The Jeffersonian Republicans in Power: Party Operations, 1801-1809


Jefferson's party dominated American politics for the next two decades. One reason was that the Jeffersonians proved themselves to be willing to adapt to change. An example was the LOUISIANA PURCHASE of 1803. As a Republican, Jefferson initially felt that the president did not have the power to make such a large purchase (828,000 square miles). He recognized, however, that the price of $15 million (about three cents per acre) was a significant bargain, and that the purchase would double the size of the U.S. and also eliminate the danger of having an imperialist French colony on its border... Cunningham, Noble E., 1963. The Jeffersonian Republicans in Power: Party Operations, 1801-1809. Chapel Hill, N.C.: Univ. of North Carolina Press.