

Spring 2014

# Napoleon: The Warrior Unmasked

Drew A. Larson

Western Oregon University, [dlarson11@mail.wou.edu](mailto:dlarson11@mail.wou.edu)

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## Recommended Citation

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Napoleon:  
The Warrior Unmasked

By

Drew A Larson

Senior Seminar: Hst 499  
Professor David Doellinger  
Western Oregon University

Readers  
Professor Patricia Goldsworthy-Bishop  
Professor John L. Rector

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United States expansion, Latin American independence, and the legal equality of Frenchmen, in some degree are all attributed to Napoleon Bonaparte<sup>1</sup>. Contrary to popular belief Napoleon did more than just conquer much of Europe; he left a lasting impression on the world beyond his military prowess. Napoleon will not be examined as a warrior, but rather this thesis will deal with Napoleon as a man who changed the world. This thesis attempts to debunk the widely held notion of Napoleon as solely a military leader, or a simple emperor. It brings to light Napoleon's involvement in France, and upon the world, that ensured Napoleon a lasting legacy. This lasting legacy was not built solely by Napoleon's military career, but also by the politician from within. This thesis shows Napoleon's diversity, as he should be known for something more than just a warlord. Most importantly it gives depth to Napoleon and the events that he partook in that otherwise would be meaningless military achievements to people of the Common Era.

It has been nearly two centuries since Napoleon took his last breath, yet he is still revered in France as an amazing military leader, emperor, and political genius. In Napoleon's rise to power and rule of France there were cultural, economic, and political ramifications that followed Napoleon's military decision that have had greater repercussions on the world than his military campaigns. Through Napoleon increasing the size of the French empire it became his largest effect on the world; his sale of the Louisiana Purchase, ceding of Haiti, and conquering of Spain allowed the Napoleonic code to spread throughout the Western Hemisphere causing greater changes, both in duration and magnitude, than the Napoleonic Wars. As will be discussed later in this paper, the Louisiana Purchase, the unintentional cause of independence in Latin America, and the Napoleonic Code all had concomitant cultural, economic, and political results, whether they had either simple monetary outcomes or resulted in complex political ideals. France, and subsequently the rest of the world, has overlooked the effects of Napoleon's political rule, with

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<sup>1</sup> For the remainder of this paper Napoleon Bonaparte will be only referred to as Napoleon as Napoleon was of royalty, and those of royalty are referred to by their first name.

his greatest effects being seen through the changes in the size of the French empire. These changes single handedly caused cultural, political, and economic ramifications not only observable in France, but also through the countries that France dealt with, such as the United States and Saint Domingue.

Although some aspects of Napoleon have been overlooked, his life has been examined through many different lenses throughout the course of history. He has been looked at in such depth because he was, and still is, revered as a great leader. Yet it seems as decades pass the idea of Napoleon also changes; within each generation, people tend to have similar views of Napoleon, but between generations the perception of Napoleon's rule changes.

Unfortunately, and to many historians' annoyance, there are two beliefs on the subject of Napoleon. The first belief is that Napoleon lived as a superb soldier and possessed a great mind. Napoleon, the savior of the French, had pulled the France out of their downward spiral, and regained their prior fame. The other, opposing, belief holds that Napoleon was a monstrous war hungry dictator; instead of a savior, Napoleon is viewed as a tyrant who sought world domination at all costs. These beliefs were held both during and after Napoleon's lifetime. Each side has constructed concrete argument, yet the modern, typical, view of Napoleon seems to be the latter of the two.

A leader in the second camp is the historian Phillip Dwyer. Dwyer authored two books: *Napoleon: The Path to Power* and *Citizen Emperor: Napoleon in Power*. In the first of the two part series Dwyer covers Napoleon's early life until he takes office, and in the second, he covers Napoleon's rule of France. Dwyer looks at Napoleon with a mission to prove his own agenda as he takes his already formed verdict to Napoleon's childhood to explain the man that Napoleon became. He does this by questioning primary sources as well as stories of Napoleon when he states "These stories – these myths – gained credence for being in print and were then simply

repeated by others, thereby assuming the weight of authority... The image of the child Napoleon as an asocial loner, picked on by his fellow students, who displayed a strong desire for liberty”<sup>2</sup>. The problem with this is that Dwyer is using his own reasoning for discrediting other works. The unintended consequence of Dwyer’s writing is that it hampers his ability to see the man that Napoleon blossoms into. In fact it directs Napoleon down one path that Dwyer has blazed in hopes that he will prove himself correct. This not only does not leave the possibility for the reader to make an educated decision, but it also makes that decision for them. Dwyer uses a postmodernist view as he questions Napoleon, yet in a way to support his preconceived notions.

