

Enlightenment and Revolution

1550 - 1789

The Scientific Revolution

- **Main Idea**

- *In the mid-1500's, scientists began to question accepted beliefs and make new theories based on experimentation.*

- **Why It Matters Now**

- *Such questioning led to the development of the scientific method still in use today.*

The Scientific Revolution

Absolutism in Europe

Absolute Monarch – a king or queen who holds all of the power within their states' boundaries, controlling every aspect of society

- Absolute monarchs believed in divine right, the idea that God created the monarchy and that the monarch acted as God's representative on Earth.
- An absolute monarch regulated everything from religious worship to social gatherings.
 - Build large armies
 - Increase taxes

The Enlightenment in Europe

- **Main Idea**

- *A revolution in intellectual activity changed Europeans' view of government and society*

- **Why It Matters Now**

- *The various freedoms enjoyed in many countries today are a result of Enlightenment thinking.*

The Enlightenment in Europe

Peter the Great Comes to Power

- When Peter came to power, Russia was a feudal land of boyars (nobles) and serfs.
- Russia was isolated geographically from Europe. Russians were Eastern Orthodox Christians and viewed Europeans as heretics.
- Upon becoming czar, Peter embarked on a long tour of Western Europe to learn about customs and manufacturing techniques.

The Enlightenment Spreads

- **Main Idea**

- *Enlightenment ideas spread through the Western world and profoundly influenced the arts and government.*

- **Why It Matters Now**

- *An “enlightened” problem-solving approach to government and society prevails in modern civilization today.*

The Enlightenment in Europe

- **Main Idea**

- *A revolution in intellectual activity changed Europeans' view of government and society*

- **Why It Matters Now**

- *The various freedoms enjoyed in many countries today are a result of Enlightenment thinking.*

The Enlightenment Spreads

Monarchs Defy Parliament

- James I and his son, Charles I,
 - No imprisonment without due cause.

The American Revolution

- **Main Idea**

- *Enlightenment ideas helped spur the American colonies to shed British rule and create a new nation.*

