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2  I. The Westward Movement
   – Rise of Andrew Jackson, first president from beyond Appalachians, exemplified movement west
   • Late 1850s:
     – Half of Americans under age of 30
     – By 1840 “demographic center” of population map had crossed Alleghenies (see Map 14.1)
     – By 1860, it had crossed Ohio River

3

4  I. The Westward Movement
   (cont.)
   • Life across Ohio River:
     – Downright grim for most pioneer families
     • Suffered diseases, depression, and premature death
     • Unbearable loneliness, especially for women
     • Breakdowns and madness were frequent
     • Frontier life could be tough and crude for men as well

5  I. The Westward Movement
   (cont.)
   – Pioneers, marooned by geography, were often ill-informed, superstitious, provincial, and fiercely individualistic.
   – Popular literature abounded with portraits of unique, isolated figures.
   – Even in these days of “rugged individualism” there were exceptions.
   – Pioneers relied upon neighbors for help and upon government for internal improvements.

6  II. Shaping the Western Landscape
   • Westward movement molded physical environment:
     – By 1820s trappers active in vast Rocky Mountain region
     – Fur-trapping empire based on rendezvous (French for
II. Shaping the Western Landscape

– Beaver all but disappeared from region
– Buffalo were also almost annihilated
– On California coast, traders sought sea-otter pelts, driving them to point of near-extinction

• Some have called this aggressive, heedless exploitation of West's natural bounty ecological imperialism.
• Yet Americans revered nature and admired its beauty
  – Many found wild, unspoiled character of land, esp. the West, to be among young nation's defining attributes

II. Shaping the Western Landscape (cont.)

• America had pristine, natural beauty, unspoiled by human hands
  – This national mystique inspired literature, painting, and a powerful conservation movement:
    • George Catlin, painter and student of Native American life, was among the first to advocate preservation of nature as deliberate national policy
    • Proposed creation of a national park in 1830s:
      – Started with Yellowstone Park in 1872

III. The March of the Millions

• As American people moved West, they multiplied at an amazing rate:
  – By midcentury, population doubled every twenty-five years (see Figure 14:1)
  – By 1860, thirteen colonies had more than doubled in numbers; 33 stars graced flag
  – U.S.A. was fourth most populous nation in western world: exceeded by Russia, France, and Austria
Ill. The March of the Millions (cont.)

- Urban growth continued explosively:
  - 1790: only two American cities that could boast populations of 20,000—Philadelphia, New York
  - 1860: there were 43 and 300 claimed over 5,000
  - New York was metropolis; New Orleans, “Queen of the South;” and Chicago, swaggering lord of Midwest—destined to be “hog butcher for the world”

III. The March of the Millions (cont.)

- Over-rapid urbanization brought undesirable by-products:
  - Smelly slums, inadequate policing, impure water, foul sewage, ravenous rats, and improper garbage disposal
  - Boston (1823) pioneered sewer system
  - New York (1842) abandoned wells and cisterns for piped-in water supply, thus eliminating breeding place for disease-carrying mosquitoes

III. The March of the Millions (cont.)

- High birthrate accounted for biggest increase in population, but immigration also helped:
  - By 1830s immigration was 60,000 a year
  - Influx tripled in 1840s and then quadrupled in the 1850s
  - During 1840s and 1850s, >1.5 million Irish, and nearly as many Germans came (see Table 14.1)

III. The March of the Millions (cont.)

- Why did they come?
  - Because Europe seemed to be running out of room, had “surplus people”
  - Majority headed for “land of freedom and opportunity”
  - New transoceanic steamships allowed immigrants to move
speedily and cheaply
• United States received far more diverse array of immigrants than other countries
• U.S.A. received immigrants from dozens of different nations

17

18 IV. The Emerald Isle Moves West
• Ireland was devastated in mid-1840s:
  – 2 million died as result of potato famine
  – Tens of thousands fled Land of Famine for Land of Plenty in “Black Forties”
  – Ireland’s great export has been population:
    • Joined Jews and Africans as dispersed people (see “Makers of America: The Irish”)
    – Many swarmed into seaboard cities (e.g., Boston)

19 IV. The Emerald Isle Moves West (cont.)
• New York City became largest Irish city in world
• Irish did not receive red-carpet treatment
• Friendless “famine Irish” forced to fend for themselves:
  – Ancient Order of Hibernians, semisecret society founded in Ireland to fight rapacious landlords, served in America as benevolent society, ailing downtrodden
  – Helped spawn Molly Maguires, shadowy Irish miners’ union that rocked Pennsylvania coal districts in 1860s and 1870s

