An Age of Reform

LIPS THAT TOUCH LIQUOR SHALL NOT TOUCH OURS
The Second Great Awakening
Charles Finney

• Started religious revivals
• Convert sinners and urge people to change the way they lived
• Revivals could last several days up to a week
Robert Owen

• Tried to start a Utopian community
  – New Harmony
    • Common ownership of property
    • Resident raise their own food and produce their own goods
    • Why did this colony not last long?
Social Reformers at Work

"THE DISPATCH OF BUSINESS."

"Now then, go up! Why don't ye push along?"
The Temperance Movement

• Organized effort to end alcohol abuse
• Why was alcohol widely used?
• Most members were women....Why?
• Some wanted prohibition
• Why does this movement lose momentum?
A WOMAN'S LIQUOR RAID—HOW THE LADIES OF FREDERICTOWN, O., ABOLISHED THE TRAFFIC OF ARDENT SPIRITS IN THEIR TOWN.
Dorothea Dix – Prison Reform

• Main goal was to improve prison conditions
  – Prisons were cramped, poorly heated, and had inadequate food
  – Reformers wanted new buildings with bigger cells, sanitation and more humane treatment of inmates
  – Reformers wanted to look at who was in prison - people who owed money and mentally ill should not be in prison
Dorothea Dix- Mental Hospitals

• Reform should include a separate institution to be built – asylums

• Provide treatment for the patients, rather than punishments
The Rotatory Machine (torture)

Cases of Mental Disease, Alexander Morison, 1828 AD
Horace Mann - Education

• Wanted public education to be free for all
• Create teacher colleges for teacher training
• Raise teacher wages
• Lengthen the school year
Prudence Crandall- Education

• Started educating African Americans
• Started a African American school for young girls – school was destroyed by neighbors
• Outrage that followed opened the door for other schools to be built and soon there were secondary schools and colleges for African Americans
The Fight Against Slavery

OUTRAGE.

Fellow Citizens,

AN

ABOLITIONIST,

of the most revolting character is among you, exciting the feelings of the North against the South. A seditious Lecture is to be delivered

THIS EVENING,

at 7 o'clock, at the Presbyterian Church in Cannon-street.

You are requested to attend and unite in putting down and silencing by peaceable means this tool of evil and fanaticism. Let the rights of the States guaranteed by the Constitution be protected.

Feb. 27, 1837.  The Union forever!
Abolitionists Try To End Slavery

• Violence:
  – Called for slaves to rise up against their masters
• Newspapers: wrote about the horrors of slavery
  – William Lloyd Garrison – Liberator
  – Frederick Douglass – North Star
• Antislavery Societies: held antislavery rallies and spoke out against slavery
  – Frederick Douglas, Sojourner Truth, Theodore Weld and Angelina Grimke
• Underground Railroad: helped slaves escape from the South
• Government Support: tried to get politicians to pass amendments against slavery – John Quincy Adams
Massacre of the Whites by the Indians and Blacks in Florida.

The above is intended to represent the horrid Massacre of the Whites in Florida, in December 1835, and January, February, March and April 1836, when near Four Hundred (including women and children) fell victims to the barbarity of the Negros and Indians.
A Call for Women’s Rights

No self respecting woman
should wish or work
for the success of a party
that ignores her sex.

Susan B. Anthony 1872 and 1894
How did the Women’s Suffrage Movement Begin?

• Women became active in social reform movements
  – Believed women had important contributions to American society
  – Demanded equal rights as equal citizens

• Lucretia Mott
  – Organizational skills and public speaking experience
  – Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton organized the Seneca Falls Convention
Seneca Falls Convention

• 300 men and women met to discuss the social, economic, religious and political rights of women

• Elizabeth Cady Stanton writes the Declaration of Sentiments
  – All men and women equal
  – Listed injustices women suffered
  – Demanded full equality
  – Women’s suffrage- right to vote
Women’s Rights Leaders

- Sojourner Truth – former slave and women’s rights speaker
- Susan B. Anthony - co-founder of the National Women’s Suffrage Movement
- Emma Willard and Mary Lyon started women’s seminary schools
- Margaret Fuller – literary critic and writer
- Elizabeth Blackwell – first women to graduate medical school
- Maria Mitchell - professor at Vassar College teaching astronomy
American Literature and Art
How did American literature and art have an impact on American life

• Transcendentalism (Emerson and Thoreau)
  – Emphasized individualism
  – Emotional ties between humans and nature

• American themes and American life
  – Writers wrote about:
    • American history (Legend of Sleepy Hollow and Rip Van Winkle)
    • Westward expansion (Deer Slayer and Last of the Mohicans)
    • Extreme emotions and psychology (Moby Dick and The Scarlet Letter)
THE DEERSLAYER

JAMES FENIMORE COOPER

The Last of the Mohicans

James Fenimore Cooper
American art and music

• American themes and celebration of American life
  – Paintings
    • Thomas Cole and Hudson school of art painted the beauty and power of nature in America
    • Caleb Bingham- life on our great rivers
    • George Catlin- ways and dignity of the American indian
  
  – Music themes
    • Spirituals
    • Work songs
    • American life