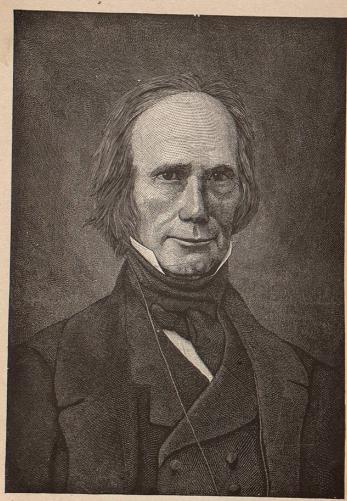
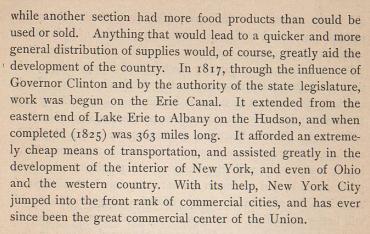
or "slave"? It lay for the most part north of the Ohio line, but it had been settled chiefly by slaveholders, and its own voice was for slaveholding. In Congress the advocates of "free" territory at first gained the advantage; but in the end Missouri was organized without any restrictions as to slavery. When the bill to admit Missouri as a state came up next year (1820), the contest was renewed. Maine 1 was asking for admission as a free state at the same time. Those who favored the admission of Missouri as a slave state joined the two states in one bill, so that they should succeed or fail together. But there could be no quarrel over Maine, as it was wholly free, and the real battle was fought over Missouri. The Northern states insisted that Congress had the right to prohibit slavery in the states it admitted to the Union, and should exercise the right; the Southern people urged that each state should determine its own domestic concerns, and that Missouri should be allowed to say whether it should enter as a free or as a slave state. The debate that followed was a long and able one, and sometimes reached a very angry tone. Through the eloquence and influence of Henry Clay, a compromise was effected. By its terms Missouri entered as a slave state (1821), but with the provision that any state afterward formed out of the Louisiana purchase lying north of 36° 30'—the southern boundary of Missouri - must enter as a free state; any state formed out of the purchase south of this line might decide for itself whether it would be free or slave. By a separate bill Maine was admitted as a free state the day after the Missouri Compromise bill was passed.

418. Internal Improvements. — In this day, railroads were unknown, and overland commerce was carried on solely by wagons drawn by draught animals. With such slow means of transportation, distress might exist in one part of the country



HENRY CLAY.

¹ Up to this time, Maine had been Massachusetts territory.



419. The Cumberland Road. — This highway, begun in a small town in Maryland, supported at first by state funds, grew in importance until it became a subject of national discussion and of national aid. It was fostered and encouraged by the powerful Clay and an enthusiastic party. It was finally extended, eighty feet wide, paved with hard stone, "a noble turnpike," to Wheeling. It proved highly useful in developing the West and in adding to the wealth of the East. Clay planned to extend it down the Ohio to the Mississippi. A southern road was projected from Washington to New Orleans.

420. The Monroe Doctrine. — Several of the Spanish colonies in South America revolted, and set up governments of their own. The United States was the first nation to recognize their independence. Later, France gave notice that she would call a congress of the great powers to consider the revolt of these colonies. Of course, the plan would be to reduce these revolted colonies to European dependence by putting over them kings sent from the royal families of Europe. In opposition to this purpose, President Monroe sent to Congress (1823) a message that declared, "That we should con-

sider any attempt on their part (the part of the European powers) to extend their system to any portion of this hemisphere as dangerous to our peace and safety," and further that, "The American continents, by the free and independent position which they have assumed and maintained, are henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by any European powers." "In these two propositions consists the celebrated 'Monroe Doctrine,' a doctrine, we may add, which our later statesmen have developed at their convenience, linking it inseparably with the name of the president who thus pronounced it, and seeing in it what many hundred millions of American freemen, in the long vista of coming centuries, will still better recognize, if free institutions are capable of growth and endurance, the sacred stone of chartered liberty in the Western world."1 This message was carefully studied in all the capitals of Europe; the congress was never called; the plan of reducing the revolted colonies was abandoned.