20 IV. The Emerald Isle Moves West (cont.)
• Irish conditions in America:
  • Tended to remain in low-skill occupations
  • Gradually improved their lot, usually by acquiring modest amounts of property
  • Education of children was often cut short
  • Property ownership counted as a grand “success”
  • Politics attracted Gaelic newcomers
  • Gained control of powerful city machines, esp. New York’s Tammany Hall, and reaped patronage rewards
Iv. The Emerald Isle Moves West (cont.)
- Politicians tried to cultivate Irish vote:
  - Nearly two million arrived between 1830 and 1860—and politicians glimpsed political gold in those potential voters, esp. in politically potent state of New York
  - Because Irish hatred of England remained strong, politicians won support with anti-British remarks

V. The German Forty-Eighters
- Influx of refugees from Germany b/t 1830 and 1860 hardly less spectacular than from Ireland:
  - >1.5 Germans stepped onto American soil (see “Makers of America: The Germans”)
  - Bulk were uprooted farmers
  - Some were liberal political refugees
  - Germany's loss was America's gain: Carl Schurz became relentless foe of slavery and public corruption

V. The German Forty-Eighters (cont.)
- Germans:
  - Possessed modest amount of materials goods
  - Most pushed to lush lands of Middle West, notably Wisconsin for farming
  - Formed influential body of voters wooed by politicians
  - Less potent politically than Irish since were more widely scattered

V. The German Forty-Eighters (cont.)
- German influence in shaping American life:
  - Conestoga wagon, Kentucky rifle, and Christmas tree all German contributions
  - Supported public schools, including Kindergarten (children's garden)
  - Promoted music and arts
  - Relentless enemies of slavery
25  V. The German Forty-Eighters  
(cont.)
• Sometimes dubbed “damned Dutchmen” and regarded with suspicion:
  – Seeking to preserve language and customs, they settled in compact “colonies” aloof from surrounding communities
  – Accustomed to “Continental Sunday,” they made merry on Sunday
  – Their Old World drinking habits further spurred advocates of temperance

26

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29  VI. Flare-ups of Antiforeignism
• Influx of immigrants in 1840s and 1850s inflamed prejudices of American “nativists:”
  – Feared immigrants would outbreed, outvote, and overwhelm “native” stock
  – Also took jobs from “native” Americans
  – As Roman Catholics were regarded by many old-line Americans as following a “foreign” church

30  VI. Flare-ups of Antiforeignism  
(cont.)
• Roman Catholics on the move:
  – To avoid Protestant indoctrination in public schools, began in 1840s to construct separate Catholic educational system:
    • Expensive, revealed strength of religious commitment
  – With Irish and German influx, Catholics became large religious group:
    • In 1840 ranked fifth behind Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians and Congregationalists

31  VI. Flare-ups of Antiforeignism  
(cont.)
• Know-Nothing Party—organized by “nativists” for political action:
In 1840 ranked fifth behind Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians and Congregationalists

VI. Flare-ups of Antiforeignism (cont.)
- Agitated for rigid restriction on immigration and naturalization
- Agitated for laws authorizing deportation of alien paupers
- Promoted lurid literature of exposure, much of it pure fiction
  - Example: Maria Monk’s Awful Disclosures

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  - Promoted lurid literature of exposure, much of it pure fiction
    - Example: Maria Monk’s Awful Disclosures

- Occasional mass violence against Catholics:
  - Burned churches and schools
  - Some killed and wounded in days of fighting
- Immigrants made U.S.A. one of most ethnically and racially diverse societies in world.
  - Not surprising that cultural clashes occurred.

