

Church History



Church History

- *Introduction to Church History*
- *The Ancient Church* AD 1st-3rd centuries
- *The Rise of Christendom* AD 4th-5th centuries
- *The Early Middle Ages* AD 6th-10th centuries
- *The Age of Crusades* AD 11th-13th centuries
- *The Renaissance* AD 14th-15th centuries
- *Conquest and Reformation* AD 16th century
- *The Age of Enlightenment* AD 17th-18th centuries
- ***The Age of Revolution*** AD **19th century**
- *The Modern Age* AD 20th century
- *The Postmodern Age* AD 21st century



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- *The Renaissance* AD 14th-15th centuries
- *Conquest and Reformation* AD 16th century
- *The Age of Enlightenment* AD 17th-18th centuries
- *The Age of Revolution* AD 19th century
 - *The American Revolution (well, the end of the Revolution)*



The Age of Revolution

- Everything started changing—and *quickly*
 - 1782 Fawcett wrote “Blest Be the Tie that Binds”
 - John Fawcett began pastoring small Wainsgate Baptist Church in West Yorkshire in 1764, but was then offered the larger and more prestigious Carter’s Lane Baptist Church in London in 1772
 - Since he only made £25 a year at Wainsgate, he and his wife accepted the offer out of hand
 - He preached a farewell sermon, loaded up all of the couple’s belongings into wagons, and prepared to leave
 - The people of his church gathered around to say good-bye, tearfully begging them to stay
 - Crying, his wife turned to him and said, “Oh John, John—I cannot bear this.”
 - “Neither can I,” he replied, “and we will not go. Unload the wagons and put everything as it was before...”



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 - He asked the church if they might give him a raise, to approximate the Carter's Lane salary but they didn't, so he stayed there for the next several decades anyway... at £25 a year...



The Age of Revolution

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - To commemorate the decision to stay, Fawcett wrote the words to “Blest Be the Ties that Bind”—

Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne
We pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one
Our comforts and our cares.

We share each other's woes,
Our mutual burdens bear;
And often for each other flows
The sympathizing tear.

When we asunder part,
It gives us inward pain;
But we shall still be joined in heart,
And hope to meet again.

This glorious hope revives
Our courage by the way;
While each in expectation lives,
And longs to see the day.

From sorrow, toil and pain,
And sin, we shall be free,
And perfect love and friendship reign
Through all eternity.



The Age of Revolution

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 - 1782 Fawcett wrote “Blest Be the Tie that Binds”
 - 1783 Mt. Laki erupted
 - If you'll remember, the volcano on the Indonesian island of Krakatoa erupted in 535
 - That eruption was significant enough that it affected weather patterns around the world and ultimately brought about the Great Plague that devastated Europe



The Age of Revolution

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 - In 1783, a volcano erupted on Icelandic Mt. Laki shooting lava into the sky in fountains three-quarters of a mile high
 - (NOTE: Laki is estimated to have produced around $3\frac{1}{2}$ *cubic miles* of lava during its eight months of activity)
 - (NOTE²: It also produced clouds of deadly hydrofluoric acid and sulfur dioxide, dumping *8 million tons* of poisonous hydrogen fluoride into Iceland's ecosystem and 120 million tons of sulfur dioxide—which is more than three times the total annual European industrial pollution output today)
 - This was very, very bad...



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 - **Ash, sulfur, and saltpeter poisoned the grass and the water, killing large numbers of livestock but still more died from fluoride poisoning and from inhaling volcanic hair while they ate**
 - (NOTE: Volcanic hair—or “Pele's hair”—is comprised of sharp, thin filaments of basaltic glass that are formed when a lava fountain spews liquid basalt into the air, which is then quickly cooled by the time it falls to the ground)
 - In the end, 50% of the cattle and horses, and 80% of the sheep in Iceland all died



