Early 19c Industrialization in America: The Market Revolution

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ESSENTIAL QUESTION:

What were the results of early 19th century industrialization in America?
First Turnpike- 1790 Lancaster, PA

By 1832, nearly 2400 mi. of road connected most major cities.
Cumberland (National Road), 1811
Conestoga Covered Wagons

Conestoga Trail, 1820s
Erie Canal System

1. Genesee Valley Canal
2. Oswego Canal
3. Black River Canal
4. Chenango Canal
5. Champlain Canal
Erie Canal, 1820s

Begun in 1817; completed in 1825
Robert Fulton & the Steamboat

1807: The Clermont
Principal Canals in 1840
Inland Freight Rates

The chart illustrates the change in inland freight rates from 1785 to 1865. The y-axis represents cents per ton-mile, and the x-axis represents the years from 1785 to 1865.

Key points:
- **Wagon rates**
- **Upstream river rates**
- **Downstream river rates**
- **Canal rates**
- **Railroad rates**

The chart shows a decline in freight rates over time, with different slopes indicating different modes of transportation and the evolution of transportation technologies.
Clipper Ships
The “Iron Horse” Wins! (1830)

1830 → 13 miles of track built by Baltimore & Ohio RR
By 1850 → 9000 mi. of RR track [1860 → 31,000 mi.]
The Railroad Revolution, 1850s

- Immigrant labor built the No. RRs.
- Slave labor built the So. RRs.
New Inventions: "Yankee Ingenuity"
Americans were willing to try anything.

They were first copiers, then innovators.

1800 → 41 patents were approved.

1860 → 4,357 " " " " 
Eli Whitney’s Cotton Gin, 1791

Actually invented by a slave!
Eli Whitney’s Gun Factory

Interchangeable Parts Rifle
Oliver Evans

First prototype of the locomotive

First automated flour mill
Cyrus McCormick & the Mechanical Reaper: 1831
Samuel F. B. Morse

1840 - Telegraph
Cyrus Field & the Transatlantic Cable, 1858
Elias Howe & Isaac Singer

1840s Sewing Machine
The “American Dream”

They all regarded material advance as the natural fruit of American republicanism & proof of the country’s virtue and promise.

A German visitor in the 1840s, Friedrich List, observed:

Anything new is quickly introduced here, including all of the latest inventions. There is no clinging to old ways. The moment an American hears the word “invention,” he pricks up his ears.