Federalists and Antifederalists: Prelude to Expansion
--Antifeds.—noted the absence of a Bill of Rights
Washington inherits but a shadow of a bureaucracy:
--executive departments
--Alexander Hamilton as head of the Department of the Treasury
Hamilton’s vision:
--funding of the federal debt at face value
--a national bank
--an excise tax on distilled spirits
--encouragement of the development of manufacturing enterprises

--benefits of manufactures:
  --the diversification of labor in a country given over too exclusively to farming
--greater use of machinery
--work for those not ordinarily employed, such as women and children
--the promotion of immigration
--a better domestic market for the products of agriculture
sectional differences:
--South and backcountry not happy at privileging of manufactures
--favored those people who had speculated in war bonds (the rich)
--Anti-feds. (Republicans) suspicious of power grab on part of Federalists
--seeds of the first political parties
Naturalization Acts, 1798

--extends period of probation for citizenship from 5 to 14 years

Article I, Sections 2 and 3 of US Constitution--citizenship 7 to 9 years and the 14 of the Naturalization Act a long time

Alien Acts/Alien Enemies Act

--allowed deportation of those deemed dangerous to public safety without due process

Sedition Acts

--clarifies "aid and comfort"

--forbade writing, publishing, and speaking anything of “a false, scandalous, and malicious” nature against the govt. or any of its officers

supporters:

--U.S. headed inevitably into war--self-preservation

--Constitution guaranteed freedom of speech, not licentiousness
Matthew Lyon
--a Republican (Jefferson's party) in Vermont (a Federalist stronghold)
--Lyon disparages President John Adams
--identified for sedition

Republican response
--1798 pass Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions, sponsored by Jefferson and Madison

--within power of states to judge actions taken by Federal government/Congress
--states have power to nullify actions of Federal govt.

--Republicans fear that Acts indicative of much larger tendencies on the part of Federal govt. toward tyranny and monarchy, esp. from 1783 to 1800
Power and Liberty

Human Nature and State of Nature:
--negative view of human nature--humans weak, contemptible, corruptible and self-serving
--state of nature--undesirable place
--leaving state of nature--to give up some liberties to protect what you already have/own
Liberty  |  Power
---|---
--ruled  |  --rulers
--passive  |  --"grasping"
--"delicate"  |  --"ambitious"
--vigilant  |  --covetous
--how do you check people from becoming too powerful?--place power in the institutions

Vigilance
--a virtuous trait for checking the encroachments of the rulers
--power will push, in small increments, toward slavery and population needs to be alert and watchful

Instruments of tyranny--signs:
--monetary schemes--taxes that are good for one segment of the population and not another

Hamiltonian finances
--$40 million to private citizens who had donated things like horses during the war
--bulk of certificates held by wealthy men
--top 10% held more than 60% of securities
--bottom 90% own only 30%

Standing army--problems:
--mercenaries not loyal in sense that citizens loyal
--professional army will fight for any manufactured crisis, whereas citizens will only fight for real causes
--expansion of government power

Declaration of Independence and U.S. Constitution:
--Dec. of Ind. says "life, liberty and pursuit of happiness"
--Constitution says "life, liberty and property"