

Glossary

The rise of the common man: After 1829, When Andrew Jackson became president and showed everyone that not only wealthy elites could be president there was the rise of the common man. Common people became more powerful in the government.

The canal era: In 1817 large canals started being built to provide fast and cheap transportation of people and goods. Canals lead to easy transportation and a better economy.

Gold in california: In 1848 large amounts of gold were found in California leading to large amounts of people moving to California hoping to get rich quick by mining gold.

The assassination of Abraham Lincoln: In April 11, 1865, John Wilkes Booth shot and killed U.S. President Abraham Lincoln in Ford's Theater.

Domestic and international politics: After WW1 President Warren Harding caused controversy in the U.S. government by letting his friends take money from the treasury for financial gain. He also created treaties that prevented the countries that signed them from building more battleships in an attempt to prevent another world war.

The rise of the common man

Andrew Jackson became president in 1829, showing that any common man could rise up and even become president. After this, The common man became more influential in the government and it became more important for people running for president to try and relate to the common people.

Arthur J. Stansbury was someone who was critical of Jackson during his presidency and described a notable change in the government once Jackson was elected. Stansbury compared the inauguration of Jackson to *“the inundation of the northern barbarians into Rome”*.

Most people were either supportive of Jackson or critical of him. People who supported him often did so because he was not a wealthy elite and was more relatable from a common man's perspective. They believed that having a common man as the president was the best thing to do and didn't support a larger government. A point that was brought up against Jackson was that he was reckless, uneducated, and refused to get anything done. They didn't support “rotations in office” and believed that this was only there to get pro-Jackson officials into office.



The rise of the common man is an important turning point in U.S. history because it marked a point where not only wealthy elites were able to make it into office and that any common man could rise up and gain power in the government. It also marked a point where common people had much more influence over the government and not just people who had money or already had influence. Before the rise of the common man,

government officials were mostly just wealthy elites who either bought their way into office or already had influence. All of the presidents before Jackson all had the same level of education, large amounts of money, and all lived in the east. Jackson then decided to run for president even though he was unlike any president that came before him. Jackson managed to win by relating to the common people and after him, future candidates felt the need to relate to the common man in order to get more votes, which Jackson proved during his second run for president. There was a rise in common people with regular jobs coming into power and there was less of a disconnect between government officials and the common people.

This is still seen today because even still, there are common people with regular jobs, who aren't wealthy in a position of power in the government today. People today still try to relate to common people to get votes in elections today and it is still proven to be effective.

John Quincy Adams campaigned for re-election against Jackson and ended up losing in the 1829 election. Adams refused to do any public relations and then ended up having many people not trust him and call him an "out of touch elite".

The canal era

Dewitt Clinton was the person who originally petitioned to create the canal from the hudson river to the great lakes which ended up being a great success. From the original \$7 million spent to create the canal it returned \$121 million.

President Thomas Jefferson was one of the people who opposed the building of the erie canal because of its cost and the work required to complete it. Jefferson was quoted saying "a little short of madness" when presented with the idea of the canal and rejected it. However, the governor of New York was interested with the idea and financed the construction of it.

Most people at the time of the canal's approval were afraid that the task would be too difficult to complete. Most saw the construction of the canal as daunting and nobody was sure how much money the canal would make and the people who opposed it saw it as a big risk to go through with the \$7 million investment.



The canal era marked an important time the U.S. because it meant that transportation of goods and transportation of people was now much cheaper and much more efficient. This led to a large increase in the economy because people who lived far away from people could now deliver their goods that go bad quickly such as food.

This also lead to a large amount of people moving to big ports like New York, Ohio, and Illinois.

This topic is still seen today because transportation is still a big deal today. Train tracks are still being built and planes are very important in today's society. This is also important because the canals that were built boosted the economy and allowed farmers to sell food in towns very far away.

Gold in california

James marshall found gold in a river in inland california. The word spread and people started to travel from all over to inland California for a chance to get rich quick by searching for gold in the river of California. Over 80,000 people moved inland in the following year. Over the next few years that amount increased to 300,000.

Samuel Brannan was the first quoted person to announce the gold findings. He was a journalist and publicized the findings in a local newspaper which is thought to be start of the california gold rush. He was quoted saying "Gold! Gold! Gold from the American River!" while running through the streets holding a vial of gold. He also made lots of money from selling gold prospecting supplies

Most of the controversy that came from the gold rush was from people kicking native people out of their land to look for gold. The miners swarming the rivers prevented native americans from fishing. Another controversy was from american miners attacking latino and chinese miners for gold in organized attacks.

CALIFORNIA GOLD RUSH 1849



The gold rush was a turning point in U.S. history because it created a large influx of people moving west and created a better economy for the west. The california gold rush allowed a lot of people to make money through either starting gold mining companies or selling supplies for mining.

This is still seen in the U.S. today in the amount of people who live in california. The number of people who moved to california during the gold rush made it one of the most populated states in the entire country.

The assassination of Abraham Lincoln

On April 14, 1865, in Ford's Theater, Washington D.C, John Wilkes Booth assassinated president Abraham Lincoln after two previous failed attempts to kidnap or kill the president. John Wilkes Booth's motive was that he strongly opposed Abraham Lincoln because Lincoln was for the abolition movement and against slavery. John Wilkes Booth was strongly against the abolition movement and was a white supremacist and slave owner.

Most of the reaction to the assassination was shock and sadness. Former U.S. general and former president Ulysses S. Grant stated after the assassination, "incontestably the greatest man I ever knew." showing respect and mourning to Lincoln after his death.

Most of the debate around this topic is about why he did it. Most theories say that Booth's motivation was that he wanted to "Avenge the south". Other popular theories suggest that Booth did it because he was a white supremacist and slave owner who was strongly against the union and the abolition movement.



This was a turning point in the U.S because Abraham Lincoln was the first American president to be assassinated. This was seen as a major tragedy and invoked reactions from not only the people who lived in the country but also from other world leaders.

This is still a topic in the U.S. today because it is an important point in history and is worth looking back at. The assassination shows the state of civil rights and slavery at the time and how there was retaliation against the abolition movement.

Domestic and International politics

Soon after WW1 president Warren Harding was the subject of both domestic and international controversy. Warren Harding was controversial in the U.S. because he let some of his friends use money from the national treasury to their own gain which was seen as very bad and was detrimental to his public image. He also accepted bribes from big oil companies and was not very trusted by the general public. However, he did create treaties to freeze the deploying of battleships to try and prevent a second war.

People who were critical of Harding were usually critical of the scandal that involved him allowing others to take money away from the national treasury for their own gain.

It is debated how helpful Harding was to the country during his presidency. Many people say that because of the several controversies he was not helpful in preventing a second war.



This was a turning point in U.S. history because it was the first time that the U.S. got very involved in both domestic and international politics. At this time, America was starting to become a more important superpower in the world and so the president wanted to use that to help prevent a new war from starting.

This is still important today because the U.S is still very involved in international politics and is still a superpower in terms international affairs. The U.S. is still also involved in domestic politics today.