Laurent Dubois, unlike Dwyer, has a subtle bias, as most writers do, as he does his best to tell a story that has not been told. Dubois has much of the same philosophical viewpoint as Dwyer, yet he looks at Napoleon’s dealings in the Caribbean. Dubois, the author of *The Haitian Revolution and the Sale of Louisiana* as well as *Slave Revolution in the Carribean, 1789-1804: A Brief History with Documents* tries to be as unbiased, and for the better part of his writings he is successful. Dubois tells his story by bringing to light newer writings that had previously not been looked at nearly deep enough. Although the reader may not see what Dubois is trying to portray, it is evident in what Dubois shows the reader. Dubois shows his bias by not showing all of the information to the reader, rather the information that Dubois shows the reader is what he believes has not only not been unheard by many, but never told. This is seen through the articles that he presents in his book *The Haitian Revolution and the Sale of Louisiana* as well as *Slave Revolution in the Carribean, 1789-1804: A Brief History with Documents*.

In direct contrast to Dwyer and Dubois, Toussaint L’Ouverture was a contemporary to Napoleon. In his memoir, L’Ouverture tries to understand Napoleon. The memoir of Toussaint

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<sup>2</sup> Philip G. Dwyer, *Napoleon: The Path to Power* (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2008), 30.

Louverture falls into the category nationalism. In Louvertures memoir he wishes to follow Napoleon, but it seems as if Napoleon has burnt that bridge. Louverture uses a nationalist view when he tries to convince his country men to work as it would not only benefit Saint Domingue, but the French empire as well. Louverture said, “I did oblige my fellow-countrymen to work; it was to teach them the value of true liberty without license; it was to prevent corruption of morals; it was for the general happiness of the island, for the interest of the Republic”<sup>3</sup> reflecting on how he had convinced his countrymen to work in Saint Domingue. Throughout his memoir which is attempting to understand the reason for his imprisonment, Louverture shows many ideals supporting his nationalistic view. He shows this as he attempts to explain his understanding of the situation. In this attempt he shows how he never tried to defy the French crown, “I determined to obey the order of the First Consul”<sup>4</sup>, as well as trying to implement the reforms of the French Empire. Louverture portrays himself as a servant of the empire.

Much like Louverture, François marquis de Barbé-Marbois’s memoir on the Louisiana Purchase Marbois takes a favorable view of Napoleon, but with a nationalistic philosophy. Marbois certainly joins the camp that believes Napoleon was a great leader and the savior to the French. Marbois show his favorable view of Napoleon when he says, “Napoleon had hardly seized the helm, when he acknowledged the great impolicy of this war”<sup>5</sup>. In saying this Marbois shows that Napoleon was more than just a warrior looking for a battle. It shows that Napoleon understood the consequences of war and foreshadows his political success. Marbois’s favorable view of Napoleon may be due to his close connection to Napoleon while serving as the secretary

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<sup>3</sup> J. R. Beard, "Memoir of General Toussaint L'Ouverture. Written by Himself.," Autobiography by Toussaint Louverture, section goes here, accessed April 23, 2014, <http://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/toussaint-louverture/memoir/index.htm>.

<sup>4</sup> Beard, *Memoir of General Toussaint L'Ouverture. Written by Himself.*

<sup>5</sup> François Barbé-Marbois, *The History of Louisiana: Particularly of the Cession of That Colony to the United States of America: With an Introductory Essay on the Constitution and Government of the United States*, trans. William Beach Lawrence (Philadelphia: Carey & Lea, 1830), 96.

of treasury during Napoleon's reign. In Marbios's attempt to explain the Louisiana Purchase he shows the sale as a benefit to the French.

With these three different views spanning four different philosophical views helped form this thesis. Although many other works are also being used, as well as prior knowledge, these three views seem to be the most evident. In looking at these different views, one can see that the views have changed over time, and a more progressive philosophy is being used in the modern era in this particular subject.

### **In the Beginning**

Early on it was evident that Napoleon Bonaparte was born to be a military leader, but his expertise went unnoticed until 1796 when he took his post leading the Italian campaign. Both his intelligence and skill in regards to political leadership reestablished France as a world power being more than France could have hoped for. Napoleon's childhood and military education is necessary, to understand, how Napoleon was shaped into a leader without comparison. Napoleon's background is essential to understanding the 'how and why' of Napoleon's achievements and his thought process. Napoleon was born on August fifteenth 1769 to Carlo Maria Di Buonapartes<sup>6</sup> and Letizia Maria Ramolino, only a year after the French had purchased Corsica from Genoese<sup>7</sup>, located on the coast of Italy.<sup>8</sup> Napoleon was just the second surviving child, of eight, to the Bonapartes. Carlo, although a military man, and an advocate of the Corsican revolt against the French, was also a lawyer. Carlo used the skill of law to not only right many wrongs, but to gain access to French schooling for Napoleon. Carlo can also be attributed with introducing Napoleon to the art of law that he would use to create the Napoleonic Code.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> This was the original last name of Napoleon, but was later changed to Bonaparte.

<sup>7</sup> Genoese is now known as Genoa.

<sup>8</sup> Vincent Cronin, *Napoleon Bonaparte; an Intimate Biography*. (New York: Morrow, 1972), 19.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid*, 27.