The Age of Revolution

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - Right in the middle of the first, scariest part of the eruption, parish priest, local farmer, and town doctor Jón Steingrímsson of the village of Klaustur held a church service
 - As the lava crept closer and closer to the town, he encouraged his congregation to stay where they were and trust in God's provision rather than run
 - Preaching what became famous as the *eldmessa* (or “fire sermon”), Steingrímsson called on people to pray for deliverance and wait on God
 - Miraculously, the lava just stopped before it touched the edge of town, and no one was even singed
 - They praised God and erected a chapel in Jón Steingrímsson's memory
 - But more to the point, the sermon encouraged the faith not only the people of Klaustur, but all of Iceland



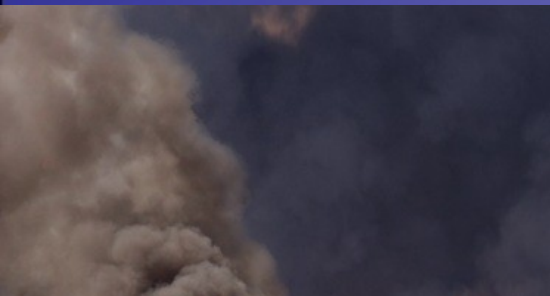
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 - **But Laki affected more than just Iceland**
 - Sitting in France, Ben Franklin noted that all of Europe was covered in a dark, thick, dry haze, and weather conditions were messed up around the world when the winds blew south
 - 23,000 people died in England due to fluoride poisoning—and another 8,000 died that winter due to the record-setting cold temperatures
 - Egypt lost 1/6 of its population due to the resulting famines
 - *Throughout* the northern hemisphere, crops withered and refused to grow



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 - The Mississippi froze at New Orleans, and ice formed in the Gulf of Mexico**



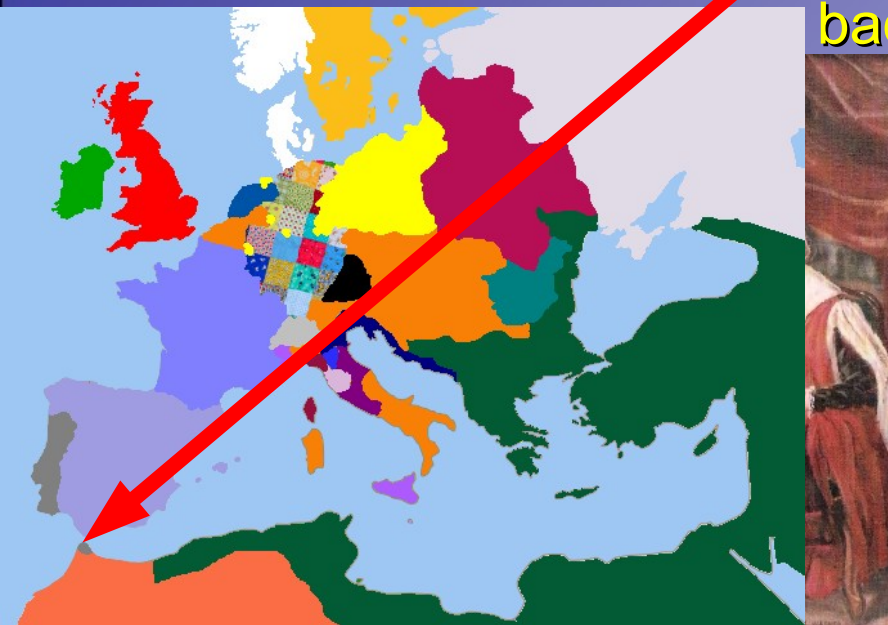
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 - Sitting in France, Ben Franklin noted that all of Europe was covered in a dark, thick, dry haze, and weather conditions were messed up around the world when the winds blew south
 - **In all, at least 6 million people died worldwide as the result of the eruption of Mt. Laki**
 - Historically, this also led to more civil unrest in France as common people faced death by starvation while the nobles feasted and finalized Britain's decision to pull out of its war with its colonies in America



