Church History



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- Introduction to Church History
- The Ancient Church
- The Rise of Christendom
- The Early Middle Ages
- The Age of Crusades
- The Renaissance
- Conquest and Reformation
- The Age of Enlightenment
- The Age of Revolution
- The Modern Age
- The Postmodern Age

- AD 1st-3rd centuries
- AD 4th-5th centuries
- AD 6th-10th centuries
- AD 11th-13th centuries
- AD 14th-15th centuries
- AD 16th century
- AD 17th-18th centuries
- AD 19th century
- AD 20th century
- AD 21st century

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- The Age of Revolution
 - The American Revolution
 - The French Revolution
 - The Napoleonic Era (part 2—Lots of Independence-ing)

AD 1st-3rd centuries

AD 4th-5th centuries

AD 6th-10th centuries

AD 11th-13th centuries

AD 14th-15th centuries

AD 16th century

AD 17th-18th centuries

AD 19th century

* Everybody wanted their piece of the piece 1812 America declared war on Britain

* As we discussed last week, the United States finally got fed up with England impressing our naturalized American sailors on the sea, demanding that we trade with no one but England and stirring up the Native American tribes in the West to put pressure on the nation to comply (such as Tecumseh and Tenskwatawa's tribal confederation) confederation)





Funky little teaching moment—
The war continued to make heroes of veterans of the Little Turtle War, the First Barbary War, etc. (such as Stephen Decatur
(who commanded several naval vessels as a commodore, captured the HMS Macedonian, but lost the American flagship, USS President in a fight against four British ships—but only because his ship had already sustained hull damage while successfully escaping the blockade of New York)

(even though he lost the flagship and was subsequently imprisoned in Bermuda until the end of the war, he was still awarded a Congressional Gold Medal upon his return home)





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(who was given command over the Army of the Northwest and turned it from a disorganized and outnumbered rabble into a fighting force that defeated much larger forces in the field, recaptured Detroit, which had been lost the year before, and even invaded Canada)

While in Canada, he won the decisive Battle of the Thames, which not only broke the British control of the Northwest Territory but also resulted in the death of

Tecumseh, who was fighting for England at the time

(well, who was fighting against America at the time, currently alongside the English)

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(but more about him in a minute...)



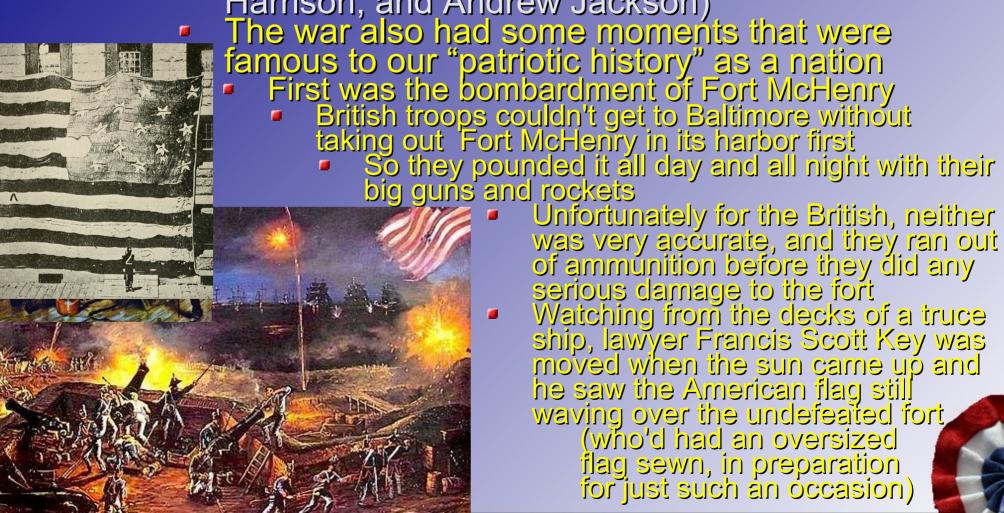


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The war also had some moments that were