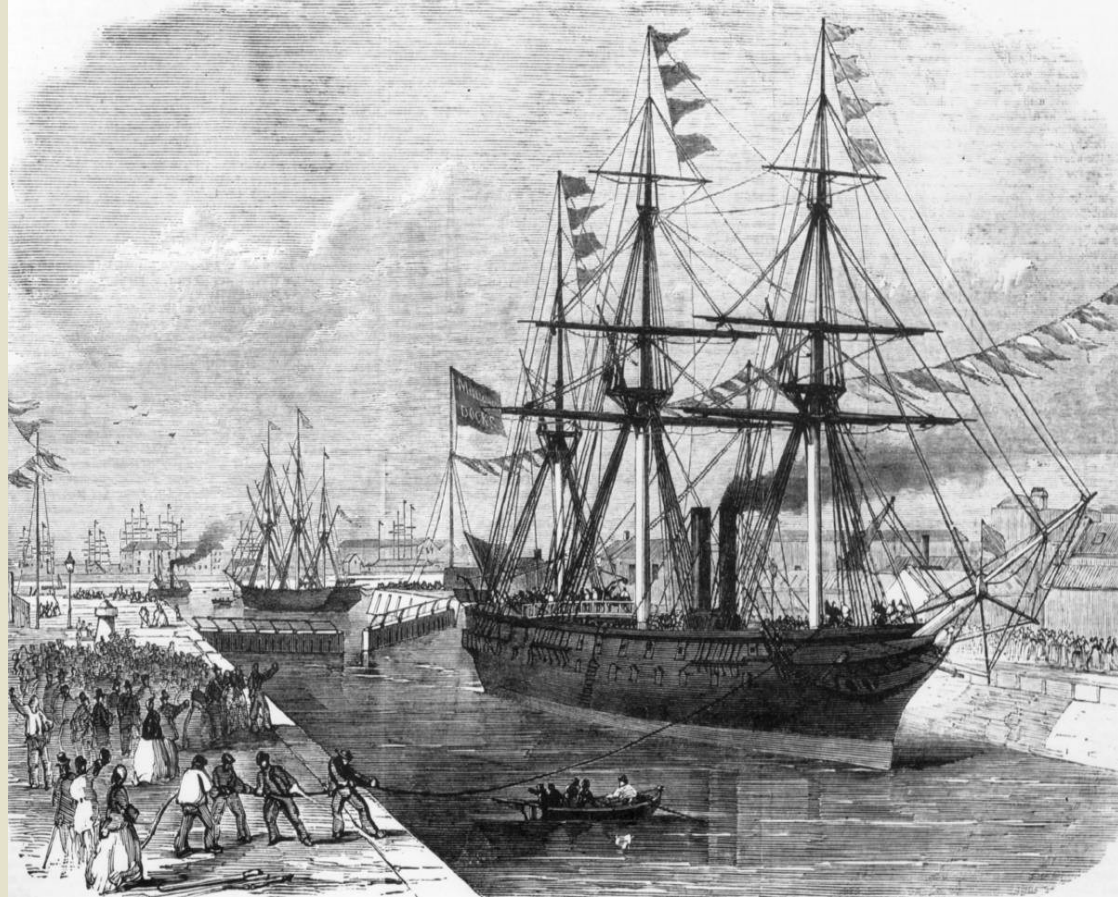
- **Why It Matters Now**

- *The revolution created a republic, the United States of America, that became a model for many nations of the world.*

The American Revolution

Britain and Its American Colonies

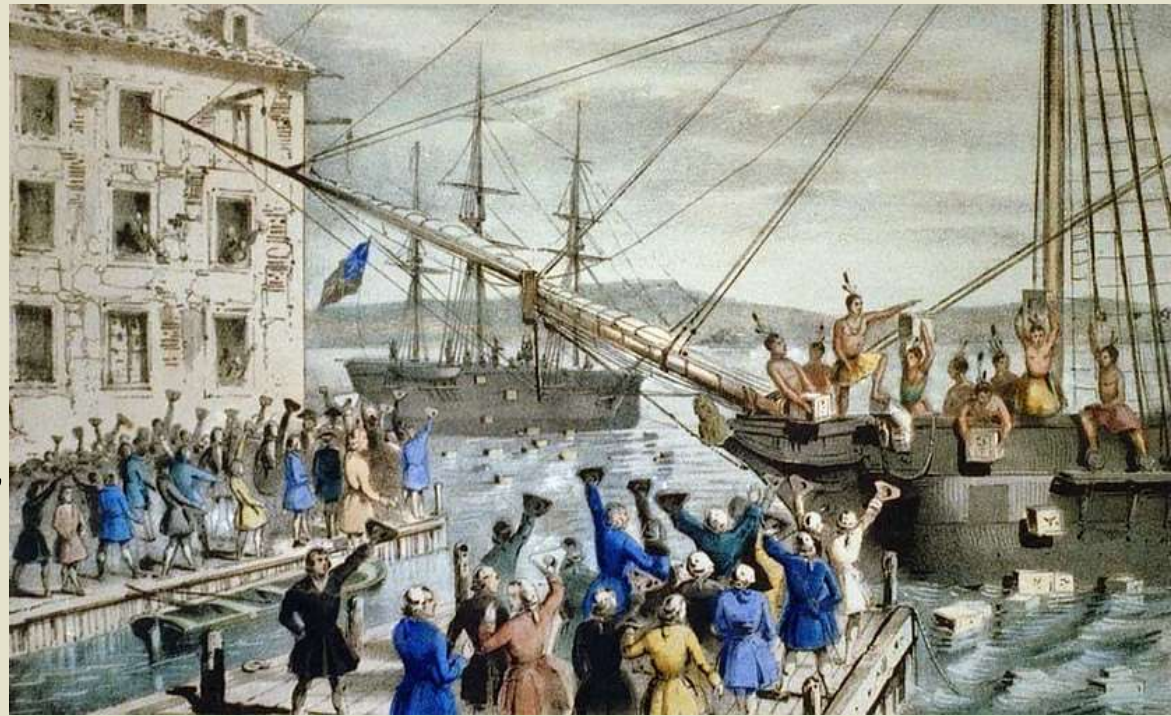
- The colonists of North America were British subjects and expected to obey British law.
- British Parliament passed the Navigation Act which forbid the colonists from selling products to any country except Britain.
- Colonists also had to pay high taxes on imports from other countries.



