812



## State of the Union: November 4, 1812

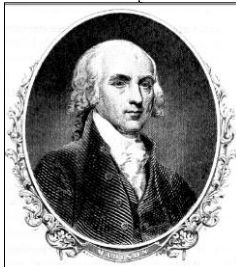
### MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT MADISON.

COMMUNICATED ON WEDNESDAY, NOV. 4, 1812.

*Fellow-citizens of the Senate  
and of the House of Representatives:*

On our present meeting it is my first duty to invite your attention to the providential favors which our country has experienced, in the unusual degree of health dispensed to its inhabitants, and in the rich abundance with which the earth has rewarded the labors bestowed on it. In the successful cultivation of other branches of industry, and in the progress of general improvement favorable to the national prosperity, there is just occasion, also, for our mutual congratulations and thankfulness.

With these blessings are necessarily mingled the pressures and vicissitudes incident to the state of war into which the United States have been forced, by the perseverance of a foreign Power in its system of injustice and aggression.





## River Raisin Massacre: January 18–23, 1813

No. XXVII.—TRANSLATION.

TERRITORY OF MICHIGAN, }  
District of Detroit, } ss.

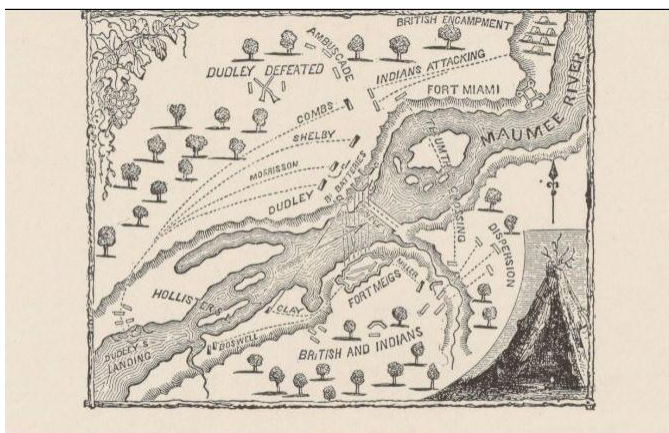
Personally appeared before me, the undersigned, one of the justices of the peace in the district of Detroit, Antoine Boulard, of the river aux Raisins, who, being sworn on the Holy Evangelists, deposes and says, that, on the next day after the last battle on river aux Raisins, he saw the Indians kill the secretary of the American General, who was on the horse of the Indian who had taken him prisoner, with a rifle shot; that the prisoner fell on one side, and an Indian came forward with a sabre, finished him, scalped him, stripped him, and carried away his clothes. The body remained two days on the highway, before the door of the deponent, and was part eat up by the hogs. Afterwards, the deponent, together with Francois Lasselle, Hubert Lacroix, Charles Chovin, and Louis Lajoie, took up the corpse, at dusk of the evening, and carried into a field near the woods, where the hogs did not go. They dared not bury it, for fear of being surprised by the Indians. And further this deponent saith not.

ANTOINE BOULARD, his + mark.

Sworn and subscribed in my presence, the 5th February, 1813.

PETER AUDRAIN, J. P. D. D.

