

WAR OF 1812



CAUSES

- Maritime trade Issues
- Impressment
- Orders of Council
- War Hawks in the West
 - Henry clay
 - Canada
 - Native American Conflicts

The War of 1812



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RESULTS

- Poor start
- Military and political standoff
- Navy proved stronger than army
- Tense yet improved relationship w/ Br.
- Ghent Treaty



Historical Significance

- American Nationalism and Isolationism
- Decline of Federalism
 - Hartford Convention



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REGINALD HORSEMAN: NAVAL ISSUES

- “British commercial decrees provided a convenient scapegoat for all the ills of American farmers and planters...The increasing demand for war after 1809 arose naturally out of the failure of economic coercion as a means of resisting British maritime policy .. America in 1812 was acting essentially in reaction to British maritime policy.”

HENRY ADAMS

“Only by slow degrees the country learned to appreciate the extraordinary feat which had been performed, not so much by the people as by a relative small number of individuals. Had a village rustic, with one hand tied behind his back, challenged the champion of the prize-ring, & in 3 or 4 rounds obliged him to draw the stakes, the result would have been little more surprising than the result of the Am. Campaign of 1814...No European nation could have conducted a war as the people of Am. conducted the War of 1812. Possibility of doing so without destruction explained the existence of the national trait, and assured its continuance.”