Unfortunately for the British, neither was very accurate, and they ran out of ammunition before they did any serious damage to the fort Watching from the decks of a truce ship, lawyer Francis Scott Key was

moved when the sun came up and he saw the American flag still waving over the undefeated fort (who'd had an oversized

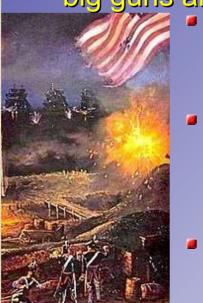
flag sewn, in preparation for just such an occasion)



Funky little teaching moment—
The war continued to make heroes of veterans of the Little Turtle War, the First Barbary War, etc. (such as Stephen Decatur, William Henry Harrison, and Andrew Jackson)

The war also had some moments that were famous to our "patriotic history" as a nation

First was the bombardment of Fort McHenry
British troops couldn't get to Baltimore without taking out Fort McHenry in its harbor first
So they pounded it all day and all night with their big guns and rockets



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serious damage to the fort Watching from the decks of a truce ship, lawyer Francis Scott Key was moved when the sun came up and he saw the American flag still waving over the undefeated fort Scott wrote, "Defence of Fort M'Henry"—which, in 1889,

became our national anthem



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Second was the burning of Washington D.C. by British troops—especially the White House
It was intended to demoralize the American people but it served the opposite effect

After this, the nation was galvanized against the British
It also served to put more enmity between the United States and Canada, whose leaders applauded the burning as payback for the American incursions into Canada during the Revolutionary War, three decades years earlier, and Harrison's successful invasion the year before the year before



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No, contrary to popular myth, First Lady
Dolley Madison didn't personally cut down
the portrait of George Washington to save it
She didn't have the time, since the
British were too close—but she did

direct her servants to save the painting and other treasures of the early United States



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No, contrary to popular myth, First Lady Dolley Madison didn't personally cut down the portrait of George Washington to save it But supposedly, this was an event that Yamamoto pointed to when criticizing the Japanese government for its poor timing in declaring war only after his bombing of Pearl Harbor

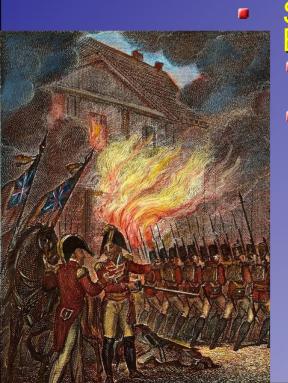


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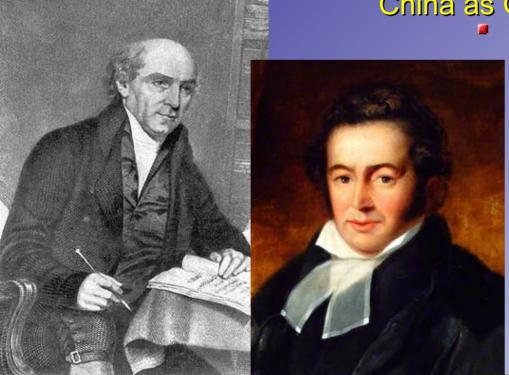
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Incidentally, the British were all set to burn the capital city to the ground, and then occupy the area
But a hurricane swept in and put out the flames and destroyed most of their ships in the harbor and then a tornado swept in the next day and forced them to evacuate the city
It became known as the "Storm that Saved Washington," and several churches pointed to it as evidence of God's providence and blessing for our nation



Funky little teaching moment²—
The war had some important cultural ripple effects
First off was its effect on American churches
For instance, many Methodist Episcopal churches
tended to be far removed from the causes of the
war, and remained fairly indifferent to it all
Still others found themselves standing ardently

against the war

They saw the efforts of British missionaries such as William Carey in India and Robert Morrison in China as God's efforts to evangelize the world As the Rev. Benjamin Bell preached to his New England congregation, to make war on England was "to fight against God!"