The Age of Revolution

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 - 1783 Mt. Laki erupted
 - Treaty of Paris ended the Revolutionary War
 - Economic and ecological pressure forced England and America—along with France, Spain, and the Dutch Republic—to sit down and make peace and America's biggest ally at the bargaining table was England
 - Everyone wanted peace except Spain (who was holding out for Gibraltar, and wasn't willing to play nice with England until they got it back for themselves)



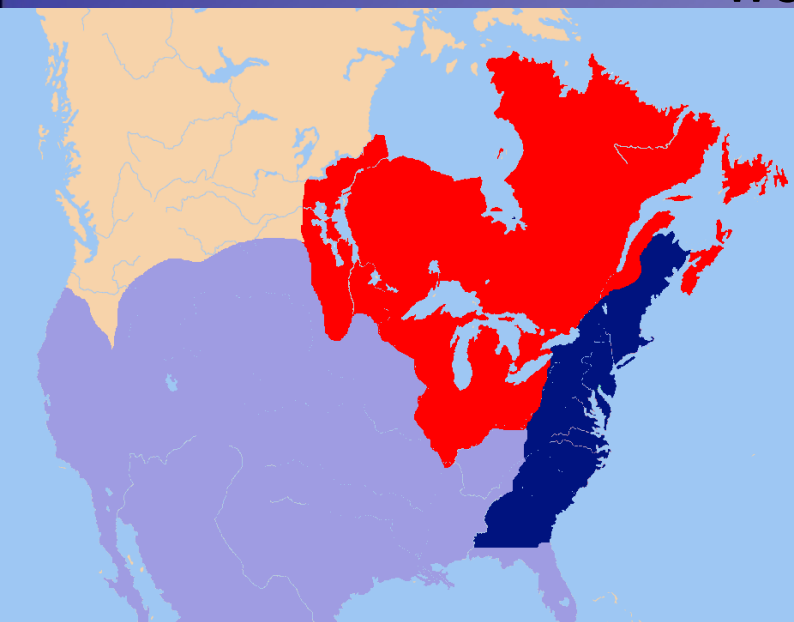
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(who was struggling with social unrest at home and unwilling to keep fighting)



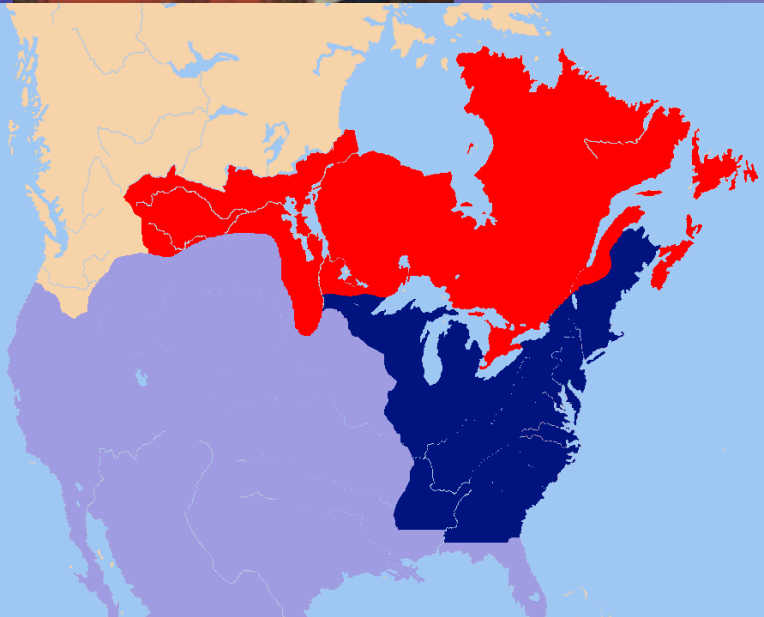
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 - Everyone wanted peace except Spain—so their ally, France, came up with a plan that would make *everyone* happy
 - Working from the previous boundaries, the American colonies would gain their independence, while Britain retained control of the Ohio territories
 - Spain would gain territories in the south that they would use to govern the indigenous Indian populations
 - America decided that France's plan sounded a lot like Spain came out ahead... so we made a *new* plan with *England* as our ally



