

## APUSH TERMS 386-420

### **386. Dorr's Rebellion**

In 1841, Rhode Island was governed by a 1663 charter which said that only property holders and their eldest sons could vote (1/2 the adult male population). Thomas Dorr led a group of rebels who wrote a new constitution and elected him governor in 1842. The state militia was called in to stop the rebellion. Dorr was sentenced to life imprisonment, but the sentence was withdrawn. Dorr's Rebellion caused conservatives to realize the need for reform. A new constitution in 1843 gave almost all men the right to vote.

### **387. Rise of the Second Party System**

Since the 1840's, two major political parties have managed to eliminate all competition. Democrats and Republicans have controlled nearly all government systems since the 1840's.

### **388. Transcendentalism**

A philosophy pioneered by Ralph Waldo Emerson in the 1830's and 1840's, in which each person has direct communication with God and Nature, and there is no need for organized churches. It incorporated the ideas that mind goes beyond matter, intuition is valuable, that each soul is part of the Great Spirit, and each person is part of a reality where only the invisible is truly real. Promoted individualism, self-reliance, and freedom from social constraints, and emphasized emotions.

### **389. Transcendentalists**

Believed in Transcendentalism, they included Emerson (who pioneered the movement) and Thoreau. Many of them formed cooperative communities such as Brook Farm and Fruitlands, in which they lived and farmed together with the philosophy as their guide. "They sympathize with each other in the hope that the future will not always be as the past." It was more literary than practical - Brook Farm lasted only from 1841 to 1847.

### **390. Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)**

Essayist, poet. A leading transcendentalist, emphasizing freedom and self-reliance in essays which still make him a force today. He had an international reputation as a first-rate poet. He spoke and wrote many works on the behalf of the Abolitionists.

### **391. Henry David Thoreau, Walden (1817-1862), "On Civil Disobedience"**

A transcendentalist and friend of Emerson. He lived alone on Walden Pond with only \$8 a year from 1845-1847 and wrote about it in *Walden*. In his essay, "On Civil Disobedience," he inspired social and political reformers because he had refused to pay a poll tax in protest of slavery and the Mexican-American War, and had spent a night in jail. He was an extreme individualist and advised people to protest by not obeying laws (passive resistance).

### **392. Orestes Brownson (1803-1876)**

Presbyterian layman, Universalist minister, Unitarian preacher and founder of his own church in Boston. Spent his life searching for his place and supporting various causes. As an editor, he attacked organized Christianity and won a large intellectual New England following. Then turned Roman Catholic and became a strong defender of Catholicism in Brownson's *Quarterly Review*, from 1844 until his death.

**393. Margaret Fuller (1810-1815), *The Dial***

Social reformer, leader in women's movement and a transcendentalist. Edited *The Dial* (1840-1842), which was the publication of the transcendentalists. It appealed to people who wanted "perfect freedom", "progress in philosophy and theology . . . and hope that the future will not always be as the past."

**394. James Fennimore Cooper, *Last of the Mohicans***

1826 - It is about a scout named Hawkeye during the French and Indian War, while he was in his prime. It is one of the Leatherstocking Tales, about a frontiersman and a noble Indian, and the clash between growing civilization and untamed wilderness.

**395. Herman Melville (1819-1891), *Moby Dick***

Wrote *Moby Dick* (1851) about a Captain Ahab who seeks revenge on the white whale that crippled him but ends up losing his life, his ship, and his crew. Wasn't popular at the time but now highly regarded. Melville rejected the optimism of the transcendentalists and felt that man faced a tragic destiny. His views were not popular at the time, but were accepted by later generations.

**396. Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804-1864), *The Scarlet Letter***

Originally a transcendentalist; later rejected them and became a leading anti-transcendentalist. He was a descendant of Puritan settlers. *The Scarlet Letter* shows the hypocrisy and insensitivity of New England puritans by showing their cruelty to a woman who has committed adultery and is forced to wear a scarlet "A".

**397. Edgar Allen Poe (1809-1849)**

Author who wrote many poems and short stories including "The Raven," "The Bells," "The Tell-Tale Heart," and "The Gold Bug." He was the originator of the detective story and had a major influence on symbolism and surrealism. Best known for macabre stories.

**398. Washington Irving (1783-1859)**

Author, diplomat. Wrote *The Sketch Book*, which included "Rip Van Winkle" and "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow." He was the first American to be recognized in England (and elsewhere) as a writer.

**399. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-1882)**

Internationally recognized poet. Emphasized the value of tradition and the impact of the past on the present.

**400. Walt Whitman (1819-1892), *Leaves of Grass***

*Leaves of Grass* (1855) was his first volume of poetry. He broke away from the traditional forms and content of New England poetry by describing the life of working Americans and using words like "I reckon", "duds", and "folks". He loved people and expressed the new democracy of a nation finding itself. He had radical ideas and abolitionist views - *Leaves of Grass* was considered immoral. Patriotic.

