

Political Cartoon 11 

The Age of Jefferson

During the early 1800s, the United States became caught up in Europe's wars. The British navy forced American ships to stay out of French ports. France then blockaded all British ports, cutting off most American trade. President Thomas Jefferson placed an embargo on trade with both countries.

DIRECTIONS: Writing Explanations Study this cartoon. Then answer the questions that follow on a separate sheet of paper.

1. The figure in the center represents Thomas Jefferson. What is happening to him?
2. The other two figures are King George III and Napoleon Bonaparte. Which country does each one represent?
3. How do we know money was part of the dispute represented?
4. Do you think the cartoonist approves of these two rulers' actions? How can you tell?
5. What point does this cartoon make about the United States's role in Europe's affairs?



(Source: Pennsylvania Historical Society)