

The Important Dates of the Nineteenth Century in the United States

Compiled by WRIGHT A. PATTERSON.

1801. Feb. 15—Thomas Jefferson elected president...

1802. Dec. 3—Proclamation by President Monroe declared that for the future the American continents were not to be considered as subjects for colonization by any European power...

1803. Feb. 15—Ohio admitted to the union. April 30—Territory of Louisiana purchased from France...

1804. Feb.—Impeachment trial of Samuel Chase, associate justice of the supreme court, began. He was acquitted in March, 1805.

1805. March 4—Thomas Jefferson and George Clinton inaugurated. June 20—Treaty of Tripoli signed between the United States and Tripoli...

1806. March 2—Congress authorized the building of a national road from Cumberland, Md., to the Ohio river...

1807. July—American ports closed to the British and British ships ordered from American waters.

1808. Aug. 21—Successful voyage of Robert Fulton's steamboat Clermont from New York to Albany.

1809. Jan. 1—Act prohibiting importation of slaves into country became law.

1810. March 4—James Madison and George Clinton inaugurated. March 15—Embargo act, excepting as to Great Britain and France, repealed.

1811. Nov. 7—Battle of Tippecanoe fought by Gen. Harrison.

1812. April 4—Louisiana admitted to the union. June 18—U. S. declared war against England.

1813. Aug. 16—Strength of the regular army raised to 35,000 men. Aug. 19—Fort Dearborn massacre on present site of Chicago.

1814. March 4—James Madison and Elbridge Gerry inaugurated. Aug. 21—Fort Dearborn massacre on present site of Chicago.

1815. April 14—The embargo act repealed by congress. Aug. 16—Washington burned by the British.

1816. Sept. 15—The Star-Spanangled Banner written by Francis Scott Key while detained on board the British ship Minden during the attack on Fort Mifflin at Baltimore. Oct. 3—President James Monroe died.

1817. Dec. 2—Treaty of peace signed between Great Britain and United States at Ghent, Belgium.

1818. Jan. 8—Spain defeated by Americans at New Orleans. March 5—James Monroe and Daniel D. Tompkins inaugurated.

1819. Dec. 11—Mississippi admitted to the union. March 15—First general pension bill for revolutionary war veterans passed by congress.

1820. April 15—President approved act establishing flag of United States at 13 stripes and a star for each state. Dec. 3—Illinois admitted to the union.

1821. Feb. 23—Spain ceded Florida to United States for consideration of \$5,000,000. May 24—First ocean steamship, the Savannah, left Savannah, Ga., for Liverpool.

1822. March 15—Treaty of Adams-Onís signed between the United States and Spain, settling Maine boundary dispute between United States and England, ratified by senate. Oct. 30—First submarine cable laid by Prof. Morse in New York harbor.

1823. Jan. 11—Francis B. Key, author of "Star-Spanangled Banner," died at Baltimore, aged 42.

1824. May 2—Col. John C. Fremont's first expedition started for Rocky mountains. Aug. 14—End of Indian war in Florida proclaimed.

1825. Aug. 20—Ashburton treaty, settling Maine boundary dispute between United States and England, ratified by senate. Oct. 30—First submarine cable laid by Prof. Morse in New York harbor.

1824. March 15—Convention signed between Great Britain and United States for new system of slave trade.

1825. Nov. 8—Tenth presidential election. Of popular voters John Quincy Adams received 106,221; Andrew Jackson, 152,899; W. H. Crawford, 47,230; Henry Clay, 47,230. No candidate for president received a majority of electoral votes and election devolved upon house of representatives.

1826. Feb. 5—House of representatives voted for President Adams to have one vote. John Quincy Adams received 11, Andrew Jackson, 11, and William Crawford, 11.

1827. Oct. 2—Eric canal opened from Buffalo to Albany.

1828. July 10—American Home Missionary society organized in New York. May 4—Ex-Presidents John Adams, Quincy Adams, and Thomas Jefferson, Monticello, Mass., and Morgan Jefferson, Monticello, Va., buried in same vault.

1829. Sept. 15—William Morgan abducted from Canandaigua, N. Y. This gave rise to the anti-masonic party, that played a prominent part in national politics for a short time.

1830. First railroad in the United States began operations. It extended from Quincy, Mass., to the opposite bank, and was operated by horse power.

1831. May 20—Tariff revision bill, placing high duties on wool and cotton goods, approved by president. Nov. 11—Eleventh presidential election. Andrew Jackson received 68,000 popular votes; John Quincy Adams received 12,000 popular votes and 23 electoral votes.

