A Growing Nation

OBJECTIVE: TO UNDERSTAND WHY THE INVENTION OF THE COTTON GIN RESULTED TO AN INCREASE IN SLAVERY IN THE SOUTH
Revolution in Transportation

- **Erie Canal** was built in 1817 to connect the Hudson River to Lake Erie.
- In 1806, Congress funded the **National Road**, which ran from east to west.
- Private companies laid down toll roads, called **turnpikes**.
- **Robert Fulton** developed the first steamboat, the **Clermont**. Steamboats made river travel faster and more reliable.
- Railroads helped settle the West and expand trade to the nation’s different regions.
Industrialization Sweeps the North

- The **Industrial Revolution**, which began in Britain in the mid 1700s, helped shift manufacturing from hand tools to complex machines.
- The factory-system was established in the Northeast because of many swift-flowing streams and many entrepreneurs and merchants lived in the area.
- **Francis C. Lowell** opened a series of mills in northeastern Massachusetts that spun raw cotton into thread and produced finished cloth.
- **Eli Whitney** popularized the use of *interchangeable parts*, or standard components.
Advances in Communications & Urban Growth and Migration

- **Samuel F.B. Morse** perfected the telegraph in 1832 and developed Morse code, a system of signals for sending messages.

- Thousands of people migrated from farms and villages to towns in search for higher paying factory jobs.

- Over 5 million foreigners came to America between 1815 and 1860.

- These immigrants produced feelings of **nativism**, or hostility by Americans towards immigrants.

- A party called the **Know-Nothings** favored keeping foreign-born persons and Catholics from holding public office.
Women in the Workforce & Workers Begin to Organize

- Women found jobs in factories, domestic laborers, and publishing.
- Workers began to organize in labor unions, which were groups of workers who press for better working conditions and member benefits.
- Most employers refused to work with labor unions who would occasionally strike, or stop working.
Importance of Agriculture

- Despite the industrial growth, agriculture employed more people and produced more wealth than other occupations.
- Crops such as tobacco, rice, sugarcane, and cotton were important in the south.
- In 1793, Eli Whitney invented the cotton gin.
- The expansion of Britain and France’s textile industry led to need for cotton.
- By 1860, nearly two-thirds of the total export trade of the United States was cotton.
Enslaved African Americans

- The demand for cotton led to a rise for slave labor.
- Between 1820 and 1850, the number of slaves in the South rose from 1.5 million to nearly 3.6 million.
- Less than 6 percent of Southerners were slave holders.
- Majority of slaves worked in fields, however some were house servants, blacksmiths, carpenters, and barrel makers.
- A **gang system** prevailed in the south.
- **Slave codes** forbade enslaved men and women from owning property, leaving a owner’s property without permission, or testifying in court against a white person.
Coping with enslavement & Free African Americans

- **Frederic Douglass**, a former slave, spoke out against the institution of slavery.
- Music helped many African Americans endure the horrors of slavery.
- Slaves resisted the institutions by working slowly, breaking tools, running away, and committing violence against owners.
- **Nat Turner**, an enslaved minister, started a rebellion that killed more than 50 whites.
- Roughly 238,000 free African Americans lived in the South, mostly in the towns of Maryland and Virginia.
- Another 196,000 African Americans lived in the North, where slavery was outlawed.