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**Early 19c Industrialization in America: The Market Revolution**

**ESSENTIAL QUESTION:**
What were the results of early 19c Industrialization in America?

**The Transportation Revolution**

**First Turnpike- 1790 Lancaster, PA**
By 1832, nearly 2400 mi. of road connected most major cities.

**Cumberland (National Road), 1811**

**Conestoga Covered Wagons**

**Erie Canal System**

**Erie Canal, 1820s**
Began in 1817; completed in 1825

**Robert Fulton & the Steamboat**

1807: The Clermont
Principal Canals in 1840

Inland Freight Rates

Clipper Ships

The "Iron Horse" Wins! (1830)

By 1850 → 9000 mi. of RR track [1860 → 31,000 mi.]

The Railroad Revolution, 1850s

- Immigrant labor built the No. RR.
- Slave labor built the So. RR.

New Inventions: "Yankee Ingenuity"

Resourcefulness & Experimentation

- Americans were willing to try anything.
- They were first copiers, then innovators.

1800 → 41 patents were approved.
1860 → 4,357 "• "

Eli Whitney’s Patented Cotton Gin, 1791

Actually invented by a slave!

Eli Whitney’s Gun Factory

Interchangeable Rifle Parts
Oliver Evans
First prototype of the locomotive

John Deere & the Steel Plow (1837)

Cyrus McCormick & the Mechanical Reaper: 1831

Samuel F. B. Morse
1840 – Telegraph

Cyrus Field & the Transatlantic Cable, 1858

Elias Howe & Isaac Singer
1840s Sewing Machine

The “American Dream”
They all regarded material advance as the natural fruit of American republicanism & proof of the country’s virtue and promise.
A German visitor in the 1840s, Friedrich List, observed:
Anything new is quickly introduced here, including all of the latest inventions. There is no clinging to old ways. The moment an American hears the word “invention,” he pricks up his ears.

The Northern Industrial “Juggernaut”

Boom/Bust Cycles: 1790-1860
The blue line shows, for comparison, the price of a year’s tuition at Harvard College. In 1790 it was $24, but by 1860 had risen to $104.
Creating a Business-Friendly Climate

Supreme Court Rulings:
- *Fletcher v. Peck* (1810)
- *Dartmouth v. Woodward* (1819)
- *McCulloch v. Maryland* (1819)
- *Gibbons v. Ogden* (1824)
- *Charles River Bridge v. Warren Bridge* (1835)

General Incorporation Law passed in New York, 1848.

Laissez faire → BUT, govt. did much to assist capitalism!

Distribution of Wealth

- During the American Revolution, 45% of all wealth in the top 10% of the population;
- 1845 Boston → top 4% owned over 65% of the wealth;
- 1860 Philadelphia → top 1% owned over 50% of the wealth.
- The gap between rich and poor was widening!

Samuel Slater
(“Father of the Factory System”)

The Lowell/Waltham System:
First Dual-Purpose Textile Plant

Francis Cabot Lowell’s town – 1814

Lowell in 1850

Lowell Mill

Early Textile Loom

New England Textile Centers:
1830s

New England Dominance in Textiles
starting for Lowell

Lowell Girls

What was their typical "profile?"

Lowell Boarding Houses

What was boardinghouse life like?

Lowell Mills

Time Table

Irish Immigrant Girls at Lowell

I'm a Factory Girl Filled with Wishes

I'm a factory girl.
Every day filled with fear.
Fresh breathing in the palace air.
Wishing for windows.
I'm a factory girl.
Tired from the 13 hours of work each day.
And we have such low pay.
Wishing for shorter work twist!
I'm a factory girl.
Never having enough time to eat.
Nor to rest my feet.
Wishing for more free time.
I'm a factory girl.
Sick of all this harsh conditions.
Making me want to sign the petition.
So do what I ask for, because I am a factory girl.
And I'm hereby speaking for all the rest.

The Factory Girl's Garland

February 20, 1845 issue.

Irish Immigrant Girls at Lowell

The Early Union Movement

Workingman's Party (1829)

* Founded by Robert Dale Owen and others in New York City.

Early unions were usually local, social, and weak.

Commonwealth v. Hunt (1842).

Worker political parties were ineffective until the post-Civil War period.
Regional Specialization
EAST \rightarrow Industrial
SOUTH \rightarrow Cotton & Slavery
WEST \rightarrow The Nation’s “Breadbasket”
The results of early industrialization in America?