After several years of schooling in Corsica, at the age of nine, he began his venture in the Brienne Military Academy, which only opened two years prior in hopes to combat French military losses.<sup>10</sup> Brienne was meant to be a “vigorous and rude’ education that would make the rest of their lives appear easy”<sup>11</sup>. When he arrived at Brienne, Napoleon did not comprehend the French language, as he grew up speaking Italian while he lived in Corsica. Even when he learned French his Corsican-Italian accent was noticeably thick being that Italian was his native tongue.<sup>12</sup> At fifteen, Napoleon, left Brienne, and headed off to Ecole Militaire, where he would finish his Military schooling.<sup>13</sup> However, the following year Carlo died from his nagging illness cutting into the funding for Napoleon, significantly decreasing his budget and causing him to finish at Ecole Militaire in only one year. Napoleon studied to become an officer of artillery, considered the most advanced course at the time, but Napoleon rose to the challenge and used his advanced arithmetic skills. In result, Napoleon concluded as the first Corsican to graduate from the school that normally took students several years to complete.<sup>14</sup>

Upon graduating, Napoleon became commissioned as a lieutenant in the French military at the early age of sixteen. He did not experience much fighting at this age, but continued training and learning while under the tutelage of Baron du Teil, who was a leading gunner during the late eighteenth century.<sup>15</sup> Napoleon’s first leading position of the French army was through the Italian campaign. Napoleon earned his spot as commander and chief of a battered group in Italy in March of 1796.<sup>16</sup> Barras being the lead backer in Napoleon’s promotion defended his decision by

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<sup>10</sup> Ibid, 31.

<sup>11</sup> Dwyer, *Napoleon: The Path to Power*, 28

<sup>12</sup> Cronin, *Napoleon Bonaparte; an Intimate Biography*, 30.

<sup>13</sup> Dwyer, *Napoleon: The Path to Power*, 33.

<sup>14</sup> J. Holland Rose, *The Personality of Napoleon*, (New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1912), 7.

<sup>15</sup> Philip Bloom, "The Emperor's Youth," [Http://www.napoleon-series.org/research/napoleon/c\\_youth.html](http://www.napoleon-series.org/research/napoleon/c_youth.html), section goes here, accessed October 15, 2013, <http://www.napoleon-series.org>.

<sup>16</sup> J. G. Lockhart and I. B. Bosio, *The History of Napoleon Buonaparte.*, vol. 1 (New-York:: Printed and Published by J. & J. Harper, No. 82 Cliff-Street. And Sold by the Principal Booksellers throughout the United States., 1832), 36.

exclaiming ‘advance this man, or he will advance without you’<sup>17</sup>. The Army Napoleon began to lead started in shambles and was not expected to do much. He started this campaign quickly and launched his first offensive within his first month. In the Italian theater he had much success, advancing within 100 miles of Vienna, and forced a ‘cease fire’ with the Austrians. Napoleon’s success in Italy gained him the privilege of leading the new offensive on Egypt, however, Napoleon’s success did not match the levels he had achieved in Italy. In part his success was limited by how well he understood the Egyptians.

Napoleon, although positioned for success by his schooling, would not have reached his vast achievements had France’s turmoil not been present. Not only would his achievements been limited, but the speed in which he climbed through the ranks would have been greatly reduced in comparison. This turmoil began in 1789, when the Estates-General proclaimed itself as the national Constituent Assembly.<sup>18</sup> To seal this change from monarchy to republic, France aimed to rid itself of its monarch, Louis XVI. In doing this France executed Louis XVI, leaving no hope for it to return to the monarchy it had known so well.<sup>19</sup>

This was inevitable, as Robespierre, a bloodthirsty leader, had led the revolution. This was not to be the last change that France would see. In July of 1794 Robespierre would befall the same fate that he had put so many through the guillotine, paving the way for yet another change in French leadership.<sup>20</sup> In 1795, the Directory seemed to be a lasting power as it created the stability France had been craving.<sup>21</sup> Under this rule, as stated above, Napoleon would get his start, as the Directory supplied Napoleon with a campaign in Italy, and then Egypt. The Directory was short lived though, due to its corruption and lack of leadership . On November 9<sup>th</sup>, 1799, upon

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<sup>17</sup> *Ibdi*, 37.

<sup>18</sup> Dwyer, *Napoleon: The Path to Power*, 55.

<sup>19</sup> Philip G. Dwyer and Peter McPhee, *The French Revolution and Napoleon: A Sourcebook* (London: Routledge, 2002), 76-77.

<sup>20</sup> *Ibid*, 110-113

<sup>21</sup> *Ibid*, 121-122

Napoleon's return from his failure in Egypt, Napoleon led the coup d'état.<sup>22</sup> Napoleon successfully overthrew the unpopular directory with ease.<sup>23</sup> Napoleon inserted a consulate in the place of the directory, and took this new position. After Napoleon had taken power, as the consulate, he soon established himself as the consulate for life in 1802.<sup>24</sup> In 1804 he became the French Emperor and soon after established himself as Emperor for life.<sup>25</sup> The fashion of Napoleon's coronation reached extravagance when he invited the pope. Yet as the Pope, Pius VII, began to crown Napoleon Emperor, Napoleon took the crown and crowned himself emperor.<sup>26</sup> In doing this Napoleon made a statement that he would not be subject to anyone, not even the Catholic Church.