**401. Hudson River School of Art**

In about 1825, a group of American painters, led by Thomas Cole, used their talents to do

landscapes, which were not highly regarded. They painted many scenes of New York's Hudson River. Mystical overtones.

**402. Alexis de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America***

De Tocqueville came from France to America in 1831. He observed democracy in government and society. His book (written in two parts in 1835 and 1840) discusses the advantages of democracy and consequences of the majority's unlimited power. First to raise topics of American practicality over theory, the industrial aristocracy, and the conflict between the masses and individuals.

**403. Millennialism, Millerites**

Millerites were Seventh-Day Adventists who followed William Miller. They sold their possessions because they believed the Second Coming would be in 1843 or 1844, and waited for the world to end. The Millennial Dawnists, another sect of the Seventh-Day Adventists, believed the world was under Satan's rule and felt it their obligation to announce the Second Coming of Christ and the battle of Armageddon.

**404. "The Burned-Over District"**

Term applied to the region of western New York along the Erie Canal, and refers to the religious fervor of its inhabitants. In the 1800's, farmers there were susceptible to revivalist and tent rallies by the Pentecostals (religious groups).

**405. Charles G. Finney (1792-1875)**

An immensely successful revivalist of the 1800's. He helped establish the "Oberlin Theology". His emphasis on "disinterested benevolence" helped shape the main charitable enterprises of the time.

**406. Mormons: Joseph Smith (1805-1844)**

Founded Mormonism in New York in 1830 with the guidance of an angel. In 1843, Smith's announcement that God sanctioned polygamy split the Mormons and led to an uprising against Mormons in 1844. He translated the Book of Mormon and died a martyr.

**407. Brigham Young, Great Salt Lake, Utah**

1847 - Brigham Young led the Mormons to the Great Salt Lake Valley in Utah, where they founded the Mormon republic of Deseret. Believed in polygamy and strong social order. Others feared that the Mormons would act as a block, politically and economically.

**408. Brook Farm**

An experiment in Utopian socialism, it lasted for six years (1841-1847) in New Roxbury, Massachusetts.

**409. New Harmony**

A utopian settlement in Indiana lasting from 1825 to 1827. It had 1,000 settlers, but a lack of authority caused it to break up.

**410. Oneida Community**

A group of socio-religious perfectionists who lived in New York. Practiced polygamy, communal property, and communal raising of children.

**411. Shakers**

A millennial group who believed in both Jesus and a mystic named Ann Lee. Since they were celibate and could only increase their numbers through recruitment and conversion, they eventually ceased to exist.

**412. Amana Community**

A German religious sect set up this community with communist overtones. Still in existence.

**413. Lyceum Movement**

Developed in the 1800's in response to growing interest in higher education. Associations were formed in nearly every state to give lectures, concerts, debates, scientific demonstrations, and entertainment. This movement was directly responsible for the increase in the number of institutions of higher learning.

**414. Dorothea Dix, treatment of the insane**

A reformer and pioneer in the movement to treat the insane as mentally ill, beginning in the 1820's, she was responsible for improving conditions in jails, poorhouses and insane asylums throughout the U.S. and Canada. She succeeded in persuading many states to assume responsibility for the care of the mentally ill. She served as the Superintendent of Nurses for the Union Army during the Civil War.

**415. Oberlin, 1833; Mt. Holyoke, 1836**

Oberlin: founded by a New England Congregationalist at Oberlin, Ohio. First coed facility at the college level. The first to enroll Blacks in 1835. Mt. Holyoke: founded in 1837 in South Hadley, Massachusetts. Became the model for later liberal arts institutions of higher education for women. Liberal colleges.

**416. Public education, Horace Mann**

Secretary of the newly formed Massachusetts Board of Education, he created a public school system in Massachusetts that became the model for the nation. Started the first American public schools, using European schools (Prussian military schools) as models.

**417. American Temperance Union**

The flagship of the temperance movement in the 1800's. Opposed alcohol.

**418. "Ten Nights in a Bar-Room," Timothy Shay Arthur**

A melodramatic story, published in 1856, which became a favorite text for temperance lecturers. In it, a traveler visits the town of Cedarville occasionally for ten years, notes the changing fortunes of the citizens and blames the saloon.

**419. Maine Law, Neal Dow**

In 1838, Dow founded the Maine Temperance Union. As mayor of Portland, Maine, Dow secured in 1851 the state's passage the Maine Law, which forbade the sale or manufacture of liquor.

**420. Irish, German immigration**

Irish: arriving in immense waves in the 1800's, they were extremely poor peasants who later became the manpower for canal and railroad construction. German: also came because of

economic distress, German immigration had a large impact on America, shaping many of its morals. Both groups of immigrants were heavy drinkers and supplied the labor force for the early industrial era.