

# Essential Question

**How and why was the Constitution created?**

## Why You Should Care

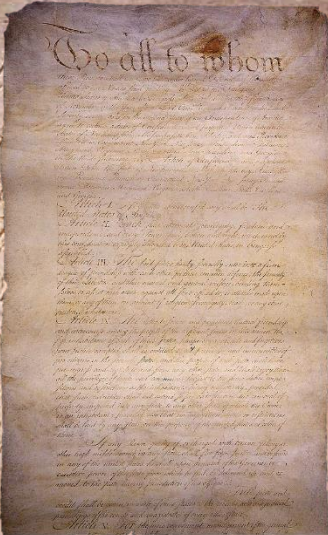
The War was only part of the Revolution. Many thought the new nation would fail quickly and it kind of did. Being independent isn't enough – people need laws to succeed. It is important to see how our laws came to exist.



# *Creating The Constitution*

# The Articles of Confederation

Created a “firm league of friendship” among the states but gave the national government very little power.



These Provinces shall come, we the under signed Delegates of the States  
affixed to our Names send greeting. We the Delegates of the  
United States of America in Congress assembled on the fifteenth

of September 1774. Do hereby declare that we the said States  
do hereby severally enter into a firm and perpetual Union but  
each State retains its separate and independent Jurisdiction  
in all those Cases which do not require a uniformity in the  
States. That the said States do hereby give their assent to the  
Articles of Confederation and ratify the same.

and Provinces, Plantations, Colonies, New-York, New-Jersey,  
Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina,  
and Georgia.

Article I. The Name of this confederacy shall be "The  
United States of America."

Article II. Each State retains its sovereignty, freedom and  
independence, and every Power, Jurisdiction and right, which is not by  
this confederation expressly delegated to the United States, in Congress  
assembled.