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sold support for the war

They saw the British arming Native American tribes and stirring them to attack settlements (supporting groups like Tenskwatawa's confederacy against whites)





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Though not only for their survival, but also for

their *growth*

Many western churches fully supported what would later be called the "manifest destiny" of the United States to spread the blessings of Christianity and culture across the continent

(based on John Winthrop's preaching, the purchase by Thomas Jefferson, the policies of James Monroe, etc.)

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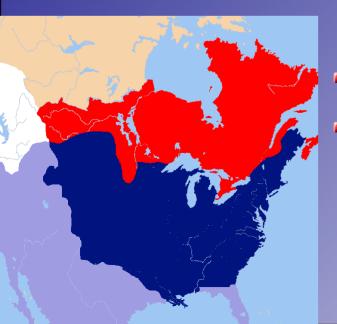
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Thus, some Christian churches opposed the war because they feared it would hamper missions efforts, while other Christian churches supported the war because they thought that it would bolster missions efforts—and much of the division between them was geographical So which side was right?

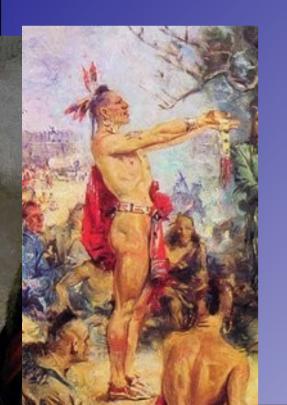


Funky little teaching moment²—
The war had some important cultural ripple effects
First off was its effect on American churches

Second was its effect on American interaction with Native American tribes

Tenskwatawa's confederation had stirred up an anti-white hatred among many tribes, including one branch of the Bodéwadmi, which was led by their chief Main Poc

(whose name meant "Crippled Hand" in French and who claimed to be a spiritual leader as well, like Tenskwatawa, with frequent visions that told him to destroy all of the white settlements... and to take as many wives as he possibly could, including those who belonged to other members of his tribe...)





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They began raiding white settlements, as well as those by neutral tribes such as the Osage

Even other Bodéwadmi tribes—such as the tribe of the Peoria led by chief Gomo—came to the whites to pledge their neutrality (even loyalty) and to ask for help against Main Poc's band



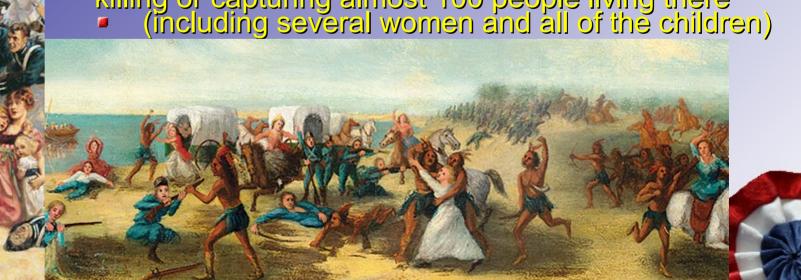


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(Note: The troops were given instructions to kill no one, if possible, and to give the dispossessed natives food and canoes so that they could go set up new camps elsewhere)

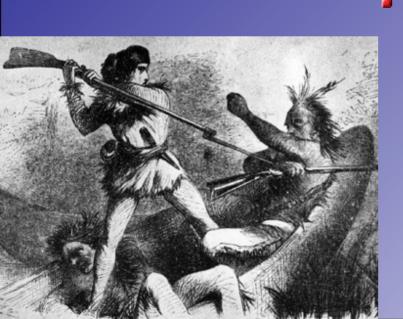


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Native American tribes
In addition to fighting against Tecumseh and
Tenskwatawa's confederacy, and the Bodéwadmi
under Main Poc, the army also had to contend with
the Creek tribe, which Tecumseh had brought into
the conflict—launching the Creek War started as
essentially a civil war within the Creek nation)
(Many Creek tribes had learned to co-exist
with the white settlers, and some whole
tribes had even converted to Christianity
but others—encouraged by Tenskwatawa's
revival—had pledged to fight the whites and
everything European to their dying breath
—which, in this case, also included killing
any Creek tribes who'd "gone not-native" and
accepted white elements into their lives)
(these militant Creek were known as
the "Red Sticks," since that was the
symbol for war in Creek culture)