## Dudley's Defeat: May 5, 1813



## Battle of Lake Erie: September 10, 1813



## Tecumseh killed at Battle of the Thames: October 5, 1813



DEATH OF TECUMSEH AT THE BATTLE OF THAMES, 1813

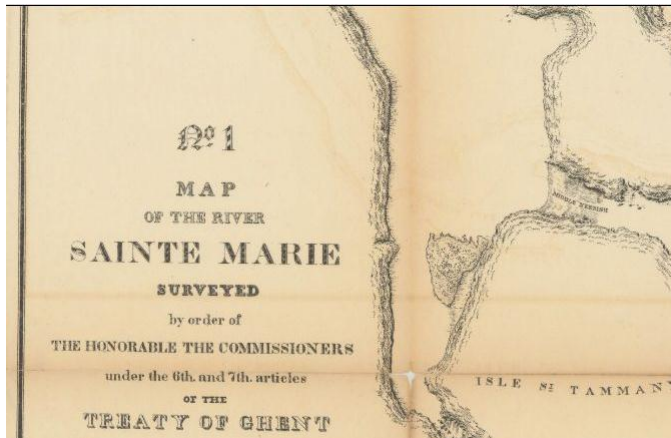


TECUMSEH

## Burning of Washington: August 24, 1814

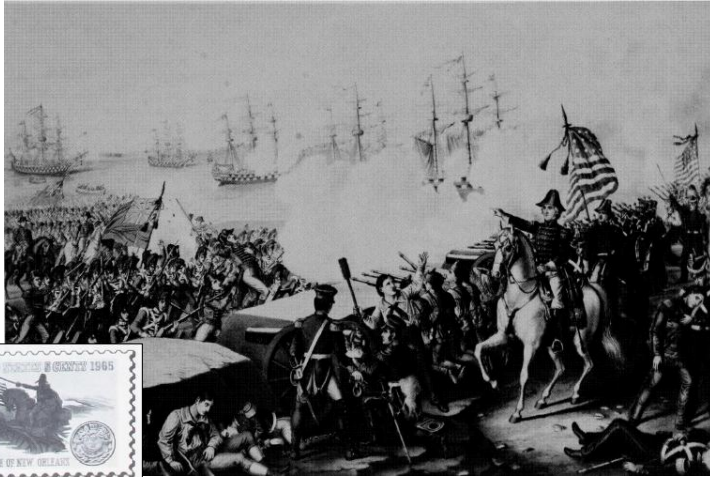


## Treaty of Ghent: December 14, 1814

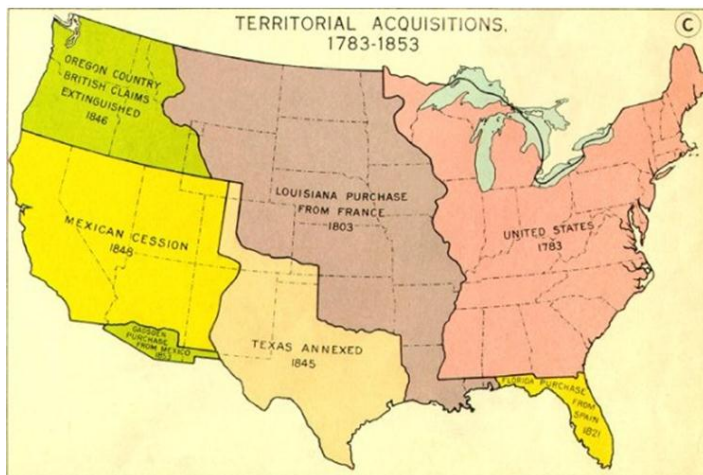




## Battle of New Orleans: January 8, 1815



## Impact: Western Expansion



## Impact: U.S. Military Strength



COMMODORE PERRY'S FLAG

## Impact: U.S. Relations with Canada

Whilst they were there, I asked the Constable for his precept, and for his authority to come into the American Territory. He said Morehouse told him to go and take the animal and the man wherever he could find them. I saw the writ....it....an order to *replevy* in the *Parish of Kent*. I asked him if he did not know that he was out of the Parish of Kent. He said he did not care, for Morehouse would bear him out in any thing he did. I told him he had better not come again on any such business. He said, "when I come again, I shall not be obliged to show my authority to a parcel of d——d Yankee settlers of Aroostic; that if 25 or 50 men would not do, he would bring 500, armed and equipped, and take every soul, men, women, and children, to Fredericton goal." He did not pretend that he was in the Parish of Kent; he said "he was doing his duty, and would go wherever his master would send him."

## Impact: Native Americans



**Art. 2d.** The Potawatomy, Ottowas, and Chippeway tribes of Indians, in consideration of the stipulations herein made on the part of the United States, do hereby forever cede to the United States, the land comprehended within the following lines and boundaries: Beginning where the western line of the state of Ohio crosses the river Miami of Lake Erie, which is about twenty-one miles above the mouth of the Great au Glaize river; thence down the middle of the said Miami river to a point north of the mouth of the Great au Glaize river; thence with the western line of the land ceded to the United States by the treaty of Detroit in 1807, north forty-five miles; thence west, so far that a line south will strike the place of beginning; thence south to the place of beginning.