Article III. The said States hereby severally enter into a firm

**WHAT IF I TOLD YOU**



John Hanson

**GEORGE WASHINGTON WASN'T  
THE FIRST PRESIDENT?**



**Dude. Not cool. We ain't got no cash. We're poor farmers man.**



**Great job winning the war, you should pay your debts now. And only cash this time. No trades.**



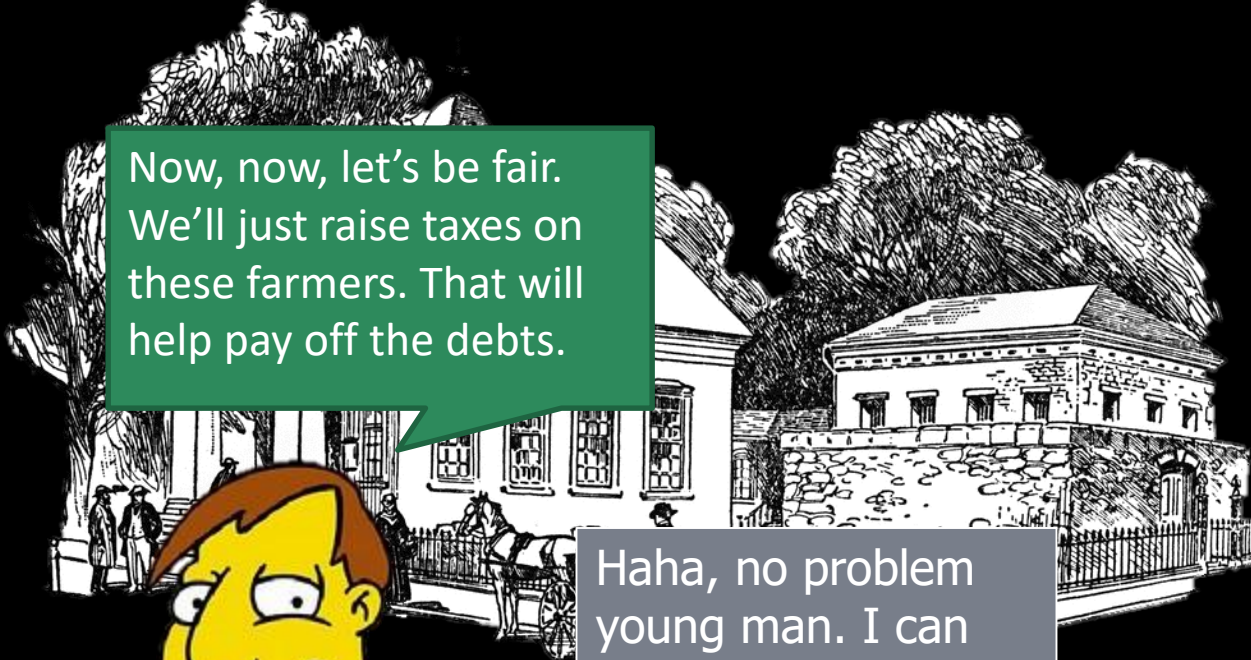
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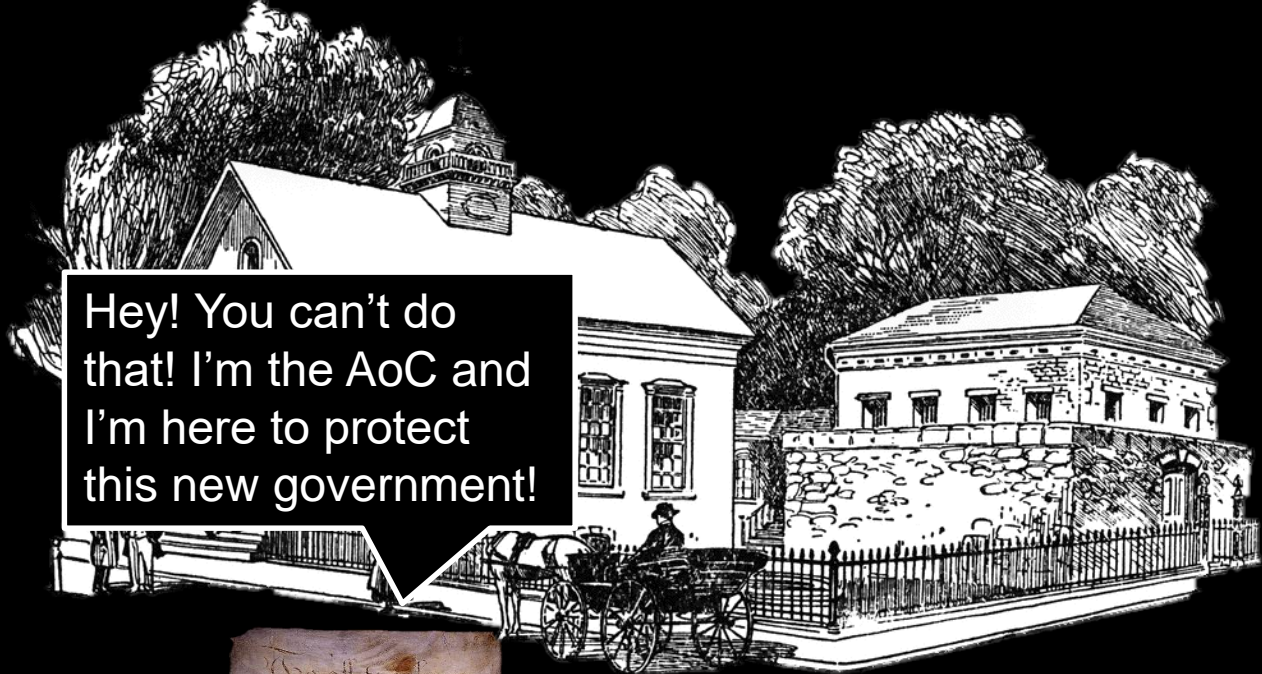
Well, I guess we'll just destroy the government again then.

