

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION LECTURES

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SYLLABUS

OF A

COURSE OF SIX LECTURES

ON

American History, Social and  
Industrial

(1789-1829)

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BY

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## WORKS OF REFERENCE.

- JAMES SCHOULER'S "History of the United States under the Constitution." Vols. I-III. New York, 1880-84.
- JOHN BACH MCMASTER'S "History of the People of the United States." Vols. I-IV. New York, 1883-95.
- HENRY ADAMS'S "History of the Administrations of Jefferson and Madison." Nine volumes. New York, 1889-91.
- HERMAN VON HOLST'S "Constitutional History of the United States." Vols. I. New York, 1876.
- ALEXANDER JOHNSTON'S "History of American Politics." New York, 1880.
- ALBERT S. BOLLES'S "Industrial History of the United States," New York, 1878, and "Financial History of the United States." Vols. I and II. New York, 1879-1883.
- J. LEANDER BISHOP'S "History of American Manufactures." Vol. I. Philadelphia, 1861.
- LEONARD WOOLSEY BACON'S "History of American Christianity." New York, 1897.
- ROBERT ELLIS THOMPSON'S "History of the Presbyterian Churches in the United States." New York, 1895.
- Biographies in "American Statesmen" Series:
- Washington, by Henry Cabot Lodge.
  - Alexander Hamilton, by Henry Cabot Lodge.
  - John Adams, by John T. Morse, Jr.
  - Thomas Jefferson, by John T. Morse, Jr.
  - James Madison, by Sydney Howard Gay.
  - Albert Gallatin, by John Austin Stevens.
  - John Marshall, by Allan B. Magruder.
  - James Monroe, by Daniel C. Gilman.
  - John Quincy Adams, by John T. Morse, Jr. Boston, 1882-89.
- JOHN QUINCY ADAMS'S "Memoirs." Twelve volumes. Philadelphia, 1874-77.
- LYMAN BEECHER'S "Autobiography, Correspondence." Two volumes. New York, 1863-65.

## LECTURE I.

### Preliminary.

America victorious and depressed in 1783-1789. Industrial losses and gains of the war. The "age of home-spun" forced into existence. The ruin of new industries brought about by peace. America now outside the British Empire. Reservation of fishery rights, and its justice. The English market for ships lost. Lord Sheffield on "American Commerce" (1782), and the replies of Tenche Coxe and Mathew Carey. Imperfect knowledge of American resources. Absence of accumulated capital.

Popular discontent with industrial conditions. Continental money. Hostility to courts and lawyers. Shay's Rebellion. Monetary disturbances in Rhode Island.

Quarrels between the States. Hostile and ineffectual tariffs. Smuggling favored by law. Disputes as to fisheries in the Chesapeake. The Union expected to go to pieces, and to return piecemeal to British rule. Its government despised abroad as having neither authority nor revenue. Disputes with England over the Treaty (frontier forts, emancipated slaves, trade, etc.). The slack ways of the Continental Congress.

Religious disorganization. Deism made the fashion by the French officers. Harm done by the war. Channing in Richmond. Churches begin their reorganization on a national footing. Methodism declares its independence. Rise of new sects.

Social ideals still English. Aristocratic assumptions. "Lord" Timothy Dexter. Proposed kingship of the Bishop of Osnaburgh. Washington's stalwart republicanism.

## LECTURE II.

1787-1789.

Attempts at a partial strengthening of the Union defeated by the veto of New York. The Chesapeake fisheries dispute leads to a Constitutional Convention. Its sessions in Philadelphia (1787). The two plans—Virginia and New Jersey. The compromise and the dissatisfaction it causes. The wishes of the party of “strong government” (Fisher Ames).

“They builded better than they knew.” Federal union the last great step in political development. Copied in Canada, Germany, Australia, as well as in other American republics. Proposed for the United Kingdom as “Home Rule all round.” Conservatism of the Constitution praised by Maine, especially in co-ordinating the Judiciary with other departments. The successive interpretations of the Constitution as to the extent of national authority granted. “Strict” and “loose” construction the fundamental basis of our political parties. The power to protect citizens in their natural rights not granted. Attempt to give a permanent character to the privileges of the lesser States in the Senate. The compromises as to Slavery, and their interpretation.

The industrial purpose of the Constitution shown in the clause on national taxation, and by contemporary testimony. The adoption supported by the city and town population, especially the workingmen.

The grounds of resistance to the Constitution. Fears that have been falsified. Patrick Henry’s warning to Virginia. Alexander Hamilton’s notable victory in New York, and its monument in “The Federalist.”

## LECTURE III.

1789-1801.

Twelve years of Federalist rule. The party distrusts popular virtue and intelligence, resists political equality, and desires to keep the government in the hands of "the best people." But America grows democratic through the forces which produced the French Revolution. The franchise at first based on land-ownership, but in forty years established on manhood suffrage.

Washington as President. A "providential" man now, as in 1775. His political moderation and unselfish patriotism. His love of state and dignity. The Republican court.

The organization of the new government. Services of Hamilton. His two great Reports on Bank and Tariff. Unanimity on the latter. Madison's bill of 1789. American shipping restored by the Navigation Laws. Washington urges Protection as a measure of national defence, recalling the sharp experiences of the War for Independence.