## Impact: Manufacturing

DOCUMENT 3.—No. 185.—DUXBURY.—*Schedule of Manufactures,*

Woollen factory: begun in 1812; incorp. 1813, by the name of The Duxbury Manufacturing Co.	\$6,000 wat. power	\$1,500	\$5,000	4,000 lbs. wool and cotton warp \$7,000; 80 corals wood 250 50 gals. sperm oil 120 Dye stuffs 100	Massachusetts and other N. E. States.
Cotton factory: carried on by the above company; incorp. 1815.	\$7,000 wat. power	500	-	33,000 lbs. cotton 3,960	South Carolina, & southern States.
Ship building: an ancient business, and carried on by various persons.	-	-	10,000	1,500 tons oak timber, 40,000 ft. oak plank, 20,000 feet pine plank, 20 tons iron, 20,000 feet pine boards, valued at \$20,000	Principally in Mass.
Coopering	-	-	500	Staves, principally from N. Carolina.	-

# Impact: Control of Great Lakes

15th CONGRESS.]

No. 301.

[1st Session.

## GREAT BRITAIN—NAVAL ARMAMENT ON THE LAKES.

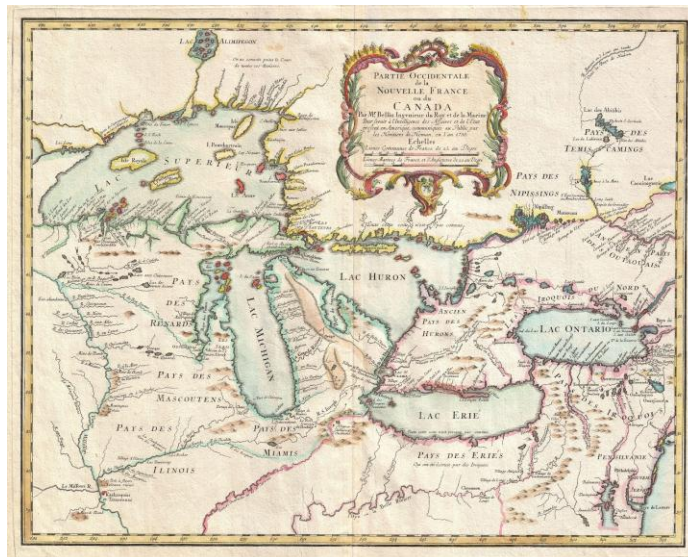
COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE, APRIL 6, 1818.

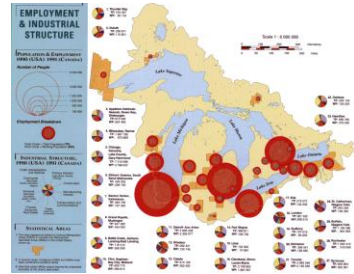
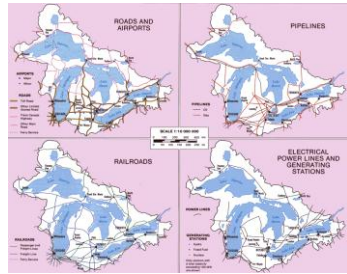
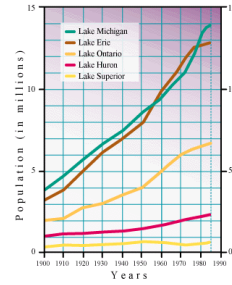
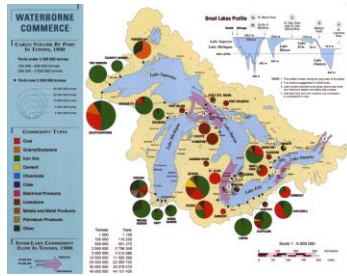
*To the Senate of the United States:*

APRIL 6, 1818.

An arrangement having been made and concluded between this Government and that of Great Britain, with respect to the naval armament of the two Governments, respectively, on the lakes, I lay before the Senate a copy of the correspondence upon that subject, including the stipulations mutually agreed upon by the two parties. I submit it to the consideration of the Senate whether this is such an arrangement as the Executive is competent to enter into by the powers vested in it by the constitution, or is such a one as requires the advice and consent of the Senate, and, in the latter case, for their advice and consent, should it be approved.

JAMES MONROE.





## Impact: Federal Role in National Economic Development

The crisis in which the directors of the Bank of the United States have acted has been one of peculiar delicacy and difficulty. The policy and effect of their administration cannot be appreciated by an abstract view of any single measure: it must be taken in connexion with every other which it involves. They have earnestly endeavored to promote the interest of the public and of the institution, but they disclaim the presumption that would exempt them from error.