VI. Flare-ups of Antiforeignism (cont.)
- American economy:
  - Attracted immigrants and ensured them share of wealth without jeopardizing wealth of others
  - Immigrants helped fuel economic expansion
  - Immigrants and American economy needed each other
  - Together they helped bring Industrial Revolution

VII. Creeping Mechanization
- British inventors in 1750s perfected series of machines for mass production of textiles:
  - Harnessed steam to usher in modern factory system of Industrial Revolution
  - Spectacular transformation in agricultural production
  - As well as methods of transportation and communication

VII. Creeping Mechanization (cont.)
- Factory system slowly spread from Britain, “the world’s workshop”.
- Why was America slow to industrialize?
  - Land was cheap
  - Labor was scarce
  - Money for capital investment was scarce
VIII. Whitney Ends the Fiber Famine

• Samuel Slater—“Father of Factory System”
  – After memorizing plans for machinery, he escaped to America
  – Won backing of capitalist Moses Brown
  – Reconstructed essential apparatus in 1791
  – Thus put together 1st efficient machinery for spinning cotton thread in America
  – Problem was accessing cotton fiber
  – Eli Whitney’s cotton gin solved problem

VIII. Whitney Ends the Fiber Famine (cont.)

• Momentous effects of cotton gin:
  – Planters cleared more and more land for cotton
  – Cotton Kingdom pushed westward
  – Insatiable demand for cotton riveted chains of slavery more tightly on southern blacks
  – Yankee machines put out avalanches of textiles
  – America’s Industrial Revolution first blossomed in cotton textiles

VIII. Whitney Ends the Fiber Famine (cont.)

• Factories 1st flourished in New England, then branched out to NY, NJ, Pennsylvania
• The South:
  – Increasingly wedded to growing cotton
  – Little manufacturing
  – Capital invested in slaves
  – Local consumers for most part desperately poor

VIII. Whitney Ends the Fiber Famine (cont.)

• New England favored as industrial center because:
  – Stony soil made farming difficult and manufacturing attractive
  – Dense population provided labor and markets
  – Seaports provided easy import of raw materials and export of finished products
• Rivers provided abundant water power
• By 1860, >400 million pounds of southern cotton poured into mills, mostly in New England

IX. Marvels in Manufacturing
• As factory system flourished, it embraced other industries.
• Contribution of Whitney's interchangeable parts to manufacture of firearms:
  – Basis of mass-production, assembly-line methods
  – Gave North the factories that ensured military preponderance over South
  – Ironically Whitney, by perfecting cotton gin, gave slavery renewed lease on life

IX. Marvels in Manufacturing (cont.)
– Sewing machine:
  • Invented by Elias Howe in 1846
  • Perfected by Isaac Singer
  • Strong boost to northern industrialization
  • Foundation of ready-made clothing
  • Moved sewing from private homes to factory

IX. Marvels in Manufacturing (cont.)
– Each new invention stimulated still more imaginative inventions:
  • Decade ending in 1800: only 306 patents registered
  • Decade ending in 1860: 28,000 patents registered
9. Marvels in Manufacturing (cont.)

- Key changes in form and legal status of business organizations:
  - Principle of limited liability aided concentration of capital
  - Boston Associates created by 15 Boston families
  - Laws of “free incorporation” meant businessmen could create corporations without applying for individual charters from legislature

9. Marvels in Manufacturing (cont.)

- Samuel F. B. Morse:
  - Invented telegraph
  - Secured $30,000 from Congress to experiment with “talking wires”
  - In 1844, strung a wire 40 miles from Washington to Baltimore and tapped out historic message, “What hath God wrought?”

9. Marvels in Manufacturing (cont.)

- By time of London World's Fair in 1851:
  - American products were prominent among world's commercial wonders
  - Fairgoers crowded into Crystal Palace to see
    - McCormick's reaper
    - Morse's telegraph
    - Colt's firearms
    - Charles Goodyear's vulcanized rubber goods

X. Workers and “Wage Slaves”

- Factory system created acute labor problem.
- Manufacturing had been done in home:
  - Master craftsman and apprentice worked together
- Industrial Revolution submerged personal association into impersonal ownership of factories in “spindle cities” surrounded by hovels of “wage slaves.”
X. Workers and “Wage Slaves” (cont.)

- Workers' conditions:
  - Hours long, wages low
  - Meals skimpy and hastily gulped
  - Workers toiled in unsanitary buildings (poorly ventilated, lighted, heated)
  - Forbidden to form unions to raise wages
  - Only 24 recorded strikes before 1835

X. Workers and “Wage Slaves” (cont.)

- Exploitation of child labor:
  - In 1820, many of nation's industrial toilers were children under ten
  - Victims of factory, children were mentally blighted, emotionally starved, physically stunted, and brutally whipped in special “whipping rooms”
  - Slater's mill of 1791: first machine tenders were seven boys and two girls, all under 12