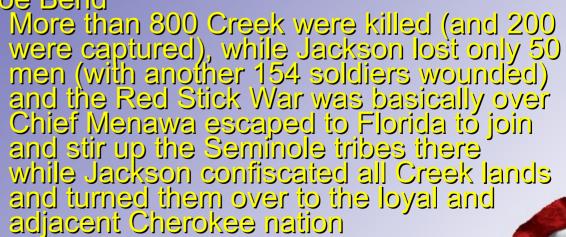


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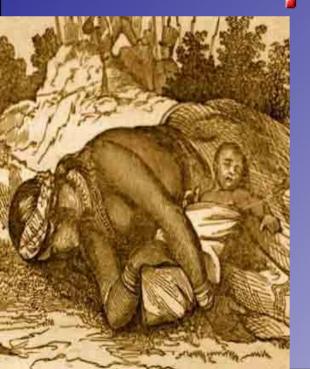
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Red Sticks, and won the decisive Battle of Horseshoe Bend

(Note: A little Creek boy named Lyncoya was orphaned during the Creek War, and according to Creek custom, he was left to die, since no family would adopt him)

(Jackson found out about it, and took Lyncoya into his own home and raised him as his own adopted son...)



Everybody wanted their piece of the pie

1812 America declared war on Britain

1814 Treaty of Ghent ended the war

Long story short, once Napoleon had abdicated in France—





Funky little teaching moment—
Napoleon had been doing so well against so many opponents in the coalition against him but then he had the brilliant idea of invading Russia from French-controlled Poland, timed perfectly to avoid the Russian winter

But the Russians figured out that their size and their weather were their two best assets

So instead of engaging Napoleon in the field (as he'd assumed that they would), they kept retreating deeper and deeper into Russia

Eventually, he found himself overcommitted and lost in the winter weather that he'd hoped to avoid

hoped to avoid

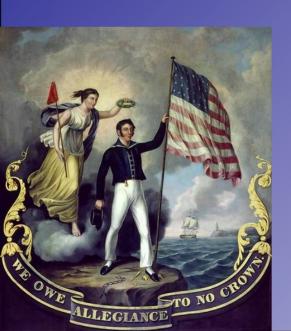
Napoleon lost 380,000 of his 410,000 Eastern troops in the campaign, and was forced to retreat back to France

The coalition threw everything that they had at his token force of 70,000 men, and he was forced to abdicate his throne, accepting exile on the island

of Elba



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Long story short, once Napoleon had abdicated in
France, England no longer had any real reason to
keep fighting in America, so—once again—it was
just not cost-effective to continue the war
(Note: This is the second time that England left an
American war without admitting that they'd lost—
much like America with Vietnam, they preferred to
simply say that they "didn't win" and leave)





Funky little teaching moment—
The Treaty of Ghent may have ended the war, but it didn't end the fighting
News only travelled as fast as the fastest ships, so even though the treaty had been signed on December 24, 1814, the official news hadn't reached America to get ratified by the Congress until February 18, 1815
In-between those dates, British forces in America continued their planned invasion of Louisiana
In January, they smacked into Andrew Jackson (tasked with defending New Orleans, even though the city had no decent defenses)



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support in defending New Orleans, in exchange for a pardon for himself and his crews)

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The battle turned out to be an absolute rout
In the end, the British lost 2,600 men while the Americans lost only 13

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Andrew Jackson became an overnight hero in the United States' imagination but even more importantly, the British received enough of a "black eye" that they had to admit that they'd clearly lost in a straight-up battle

(thus helping to prevent a third English-American war...)