On the subject of Napoleon, there are a vast number of primary sources, many of them falling into the category of letters. Many of these letters were love letters, and thus do not pertain to the topic of Napoleon's effect on the world. Yet there are still hundreds of primary sources that involve Napoleon. In examining these sources, this thesis provides a new insight on Napoleon's effects that he left on the world. This thesis takes a new avenue by looking at nonmilitary effects of Napoleon, although each new avenue may be, in some way, connected to warfare of Napoleon. When looking at the effect that Napoleon left historians tend to take a micro look at a specific idea or event that involved Napoleon. This thesis, in turn, looks at Napoleon's political, social, and economic effect by using specialized sources on topics such as the Napoleonic Code, the Louisiana Purchase, and Latin America.

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<sup>22</sup> Philip G. Dwyer, *Citizen Emperor: Napoleon in Power* (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2013), 483.

<sup>23</sup> *Ibid*, 464

<sup>24</sup> *Ibid*, 102

<sup>25</sup> *Ibid*, 161

<sup>26</sup> James Harvey Robinson and Charles A. Beard, *Readings in Modern European History; a Collection of Extracts from the Sources Chosen with the Purpose of Illustrating Some of the Chief Phases of Development of Europe during the Last Two Hundred Years*, (Boston: Ginn & Company, 1908), 485.

One such topic, the French civil code, which uses the primary source of the Napoleonic Code. As this topic would not be complete without using the actual document, this thesis looks at a translated version. The Napoleonic Code, which was commissioned by Napoleon, is used to validate its own effects. In doing this, the Napoleonic Code helps explain the popularity and longevity for its own use. The insight given through the articles in this code also help the reader understand some of Napoleon's ideals. Without this code Napoleon's ideals would not be as concrete, nor would they be known in depth.

To contrast the Napoleonic Code, and to come to a better understanding of it, other European civil codes were examined while writing this thesis, as will be discussed. Looking at alternate civil codes strengthens the viewpoint that the Napoleonic Code continues to have an effect on the world with the many countries using some part of the Napoleonic Code as their own civil code, which will be examined later. The additional civil codes examined are not simply those implemented in France, but those that were implemented all over the world. These codes come from countries that Napoleon conquered and those that simply adopted Napoleon's greatest political document.

In addition, to the Napoleonic Code being the primary document needed in its own analysis, the Louisiana Purchase is also used in this thesis. Like the Napoleonic Code, in order to analyze the Louisiana Purchase the treaty is essential to understand the unbiased view on this topic. The Louisiana Purchase's unbiased account is due to both parties fully agreeing to the terms that were contracted. The credit of the purchase is given to two Americans (Robert R. Livingston and James Monroe) and one Frenchman (François Barbé-Marbois), although Napoleon himself commissioned and 'signed off' on it. The outcome of signing this document had more than just a great affect on the United States.

As the Louisiana Purchase is solely based on the treaty between the United States and France, writings from both parties are needed in order to create a depth on the subject. Livingston and Monroe provide the American viewpoint through letters that they wrote during the negotiations to James Madison<sup>27</sup> in attempts to receive permission and inform Thomas Jefferson<sup>28</sup>. As for France Francois Barbe-Marbois acted as the sole French negotiator. In order to look at the Louisiana Purchase through the eyes of a Frenchmen this thesis has drawn from Francois Barbe-Marbois's memoir on the Louisiana Purchase.

The third and final topic that this thesis looks to examine, Saint Domingue (Haiti) and Latin America posed a larger challenge. The challenge in the realm of Saint Domingue was that Napoleon did not want, or like, to acknowledge Toussaint Louverture. Louverture was the leader of Saint Domingue, and had written many letters to Napoleon and a memoir on his last days in Saint Domingue. Louverture's memoir is used to understand the treatment of the former slaves as well as get the viewpoint of a native inhabitant of Saint Domingue. Latin America posed a challenge as Napoleon did not directly affect the Spanish colonies.

This topic deals with more than just Saint Domingue, although Saint Domingue is the focal point of the discussion. Saint Domingue may be the country in which France had the most direct affect on in Latin America, but many of the European colonies were affected as well. The primary sources discuss this, are those that handle each individual colonies struggle to become an independent country. Although these primary sources are not used to go as in depth as those that involve Saint Domingue, they are still necessary to validate the effect of Napoleon.

### **The Louisiana Purchase**

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<sup>27</sup> James Madison (4<sup>th</sup> president of the United States) was the secretary of state during the Louisiana Purchase.

<sup>28</sup> Thomas Jefferson was the president during the Louisiana Purchase.

Napoleon can be synonymous for national growth. The French empire grew vastly under Napoleon's rule, but this is rather well known. What one may not realize is that the United States also grew under Napoleon. The United State's growth occurred because of the Louisiana Purchase, or the Sale of Louisiana as dubbed in France. The Louisiana Purchase was the sale of the rights to the land west of the Mississippi, or at least what France had the claim to. France had only recently reacquired Louisiana from the Spanish on 1800.<sup>29</sup> Napoleon had big plans for Louisiana and would not easily part with the land.