X. Workers and “Wage Slaves” (cont.)

- Lot of adult wage workers in 1820s-1830s:
  - Many states granted laboring man the vote
  - Strove to lightened burden through workingmen's parties
  - Many workers gave loyalty to Democratic Party of Andrew Jackson
  - Besides 10-hour day, higher wages, and tolerable working conditions, workers demanded public education and end to imprisonment for debt
• Employers fought 10-hour day:
  – Argued reduced hours would lessen production, increase costs, and demoralize workers
  – Laborers would have so much leisure time that Devil would lead them to mischief
  – In 1840 President Van Buren established ten-hour day for federal employees on public works
  – In later years many states began reducing hours of working people

60 X. Workers and “Wage Slaves” (cont.)
• Day laborers tried to improve their lot:
  – Strongest weapon was strikes
  – Dozens of strikes erupted in 1830s and 1840s
  – Sought higher wages, ten-hour days, and goals such as right to smoke on job
  – Workers lost more strikes than they won
  – Employers imported strike-breakers
  – Labor raised voice against immigrants

61 X. Workers and “Wage Slaves” (cont.)
• Labor’s effort to organize:
  – Some 300,000 trade unionists by 1830
  – Declined as result of severe depression, 1837
  – Won promising legal victory in 1842 in Commonwealth v. Hunt
  – Mass. Supreme Court ruled unions not illegal conspiracies, provided methods were “honorable and peaceful”
  – Case did not legalize right to strike

62

63 XI. Women and the Economy
• Women became part of factory production:
  – Factories undermined work of women in homes
  – Factories offered work to those displayed
  – Factory jobs promised greater economic independence for women
  – And means to buy manufactured products of new market
economy

XI. Women and the Economy
(cont.)
• “Factory girls” toiled 6 days a week, 12 to 13 hours “from dark to dark”
• Textile mill at Lowell, Mass.:
  – Workers mostly New England farm girls
  – Supervised on and off job by watchful matrons
  – Escorted to church from company boardinghouses
  – Forbidden to form unions
  – Few outlets to protest grueling working conditions

XI. Women and the Economy
(cont.)
• Factory jobs still unusual for women:
  – Few opportunities to be economically self-supporting (mainly nursing, domestic services, and teaching)
  – Teaching profession became “feminized” as men left for other opportunities

XI. Women and the Economy
(cont.)
• Other “opportunities” in household service:
  – One white family in ten employed poor white, immigrant, or black women
  – 10% of white women worked outside home
  – 20% of all women employed at some time before marriage
  – Vast majority of working women single
  – Upon marriage, left job to become wives and mothers, without wages

XI. Women and the Economy
(cont.)
• Cult of domesticity:
  – Widespread cultural creed that glorified customary functions of homemaker
Married women commanded moral power and increasingly made decisions that altered character of family itself

Women's changing roles:
- Industrial Revolution changed life in home of nineteenth-century: traditional “women’s sphere”
•

69 XI. Women and the Economy (cont.)
- Love, not parental “arrangement” determined choice of spouse—yet parents retained power of veto
- Families became more closely knit and affectionate
- Provided emotional refuge against threatening impersonality of big-city industrialism
- Families grew smaller
- “Fertility rate” dropped for women b/t age 14 and 45
- Birth control still taboo, but women played large part in having fewer children

70 IX. Women and the Economy (cont.)
- Newly assertive role has been called “domestic feminism”
- Smaller families meant child-centered families
- What Europeans saw in American families as permissiveness was consequence of new idea of child-rearing:
  – Child's will was not simply broken, but rather shaped
- Good citizens raised not to be meekly obedient, but to be independent individuals, making decisions on internalized morals

71 IX. Women and the Economy (cont.)
- Emerging outlines of “modern” family:
  – Small, affectionate, and child-centered
  – Provided special area for talents of women
  – Big improvement from earlier conditions of grinding toil—often alongside men in fields
XII. Western Farmers Reap a Revolution in the Fields

- Flourishing farms changed face of West:
  - Trans-Allegheny region—esp. Ohio-Indiana-Illinois tier—fast becoming nation's breadbasket
- Before long, would become granary to world
  - Pioneer families hacked clearing out of forest
  - Then planted corn fields
  - Yellow grain amazingly versatile