Everybody wanted their piece of the pier 1812 America declared war on Britain 1814 Treaty of Ghent ended the war

The Baptists held their first Triennial Convention

Baptist missionaries like William Carey in India

were having a profound effect on the church

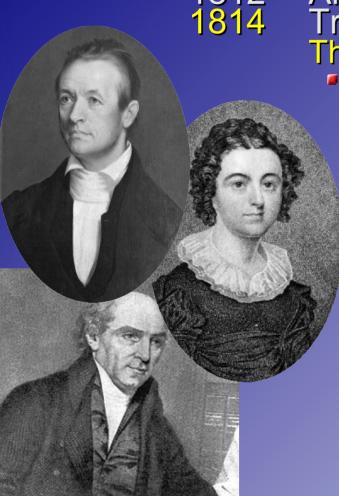
around the world—even influencing other denominations

For instance, the decidedly Reformed, paedobaptist Congregationalists sent Adoniram and Ann Judson from America to India to work

with Carey

But not long after they started working with Carey, the Judsons immediately dumped the Congregationalists and became believers Baptists, like him

Strangely, the Congregationalists didn't like that, and they denounced the Judsons and yanked their funding
 So Carey worked to find them an alternate source of funding in America...



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Carey helped organize all of the Baptist churches in America to hold a triennial "General Missionary Convention of the Baptist Denomination in the United States of America for Foreign Missions"

Thus, for the first time, all of the Baptist churches in America came together to interact over a common ministry cause and they almost immediately began to fight. The Southern churches made support for slavery into an issue, and emphasized the need for trading with other nations.



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The Western churches couldn't care less about international trade or slavery, but were totally supportive of the wars against England and the Indian nations



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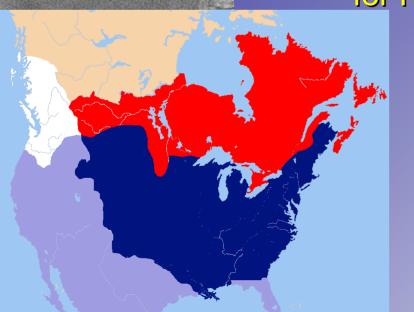
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Thus, for the first time, all of the Baptist churches in America came together to interact over a common ministry cause and they almost immediately began to fight Even though they had a common theology, (well, mostly—the Baptists who backed denominational support for missionaries became the "Missionary Baptists," and the ones who didn't want mission agencies or denominational hierarchies became known as "Primitive Baptists," etc.)





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politics

(as Jacques Ellul later observed, churches tend to mimic their native cultures, devolving into "religions" of collective ideologies instead of living communities of Biblical faith)



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Peter the Aleut was martyred

According to Orthodox history, a group of
Russian seal and otter hunters were hunting

(illegally) in Spanish California waters

They were taken to the Mission Dolores in San

Francisco for questioning

The priests attempted to get the Aleuts in the
crew to convert to Catholicism, but they
refused, saying that they'd already converted to
Russian Orthodoxy

The priests then took one young Aleut named
Peter

(his birth name was Cungagnaq, but he'd taken the name "Peter" upon his conversion)



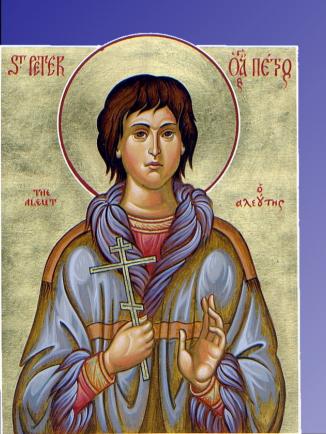


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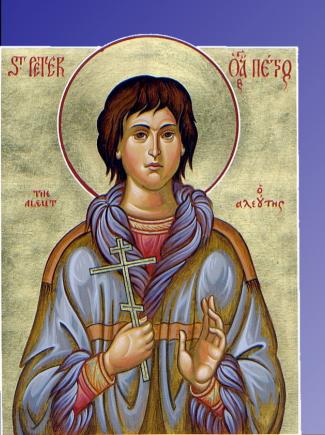
(chopping his fingers and hands off, bit by bit, then finally disembowelling him)