The American Revolution

Americans Win Independence

- After the French and Indian War in North America, the British expected the colonists to pay much of the debt from the war. Parliament passed new taxes to be paid by the colonists.
- The colonists were outraged and accused the government of “taxation without representation.”



The American Revolution

Americans Win Independence

- In July 1776, colonial leaders issued the Declaration of Independence. Many assertions included in the Declaration were based on the ideas of John Locke.
- After 8 years of fighting, with help from the French military, the Americans won their independence.



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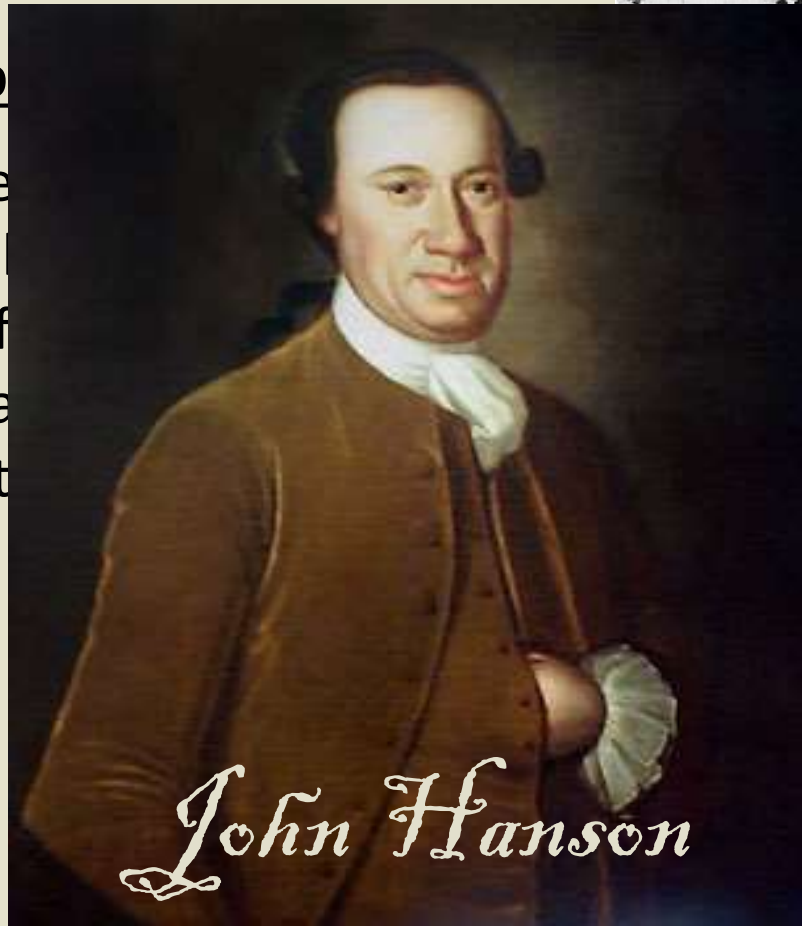
We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.