Napoleon had thought the Louisiana Territory to be a piece of the puzzle to rule the world. Napoleon acquired Louisiana in an effort to support Frances prized colony of Saint Domingue. Saint Domingue had formerly been a slave colony in the Caribbean that had cash crops of sugar and coffee, and had also been Frances most profitable colony by far. The down side to Saint Domingue, being extremely profitable in regards to growing sugar and coffee was that virtually no other crops were grown, so that the land was not producing the crops necessary to sustain society on the island. France provided for Saint Domingue's colonial needs as the solution. A new problem arose because the British, and more importantly the Americans were 'smuggling' in goods.<sup>30</sup> This is why Napoleon placed such a high premium on Louisiana: Napoleon planned to use a portion of the Louisiana Territory to provide for Saint Domingue.

There was a problem with Saint Domingue, however, as they were unwilling to work with Napoleon, or at least with his plan. By 1803 Napoleon realized the lost cause of Saint Domingue, as will be expanded upon in the following pages. This also made Louisiana a lost cause as "the rebels of Saint Domingue had drastically limited Napoleon's capacity to fulfill his

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<sup>29</sup> Robert R. Livingston and James Monroe, *To James Madison from Robert R. Livingston and James Monroe*, 13 May 1803

<sup>30</sup> Laurent Dubois, "The Haitian Revolution and the Sale of Louisiana," *Southern Quarterly*, Spring 2007, 44, no. 3 (March 3, 2007): 20, accessed April 17, 2014, <http://ezproxy.wou.edu:4106/ehost/detail?sid=92305d59-30a2-455d-95ec-e6b420d3f53b%40sessionmgr4003&vid=1&hid=4214&bdata=JnNpdGU9ZWWhvc3QtbGl2ZQ%3d%3d#db=aph&AN=25930159>.

western design and to project powers in the Americas”<sup>31</sup>. Upon the realization of this, Napoleon turned to Denis Decrès, the minister of the Navy and the Colonies, who opposed the sale, as well as François marquis de Barbé-Marbois, the minister of the treasury, who favored the sale of Louisiana. After taking into account their input, Napoleon said, “I renounce Louisiana”, adding, “It is not only New Orleans the I cede, it is the whole colony without reservations”<sup>32</sup>. Following this comment Napoleon made another to Barbé-Marbois saying, “I require a great deal of money for this war<sup>33</sup>”, speaking of the Napoleonic wars that were soon to come, and then added, “But keep this to yourself. I want fifty millions, and for less than that sum I will not treat”<sup>3435</sup>. Napoleon realized that he needed money to fund the war, against the English, in which he had already committed to. The sale of Louisiana could not have been made at a better time as the Napoleonic wars<sup>36</sup> were just beginning.

The sale of Louisiana may have been a function of Napoleon and his warring expansion, but its effect was much greater than a sale of a ‘worthless’ asset. The Americans, the major beneficiaries of this treaty, saw it not only as a way to protect against a possible French invasion, but also as a way to maintain the rights of the Americans shipping their goods down the Mississippi. Thomas Jefferson, the president of the United States in 1803, was credited with the Louisiana Purchase, but in actuality Robert R. Livingston and James Monroe negotiated the

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<sup>31</sup> David B. Gaspar and David Patrick, *A Turbulent Time: The French Revolution and the Greater Caribbean*, Bloomington (Indiana University Press, 1997), 210.

<sup>32</sup> Barbé-Marbois, *The History of Louisiana: Particularly of the Cession of That Colony to the United States of America: With an Introductory Essay on the Constitution and Government of the United States*, 274.

<sup>33</sup> Napoleon is referring to the war that he was involved in, with Great Britain.

<sup>34</sup> There was no specification to whether this was 50 million US dollars or 50 Million francs. If it was francs he ended up with nearly double (80 million francs), but if it was US dollars he got less than a fourth (15 million dollars).

<sup>35</sup> Barbé-Marbois *The History of Louisiana: Particularly of the Cession of That Colony to the United States of America: With an Introductory Essay on the Constitution and Government of the United States*, 275

<sup>36</sup> The Napoleonic Wars were a series of wars against Great Britain from 1803-1815.

purchase.<sup>37</sup> Jefferson originally had sent Livingston to only acquire one city, New Orleans, in an effort to gain a port located low on the Mississippi river that Americans could use. Jefferson had commissioned Livingston ten million dollars to acquire the lone city. Napoleon being disgusted by the turn of events involving Saint Domingue exclaimed, “They ask for one town in Louisiana [New Orleans]; but I consider the whole colony as completely lost”<sup>38</sup>. After many weeks of negotiations, both parties agreed on a fair figure, fifteen million dollars<sup>39</sup> for the entire Louisiana Territory. This broke down to 11,250,000 for the colony and 3,750,000 to pay for the American citizen debts to France.

The Louisiana Purchase was astronomically beneficial for the United States. To give it some validation, Livingston, upon signing the document declared, “We have lived long, but this is the noblest work of our lives...the United States take their place as among the powers of the first rank”<sup>40</sup>. Shortly after Napoleon quoted “strength forever the power of the United States, and I have just given to England a maritime rival, that sooner or later will humble her pride”<sup>41</sup>. In these negotiations the United States gained 828,000 square miles of land. With just the stroke of a pen, The Louisiana Purchase doubled the size of the United States. The price per acre cost the United States approximately three cents.