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Luckily, the priests were stopped before
they could begin to torture any of the other
Aleuts, when the magistrate ordered
the prisoners to be released



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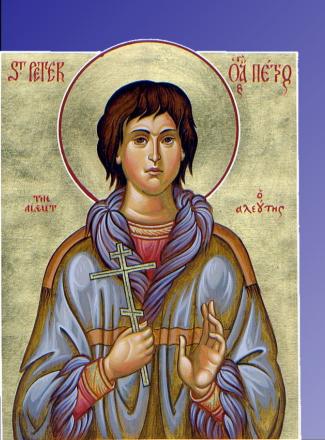
According to Catholic history, none of that ever happened—or at least, not like that

Yes, there were Russian seal hunters who'd been arrested and taken to San Francisco

Yes, there may have been torture involved in

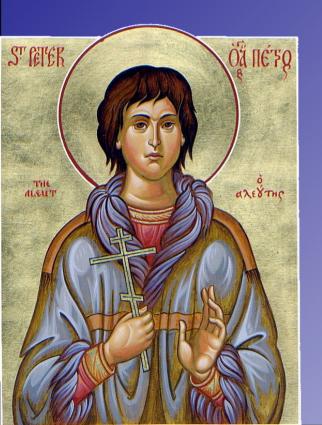
Yes, there may have been torture involved in their interrogation (or maybe not)

But even if there had been torture involved, it had nothing to do with forcing Peter's conversion from Orthodoxy to Catholicism—instead, it was because the priests just thought he was a normal, Godless pagan (or because the soldiers were just having a little fun at his expense, and the priests had nothing to do with any of it)



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But to the Russian Orthodox Church, Peter the
Aleut is still venerated as a martyr for the faith
(and a further example of the evils of Rome)





Everybody wanted their piece of the pier 1812 America declared war on Britain 1814 Treaty of Ghent ended the war

Treaty of Ghent ended the war
The Baptists held their first Triennial Convention
Peter the Aleut was martyred
The Second Barbary War began
The pirates were still nipping at the heels of various nations—attacking weaker ships here and there, raiding the occasional port
After the War of 1812, the U.S. Navy was strong enough to finally deal with the situation completely—not just to protect our own ships, but to end the problem once and for all
A squadron led by Commodore Stephen Decatur sought out and captured the Algerian pirate fleet, while Britain bombarded Algiers itself, forcing the Algerian government to surrender
They turned over more than 1,000 European hostages who'd been enslaved, and paid \$10,000 in reparations

reparations

(which would translate to roughly \$150,000 today)



1815

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1815 Peter the Aleut was martyred

The Second Barbary War began

Mount Tambora erupted in Indonesia

Much like when Krakatoa erupted in 535, and

Mt. Laki erupted in 1783, the effects were

massive and global
In Sumatra—1,600 miles away—they thought that they'd heard ships' big guns firing at sea and the ash cloud spread as far as Java—

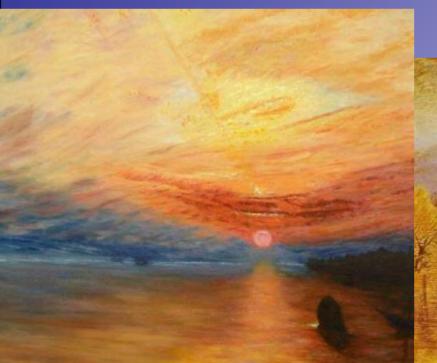
1,200 miles away

The eruption blew the top 4,000 feet off of Mount Tambora, and threw almost 10 cubic miles of debris into the atmosphere

Between the eruption and subsequent tsunamis, the immediate death toll was calculated at 4,600