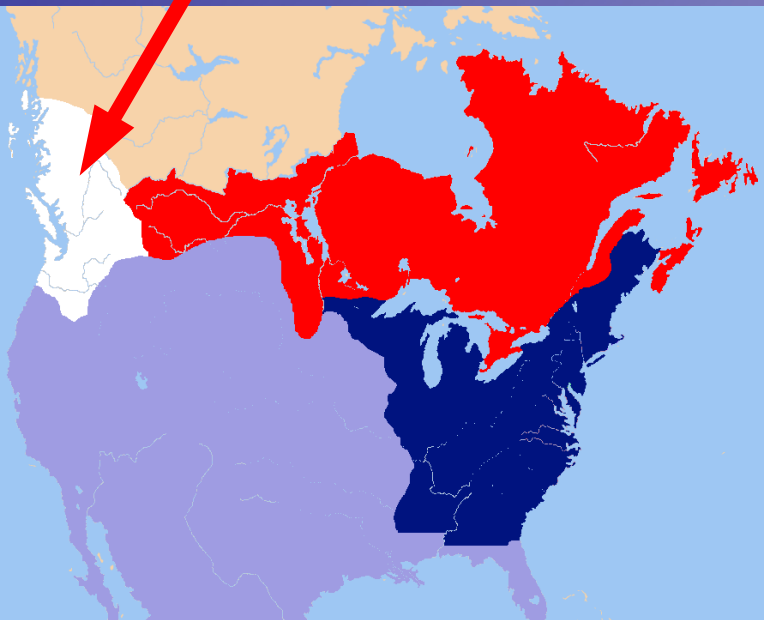
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 - Ironically, England was up for helping out America, since they'd been getting very frightened by how chummy we'd been getting with France
 - British Prime Minister William Petty realized that it would be in Britain's best interests to placate *America* rather than France and Spain so they agreed to a remarkably generous plan, hoping to make an economic ally out of America in the long run



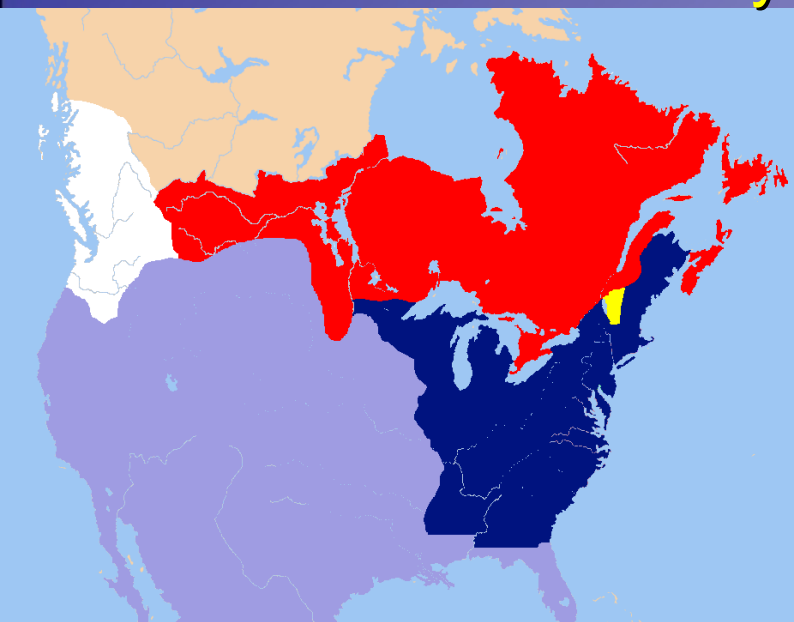
The Age of Revolution

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - Actually, we need to amend this map just a smidgey bit
 - England, Spain, and Russia all claimed the Pacific Northwest
(and, to be honest, they all had precedents that gave them the legal rights to do so)



The Age of Revolution

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - Actually, we need to amend this map just a smidgey bit
 - England, Spain, and Russia all claimed the Pacific Northwest
 - And, technically, Vermont wasn't part of the United States
 - Vermont was its own, sovereign state until 1791, just hanging out and printing its own money, making its own laws, etc., until they realized that they were a very little nation stuck between two very big superpowers...



