

The Industrial Revolution

Chapter 8, Section 1

Industrial Revolution

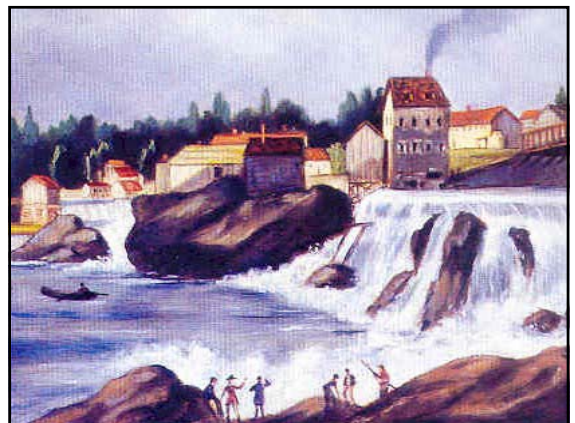
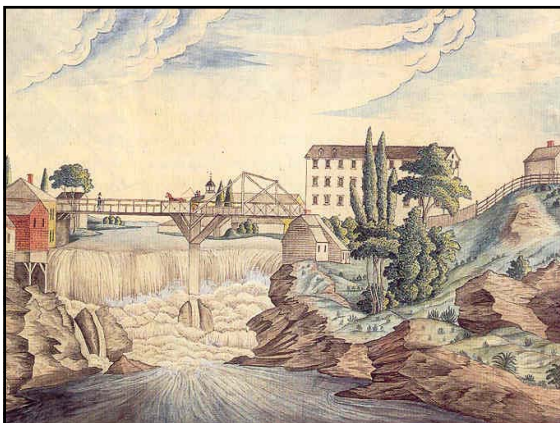
- Switch from an agrarian to industrial society
 - Agricultural
- Began in Britain in the 1750s
 - In the textile industry
- Gradually was intro. into the U.S.
 - Why so slow to react?
 - Cheap land
 - Encouraged farming, not manufacturing
 - Lack of capital
 - Money to support a business venture
 - Limited market
 - British policy
 - Outlawed the export of machines and emigration of mechanics
 - To maintain a monopoly
 - Why did it occur?
 - Embargo Act
 - War of 1812
 - Both of which cut the U.S. off from British industry

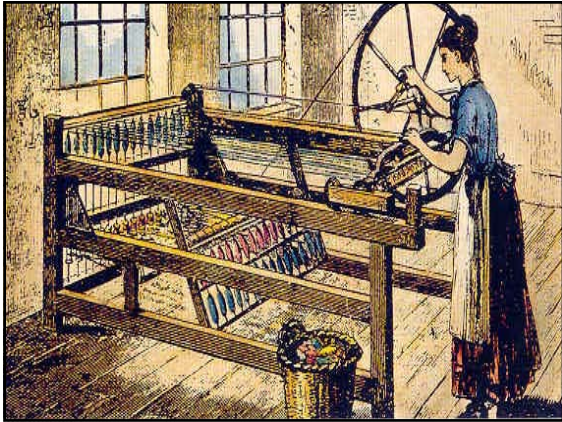
Appeal of New England

- Thin, rocky soils discouraged farming.
- Relatively dense population provided labor.
- Seaports and shipping allowed for easy import of raw materials and export of finished goods.
- Many rapid rivers providing the water-power to run the machines.

Samuel Slater

- “Father of the Factory System” in Am.
- Lured to the U.S. by bounties being offered to attract British workers
 - Memorized design of machines
 - Escaped in disguise in 1789
- Developed 1st factory in Pawtucket, R.I.
 - Using to spin cotton thread





Eli Whitney

- Contracted w/ gov't to produce 10,000 rifles over a 2-yr. period
- Introduced the concept of using interchangeable parts
 - Making each component exactly the same
 - Made possible mass production
 - Making large #s of identical goods