XII. Western Farmers Reap a Revolution in the Fields (cont.)

- Most western products first moved by Ohio-Mississippi Rivers
- Inventions helped farmers:
  - John Deere in 1837 produced a steel plow that broke stubborn soil:
    - Light enough to be pulled by horses, rather than oxen
  - 1830 Cyrus McCormick invented mechanical mower-reaper
    - Could do work of 5 men with sickles and scythes
    - To western farmers what cotton gin was to South

XII. Western Farmers Reap a Revolution in the Fields (cont.)

- McCormick reaper:
  - Made ambitious capitalists out of humble plowmen
  - Subsistence farming gave way to large-scale food production
  - Specialized, cash-crop agriculture came to dominate trans-Allegheny West
  - With it followed mounting indebtedness
  - Wanted more land and more machinery
  - Dreamed of new markets in mushrooming factory towns of East or across Atlantic
  - However, still landlocked—needed transportation revolution

XIII. Highways and Steamboats
–In 1789, when Constitution launched, primitive methods of travel still dominated:
  • Waterborne travel slow, uncertain, often dangerous
  • Stagecoaches and wagons lurched over bone-shaking roads
  • Cheap, efficient transportation increasingly needed
  • In 1790s, private company completed profitable Lancaster Turnpike in Pennsylvania, running 62 miles from Philadelphia to Lancaster

79 XIII. Highways and Steamboats
(cont.)
  • As driver approached tollgate, they confronted barrier of sharp pikes, which were turned aside when toll paid (hence, turnpike)
  • Western road building, always expensive, encountered many obstacles:
    – Noisy states’ righters opposed federal aid to local projects
    – Eastern states protested against being bled of populations by westward-reaching arteries
    – Westerners scored key triumph in 1811 when federal government started construction of National Road—known as Cumberland Road

80 XIII. Highways and Steamboats
(cont.)
  • Robert Fulton started steamboat craze:
    – Installed powerful steam engine on Clermont:
      • In 1807, it went from New York City up Hudson River to Albany—150 miles in 32 hours
      • Success of steamboat was sensational
      • Fulton changed all of America’s navigable streams into two-way arteries, doubling carrying capacity
      • (1820): 60 steamboats on Mississippi and tributaries
      • (1860): 1,000

81

82 XIII. Highways and Steamboats
(cont.)

– April 1865, steamer *Sultana* exploded killing 1,700 passengers
– Steamboats played vital role in opening West and South

83 XIV. “Clinton’s Big Ditch” in New York

• Canal-cutting craze paralleled boom in turnpikes and steamboats (see Map 14.2):
  – New Yorkers, denied federal aid by states’ righters, funded Erie Canal themselves to link Great Lakes with Hudson River
  – Driving leadership of Governor DeWitt Clinton
  – Project called “Clinton’s Big Ditch” or “Governor’s Gutter”

84 XIV. “Clinton’s Big Ditch” in New York (cont.)

• Begun in 1817, canal stretched 363 miles from Buffalo on Lake Erie, to Hudson River, onto New York harbor
  • Shipping sped up as cost/time dropped significantly
  – Other economic ripples
    • Value of land along route skyrocketed and new cities, Rochester and Syracuse, blossomed
    • New profitability of farming in Old Northwest—Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois attracted European immigrants
  • Cleveland, Detroit, and Chicago grew in size

85 XIV. “Clinton’s Big Ditch” in New York (cont.)

– Dispirited New England farmers abandoned rocky holdings and went elsewhere
– With Erie Canal, easy to go west and take up farming south of Great Lakes
– Transformation in Northeast—canal consequences—showed how long-established local market structures could be changed by emerging behemoth of continental economy
– American goods also affect international market as Europeans began to feel effects of American exports

86 XV. The Iron Horse

– Development of railroad:
  • Fast, reliable, cheaper than canals to construct, and not frozen over in winter
Europeans began to feel effects of American exports

XV. The Iron Horse

– Development of railroad:
  • Fast, reliable, cheaper than canals to construct, and not frozen over in winter
  • Able to go anywhere—it defied terrain and weather
  • First railroad appeared in 1828 and new lines spread swiftly
  • Faced strong opposition from canal builders
  • Other obstacles:
    – Brakes so feeble that engineers might miss station
    – Arrivals and departures were conjectural
    – Differences in gauge required passengers to make frequent changes of trains

• Improvements came:
  – Gauges gradually became standard
  – Safety devices adopted
  – Pullman “sleeping palace” introduced in 1859

• America at long last bound together with braces of iron, later to be made of steel