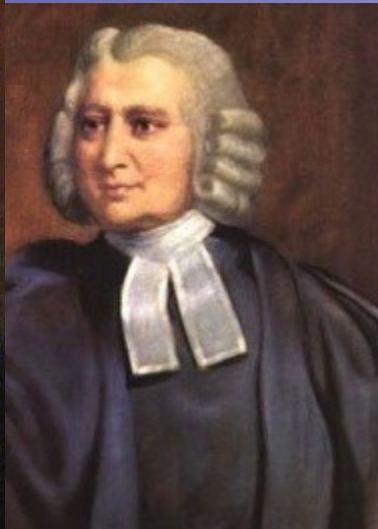
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 - Ironically, England was up for helping out America, since they'd been getting very frightened by how chummy we'd been getting with France
 - So, thanks to trying to mess with everyone else to help their ally, Spain, France ended up with almost no net gains whatsoever, with an economy that was on the brink of disaster, and a populace that was rioting in the streets for bread...



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 - John Wesley was leading a growing evangelistic group within the Anglican Church who were derisively called the Methodists
 - (NOTE: John is the skinny, snarky, preaching Wesley brother—not to be confused with the plump, jovial, hymn-writing brother, Charles)



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 - **By 1784, the Methodists found themselves more and more at odds with the Anglican hierarchy**
 - For instance, he asked the Bishop of London, Robert Lowth, to ordain some ministers to preach in America
 - Lowth declined, since America was a nation of *upstarts*, and because ordaining more Methodists would just give the movement that much more clout



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 - By 1784, the Methodists found themselves more and more at odds with the Anglican hierarchy so Wesley decided to ordain his *own* bishops
 - The first one that he ordained was Dr. Thomas Coke, who'd been overseeing the Methodist Church in Ireland since 1782
 - (NOTE: Wesley never used the term “bishop,” since he thought it was un-Biblical—he preferred the word, “superintendent,” since it conveys the same meaning as “ἐπίσκοπος”)
 - (NOTE²: Quietly, by ordaining their own “superintendents” like this, the Methodists were tacitly breaking away from the Anglican authority structure and morphing into their own, independent church)



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 - Coke was then sent to America to ordain the lead pastor there—Francis Asbury—who had stayed in America during the Revolution to continue the Methodist outreach ministry
 - Asbury even reached out to his carriage driver, freed slave Harry Hosier
 - Hosier later became a preacher in his own right—the first African-American to preach to a white congregation



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 - **At the Christmas Conference in Baltimore, Coke ordained Asbury and 12 other ministers**
 - (NOTE: The Conference was *not* appreciated in England for two reasons—
 - 1) It was in flagrant disregard to the order of Bishop Lowth, with the Methodists believing they even had the *right* to hold a Conference
 - 2) Coke preached an ordination message where he argued that only *Godly* men should be bishops, commenting on the sorry state of the bishops in the Anglican Church)



