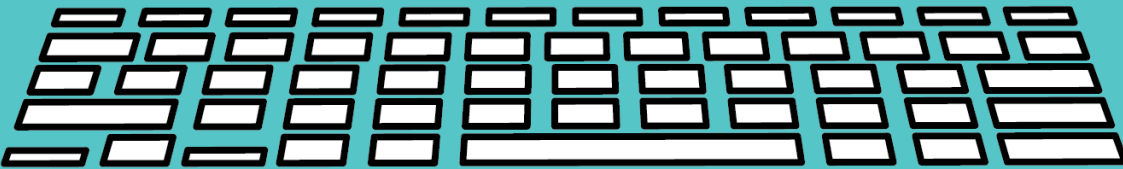


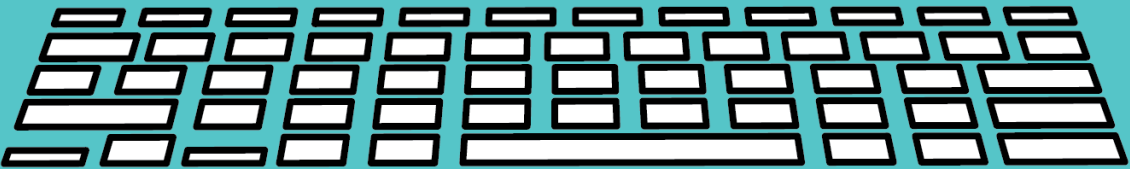
BY A JURY
OF 1787 OVER
ONE
THOUSAND
SHAYSITES
HAD BEEN
ARRESTED

Short Answer	Type Answer Here
1. What was a freeze on payment of debts called?	
2. What was Shays' first name?	
3. What year did Shays' Rebellion start?	
4. In what war did Shays serve?	
5. What were supporters of Daniel Shays called?	
6. In what state was the Constitutional Convention?	
7. What state was Shays from?	
8. In what month of 1787 did Shays' Rebellion end?	



Short Answer	Type Answer Here	Fill in the Blank	Type Answer Here
1. What was a seizure on property called?		9. The Articles of _____ were adopted in 1781.	
2. What was Shays' first name?		10. Daniel Shays was eventually caught and then _____.	
3. What year did Shays' Rebellion start?		11. George _____ became the first president of the United States.	
4. In what war did Shays serve?		12. Governor Bowdoin's private militia attacked the Springfield _____.	
5. What were supporters of Daniel Shays called?		13. The _____ Act prohibited public _____ of _____.	
6. In what state was the Constitutional Convention?		14. Samuel _____ drafted the Riot _____.	
7. What state was Shays from?		15. Leaders of the Shaysites were nicknamed the _____.	
8. In what month of 1787 did Shays' Rebellion end?		16. Farmers had their farms taken away and went into _____.	

PREVIEW



SHAYS' REBELLION

The Articles of Confederation were adopted on March 1, 1781, but there was no strong national government. The states weren't unified and behaving like a country. The government was inflexible, there was no monetary system, no court system, no government, and no standing military (gold and silver). The individual states had their own currencies, some states had their own courts, and some states had separate armies. Some states had separate money, and some states had separate courts.

Soldiers returned from the war. In addition, taxes were levied on the people. Some people couldn't pay these new taxes. With no paycheck, soldiers and particularly farmers couldn't pay these new taxes. As the war grew on, citizens grew increasingly frustrated with the conditions and the government assistance from the state.

They wished to have taxes cut, revised laws on income to help the poor, and allow the wealthy to pay their fair share. They requested legal paper money ("Tender Laws") so they could pay with paper money for goods. They also requested a freeze on payment of debts ("Stay Laws"). They suggested a quarter system as a form of payment. They wanted reduced legal fees from the courts and laws that asked to move the state capital inland, because it was controlled by the wealthy commercial businesses.

All of their requests and suggestions were ignored. As a result, public auctions were held to sell off personal items because bills couldn't be paid. Farmers had their farms taken away and went into bankruptcy. Some farmers ended up in prison for failure to pay their debts.

Having run out of options, tensions were rising which led to protest and rebellion, led by Daniel Shays. Daniel Shays, a farmer from Massachusetts, served as a captain in the 5th Massachusetts Regiment of the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War. His arrival home after the war was complicated. First, he returned home to find that he wasn't getting paid as a soldier. Second, new taxes were levied (imposed or established) to help pay for the war. He found many other farmers and soldiers in the same predicament. People were being kicked out of their homes or they filed for bankruptcy or they were sent to prison. In the manner of Thomas Jefferson (who thought that if your voice isn't heard, you had the right to revolt), Shays gathered with others and decided to revolt against the courthouses who were doing nothing to protect him and others like him. Shays' Rebellion in Massachusetts lasted from August 1786 to June of 1787. He had around 4,000

supporters called "shaysites" with leaders who were nicknamed "regulators".

Shaysites tried to demand that their livelihood remain protected. Exhausting all options including petitions and proposals to the state, the shaysites banded together to rebel against the courts. They tried to shut down courthouses, stop proceedings, stop the courts from collecting money, and prevent bankruptcy. These armed farmers stormed Massachusetts courthouses, with hopes to prevent the judges from entering.

August 1786: Shaysites stormed a county court in Northampton, Massachusetts.

September 1786: Shays tried to prevent a meeting of the Supreme Judicial Court.

However, local military knew beforehand and had 300 men waiting.

October 24, 1786: Samuel Adams, a Founding Father, drafted the Riot Act which declared that all gatherings of more than 12 armed persons was treason.

November 16, 1786: Massachusetts passed the Sedition Act which prohibited public opposition or speech against the government. Also on this day, some new laws were enacted.

November 1786: Warrants were issued for the arrests of Daniel Shays, Luke Day,

Wheeler, and Eli Parsons. The Shays' Rebellion group and accompanying

regulators grew to 4,000 participants.

January 1787: Governor Bowdoin's private militia attacked the Springfield Army

to arm them. Meanwhile Shays' leaders split into 3 groups and served

separate orders to attack the Springfield Armory on January 25,

1787. However, the Department of message that he wouldn't be ready until the next day.

The message was intercepted by the militia. Upon arrival at the Armory, Shays and

his men met by Bowdoin's militia. 20 rebels were injured and 4 were

killed in the

conflict.

March 1787: Daniel Shays was finally caught and then pardoned in 1788, after which he

went into hiding. Shays' Rebellion was not deemed a success. In the end, 4,000

rebels signed confederate charters for arms and pardon, 18 leaders of Shays'

rebels were caught and arrested to deal with the rebellion. 18 rebels were hanged (Charles

Ross, John, and Shays himself) were caught and then pardoned.

Shays' Rebellion was a failure, however, it exposed the weaknesses of the

Articles of Confederation - and the fact that something must be done to strengthen

the nation. Shays' Rebellion was a critical turning point in American history. The

rebellion was a wake up call for merchants and the government. There

needed to be a stronger government to stop the rebellion, the courts, and

bloodshed.

Ultimately, Shays' Rebellion served as a catalyst for the transition into the

Pennsylvania Constitutional Convention of 1787 which produced the Constitution was

drafted, a stronger union was built, and George Washington became the first

President of the United States.

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