XVI. Cables, Clippers, and Pony Riders

– Other forms of transportation and communication linked United States and world:
  • Cyrus Field in 1858:
    – Called “the greatest wire-puller in history,” stretched a cable from Newfoundland to Ireland
    – A heavier cable in 1866 permanently linked American and European continents
  • Donald McKay developed new clipper ships
    – Sacrificed cargo space for speed
    – Their hour of glory was relatively brief

• Eve of Civil War, British steamers won race for maritime ascendancy:
  – Steadier, roomier, more reliable – thus more profitable
• Stagecoaches:
  – Immortalized by Mark Twain’s *Roughing It*
  – Their dusty tracks stretched from banks of muddy Missouri River clear to California (see Map 14.4)
• Pony Express (1860):
  – Carried mail speedily the 2,000 miles from St. Joseph, Missouri to Sacramento, California; ten day trip
  – Lasted only 18 months

XVI. Cables, Clippers, and Pony Riders (cont.)

• Express riders unhorsed by Morse’s clacking keys
  – Began messages to California in 1861
• Swift ships and fleet ponies ushered out a dying technology of wind and muscle
• In future, machines would dominate

XVII. The Transportation Web Binds the Union

– Transportation revolution:
  • Stimulated by desire of East to tap West
    – Western rivers drained southward to cotton belt
    – Steamboats reversed flow by bringing finished goods to West and helped bind West and South together
  – Three decades before Civil War, canals and railroads from East tied seaboard with blossoming heartland
  – Impressive grid of “internal improvements” established
• By 1860, a truly continental economy had emerged

XVII. The Transportation Web Binds the Union (cont.)

– Division of labor applied on a national level
  – Each region specialized in particular type of economic activity
    » South raised cotton
    » West grew grain and livestock
    » East made machines and textiles
  • Economic pattern had fateful political and military implications:
    – Many southerners regarded Mississippi as a chain linking
upper valley states to southern Cotton Kingdom
– They believed some or all of these states would secede with them or be strangled

XVII. The Transportation Web Binds the Union (cont.)
– They overlooked man-made links that bound upper Mississippi Valley to East
– Southern rebels would not only have to
  » fight Northern armies
  » Also tight bonds of interdependent continental economy
– Economically, two northerly sections were conjoined twins

XVIII. The Market Revolution
– Market Revolution:
  • Transformed subsistence economy of scattered farms and tiny workshops into national network of industry and commerce (see Map 14.5)
  • Greater mechanization and robust market-oriented economy raised new legal questions:
    – How tightly should patents protect inventions?
    – Should government regulate monopolies?
    – Who should own technologies and networks?
  • Chief Justice John Marshall's Court protected contract rights by requiring states to grant irrevocable charters

XVIII. The Market Revolution (cont.)
• Monopolies easily developed and new companies found it difficult to break into markets
• Chief Justice Roger Taney argued "rights of the community" outweighed exclusive corporate rights:
  – His decision encouraged greater competition
  – So did passage of more liberal state incorporation laws
• Self-sufficient households of earlier were transformed:
  – Now families scattered to work for wages in factories
outweighed exclusive corporate rights:
– His decision encouraged greater competition
– So did passage of more liberal state incorporation laws

Self-sufficient households of earlier were transformed:
– Now families scattered to work for wages in factories
– Or planted just a few crops for sale at market
– Used money to buy goods made by strangers in far-off factories

XVIII. The Market Revolution
(cont.)
– Store-bought products replaced homemade products
– Changed division of labor and status in household
– Traditional women's work rendered superfluous and devalued
– Home grew into place of refuge from world of work that increasingly became special and separate sphere of women

• Revolutionary advances in manufacturing and transportation brought increased prosperity:
  – Widened gulf between rich and poor
  – New examples of colossal economic success
  – John Jacob Astor left estate of $30 million in 1848

XVIII. The Market Revolution
(cont.)
• Cities bred greatest extremes of economic inequality:
  – Unskilled workers fared worst; “drifted” from city to city
  – These workers accounted for up to ½ the population of new industrial centers
  – Were forgotten men and women of American history

• Many myths about “social mobility:”
  – Mobility did exist in industrializing America
  – Rags-to riches success stories relatively few
  – American did provide more “opportunity” than elsewhere
  – Millions of immigrants headed for New World shores
  – General prosperity defused potential class conflict

–