1832. March 3—William T. Barry appointed postmaster general in Jackson cabinet. President Adams in this time the postmaster general was not considered a member of the cabinet.

1833. April 15—First railway locomotive operated in America started at Honesdale, Pa.

1834. Jan. 25—Robert V. Haynes, S. C., in speech in congress on Foot's resolution on public lands announced nullification doctrine.

1835. May 24—First 14 miles of the Baltimore & Annapolis railroad opened.

1836. Sept. 22—Anti-masonic party held the first national political convention in United States at Philadelphia.

1837. Jan. 15—South Carolina railroad, first passenger and freight railroad, in United States opened for traffic.

1838. July 4—Ex-President James Monroe died in New York, aged 73. July 25—First steam reaper, invention of Cyrus H. McCormick, tested at Steeple's Tavern, Va.

1839. Feb. 15—Columbus discovered by Samuel Guthrie, of Backet Harbor, N. Y. Matches first used in United States.

1840. March—Black Hawk war begun. July 22—First death from cholera in the United States occurred at New York.

1841. July 13—Source of the Mississippi discovered by Henry R. Schoolcraft. July 14—Congress passed measures of 1823 partially repealed.

1842. Nov. 13—Twelfth presidential election. Andrew Jackson received 67,000 popular votes and 55 electoral votes; Henry Clay received 18,000 popular votes and 36 electoral votes.

1843. March 4—James Madison and Elbridge Gerry inaugurated. Aug. 21—Fort Dearborn massacre on present site of Chicago.

1844. April 14—The embargo act repealed by congress. Aug. 16—Washington burned by the British.

1845. Sept. 15—The Star-Spanangled Banner written by Francis Scott Key while detained on board the British ship Minden during the attack on Fort Mifflin at Baltimore. Oct. 3—President James Monroe died.

1846. Dec. 2—Treaty of peace signed between Great Britain and United States at Ghent, Belgium.

1847. Jan. 8—Spain defeated by Americans at New Orleans. March 5—James Monroe and Daniel D. Tompkins inaugurated.

1848. Dec. 11—Mississippi admitted to the union. March 15—First general pension bill for revolutionary war veterans passed by congress.

1849. April 15—President approved act establishing flag of United States at 13 stripes and a star for each state. Dec. 3—Illinois admitted to the union.

1850. Feb. 23—Spain ceded Florida to United States for consideration of \$5,000,000. May 24—First ocean steamship, the Savannah, left Savannah, Ga., for Liverpool.

1851. March 15—Treaty of Adams-Onís signed between the United States and Spain, settling Maine boundary dispute between United States and England, ratified by senate. Oct. 30—First submarine cable laid by Prof. Morse in New York harbor.

1852. Jan. 11—Francis B. Key, author of "Star-Spanangled Banner," died at Baltimore, aged 42.

Feb. 8—Great comet seen at noon by naked eye in North America. June 17—Bunker Hill monument dedicated.

1844. May 17—First telegram sent over a land line from Washington to Baltimore. June 17—Joe and Hiram Smith, Mormons, murdered by mob at Nauvoo, Ill.

1845. July 1—First treaty of commerce between United States and China signed. Nov. 12—Twelfth presidential election. James K. Polk received 170 electoral and 1,333,834 popular votes. Henry Clay received 105 electoral and 1,277,532 popular votes.

1846. Jan. 25—Congress appointed first Tuesday following first Monday in November national election day. Feb. 25—Texas annexed by joint resolution. March 3—Congress fixed postage on letters at 8 cents for 30 miles or under and 14 cents for longer distances.

1847. March 3—Florida admitted to the union. June 8—Ex-President Andrew Jackson died at Montpelier, N. H. Dec. 25—Texas admitted to the union as a state.

1848. April 5—Hostilities between Mexico and United States began by capture of small force of U. S. troops by Mexican forces.

1849. May 11—President Polk announced that the United States had declared war on Mexico. July 15—Treaty signed with Great Britain settling the Oregon boundary dispute.

1850. July 4—Comp. John D. Sloat, U. S. N., occupied Monterey, Calif., and declared California a free state. Sept. 15—Elias Howe patented first successful sewing machine.

1851. Dec. 23—Iowa admitted to the union. Feb. 22—Battle of Buena Vista fought; 20,000 Mexicans defeated by 5,000 Americans.

1852. July 24—Salt Lake City founded by the Mormons. Sept. 13—City of Mexico occupied by American troops.

1853. Dec. 25—Washington the cylinder printing press was invented by Richard M. Hoe. Jan. 19—Gold discovered near Coloma, Cal., by James W. W. Marshall.