As one can see, the Louisiana Purchase was a monumental treaty for the United States. As previously mentioned Napoleon commissioned the Louisiana Purchase, and without Napoleon’s consent it would not have taken place. Although the United States may have eventually gained the Louisiana Territory, it is not certain. As for the United States, without this

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<sup>37</sup> Robert R. Livingston, James Monroe, and Francois Barbe-Marbois, *Louisiana Purchase, Library of Congress*, 8th Cong., 1st sess., Res., Louisiana Purchase, accessed April 15, 2014, <http://ezproxy.wou.edu:5283/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=llsl&fileName=008/llsl008.db&recNum=218>.

<sup>38</sup> Thomas J. Fleming, *The Louisiana Purchase* (Hoboken, NJ: J. Wiley, 2003), 110.

<sup>39</sup> Fifteen million US dollars was equivalent to eighty million Francs.

<sup>40</sup> John W. Francis, *An Address: Delivered on the Anniversary of the Philolexian Society of Columbia College, May 15, 1831* (New York: G. & C. & H. Carvill, 1831), 37.

<sup>41</sup> Francis *An Address: Delivered on the Anniversary of the Philolexian Society of Columbia College*, 38.

territory, it would not be the Nation it is today. Thus this has not only affected the United States, as it effectively doubled in size, but also the world that the United States has influenced.

When looking at the effects of The Louisiana Purchase one must look at how large the political effects are on both parties: The United States and France. This treaty became the pinnacle of Thomas Jefferson's presidency, and also boosted James Monroe. Monroe benefited from this as he ran for, and became, the fifth president of the United States. The Louisiana Purchase weakened the French holdings in the Western Hemisphere, which would later help James Monroe achieve his 'Monroe Doctrine'.

Although France downsized in land, the investment quickly became beneficial for the French. In France, politically, it allowed the French Empire to consolidate and redirect its focus on what seemed like the inevitable: the Napoleonic Wars. Politically, the fifteen million US dollars would fund Napoleon, who would eventually rage through Europe and it would gain Francois Barbé-Marbois favor under Napoleon, allowing him to advance in France. As for Napoleon, politically, this like many decisions that he made later in his life, had little to no affect due to his status as emperor for life. Yet it allowed Napoleon to maintain his strong character that he had tried so hard to build. This is due to Napoleon choosing to sell Louisiana, rather than it being taken away, by means of war, which he had envisioned, or it being sold out of desperation. The Louisiana Purchase also benefited France by strengthening the ties between the United States and the French Empire. With the sale France maintained diminishing rights to the New Orleans port for many years to come.<sup>42</sup> If nothing else, it gave the United States and the French Empire strong enough ties for the United States to not oppose France in the Napoleonic Wars.

Not to be forgotten is the effect that the Louisiana Purchase left on France. As previously stated, France gained fifteen million US dollars. In the present standards fifteen million dollars is

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<sup>42</sup> Livingston, *Louisiana Purchase*, *Library of congress*.

not seen as a vast wealth, but two hundred years ago it was considered vast sum, it being figured at approximately 230 million US dollars today, when adjusted for inflation.<sup>43</sup> If the land was purchased today, not only would the price have been higher, it also would have been worth more as the standard of living has drastically changed. Adding to this Napoleon saw his return on investment immediately, where as the United States would not fully understand their investment for years to come.

While the Louisiana Purchase had a substantial social affect on the United States, France, being removed by nearly five thousand miles, was relatively unaffected. The French leaving the United States gave the Americans reassurance that their customs and ways would not be changed, and that there would be continued resting peace with the French. The American people also gained hope, as the westward expansion would become a real, tangible possibility. The young age of the United States also played a large role in the significance of the treaty. In the United States there were men, such as Thomas Jefferson, who believed that the United States constitution<sup>44</sup> needed to be taken at face value and word-for-word. In strictly following the constitution in this way the Louisiana Purchase would have never occurred, as it did not clearly address acquiring new lands. Jefferson defied the constitution in allowing the agreement because he saw it as betterment for his young nation. Without the Louisiana Purchase the lives of Americans could very well be different.

The Economics of the Louisiana Purchase were larger that just a simple transition. The purchase allowed the United States to be considered an economic first world country and also showed the world that the United States as an economically stable country. This achievement came relatively quick considering that the United States had only been a nation for less than three

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<sup>43</sup> Morgan S. Friedmen, "The Inflation Calculator," The Inflation Calculator, May 20, 2014, section goes here, accessed May 20, 2014, <http://www.westegg.com/inflation/infl.cgi>.

<sup>44</sup> The constitution was ratified in 1787.

decades. On the French end of the bargain they gained another world player to dilute their mortal enemy, Great Britain, share in the world market. France also gained in being able to sell a piece of land that they may have lost in the future to either the United States or to another nation upon their defeat. Frances monetary profit, as stated earlier, totaled at fifteen million US dollars. This sum enabled Napoleon to fuel France in his guilty pleasure, the Napoleonic Wars. The Napoleonic Wars, more specifically the take over of Spain, was a direct use of the monetary gain that Napoleon received from the sale of Louisiana. This caused many countries in Latin America to gain their freedom, which can be read in depth throughout this thesis.