Now, now, let's be fair. We'll just raise taxes on these farmers. That will help pay off the debts.

Haha, no problem young man. I can just take your entire farm instead!

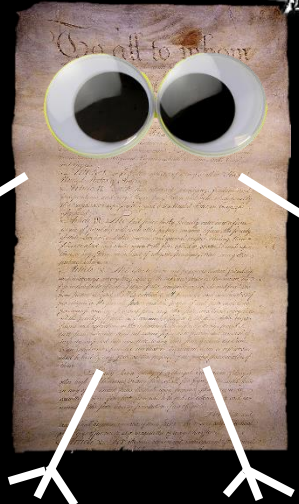


AAZor



Hey! You can't do that! I'm the AoC and I'm here to protect this new government!

Yeah? You and what army?



Oh... um. Dang. Good point. Man, I'm worthless.



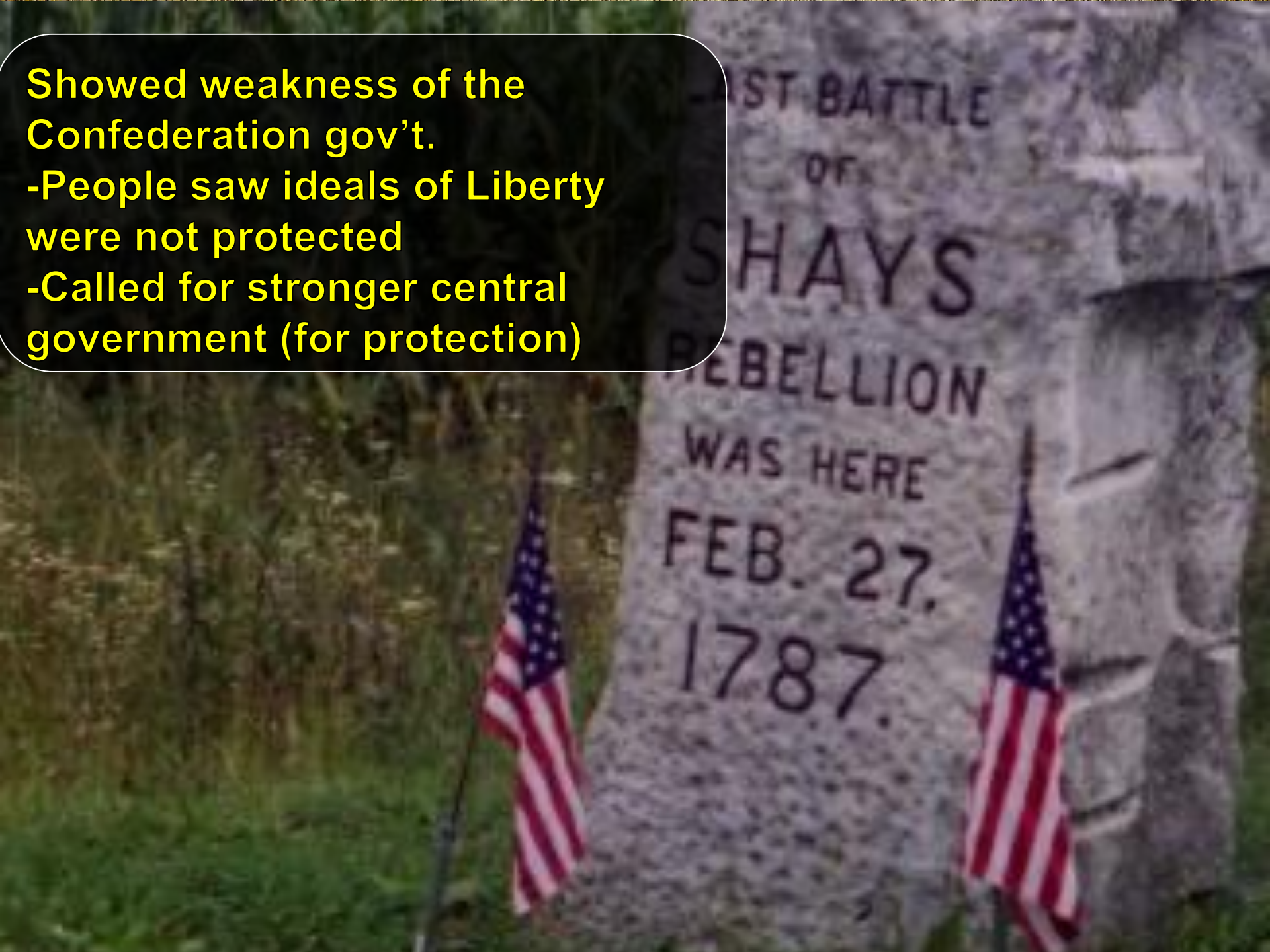
# Shays' Rebellion

An illustration depicting a scene from Shays' Rebellion. In the foreground, a group of men, some in military-style uniforms and others in civilian clothing, are marching. One man in the center