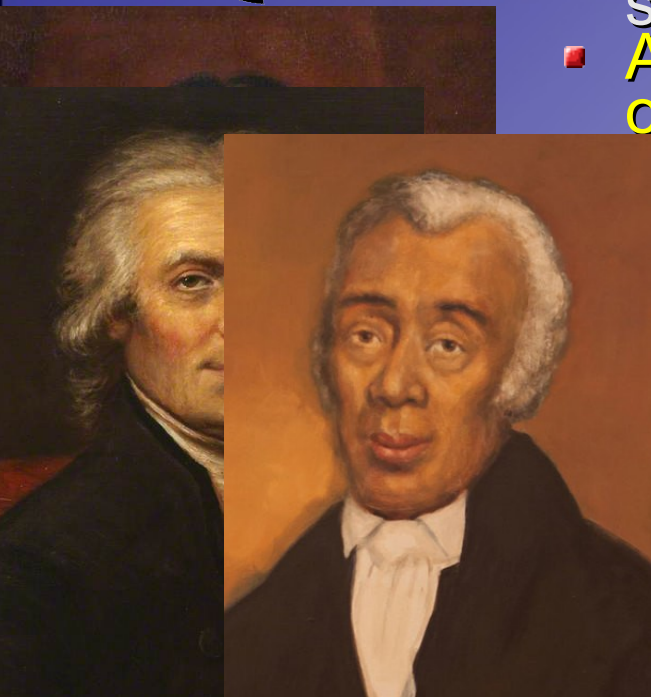
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 - **Immediately following the end of the Conference, Asbury went back to circuit riding and preaching, arguing that an ordination by man shouldn't significantly change the active ministry of an ordination by God**
 - (NOTE: Under his superintending, the church in America grew from 1200 to 214,000 members...)



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 - He also ordained 700 new ministers, including Richard Allen—the first African-American pastor in the United States**



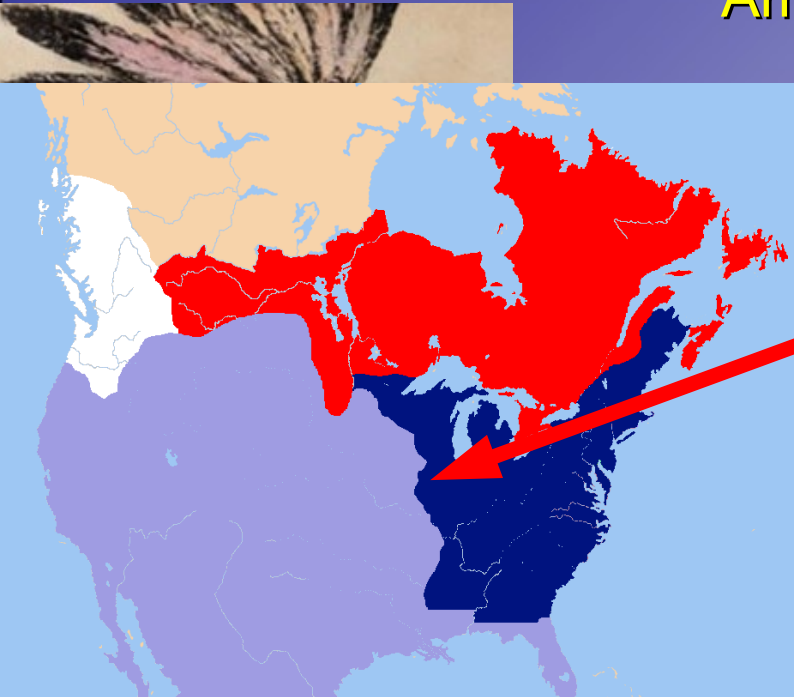
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 - 1785 **Northwest Indian (Little Turtle) War broke out**
 - Little Turtle
(actually, his name—“*Mihšihkinaahkwa*”—means “*Painted* Turtle,” but the history books call him “*Little Turtle*,” so we’ll go with that)



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 - Little Turtle was the chief of the Miami tribe of the Ohio territory
(which was known as the “Northwest Territory” at the time, since it was on the northwestern edge of America’s lands)



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 - Little Turtle was the chief of the Miami tribe of the Ohio territory, and had loosely allied with the British during the Revolutionary War
 - The biggest problem with Britain's deal with America is that no one told the *Indians* about it
 - Suddenly, all of these American settlers moved into the Ohio territory, hoping to expand their new country—and there were people already there who'd made their *own* deals with England (back in 1768)
 - Little Turtle brought the Ohio and other tribes together into a loose confederacy to fight the Americans and keep them east of the Ohio River