421. Lafayette's Visit.—In 1824, Lafayette (§ 286), now nearly seventy years old, in response to an invitation from the president, made our country a visit. He stayed more than a year, and visited every state in the Union. He was received everywhere with the greatest enthusiasm, the survivors of the Revolution showing the deepest feeling at again clasping the hand of their old comrade-in-arms. Lafayette had joined our struggle for independence at its darkest hour; he had expended large sums of money from his private fortune to help our cause; he had brought us soldiers and had given us the prestige of his great name; in joining us, he relinquished his home and a certain career of distinction in his own country; he repeatedly risked his life in our service; and he had joined his fortunes with ours from a pure sympathy with the oppressed, an ideal love of abstract liberty; he had not

1 Schouler, "History of the United States," Vol. III, p. 288.

suffered our wrongs or borne our yoke. We were deeply in debt to him and anxious to show our appreciation of his noble conduct. Congress seized this opportunity, when he visited our country in his old age, broken in fortune, suffering the loss of political power at home, to express our gratitude. Two hundred thousand dollars and twenty-four thousand acres of land were voted to him as a slight expression of the affectionate remembrance of a grateful people. Some of the states were eager to add special grants to the national grant, but Lafayette thought it best not to accept the state grants.¹

422. The Presidential Election. — This year there were four candidates for the presidency, all calling themselves Republicans. Andrew Jackson received 99 electoral votes, John Quiney Adams, 84; W. H. Crawford, 41; and Henry Clay, 37. As none of the candidates had a majority, there was no election, and it became the duty of the House to select a president. Clay threw his strength for Adams, who, with him, favored high tariff and loose construction of the Constitution, and Adams was elected.

¹ The American youth who loves liberty cannot find a better subject for study than the career of Lafayette. His connection with our Revolution was merely a picturesque and significant incident in a long life devoted to the cause of constitutional liberty. His career was one marked by the most extreme vicissitudes: he was one of the leading factors in the Revolution, a few years after the American struggle, in his own country; his party lost its power, and Lafayette to save his life fled from the country; he was captured and thrown into an Austrian prison, where he spent several years; he was liberated by the great Napoleon; again became an important figure; again had reverses, and came to this country, broken in fortune and having lost his seat in the French legislature; but before his death, after visiting America, he again became prominent and powerful. He followed the star of liberty through good and evil report, through the darkest nights and through days of the greatest splendor; he risked his life by the peasant's side against the oppressor's tyranny, and he threw his sheltering arm around the dethroned monarch to protect him from the despotic fury of the mob; and through his long career he was the same brave, true, chivalrous knight, the same consistent democrat, the same picturesque, heroic figure.

423. Summary. - The president's northern tour aroused patriotic feeling and added to his personal popularity. The Federalist party, which had violently opposed the war, was ruined by the successful result achieved, and by the overwhelming endorsement of the new president, whom it had also opposed. The Seminole Indians were severely punished by Jackson. Florida, which served as a refuge to these lawless Indians, was sold to us by Spain for \$5,000,000. Mississippi, Alabama and Illinois were admitted as states. Missouri's request for admission as a state brought up a new and bitter agitation of the slavery question. Missouri was admitted under a compromise which forbade slavery in all other Louisiana territory north of 36° 30', leaving the question to the choice of the inhabitants in territory south of this limit. The Erie Canal, extending from Lake Erie to the Hudson (363 miles), was completed in 1825. The Cumberland Road was built from Maryland to Wheeling. President Monroe declared that the United States would oppose any attempt on the part of European powers to gain control of any countries in America. Lafayette made a tour of our country, and was presented with money and land as an expression of our gratitude.