Napoleon's dealings with the Louisiana Purchase had an immense, direct, affect on the United States, and through the United States an indirect affect on the world. Yet the Louisiana Purchase relied heavily upon Napoleon's break from Saint Domingue as will be discussed in depth. Yet had Saint Domingue not broken away from France, Napoleon's use for Louisiana would have been present as a dependent variable in Napoleon's idea on westward expansion. France, in a sense, abandoned Louisiana, yet many French people still lived in the territory. With this said it is no wonder that Louisiana quickly adopted the Napoleonic Code, although with minor revisions. As a matter of fact Louisiana is the only state in the United States that uses civil code (the style that the Napoleonic Code is written in). The other forty-nine states use common law. Due to this, in order to practice law in the United States it is nearly impossible to not have a degree from Louisiana and practice in the state of Louisiana.

### **The Napoleonic Code**

The French Civil Code, or better known as the Napoleonic Code, was named after its creator, Napoleon. The idea for the Napoleonic Code began in 1800 after Napoleon secured his position in France. He saw that France needed to revise its laws, not only because he did not agree with all of the laws, but also because the French legal system lacked uniformity. Instead of

uniformity, different regions had different rulings and laws in place, effectively making France seem like an amalgamation of different countries. The French legal system was so poor that Voltaire complained that a man traveling would have to change laws as often as he did horses.<sup>45</sup> In 1800 Napoleon began the task by employing Jean-Etienne-Marie Portalis as the lead editor of the code.<sup>46</sup> Napoleon attended nearly half of the 87 meetings, which the commission held, as the direct overseer.<sup>47</sup> The completion of the Napoleonic Code is marked near the end of 1801, but it would not be enacted until 1804.<sup>48</sup>

The Napoleonic Code's laws were not a new, ingenious idea. In fact, Napoleon had based much of this civil code on Roman law from the sixth century and the institutes embedded within the Corpus Juris Civilis.<sup>49</sup> The idea to revise French law was not even a new idea as the directory had tried five times in its four short years in power to enact major changes.<sup>50</sup> The concept of revising laws was not new to Europe, either, as Bavaria (1756), Prussia (1794), and Austria (1797) had all revised their own legal codes consolidating them into one legal code for their entire countries.<sup>51</sup> However, the Napoleonic Code differed in its application from other European codes; the European codes were only codes that governed relatively small groups of people or just a single country. Napoleon was able to export his code throughout Europe through the Napoleonic Wars. Although at first the Napoleonic code was forced upon Europe, it was, in most parts, just and unbiased toward every man.

The Napoleonic Code was not created solely for the upper class, in fact it lowered the status of the nobility as many had abused their power. The code covered contained laws that

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<sup>45</sup> Dwyer, *Citizen Emperor: Napoleon in Power*, 89.

<sup>46</sup> Robert B. Holtman, *The Napoleonic Revolution* (Philadelphia: Lippincott, 1967), 128.

<sup>47</sup> *Ibid*, 128.

<sup>48</sup> *Ibid*, 89.

<sup>49</sup> *Ibid*, 94.

<sup>50</sup> David Nicholls, *Napoleon: A Biographical Companion* (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 1999), 40.

<sup>51</sup> Britannia Associated, "Napoleonic Code," Encyclopedia Britannica Online, section goes here, accessed April 15, 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/women/article-9054824>.

applied to many different areas in life, from business practices to divorce and even slavery. The Napoleonic Code asserts that all Frenchmen are to be treated equal and that they may only be treated differently upon their own merit.<sup>52</sup> This is a pivotal issue in the code as it is addressed early on within the document (i.e., the seventh and eighth articles). The seventh article, “The exercise of civil rights is independent of the quality of citizen, which is only acquired and preserved conformably to the constitutional law.”<sup>53</sup>, explains that Frenchmen are to be judged on their own merit not their inheritance. Directly following this is the eighth article stating, “Every Frenchman shall enjoy civil rights”<sup>54</sup>. In declaring this, Napoleon assured political, as well as, social freedom and equality. This was somewhat of a new idea for the old European societies because it directly followed feudal laws, which stated that peoples rights were directly related to their status. These changes had an immediate affect on France and won the hearts of most Frenchmen as it promoted equality for all men.

Napoleon, an expert politician, did not stop with just the Napoleonic Code, but he went many steps further. Napoleon saw that there were areas that needed to be governed in his empire, but the laws governing these areas were ambiguous at best, and nonexistent at worst. This led him to create the Code of Civil Procedure, a Commercial Code, a Criminal Code, a Code of Criminal Procedure, and a Penal Code. The codes that followed the Napoleonic Code debuted from 1806 to 1810, building upon the strongly structured Napoleonic Code, and styled in the same vain.

