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Native Americans in the Aftermath of the American Revolution

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In 1780 the Academy of Science, Letters, and Arts of Lyon sponsored an essay competition asking European intellectuals to consider the following questions: "Was the discovery of the Americas injurious or useful to the human species? If good came of it, what are the ways in which to conserve and increase them? If it produced evils, what are the ways to remedy them?" While not framed in just war terms, the questions implicitly asked Enlightenment-era European intellectuals to weigh the calamities resulting from the Spanish conquest of the New World with the (perceived) benefits of the recent American Revolution. Regarding the former, the famous inquiry in the sixteenth century about just war and indigenous rights resulting from the Spanish conquest arguably revolutionized how Europeans thought about jus ad bellum, or when to go to war. Spanish thinkers such as Francisco de Vitoria, Francisco Suárez, and Domingo de Soto lamented the massacres of indigenous populations, denied the right of Europeans to wage just war on religious grounds, and articulated the sovereign rights of "barbarians" under the law of nations. These arguments marked a significant shift in just war thinking away from the holy-war paradigm toward a more secular perspective. But these concerns were of scant interest to the Enlightenment-era judges of the Academy of Lyon.

What is peculiar about this intellectual competition, sponsored by the Abbé Raynal, was that no winner was declared (for the responses were deemed too unworthy because they tended to focus too much on the calamities of the Spanish conquest). But a summary of the "right" answer was printed some years later as the Coup d'Oeil sur les quatre concours qui ont eu lieu en l'Académie des Sciences, Lettres et Arts de Lyon pour le prix offert par M. l'Abbé Raynal sur la découverte de l'Amérique. In this summary, the massacre of native populations by Spanish conquistadors was duly criticized—these were not just wars against barbarians, but rather massacres committed by religious zealots and glory hunters. Yet there was something to be valorized: the American Revolution. This was presumably a just war that set the stage for the inevitable spread of democracy in the New World in the post bellum era:

Those who will know how to take advantage of this great example shall never forget what they owe to America, where the standard of liberty was laid out for the entire universe; and when one asks them what the discovery of this continent produced, they will respond that it was very cruel in the beginning and that during several centuries, it compensated great evils with only weak advantages, but having softened, humanized, and enlightened the nations by happy experiences that one could not do elsewhere, [America] showed to all the true path to liberty, and that civil liberty, preferable to savage liberty, has grown deep roots in North America and has extended its branches to Europe, and will come to cover little by little all the parts of the world. But there is something troubling implied in this adulation. Speaking of the triumph of American democracy, the anonymous author writes that "with the proximate and universal regeneration for which we hope and of which we are already tasting the first fruits, one essential element is lacking: whether the Indians can participate? Will we finish by repopulating their native lands and the homeland of their ancestors only by destroying them? That is the direction towards which our clearing of the land and the progress of our colonies is pointing." The answer is troubling as it highlights a future of inevitable "just" wars: "The route that all peoples should follow is too well marked for them not to see it. All those who are not enchain by the passions or besotted by vice will be civilized and free when they want to be so; all the rest are incapable or unworthy of being so." To the extent that this conclusion captures the Western mindset—a similar stance is seen in Thomas Jefferson's writings just before the Revolution and later in Alexis de Tocqueville's works while traveling a generation after—there is a sense that the American Revolution heralds a new era, one in which democracy and coexistence with the "savages" of the New World are incompatible.

The question of whether the Revolution was a just war or not is, of course, much debated. What is interesting about the Coup d'Oeil is that it foretells of a postwar world in which American democracy, once established, sets a bellicose stance toward the "savages." The just post bellum phase of the American Revolution came, indeed, to be defined by something of a moral imperative: the spread of democracy entails the extermination of native tribes via just war.

The Coup d'Oeil is not just a curious moment in intellectual history, but
The American Revolution was a pivotal event in the history of the United States. It began in 1775 and ended in 1783, with the signing of the Treaty of Paris, which officially ended the Revolutionary War. This conflict was fought between the Thirteen Colonies, which had declared their independence from Great Britain, and the British. The war was fought on land, sea, and in the skies, and it resulted in the creation of the United States of America.

The Revolution was fought against the British, who were largely supported by the British government. The war was a long and bloody one, with both sides suffering significant losses. However, the American Revolution was ultimately successful, and it resulted in the creation of the United States of America.

The American Revolution had a profound impact on the world. It inspired other nations to fight for their independence, and it helped to establish the principles of democracy and freedom. The war also resulted in the creation of a new nation, and it paved the way for the development of the United States as a global power.

The American Revolution was a complex event, and it was shaped by many factors. The American Revolution was fought for a variety of reasons, including economic, political, and social issues. The war was also fought for the ideals of liberty and democracy, and it helped to establish the principles of these ideals.