The first United States Bank (1791-1811). Preceded by the Bank of North America and some others. They all copy English models slavishly, ignoring the experience of Scotland and Germany. The debate in our legislature in 1786 on the repeal of the charter of the Bank of North America. This dispute still proceeds in our public life.

Troubles with England and France, growing out of the French Revolution. Home troubles in the Whiskey Rebellion. The condition of the settlers in the West.

Industrial advance. Cotton replaces Indigo in the South. Whitney's cotton-gin (1795). Slater's cotton-spinning machinery (1791). The hillside plow. Improvement in the stock of horses, cattle and sheep begins. A nation of farmers, and an age of homespun. Land poverty.

Gradual abolition of Slavery in the Northern States. Redemptioners. Low condition of laborers, and the cause.

The new immigration. Reaction against "strong government."

## LECTURE IV.

1801-1812.

A new century; a new capital; a new policy. "Strict Construction" and the Louisiana Purchase. Economy in expenses. Repeal of internal revenue taxes. The Navy starved. A feeble front to French and English aggressions. The rights of Neutrals and the right of Blockade.

Slow industrial progress. Dependence upon England; her emigration policy. Salt-works begun and abandoned. Merino sheep secured in Spain by our ambassador. Inventions: Oliver Evans' mill machinery; Robert Fulton's steamboat; Jethro Wood's plow; the Baltimore clipper-ship. Internal improvements at national expense favored by Jefferson. National education.

Religious movement. The Great Revival of 1800 and the following years. Moral and social condition of the West. Rise of Theological Seminaries. Beginning of foreign missions. The haystack at Williamstown.

New impulse in Literature. Influence of Coleridge, Wordsworth, and Byron. The leadership passes from Philadelphia to New York. Irving.

Social manners as depicted by foreign visitors. A rude plenty. Plantation manners transplanted to Washington. State of popular education. Low condition of the colleges. Lack of humanity toward debtors, prisoners, the poor, etc. Political abuse. Dueling.

## LECTURE V.

1812-1815.

Justification of the second war with Great Britain. English insolence based on an assumption of industrial as well as military superiority. "Our natural market."

Effect of this on Jefferson's economic attitude. Embarrassments at the opening of the war through lack of equipment. Measures taken secretly to procure this from English traders. Demoralizing result in sanctioning illicit trade with the enemy. Reverses by land attributable to lack of equipment.

Contrast to the War for Independence in the greater prominence of the navy. This due to American ship-building. Commands a permanent respect for America as a sea power. New Orleans a parallel to Majuba.

The war works an industrial revolution, as did that for Independence. Supplies must be sought at home. The arrival of the factory system, with its advantages and drawbacks. Demand for sheep, wool, and woollens. Rapid growth of the cotton manufacture; not in the South, but for its advantage. Great improvement in the quality of American cotton, giving American manufacturers an advantage.

Manufactures become permanently the third American interest in both industry and politics. Rise of new cities (Rochester, Fall River, etc.); change in the character of some (Philadelphia, Pittsburg, etc.); decline of others (Salem, Newport, etc.).

Dissatisfaction of the wealthy commercial States in the East. "Blue Light Federalism" and the Hartford Convention constitute the suicide of a great party. New England takes to manufacturing by constraint. Sudden rise in wages and prices.

English offers of peace show the height of Tory insolence. Rebuked by Wellington. Neutral Rights tacitly conceded in the Treaty of Ghent. The question of the Fisheries postponed, and still unsettled. British claims to navigate the Mississippi.

## LECTURE VI.

1815-1829.

The close of the epoch of semi-democratic government. The absence of party division brings an era of faction worse than party. Disgraceful intrigues of leaders. Ruin of the Civil Service through introducing the four years' limit.

The Monroe Doctrine suggested by England for her own ends. John Quincy Adams defeated in trying to make it serve American interests. We hold the wolf, while England shears the sheep. Trade turns rather to Europe than to our American neighbors. This advantages New York and Boston, at the expense of Philadelphia and Baltimore. The construction of the Erie Canal also builds up New York.

Peace again brings industrial disaster. Jefferson and Madison urge their party to counteract English dominance. The tariff of 1816 fails of its purpose, and gives the Sheriff work. The beginning of a division of opinion on the subject. The Tariffs of 1824 and 1828. John Randolph wants to "kick a sheep."

Industrial conditions. Labor still wretched and not respected. (See Mathew Carey's "Letters on the Charities of Philadelphia," 1829.) Labor organizations begin. Strikes treated as "conspiracies in restraint of trade."

The second Bank of the United States (1816-1836) an outgrowth of war experience. Its services to the country, and the perils attending its centralization of monetary power. "Free Trade in Money." (See pamphlet, "The Little Frenchman.") Manufacturers force their way into the credit system, but farmers are still excluded.

Religious and moral advance. Peace reform. Lotteries attacked. The Temperance Reformation begun by Lyman Beecher (1826). Benjamin Lundy's Emancipation Societies. End of the union of church and state in Massachusetts and Connecticut. Unitarians go apart. Channing.