holds a red flag with white horizontal stripes. The men are carrying various weapons, including rifles and pikes. The background shows a hazy, outdoor setting with more figures in the distance.

MA farmers rebelled against new taxes and heavy debts. Citizens agreed with rebels

Put down by state troops. The Articles of Confederation were powerless to stop them.

**Showed weakness of the  
Confederation gov't.  
-People saw ideals of Liberty  
were not protected  
-Called for stronger central  
government (for protection)**



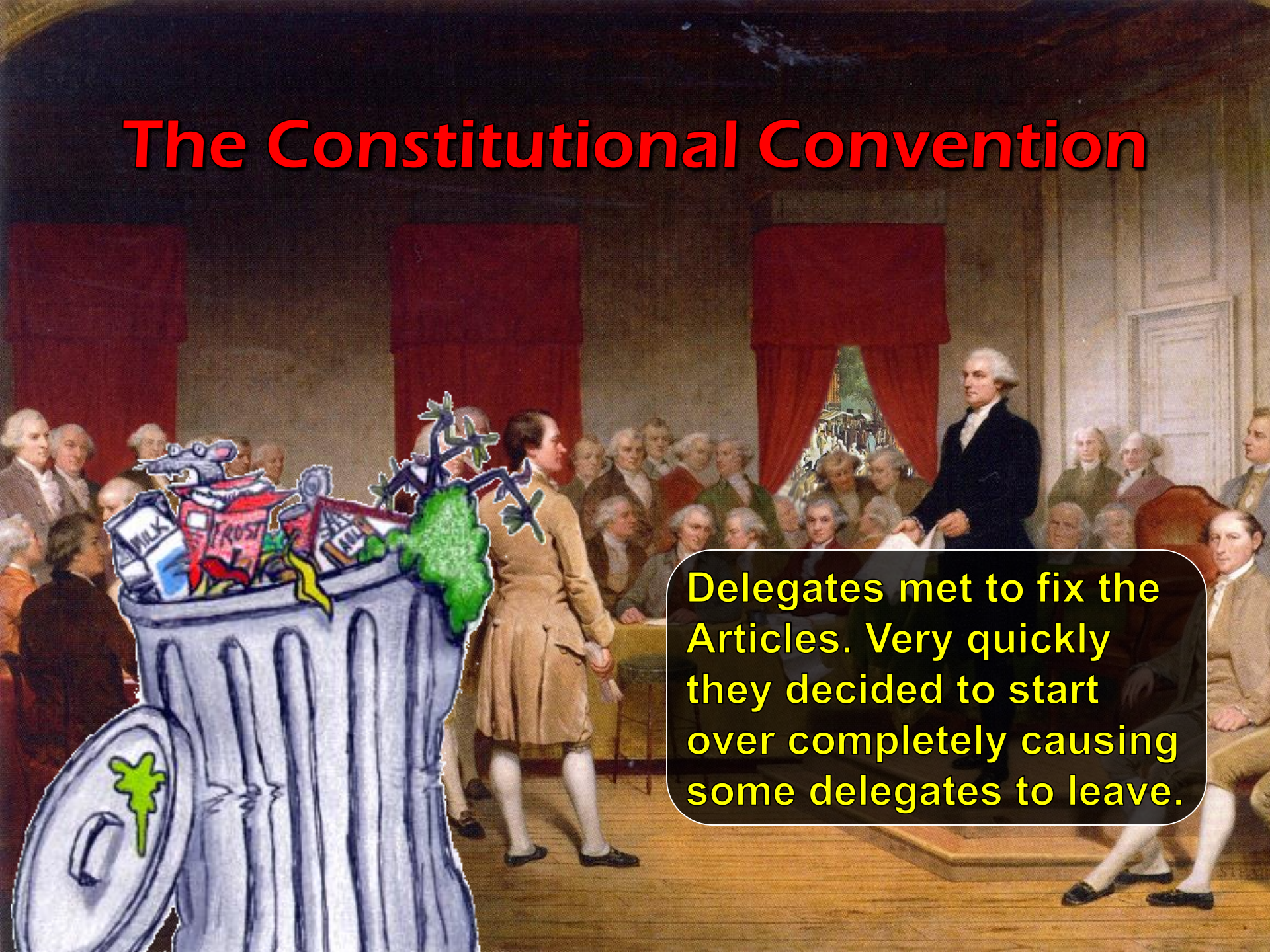
LAST BATTLE  
OF  
SHAYS  
REBELLION  
WAS HERE  
FEB. 27.  
1787.

