US History

[Name of the Writer]

[Name of the Institution]

**The reasons for the rise of Partisan Politics in the Early Republic**

The period of 1792 and 1820 is the period of emergence of the first party system in America. In 1792, when General George Washington won by an overwhelming majority denied running for the third term. In the election of 1796, people divided into two parties who competed for the first time, these parties were Federalists and Democratic-Republican. Although both the parties wanted best for their country the point of disagreement between both was regarding how to do it. The main point of conflict between both the parties was the constitution, which focused on the rights of government but not the people. The ratification of the constitution led to the increasing issues between both the parties (Peale et al., 1787).

The Federalists were having the viewpoint that the constitution was drafted with power separation so as to avoid any oppression of the nation. They viewed the Articles of Confederation as it was giving much authority and power to state government and the federal government was not given the needed authority. The Articles of Confederation gave the authority to the federal government regarding state taxes, and it was quickly losing it. Those who did not agree with federalists were labeled as an anti-federalist. Those who opposed the Federalists were those who considered the state as the primary protector of individuals and assumed that the lack of power to states would end in the wrong use of power by the federal government. Another issue that anti-federalists were facing with the constitution was to include the Bill of Rights, which each was lacking, and most of the state constitutions were having it. Some other rights declared by the anti-federalists whose protection was very important included the religion trial by jury, press freedom and the safety from arbitrary searches.

**Discuss the development of the Second Party System**

Comparison of the platforms of the Whig and Democratic parties

Since the early 1930's two major parties appeared in the history of America, known as the Whigs and Democrats who were in opposition to each other. The Democrats were of the view that government must leave the business alone and on the contrary, Whigs believed that government must control the tariffs, the businesses, and all other economic activities such as imports, banking system, etc. They also believed that all could appreciate the individuality of others. Whigs party believed in the community and the harmony of nature, and they wanted internal improvements for the nation along with the slow regional expansion. The Democrats, on the other hand, wanted an abrupt expansion and external growth. The Democrats comprised small farmers who wanted more states’ rights and were against the national bank. The Whigs favored national bank and were from different backgrounds of industry and commerce.

Leaders and constituents

Henry Clay, Daniel Webster, and John C. Calhoun were the leaders of the Whig party. These leaders were having the support of William Seward, Thaddeus Stevens, Thurlow Weed, and Horace Greeley. Whigs were profoundly influenced by race, religion, and ethnicity. The highly favored moral reform. However, the Democratic Party leaders include Thomas Jefferson, Aaron Burr, James Monroe, Benjamin Rush, Albert Gallatin, and James Madison. They also enjoyed the support of most influential politicians in the South, which resulted in party coalition as Southern agrarians and Northern City dwellers. The Democratic Party also opposed elitism and aristocracy and firmly adhered to the constitution. One thing common between both the parties was their struggle with pro-slavery and anti-slavery wings.

The Second Party System and increased democratization of American politics

The rise of Democracy was observed after 1820, under Jacksonian Democracy. Politics was the most important element of a voter's life. However, the voter's turnout was increasing over the years. Due to this, the politicians were appealing the voters form all the backgrounds and hence democracy was the dominant political feeling (n.d.). The democratization of American politics was well happening

**The major movements and events that led to the Civil War**

The pro-slavery and abolitionist arguments of the antebellum period

From 1830nto 1860 the pro-slavery arguments were the strongest. James Hammond and Harper are known to be the advocates of pro-slavery and observed that the homeless community could easily be manipulated. The observed that slavery could protect the common good of society. Several arguments were presented to assure that the economy would flop without slave labor (“Arguments and Justifications: The Abolition of Slavery Project,” n.d.). If abolished United States will suffer badly and John C. Calhoun promoted slavery as a positive good for the society. The advocates of slavery declared that nations who deny slave labor face downfalls and sufferings.

On the other hand, the proslavery Abolitionist argued that it was a moral evil, which will affect the society negatively as slaves are brutalized and they face corruption of their masters who live in power. Garrison began publishing The Liberator in 1832 and founded the Liberationist organization. They further argued that an unjust system of slaves would result in poor outcomes. They also the freedom to the Bible claiming that slavery was anti-Christian as God has made a man with freedom.

The role of westward expansion in increasing sectional tensions.

The idea of Westward expansion meant for economic progress, and the US acquisition of new lands in 1840 inflamed the already present sectional tensions. The North and South were already displeased due to slavery. The expansion resulted in the extension of slavery to the WestThe statehood was observed as the solution to suppression, but at that time, Free states and slaves were equal. This controversy continued until the beginning of the Civil War. Attempts were made to compromise, but most of them did not work, and the sectional divisions caused by the Westward expansion were the primary factor in initiating the Civil War.

Three significant events that contributed to the outbreak of the Civil War

Many events led to the contribution of the Civil War, which includes the legislative events and others. It initiated with the compromise of 1850, which was designed by Henry Clay, aimed at reducing the tensions between South and North (“Trigger Events of the Civil War,” 2008). Neither of them was entirely mollified, and it inflamed anger between both the North and South and became the reason for civil war. Another law that contributed to civil war was the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850, which was hated by the opponents and loved by the supporters of slavery. It angered anti-slavery people and aid civil war. Kansas Nebraska Act of 1854 inspired people to rush to vote as their status was going to be determined by sovereignty. This resulted in conflicts between them and caused violence, which led to civil war. Dred Scott's decision by the court revealed that the compromise was null and slaves would be treated as property and hence this case made a contribution to the civil war. The attempt of John Brown also created tensions between anti-slavery and pro-slavery groups. The presidency of Abraham Lincoln also influenced the civil war, as he was the one who confirmed war to abandon south from leaving the US. He was also outraged by the south act of naming themselves as the Confederate state of America, and it led to civil war as well.

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