

Chapter 15:
NEW MOVEMENTS IN AMERICA
(1815–1850)

Section 1: America's Spiritual Awakening

Section 2: Immigrants and Cities

Section 3: Reforming Society

Section 4: The Movement to End Slavery

Section 5: Women's Rights

Section 1: America's Spiritual Awakening

Second Great Awakening

During the Second Great Awakening, church membership and religious faith spread across the country.

Transcendentalists' View
of American Society

- simple
- spiritual
- free from material objects
- equality for men and women

Ideas of American Romantics

- spirituality
- simple life
- nature
- individualism
- democracy

Section 2: Immigrants and Cities

Wave of Immigrants

- fled to escape economic and political problems
- fled to escape religious persecution

Response to Immigrants

- became nativists
- formed the Know-Nothing Party

Growth of Cities

- Industrial and Transportation Revolutions
- Rural Migration
- Immigration

- Benefits: aided business owners and skilled workers and furthered arts and culture
- Problems: overcrowding, limited transportation, conflicts between social classes, lack of safe housing and public services, tenements

Section 3: Reforming Society

Prison Reform in the Mid 1800's

- separate facilities for mentally ill and criminals
- state hospitals
- reform schools
- houses of correction

Temperance Movement

The temperance movement was begun to halt alcohol abuse and social problems.

Changes in Education – early and mid 1800's

- common-school movement
- more funding and better salaries
- greater opportunities for women, African Americans, and people with special needs

Section 4: The Movement to End Slavery

Abolitionists

American abolitionists opposed slavery on religious, moral and political grounds. Others wanted to prevent conflicts between races.

Spreading the **Abolitionist** Message

- speaking tours
- newspaper articles and pamphlets
- poetry and literature
- *The Liberator*
- American Anti-Slavery Society

Opposition to **Abolition**

- thought freed slaves would take jobs away from whites
- thought slavery was a vital party of Southern economy and culture
- opposed interference from outsiders

Section 5: Women's Rights

Influence of Abolition on Women's Rights

Women felt they had to defend their rights to speak in public.

Goals of Women's Rights Movement

- reform and abolition
- better education
- voting rights
- property ownership and control

Seneca Falls Convention

- Purpose: organize a women's rights movement
- Significance: first public meeting for women's rights in the U.S.