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 - Since most of the army had disbanded after the War, Little Turtle's confederacy did very well to begin with—they won battle after battle
 - But then, General George Washington sent war hero “Mad” Anthony Wayne west to deal with the problem using a special, reorganized army brigade called the “Legion of the United States”
 - (NOTE: He was called “Mad” because of his unorthodox tactics and colorful personality—in other words, Wayne would've been a modern American movie action hero)





- The confederacy was broken at the Battle of Broken Timbers in 1794, when Shawnee chief Blue Jacket was defeated by Wayne
 - Little Turtle was forced to sign the Treaty of Greenville in 1795 to finally end the decade-long war
(NOTE: The Revolutionary War had only been *eight* years long...)





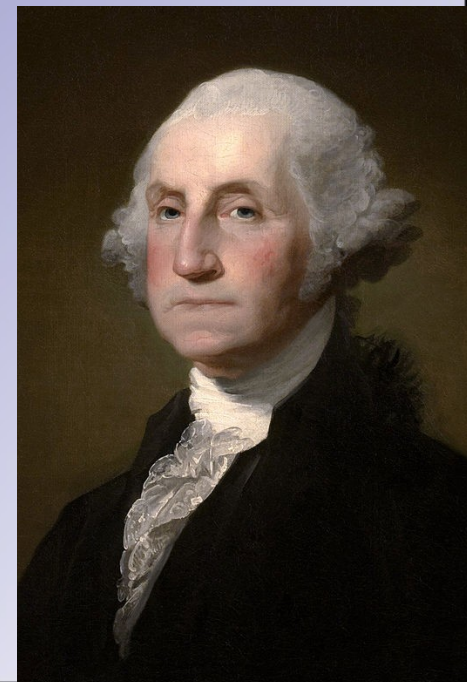
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- The army built a new fort nearby—which Wayne then named after himself (NOTE: Fort Wayne, Indiana)



The Age of Revolution

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - The Northwest Indian War was important for several reasons—
 - 1) It was the first military engagement of the fledgling American nation (and the biggest issue that President George Washington had to deal with once he took office in 1789)
 - (and yet, odds are, most of you have never even *heard* of it)



The Age of Revolution

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - The Northwest Indian War was important for several reasons—
 - 1) It was the first military engagement of the fledgling American nation
 - 2) It made war veterans out of several people whom we'll hear about again soon—
 - Shawnee chief Tecumseh, young Lieutenant William Henry Harrison, Lieutenant William Clark (and his scout, a very young Meriwether Lewis)



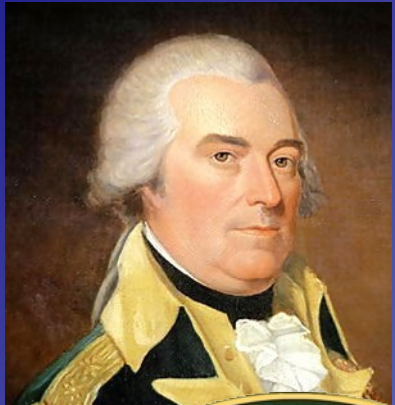
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 - 2) It made war veterans out of several people whom we'll hear about again soon
 - 3) In the Treaty of Greenville, the United States government agreed to provide protection and federal oversight of Indian lands, including annual gifts and subsidies
 - That sounded really good at the time, but it also created the precedent for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, which—though it did provide a number of good things for the tribes over the years, and did have some truly positive agents working in its ranks—essentially relegated Native Americans to reservations and controlled their culture for centuries to come



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 - 3) In the Treaty of Greenville, the United States government agreed to provide protection and federal oversight of Indian lands, including annual gifts and subsidies
 - 4) The Treaty also gave General Anthony Wayne and his Legion a great deal of power in the Ohio territory as the military authority over the whole region, which was essentially under martial law—turning the Legion into a professional, standing army
 - So the very concept of a standing army in the United States—which had originally planned to simply have militias to be called upon when fighting a foreign foe—was devised as the direct result of the Northwest Indian War



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 - 1787 The United States ratified the Constitution