The American Revolution was a turning point in the history of the world. It was a time of great change, and it helped to shape the course of history for centuries to come. The American Revolution was a truly remarkable event, and it continues to be remembered and celebrated to this day.
Native Americans in the Aftermath of the Revolution

When the passage of the Stamp Act was first announced, the British government aimed to raise revenue from the American colonies. The act imposed a tax on printed materials such as newspapers, legal documents, and playing cards. The colonists, who were already paying taxes, were deeply disturbed by this new imposition, fearing it would lead to further restrictions on their freedoms.

The Stamp Act was met with widespread resistance across the colonies. They believed the act violated their rights as British subjects. In response, the colonies began to organize and protest against the Stamp Act. This movement against the Stamp Act laid the groundwork for future colonial resistance and eventually led to the Revolution.

The colonies, unified by their common experience and shared grievances, began to push for their independence. This was a pivotal moment in American history, marking the beginning of the struggle for self-determination and the eventual formation of the United States of America.
would be the British reason to look upon them as those free and not subject to the power of the government. Pleading humiliation to the fur traders, the American traders were often menacing the American Indians with war, which caused alarm among the settlers. The British government, however, was not willing to back down. The British forces were increasing and were not afraid to go to war to protect their interests. The British government was determined to take possession of the Northwest Territory, even if it meant going to war against the United States.

Now, with the British forces on the march, the American traders were left to their own devices. The situation was dire, and the Northwest Territory was in peril. The Americans were forced to abandon their posts and retreat to the safety of the United States. The British forces were now in control of the territory, and the Americans were left with no choice but to submit.

The American traders, however, were not willing to give up so easily. They continued to resist the British forces, and the conflict between the two nations continued. The American traders were determined to hold on to their territory, even if it meant battling the British forces. The conflict between the two nations was a major factor in the eventual result of the War of 1812.
the right of Virginia society to claim a place on the American political stage as an
In other words, the Virginia Convention was claiming the right to sit at the table of national affairs, just as the states had done in the past.

The Virginia Resolutions also asserted the right of Virginia to control its own affairs, particularly in matters of taxation and internal improvements. This was a direct challenge to the federal government and its powers under the Constitution.

The Virginia Resolutions were a significant step in the movement for states' rights and limited government. They anticipated the debate that would eventually lead to the creation of the Articles of Confederation and the eventual founding of the United States.

The Virginia Resolutions were not without controversy. Many critics argued that they were a dangerous precedent, encouraging states to resist the authority of the federal government. However, the Virginia Resolutions were an important assertion of state sovereignty and a symbol of the growing tension between the states and the federal government.
NATIVE AMERICANS IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE REVOLUTION

The American Revolution exposed the contradictions of American society, where the ideals of liberty and equality coexisted with the reality of systemic oppression and violence. The struggle for independence was not only about freeing from British rule but also about challenging the prevailing social and economic structures.

In their dispossession and subjugation, American Indians faced not only the direct consequences of colonial expansion but also the broader implications of the Revolutionary War. The Treaty of Greenville, signed in 1795, marked a significant turning point in the relationship between American Indians and the United States, as it established the boundaries for Indian lands and set the stage for further displacement and assimilation policies.

TheRevolution'seffectswerefeltacrossthecontinent,shapingtheidentityandfutureofNativeAmericancommunities. The legacy of this period continues to influence discussions about sovereignty, self-determination, and the ongoing struggle for justice and recognition.

The American Revolution was a catalyst for change, not just in the political landscape but also in the ethical and moral compass of a nation. It challenged the foundations of existing power structures and paved the way for new possibilities. However, the road to true freedom and equality remained steep and uneven, marked by ongoing conflicts and challenges.

In the aftermath of the Revolution, the focus shifted towards the consolidation of power and the establishment of a nation that reflected the ideals of liberty and justice for all. The journey towards those ideals continues, with each generation learning from the past and pushing for a more equitable future.
NAATI AMERICANS IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE REVOLUTION

1/79, with the American Revolution and the French Revolution in the same year. The impact of these events was profound. The American Revolution led to the independence of the American colonies from British rule. The French Revolution led to a series of political and social changes across Europe. Both events had significant implications for the future of the world. The American Revolution was a turning point in the history of the United States, and the French Revolution marked the beginning of the modern era. The two events are often seen as part of a larger trend towards democratic and nationalist movements in the late 18th century. The impact of these revolutions on the rest of the world was also significant. The American Revolution inspired other countries to seek independence from colonial rule. The French Revolution led to the rise of Napoleon Bonaparte and his empire, which eventually declined and led to further changes in the balance of power in Europe. The two revolutions also had a profound impact on the development of modern ideas such as democracy, human rights, and nationalism. The American Revolution and the French Revolution are often seen as major landmarks in the history of the world.
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