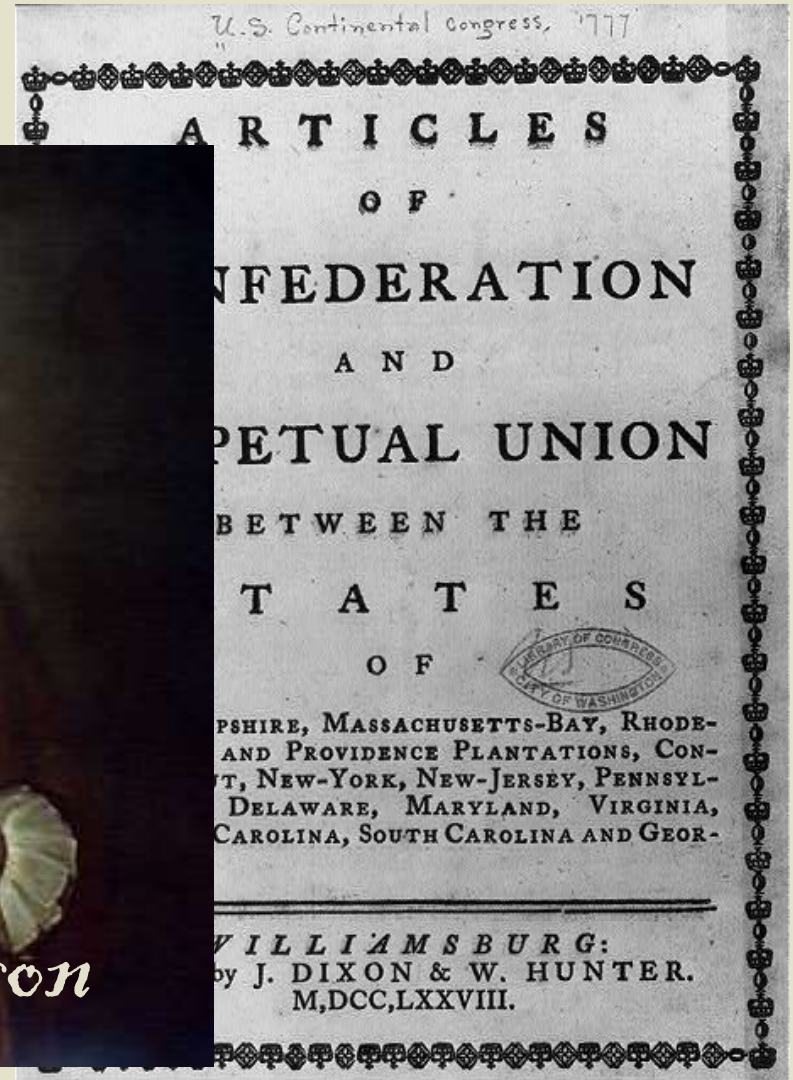
The American Revolution

Americans Create a Republic

- The first government of the United States had been created in 1777 and was ineffective. After several years, a convention was called to revise the government.



John Hanson



The American Revolution

Americans Create a Republic

- The convention instead wrote a new document, the Constitution of the United States. This document set up a government with three branches and checks and balances, influenced by the ideas of Montesquieu.

