Southern agricultural “aristocracy” saw themselves as essentially different from Northern commercial “aristocracy”

- Fear of central government meddling in affairs
- Northern Republicans
  - Rising “middling” class
  - Minority groups (religious/ethnic) opposed to Anglo-centric Federalists
  - Independent artisans and tradesman shut out by federalist pandering to “elites”
  - “whigs”

- Rise of the Partisan Press

- Response to Alien and Sedition Acts
  - Jefferson saw Acts as first slavo in Federalist effort to subvert American liberties, restore monarchical rule, and involve U.S. in foreign wars
  - Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions
    - Jefferson and Madison
    - States had authority to declare federal laws unconstitutional
    - “nullification”
William Henry Harrison attacked Prophetstown, defeated the Shawnee at the Battle of Tippecanoe

- European Wars and Commercial Sanctions
  - Tensions built with Britain and France after 1805
    - Both tried to prevent US trade with the other
    - Democratic republican congress tried to avoid war by imposing sanctions
    - Embargo act cut off all foreign trade, hurt the US
  - Non-Intercourse Act of 1809 reopened trade with all countries but Britain and France
    - France agreed to stop sanctioning US ships, turned public opinion against Britain

- War declared
  - President Madison and Democratic Republicans in the South and West wanted war
    - Needed to prove US could stand up for itself on international stage
  - Northern Federalists feared hurting trade, opposed war
  - Congress declared war on June 8, 1812

- Opposition
  - Federalist newspapers denounced the war
  - Riots break out in Baltimore
  - Federalists maintained political resistance
  - Discussed secession at the Hartford Convention in 1814
    - Endorsed states’ nullification of federal laws

- US Offensives in Canada
  - US invaded Canada in 1812, unsuccessfully