I have the honor to remain, with great respect, sir, your obedient servant,  
**WM. JONES, President.**

To the Hon. WILLIAM H. CRAWFORD, *Secretary of the Treasury, Washington City.*



## Impact: Rebuilding the District of Columbia



South facade of Benjamin Henry Latrobe's proposal to expand White House with portico and central stairs (1817)

## Impact: Library of Congress

Oct. 21, 1814. III. RESOLUTION, *empowering the joint library committee of Congress to contract for the purchase of Mr. Jefferson's library.*

**Purchase of  
the library of  
Mr. Jefferson.**

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the joint library committee of the two houses of Congress be, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to contract on their part for the purchase of the library of Mr. Jefferson, late President of the United States, for the use of both houses of Congress; and that the committee lay the terms of said contract before Congress, for their ratification.*

**APPROVED, October 21, 1814.**

## Jefferson's letter, agreeing to arrange and number his books for transfer to the Library of Congress

Dear Sir

1800  
Monticello Feb. 12. 1800

The Library committee of Congress having concluded to take your letters into their consideration, at the request of your excellency, I shall in respect to the catalogue present to you, and number all the books according as they stand in the catalogue, as on this subject every individual in the public library is concerned, and it is proposed to their view and number most of them, be made from the account of your excellency, besides this there shall be some one added in conformity to attend to the same, that the fine bindings should be destroyed by the judgments of the Congress, you shall see from your letter, as to say you would care not see to this, I have therefore proposed to me that to have your attention to the committee as they report, and I hope if it meets their approbation that your will not be wanting, when I shall forward the names I am to give them, that all a reader, I have requested to have the names can be had from Mr. D. to take 2,000.00 and an accurate estimate makes 11, such paper, but I have requested to have the necessity of having on a copper-plate of each book's paper, name and waste paper, the former to fill the inscriptions between the books, and show the letter to wrap the best bindings, and for steps between all the books, I should be very sorry to have them required by the Congress, I suppose the reason will be very much, and I am very much affected by this and before the possibility of any such determination I should be anxious to have the delivery made, if these proposals should be accepted, I have your excellency will not be wanting, and that will all be the pleasure of reading you have in the course of the next month, except the assurance of my great esteem and respect.

W. Madison  
Jefferson

## "O Say Does that Star-Spangled Banner Still Wave..."

To the Star-Spangled Banner

O say can you see by the dawn's early light  
That the heavenly host doth lead  
The way unto our rocky, wooded shore,  
Where the broad daylight beams  
Do not desert us when the sun doth set,  
And the dark clouds doth cover  
The face of the firmament,  
Where the world's great ruler,  
The King of Kings doth sit,  
Whom angels praise continually,  
And their voices evermore  
Are singing his praise,  
Who is Lord over life and death,  
And the living and the dead,  
Whom the world's great ruler,  
The King of Kings doth sit,  
Whom angels praise continually,  
And their voices evermore  
Are singing his praise,  
Who is Lord over life and death,  
And the living and the dead.

W. Madison  
1800

**TITLE 36 - PATRIOTIC AND NATIONAL OBSERVANCES, CEREMONIES,  
AND ORGANIZATIONS**  
**Subtitle I - Patriotic and National Observances and Ceremonies**  
**Part A - Observances and Ceremonies**  
**CHAPTER 3 - NATIONAL ANTHEM, MOTTO, FLORAL EMBLEM, MARCH, AND  
TREE**

**§ 301. National anthem**

**(a) Designation.**— The composition consisting of the words and music known as the Star-Spangled

Banner is the national anthem.

**(b) Conduct During Playing.**— During a rendition of the national anthem—

**(1)** when the flag is displayed—

**(A)** individuals in uniform should give the military salute at the first note of the anthem and maintain that position until the last note;

**(B)** members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute in the manner provided for individuals in uniform; and

**(C)** all other persons present should face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over the heart, and men not in uniform, if applicable, should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart; and

**(2)** when the flag is not displayed, all present should face toward the music and act in the same manner they would if the flag were displayed.

(Pub. L. 105–225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1263; Pub. L. 110–417, [div. A], title V, § 595, Oct. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 4475.)

Questions?

catherine.johnson@proquest.com

marianne-ryan@northwestern.edu