1854. Feb. 15—United States and Mexico signed at Guadalupe Hidalgo, United States paid Mexico \$18,250,000 for New Mexico and California. Feb. 28—Ex-President John Quincy Adams died at Washington, aged 81.

1855. Nov. 7—Sixteenth presidential election. Zachary Taylor received 163 electoral votes and Lewis Cass, of Kentucky, 47 electoral votes. Dec. 15—Postal treaty signed with Great Britain.

1856. March 3—Department of interior created by congress. Dec. 23—President James K. Polk died at Nashville, Tenn., aged 54.

1857. April 15—Bulwer-Clayton treaty for joint use of the Nicaragua canal signed. July 9—Seventh census taken; population, 23,191,876.

1858. June 9—President Taylor died at Washington, aged 66. Sept. 13—California admitted to the union. Sept. 30—"Omniibus" bill passed by congress.

1859. March 3—Letter postage reduced to 3 cents for distances of 3,000 miles and less if prepaid; 5 cents if not, and double rate for long distances. April 23—Trial of electric locomotive built by Alfred Vail with congressional approval. It ran 10 miles per hour and attained a speed of 19 miles per hour.

1860. Oct. 3—Hudson river railroad opened from New York to Albany. June 22—Henry Clay died at Washington, aged 75.

1861. Nov. 27—Seventeenth presidential election held. Abraham Lincoln received 59 electoral votes, and Stephen A. Douglas, 12 electoral votes.

1862. March 24—Oath of office as vice president administered to William R. King by Consul Sharkey at Ambrose, Cuba. Allowed by Great Britain. April 15—Vice President William R. King died at Cahawba, Ala., aged 67.

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Aug. 14—Admiral David C. Farragut died at Portsmouth, N. H., aged 69. Dec. 16—Colored Methodist Episcopal church in America organized.

1871. Jan. 16—Supreme court decided legal tender act of 1862 constitutional. March 3—Act establishing Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia passed by congress.

1872. March—First civil service commission appointed. Oct. 8—Fire destroyed 20,000 buildings in Chicago; 38,500 people made homeless; loss, \$12,000,000.

1873. March—Strike for an 8-hour day, in Philadelphia, began in New York. It lasted three months and resulted successfully for the strikers.

1874. Sept. 14—Geneva tribunal awarded United States \$11,500,000 from Great Britain. Nov. 5—Twenty-second presidential election. Grant received 53 electoral and 2,857,000 popular votes. Seymour received 11 electoral and 1,200,000 popular votes.

1875. Nov. 11—Horace Greely died at Pleasantville, N. Y., aged 63. Dec. 15—Edwin Porter, a tragedian, died at Philadelphia, aged 63.

1876. Feb. 1—Trade dollars ordered and silver monetized by act of congress. Feb. 7—Oakes Ames, of Mass., and James Brooks, of N. Y., caused by their connection with Credit Mobilier.

1877. May 1—One-cent postal cards first issued. May 15—Fighting Balloon F. Chase died in New York, aged 65. Sept. 20—Panic on New York stock exchange; exchange closed; reopened Sept. 30.

1878. Nov. 13—William H. Tweed convicted in New York sentenced to 12 years in the penitentiary. March 3—President's salary fixed at \$50,000. Ex-President Millard Fillmore died at Buffalo, N. Y., aged 74.

1879. July 10—Grasshoppers infest Western States. Aug. 2—Rev. Henry Ward Beecher acquitted of charges preferred against him by Theodore Tilton by a committee of his church.

1880. Oct. 15—Lincoln monument at Springfield, Ill., dedicated. Nov. 15—National Woman's Christian Temperance union organized at Cleveland, O.

1881. May 1—Whisky frauds exposed. Loss to government in revenue stamps, \$1,650,000. July—Alexander Graham Bell constructed first successful telephone. July 11—Ex-President Johnson died near Jonesborough, Tenn., aged 67.

1882. July 11—Ex-President Henry Wilson died at Washington, aged 63. May 10—Centennial exposition opened at Philadelphia by Pres. Grant and Don Pedro II, of Brazil.

1883. June 25—Gen. George A. Custer and 74 men massacred by Indians under Sitting Bull near Little Big Horn river, Montana. Aug. 1—W. W. Belknap, secretary of war, acquitted of impeachment charges.

1884. Aug. 1—Colorado admitted to the union. Nov. 1—Twenty-third presidential election. Hayes received 103 electoral and 4,032,256 popular votes; Tilden 124 electoral and 4,234,256 popular votes.