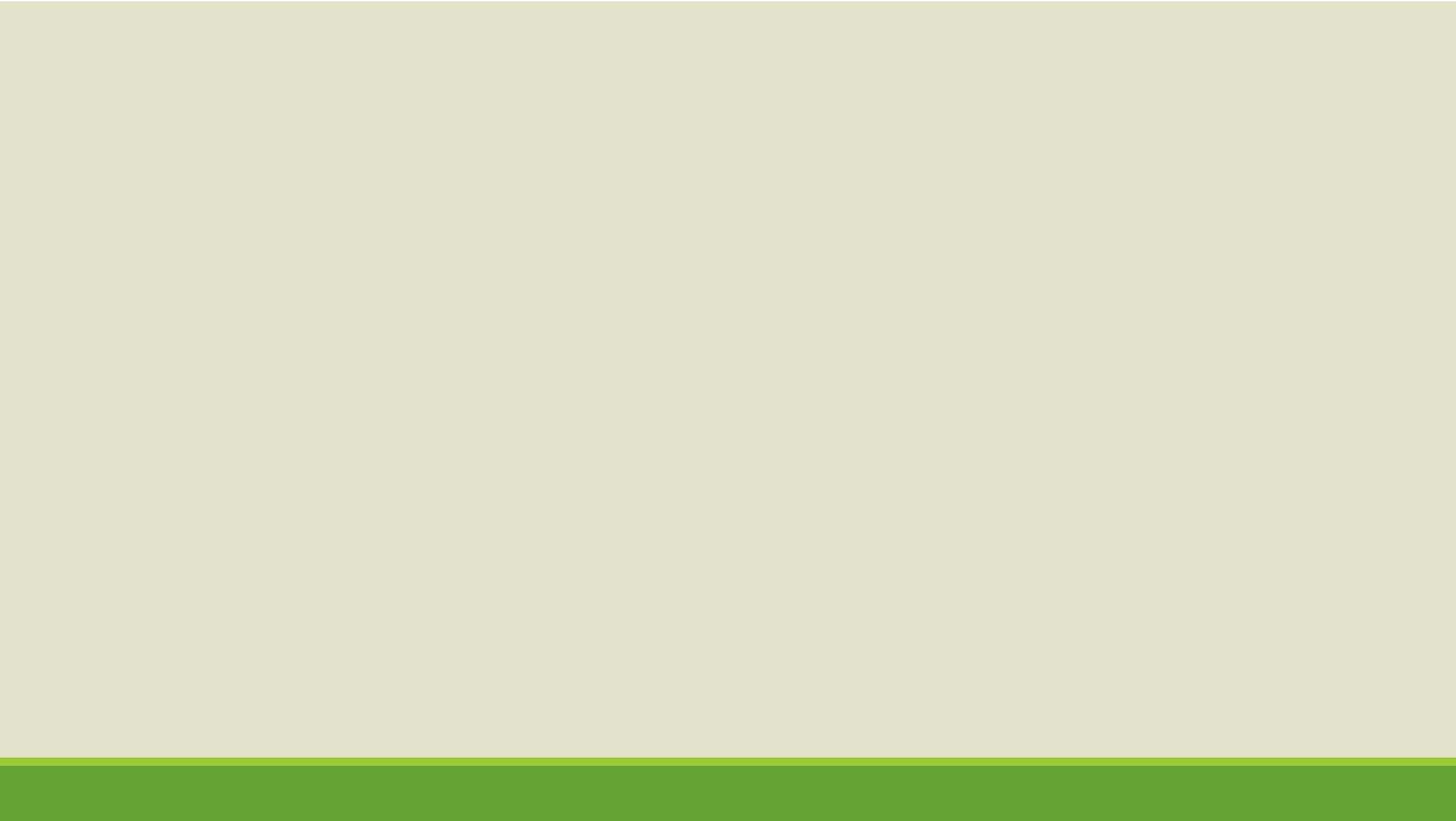


The American Revolution

Americans Create a Republic

- After ratifying the Constitution, Congress added ten amendments, known as the Bill of Rights. Many of these rights had been advocated by Voltaire, Rousseau, and Locke.





Latin American Peoples Win Independence

- **Main Idea**

- *Spurred by discontent and Enlightenment ideas, peoples in Latin America fought colonial rule.*

- **Why It Matters Now**

- *Sixteen of today's Latin American nations gained their independence at this time.*

Latin American Peoples Win Independence

Latin American people were dominated by European colonial powers. Enlightenment ideas and successful revolutions in other countries sparked calls for independence in Latin America.

Colonial Society Divided

- In Latin America, class dictated people's place in society and jobs.
- At the top were people born in Spain, peninsulares. Next were people born in Latin America to Spanish parents, creoles. Only people born in Spain could hold high government office.
- Next came the mestizos, mulattos, African slaves, and finally the native people.

Latin American Peoples Win Independence

Revolutions in the Americas

- Encouraged by the American and French revolutions, slaves in the French colony Saint Domingue (Haiti) sought to gain freedom.
- A former slave, Toussaint L'Ouverture, led a revolt in Haiti. After 13 years of fighting, all slaves were eventually freed and the first independent country emerged.



Latin American Peoples Win Independence

Creoles Lead Independence

- When Napoleon appointed his brother king of Spain, the creoles of Latin America felt no loyalty to the French King. Several areas began a fight for independence. Simon Bolivar and Jose de San Martin led military forces against Spanish troops in the areas that would become Venezuela, Bolivia, Columbia, Ecuador, Peru, and Chile.
- By 1825, all the Spanish colonies of South America were independent.



Latin American Peoples Win Independence

Mexico Ends Spanish Rule

- In 1810, Padre Miguel Hidalgo called for a Mexican rebellion of the lower classes against the Spanish.
- In 1820, Mexico's creole's united in support of Mexican independence. Mexico gained independence in 1821.
- Soon after Mexico's independence, several Central American states declared their independence from Spain and Mexico.

