

Kentucky Class Notes

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**PS 101 Voss
Fall 2010
Test 1**

9/1

Some students, disturbed by the George Washington fact of the slave's teeth, have been debating it on blackboard and trying to disprove it.

Voss says that there are much more disturbing things to be said about George Washington than the fact about his teeth. For instance, he was involved in a secret hereditary society called the Order of Cincinnati in which people of wealth came together to watch out for each other.

Shay's Rebellion

- Daniel Shays wasn't the leader
- More a social movement, not a grassroots 'led by a guy' kind of thing
- Soldiers either weren't paid or were paid in paper money that had little or no value
- Officers had political pull and therefore mostly were paid; George Washington wasn't paid for any of his military involvement
- Revolutionary war leader led Shay's Rebellion
- Tried to use government troops to overturn the rebellion but most states refused to volunteer their troops, except Virginia (George Washington's home state)
- Western Massachusetts farming areas were not proportionally represented in legislature
-Example: 130 towns in Massachusetts at the time, barely half had representation (specific statistics never on exams)
- Legislature raised taxes on land and expected poor farmers to be able to pay in specie (gold)

They didn't give up:

- Their anger about unfair legislature and taxes

Their revolutionary beliefs, meaning that when legislature isn't fair to you, you rebel and create your own legislature

- Upper class was becoming scared of the 'common people' and their rebellion

Articles of Confederation (1776)

-Seen by most wealthy as a threat to the government and to themselves

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The Constitution (1789)

-The 'hero' of the story is that people, who were limited by their own interests, and by their own experiences, were able to come up with something so brilliant.

-Battle between the constitution as it ended up and the Articles of Confederation

Three Views of the proposed Constitution

Supporters (Federalists)

- **Supported stronger central government and an executive (like a president)**

Opponents (Anti-Federalists)

- **Trying to protect the state government and strengthen the legislature**

Conditional Supporters (such as Jefferson)

- **Supported the constitution but wanted a bill of rights**
- Thought it was dangerous that there wasn't a list of things that this new and powerful government couldn't do to you
- Became the swing voters of the constitution.