1885. Jan. 17—Joint congressional committee agreed upon a plan for counting electoral vote. Electoral commission appointed by this committee awarded 3 disputed votes from Florida to republicans Feb. 9; vote of Louisiana to republicans Feb. 2; vote of Oregon to republicans Feb. 5.

1886. July 1—General railroad strike began in Pennsylvania against reduction of wages. It lasted three months, spread throughout the eastern and middle states, and resulted disastrously for the men.

1887. April 2—Satellites of Mars discovered by Prof. Hall, of Washington. Aug. 23—Brigham Young died in Salt Lake City, aged 78.

1888. Feb. 23—Silver bill passed over the president's veto. July 15—William Cullen Bryant died in New York, aged 84.

1889. July 10—Yellow fever epidemic began at Philadelphia. Dec. 11—Gold down to par in New York, first time since Jan. 15, 1862.

1890. Jan. 1—Specie payment resumed by the government. Feb. 15—Act permitting women to practice before the supreme court passed.

1891. July 1—Jeannette sailed from San Francisco on voyage of arctic exploration. May 2—League of American Wheelmen organized at Newport. Population, 50,145,783.

1892. Nov. 2—Twenty-fourth presidential election. Garfield received 21 electoral and 4,624,211 popular votes; Hancock 156 electoral and 4,347,338 popular votes.

1893. June 24—Secretary of State Blaine notified American ministers at European courts that any attempt to guarantee neutrality for Panama canal would be considered an act of interference.

1894. July 2—President Garfield shot by Guilelmo Salicrute and Potomac depot at Washington. Sept. 19—President Garfield died at Elmhurst, N. J., at 12:35 p. m.

1895. March 4—Henry W. Longfellow died at Cambridge, Mass., aged 75. March 25—Edwin Booth died in New York, aged 69.

1896. April 2—Ralph Waldo Emerson died at Concord, Mass., aged 83. May 13—Lockwood and Sergt. Brainerd, of Greeley, expired. Reached 83 degrees 23 minutes 4 seconds.

1897. May 24—New York and Brooklyn bridges opened. June 14—Verdict returned of not guilty in Star-Route case.

1898. July 15—Strike of telegraph operators begun at Pittsburgh, Pa., and spread throughout the country. It involved 61,000 men who asked for 10 per cent increase of wages. Lasted 20 days and was successful.

1899. Sept. 1—Northern Pacific railroad finished. May 6—Firm of Grant & Ward and Marine bank failed in New York. May 14—Financial crisis occurred in New York.

1900. Nov. 1—Twenty-fifth presidential election. Cleveland received 25 electoral and 4,911,000 popular votes; Blaine 154 electoral and 4,434,211 popular votes.

1901. Feb. 23—Washington monument dedicated. First construction at one was laid July 4, 1848. July 15—Contract labor law passed. March 3—President Arthur approved act appropriating \$1,000,000 for new ships for U. S. navy. This was the beginning of the present navy.

Nov. 15—Ex-President Chester A. Arthur died at New York, aged 56. Dec. 2—Gen. John A. Logan died at Washington, aged 65.

1897. Jan. 23—Mexican war pension bill approved. Feb. 15—Dependent pension bill vetoed. March 23—First Interstate commerce commission appointed.

1898. Aug. 15—Ives & Co., New York brokers, failed; liabilities, \$20,000,000. March 23—Chief Justice Morrison B. Waite died at Washington, aged 77.

1899. Aug. 1—Gen. Philip H. Sheridan died at Nonotuck, Mass., aged 57. Sept. 15—Act prohibiting immigration of Chinese into United States approved. Nov. 3—Twenty-sixth presidential election. Cleveland received 10 electoral and 4,850,229 popular votes; Harrison 23 electoral and 5,449,883 popular votes.

1900. Feb. 2—Department of agriculture created as executive department. Norman J. Angell appointed first secretary Feb. 12. Feb. 20—Act of creating the Panama Canal company passed by congress.

1901. March 8—Iowa territory divided. March 8—John G. Brown died at New York, aged 80. April 1—Oklahoma opened for settlement and city of Guthrie established. May 11—Disastrous flood at Johnston, N. C., caused loss of 12,000 lives and property to amount of \$1,000,000.

1902. Oct.—Pan-American congress organized in Washington, D. C. Nov. 2—North and South Dakota admitted to the union. Nov. 16—Kansas admitted to the union. Dec. 6—Jefferson Davis, Confederate president, died at New Orleans, aged 81.

19