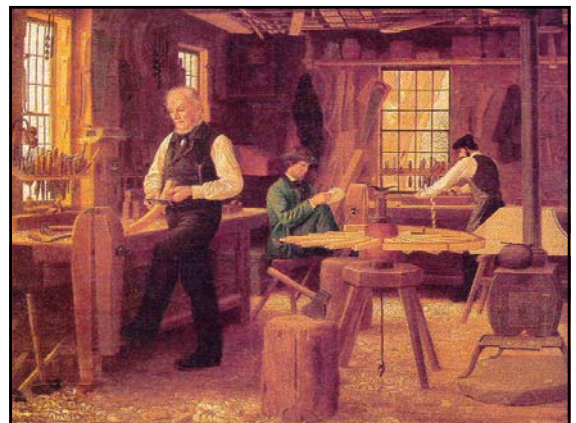
Francis Cabot Lowell

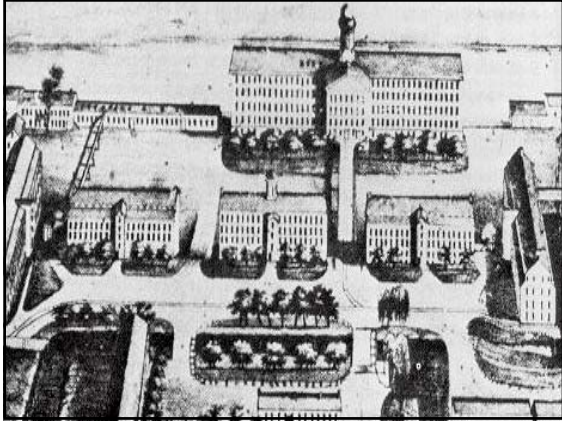
- Intro. water-powered loom
 - So that cloth could be woven in addition to spinning the thread
- Intro. the "Waltham System"
 - Employing unmarried women
 - Young women came from all over New England.
 - Planning to work for only a yr. or two
 - They were lodged in company boardinghouses.
 - Much like college dormitories
 - Strictly supervised
 - To provide a strong moral upbringing
 - Most of the women were highly educated.
 - Began their own newspaper
 - Attended lectures on a variety of topics
 - Left a # or written records



The Laborers

- Became mostly unskilled
 - Widening the gap btw. owners and workers
- Drew workers from outside regular pool of labor
 - Mostly women and children
 - B/c work did not require skill or strength
 - Were used to working on family farm
- Made organizing labor difficult
 - Skilled labor rejected attempt to organize w/ unskilled.
 - Opposed unskilled laborers for taking their jobs and diminishing the pride in their work
 - Mostly women and children
 - Who was going to listen?
 - Mostly temporary workers
 - Not interested in long-term change
 - Strikes
 - Refusal to work until demands were met
 - Mostly failed
 - Courts and police on the side of owners.





Immigration

- Little btw. 1790 and 1820
 - European wars → emigration difficult.
 - Uncertainty about fate of new nation
 - No slave trade
- From England, Scandinavia, Germany, and Ireland.
- The English
 - Became overpopulated in the 19th century
 - Conditions deteriorated
 - Few job opportunities available
 - Migrated looking for better opportunities
- The Scandinavians
 - Came from Sweden, Norway, Finland, and Denmark
 - Mostly became farmers in the mid-west

The Germans

- Germany was not a unified country.
 - Made up of over 300 principalities
 - Small kingdoms ruled by someone of lesser nobility
 - Had no unified religion
 - Each prince decided religion for the principality.
 - N. Germany → Lutheran
 - S. Germany → Catholic
 - Each tended to persecute anyone not of the official religion.
- Some principalities were run as police states.
 - Providing the people few freedoms.
- The principalities were constantly fighting each other.
- Inheritance laws limited economic opportunities.
 - Required each male child receive an equal share of parent's estate
 - Caused landholdings to become very small and widely scattered
 - Lured to the U.S. by the vast expanses of land
 - Sought to become farmers
- They were quickly accepted by Am.
 - They were quiet, serious, and hardworking

The Irish

- Ireland had been annexed by Britain.
 - Britain was Protestant; Ireland was Catholic.
 - Only Protestants able to own land.
 - Catholics forced to pay taxes to support the Anglican Church.
 - Penal Codes
 - Prevented Catholics from holding public office
- Potato Blight (1843)
 - Disease that killed potato plants
 - Originated in the U.S. but spread to Ireland
 - Wiped out entire potato crop in Ireland in 1843
 - Maj. source of income in Ireland
 - Caused widespread famine
 - Killed over 1 million
 - Millions of others emigrate
- They were so poor, most settled in the ports of entry to find jobs.
- They were not generally accepted by Am.
 - U.S. pop. was mostly Protestant.
 - The Irish were disorderly and suspicious of authority b/c of their past.

Factors of Production

- Land
 - To build factory
 - To acquire raw materials
- Labor
 - Unskilled
 - Cheap
 - Immigration
- Capital
 - Money to support a business venture
 - Sole proprietorships
 - Owned by one person
 - Limited by person's wealth
 - Partnership
 - Owned equally between two people
 - Corporations
 - Owned by three or more people
 - Stock
 - Ownership in the business
 - Receives a dividend
 - ✦ Percentage of company's profits
 - Purchased by entrepreneurs
 - Limited liability
 - Investor not responsible for debt beyond initial investment
- Managers
 - Run the factories for the stockholders
 - Becomes the middle class