424. Thought Questions. — Give brief sketch of the history of Florida up to the time of its purchase by the United States. (Treat of its discovery, exploration, settlement, population, conflicts with neighboring colonies, changes of ownership.) Why are canals of less importance now than formerly? Do you consider the Monroe Doctrine justifiable? Give your reasons. What do you consider the most important event of this administration?

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS'S ADMINISTRATION.

One Term: 1825-1829.

425. Services and Character of the New President. — John Quincy Adams, son of the second president, was born in Massachusetts, in 1767, and lived to be 81 years of age. Most of his life was spent in office. When he was but twenty-seven years old, Washington appointed him minister to the Netherlands. At different times, he was our minister to Holland, Germany, Russia, and England. As our representative, he spent fifteen years at foreign courts. While abroad, he

served on several special missions, among them the important one that negotiated the treaty of Ghent that closed the war of

1812. He was secretary of state in Monroe's cabinet and succeeded Monroe as president. In less than two years after his retirement from the presidency, he was elected to Congress from his district in Massachusetts, and served continuously until his death fifteen years later. He was a pure patriot and statesman of great learning and experience. He was cold, blunt, and haughty in manner,

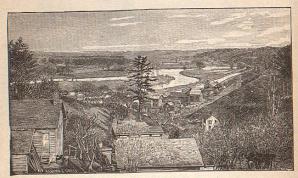


John Quincy Adams.

the reverse of the simple Republican that he was in principle.

during the year of Adams's inauguration, and it was seen that by its means freight could be handled profitably at one-tenth the former cost of transportation. The demonstration of this fact gave a great impetus to canal-building. Canals were projected by individuals, companies, and states, and for many of them aid was asked from Congress. Pennsylvania wished to connect Pittsburg and Philadelphia, Ohio proposed to join Lake Erie and the Ohio River, Virginia and Maryland united on a favorite plan, and it was prophesied that a waterway would finally be made between the Pacific ports of Oregon and Philadelphia. Many of these canals were actually completed, and no doubt canal-building would have gone beyond the most extravagant prophecies of the day if something better had not

speedily been found in railroads. Steamboats were to be found in great numbers along our western coast and on our western rivers. Steamships had crossed the ocean by this time; but they were not depended upon for regular trips. Canals aided commerce in the East, and steamboats on the Ohio and Mississippi were fast developing the West. A few



Mohawk Valley, showing Erie Canal.

miles of railroad track were now in use, but the cars were drawn by horses. The locomotive was not tried until a year or so after Adams's administration closed. Illuminating gas was first successfully used in London in 1813. It came into general use in New York City in 1825, but the other cities were much slower in taking hold of it and it was many years before it came to be used in the small towns.

427. Adams's Policy.— Adams's views were in perfect harmony with this spirit of development; and it was the purpose of the president to encourage progress with all the influence his administration could command. He boldly declared, in his inaugural address, that his administration would stand or fall on the policy of internal improvements. In his first annual message, he urged Congress to multiply roads and canals,

endow a national university, make appropriations for scientific research, and erect an observatory.¹

428. Failure of the Policy. - Congress paid very little attention to the policy outlined by the president. The "Era of Good Feeling," of Monroe's administration, was followed in Adams's administration by the growth of new parties,2 political agitation, personal and party rivalries and bitterness. Many thought it unjust that Adams, who had fewer votes than Jackson (§ 422), should have been selected for the presidency; and the president was unpopular with those who thought so. The fact that Henry Clay, whose influence caused this minority candidate to be elected, was immediately made secretary of state, gave rise to the charge that the president and secretary had made a corrupt bargain.3 These condemnations were used very successfully by politicians to make the president and his administration unpopular. Besides there were many people who thought that internal improvements should be taken care of by state appropriations and believed that it was wrong to appropriate national revenues for these purposes. In the end, an appropriation of \$30,000 for repairs on the Cumberland Road (§ 419), an order for the removal of obstructions from

1 In 1835, when a member of Congress, he was made chairman of the Congressional committee that was to consider the bequest of James Smithson, of London, of \$400,000 to establish at Washington an institution for the diffusion of knowledge. He presented a very able report, and introduced the bill creating the Smithsonian Institution, an institution of which the nation has since grown justly proud. The ex-president counted his services in connection with this institution among the most valuable of those rendered by him to his country.