Funky little teaching moment—
But that wasn't the end of the ripple effects
The tonnage of debris and sulfur dioxide thrown into the atmosphere caused a global climate shift
The Northeastern United States was covered with a perpetual fog, sunsets around the world were spectacular for almost two years following (leading to some of the most famous sunset paintings in history)





Funky little teaching moment—
But that wasn't the end of the ripple effects
The tonnage of debris and sulfur dioxide thrown into the atmosphere caused a global climate shift
The Northeastern United States was covered with a perpetual fog, sunsets around the world were spectacular for almost two years following, but the most important effect was that 1816 became known as "The Year Without a Summer"
Snow fell in Virginia in July (and the ground was still frozen in New England in August), crops failed around the world, disease and starvation were rampant

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The "ripple effect" death toll around the world topped 10,000,000 people over the next year (100,000 of those deaths were in Ireland alone, due to starvation and then the subsequent typhus epidemic)





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The "ripple effect" death toll around the world topped 10,000,000 people over the next year There were food riots in England and France, Switzerland declared a national emergency, and order began to break down which is part of why the French people welcomed Napoleon back after his escape from exile, and the rest of Europe was illequipped to fight him

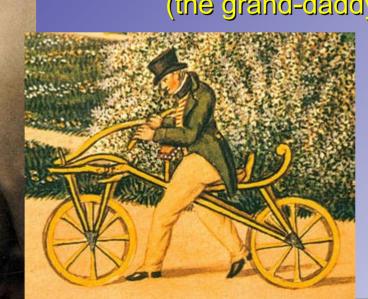
For 100 days, he led France again...
...until he met the Duke of Wellington and his coalition forces at Waterloo...

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Due to the death of so many horses and pack animals in Europe that summer, inventor Karl Drais began working on "horseless" means of travel experimenting with the velocipede (the grand-daddy of the modern bicycle)





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Due to so many crops failing in the eastern, well-populated areas of the United States, people began moving in droves into what became known as the "American Heartland"—what we now call the "Midwest"

Almost overnight, what had once been considered the rugged frontier now became the breadbasket for the nation



Funky little teaching moment—
But that wasn't the end of the ripple effects
The tonnage of debris and sulfur dioxide thrown into the atmosphere caused a global climate shift.
The climate shift also created an attitudinal shift in

European culture

The popular "romantic" school of writing and art began to shift into a darker, more neo-Gothic tone Poet Percy Bysshe Shelley and his (sorta) wife Mary went to summer in Geneva with his friend and fellow poet, Lord Byron, and Byron's friend Dr. John Polidori

But the weather was so bad in 1816 that they spent most of their time indoors

One weekend was so particularly dreary that they decided to hold a contest to see which of them could write the scariest story

Byron wrote a spooky fragment that Polidori expanded into The Vampyre (which was the first modern vampire story, and arguably began the "Gothic" genre of writing)





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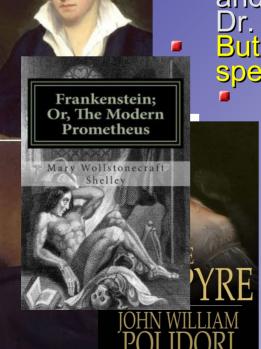
One weekend was so particularly dreary that they decided to hold a contest to see which of them could write the scariest story

Byron wrote a spooky fragment that Polidori expanded into The Vampyre while Mary had a horrible nightmare that she wrote out as the basis for her later book, Frankenstein

(with a ton of help from Percy)







Everybody wanted their piece of the piece 1812 America declared war on Britain 1814 Treaty of Ghent ended the war The Baptists held their first Triennial Convention Peter the Aleut was martyred The Second Barbary War began Mount Tambora erupted in Indonesia Shaka killed his brother, taking control of the Zulu Inder his leadership, the entire fighting style and societal structure of the Zulu changed, and they invaded and took over large parts of South Africa...