We the People

SO NOW  
WHAT?



# The Constitutional Convention



Delegates met to fix the Articles. Very quickly they decided to start over completely causing some delegates to leave.

# Secrecy

All of the discussions were kept secret so they could give their honest opinions.



# Secrecy

A background painting depicting a historical assembly, likely the British House of Commons, with several men in 18th-century attire seated at a long table. The scene is set in a grand, wood-paneled room with a red curtain on the left and a large doorway in the background.

## Rules

That no copy be taken of any entry on the Journal, during the sitting of the House, without leave of the House.

That members only be permitted to inspect the Journal.

That nothing spoken in the House be printed, or otherwise published, or communicated, without leave.

# 3 Big Questions

How will representation in the government be determined?

What will we do about the presidency?

What about slavery?



# Representation



## Population

Number of votes based on a state's population.



## Equality

Number of votes equal among the states.



## Wealth

Number of votes based on a state's wealth.



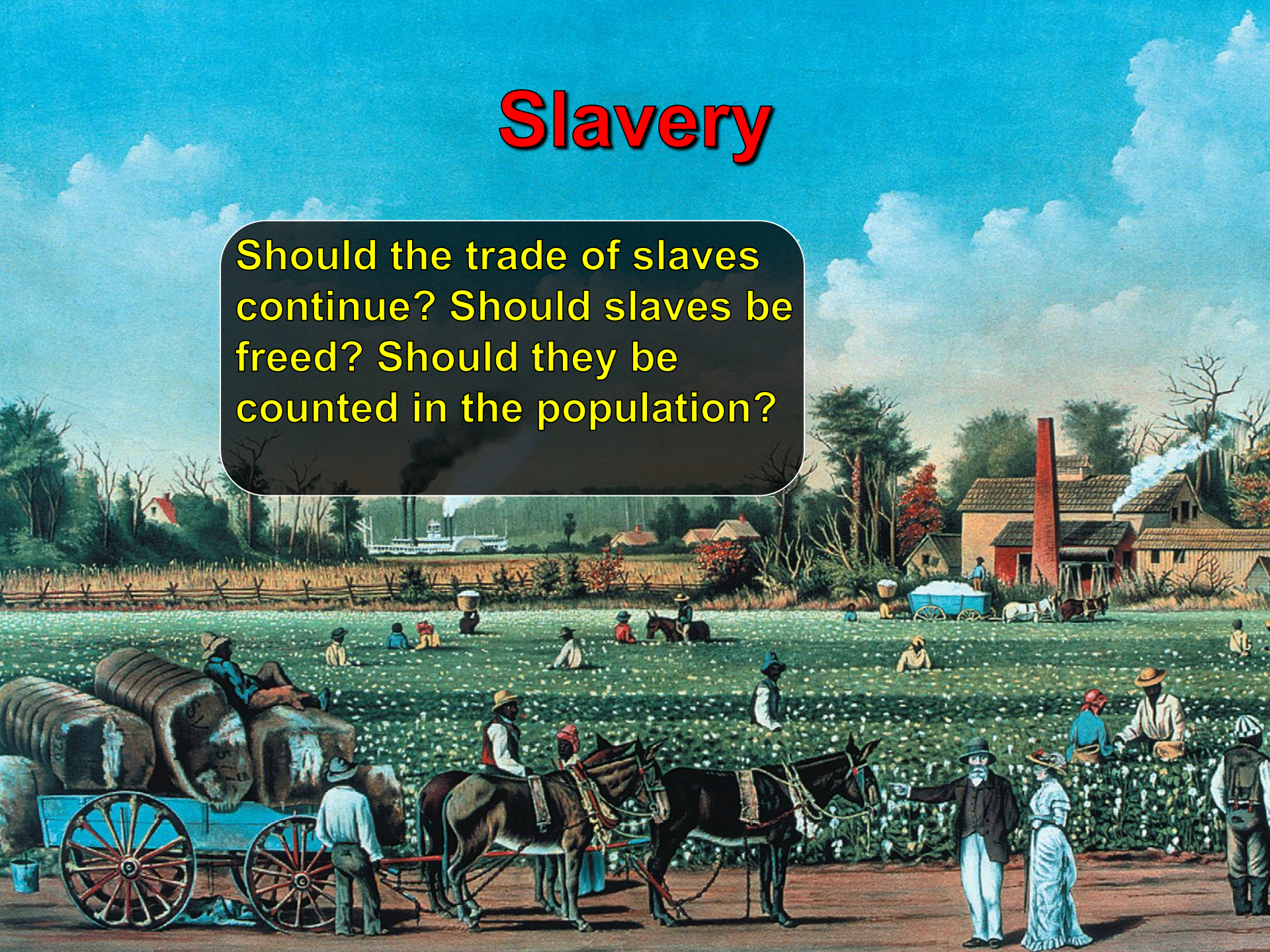
# The Presidency

Should the government have a single president with military authority or is that too much like a king?



# Slavery

Should the trade of slaves continue? Should slaves be freed? Should they be counted in the population?



# Brain Snack



A close-up, high-angle photograph of a computer keyboard. The central focus is a single key with the words "RESEARCH" and "CHALLENGE" printed on it in a bold, sans-serif font. The key is light blue and has rounded corners. The surrounding keys are also light blue, with some showing partial characters like a dash and a vertical line. The lighting is soft, creating subtle shadows and highlights on the keys' surfaces.

**RESEARCH  
CHALLENGE**

**BONUS EDITION**  
**OVER 35 ALL NEW OUTTAKES**

Robert De Niro

Ben Stiller

# Meet the Delegates



# Find the following info as quickly as possible.

1. Delegate who wrote the first draft of the Constitution.
2. Name and age of the youngest delegate.
3. Name and age of the oldest delegate.
4. One thing all the delegates had in common.
5. One other thing all the delegates had in common.
6. The delegate with the same name as a major historical figure – only reversed.

Find the following info as quickly  
as possible.

7. The state that did not send any delegates.
8. The only delegate to later be president.
9. Three delegates who are on money.
10. One of the delegates who died in a duel (there was more than one!)