² The Clay and Adams factions united and called themselves National Republicans. They were "loose constructionists," believed in public improvements at national expense and in a high tax on imports. Those who opposed the administration called themselves Democrats. They believed in holding closely to the Constitution, in a low tariff, and in using the national revenues only for the support of the government.

³ Senator Randolph, of Virginia, referred to the matter as the contract between "Puritan and blackleg." Clay challenged Randolph and a duel was fought. Neither duellist was hurt. the Ohio River, grants of some public lands in aid of canals, turnpikes, and to establish some institutions of learning, was the little that Congress would do in response to the glowing message that had asked so much.

429. The Creek Land Trouble. — By an agreement with Georgia, in 1802, in consideration of the territory which afterwards made the States of Alabama and Mississippi, the United States undertook to deliver to Georgia the lands held by the Indians in the state. In carrying out this agreement, several millions of acres of land had been bought from the Indians and the title transferred to Georgia; but there was still a large section of this land in the possession of the Indians. The people of the state began to complain of the delay in effecting the total transfer. Negotiations were again begun with the Indians. In 1825, a treaty was made 1 that ceded the remainder of the Georgia lands and a large tract in Alabama besides. But the Indians immediately repudiated the treaty, saying that it was fraudulent; and expressed their savage indignation by burning the house of their agent, General McIntosh, and afterwards murdering him. They sent a delegation to Washington to show that the treaty had been obtained by corrupt means and to ask a reconsideration. President Adams thought the treaty unfair and probably unfairly obtained. He sent a body of troops to Georgia with instructions to their general to obtain a new cession about which there could be no question. Under the direction of the Georgia authorities the survey of the new lands acquired by the McIntosh treaty had already begun. The federal officer asked that the survey cease. The governor, taking the position that the lands had been turned over to the state, and could be managed at the state's discretion, insisted that the survey should proceed.

The president finally notified the governor that he would expect all surveys to cease until Congress should consider the matter. There was further controversy between the state and federal authorities, and considerable excitement arose in Georgia. In the end, a new and undisputed cession was made by which the Indians relinquished the lands and bound themselves to emigrate to a new home beyond the Mississippi.

430. Character of the Period.— The people had already shown a great interest in public improvements. They saw the advantages to be gained by good roads, open waterways, cheap exchange of products. The president urged Congress to aid the people in developing the country. But Congress believed that it had no right to use national funds to aid any enterprise not wholly national in its character. So Congress granted very little of all the president asked. But progress was the watchword of the day. By means of aid from states, and from private enterprise, improvements multiplied in all parts of the country. The advancement was as great as the president had hoped, though it was not brought about as he had planned it.

431. Summary. — The Erie Canal, opened in 1825, proved that freight could be carried by it at one-tenth the price paid for the old wagon transportation. Other canals were built and many more were planned. Railroads, however, soon checked the growth of canals. Steamboats were to be found on our coasts and on our large rivers. Steamships crossed the ocean. Illuminating gas was used in New York City in 1825. The president's policy was to build up public improvements with the national revenues. Congress opposed this policy and granted very little that he asked. Improvements went forward rapidly by means of private enterprise. In settling an old agreement, the Creek lands in Georgia were bought by the government and transferred to the state.

432. Thought Questions. — What benefits result from cheap and rapid transportation? Of the six presidents so far considered, who served only one term? Account for the failure of these two to be reëlected. What was the distinguishing feature of John Quincy Adams's administration?

¹ The United States was represented by two agents, the Indians by General McIntosh, their chief.

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