Out of all of Napoleon’s achievements, Napoleon revered the Napoleonic Code as his greatest. And for good reason, as the Napoleonic Code would become Napoleon’s greatest direct affect on the world. The Napoleonic Code can be seen in many different countries and is still currently in use. Due to the Napoleonic Code’s diverse use throughout the world it has been

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<sup>52</sup> Jean-Etienne-Marie Portalis, "The Civil Code Index," The Civil Code Index, May 12, 2008, Title I, Chapter I, Articles 7-8, accessed April 1, 2014, [http://www.napoleon-series.org/research/government/c\\_code.html](http://www.napoleon-series.org/research/government/c_code.html).

<sup>53</sup> Ibid, Chapter I, Article 7

<sup>54</sup> Ibid, Chapter I, Article 8

regarded as one of the elite documents.<sup>55</sup> The Napoleonic Code, as previously mentioned, was not just a code for France, but for the whole world. Napoleon said, "I don't see why you need so much time or what changes must be made....A nation of eighteen hundred thousand cannot have a separate Code. The Romans gave their laws to their allies—why should not France have hers adopted in Holland?"<sup>56</sup> Just as Napoleon mentioned, with the Romans, he wanted the Napoleonic Code to stand the test of time. Napoleon boasted the Napoleonic Code as his greatest accomplishment, but he wanted it exported in its entirety rather than having people pick and choose the laws that they wanted.<sup>57</sup> The Napoleonic Code has technically stood the test of time, but a portion of the code has been greatly altered. Although many people do not know that they, or their countries, are using Napoleon's code, it is still present throughout the world today.

The Napoleonic Code had an extensive political affect on both France and the countries that fell under French rule in the ensuing years. The Napoleonic Code restructured politics in France by creating equality for all Frenchmen. Not only did the Napoleonic Code give equality, it also unified France under one set of laws. Through the Napoleonic Code, Napoleon's rule as the emperor of the France, was strengthened in two ways. The first, being that it showed Napoleon's wisdom. This diminished any doubts that he was incapable or unintelligent to lead. And the second being it rid France of the feudal system. In doing this it also created the Consulate. Through the Consulate Napoleon was able to manipulated this new system and become a consulate for life. This was soon outdone as Napoleon crowned himself emperor for life over the French Empire.

In the realm of the social structure, of France, the Napoleonic Code was a perfect fit for the needs of France. As stated above, the French Revolution had caused class changes, but

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<sup>55</sup> Holtman, *The Napoleonic Revolution*, 88

<sup>56</sup> Dwyer, *Citizen Emperor: Napoleon in Power*, 88.

<sup>57</sup> *Ibid*, 258.

nothing to the extent the Napoleonic Code would become known for. As the Napoleonic Code abolished the feudal system, it ensured equality, allowing one to be judged off of their own merit, rather than the name they had inherited. In doing this, it gave the French people assurance and peace of mind, through stability.

The Napoleonic Code had a large effect on the economics of France as a whole. The code consisted of three sections, with two of the sections dealing with property and the transfer of it. The code, as has been articulated, rid France of their previous economic system called the feudal system. The feudal system is, a system, where the rich seemed to increase their wealth and the poor tend to be driven deeper into poverty. The Napoleonic Code, disestablished the feudal system, and thus completely reestablished the economics of France and as well as those who adopted the code.

As the Napoleonic Code sits atop Napoleon's lasting legacy, making its affect abundant. These can be seen in the territory of Louisiana, as discussed above, as Louisiana adopted this civil code. The modifications that the Napoleonic Code underwent were minimal for Louisiana and the lifestyle that inhabited it. The code solidified slavery within the new territory that the United States had gained. Although Saint Domingue, being against slavery, as will be discussed, it too adopted the Napoleonic Code with slight revisions. As the Napoleonic Code originally encouraged slavery, it can be attributed to the independence in Saint Domingue. This is because the threat to return to slavery was immanent, thus fueling their revolt. The Napoleonic Code is flexible, unless it is forced upon you, such as was Saint Domingue's first encounter. The code's flexibility allows changes to take place as well as the possibility to evolve with people's morals and ideals. Louisiana and Saint Domingue were not the only territories in which the code has left a lasting impression on.

Even to this day the Napoleonic Code is in effect across the world, as it had become the template for colonies breaking away from their European powers, as well as, countries that simply needed modifications. It can be seen in some form, whether word for word or based off its ideals, in over sixty percent of the South American countries. This adds substantially to the list of the European countries that had already began using the Napoleonic Code. Due to its flexibility and the outdated laws dealing with slavery, not all of the code is in modern use.<sup>58</sup>

The Napoleonic Code was originally put into action in Belgium, Geneva, Luxembourg, and Monaco, as well as some parts of northwestern Italy and western Germany. As the Napoleonic Wars continued France acquired new lands in which Napoleon installed the code. The remaining parts of Italy and western Germany fell under the Napoleonic Code along with the Netherlands and Switzerland. Of these countries, Belgium, Luxembourg, and Monaco all currently function closely following the Napoleonic Code.<sup>59</sup>

Napoleonic Code was adopted voluntarily in the 1800's in several European countries. Shortly after Germany formed into one country, it too, manipulated the Napoleonic Code into its own civil code. In 1900, nearly a century after the Napoleonic Code was penned; it was still in effect over seventeen percent of Germans.<sup>60</sup> Switzerland followed in Germany's footsteps in the 20<sup>th</sup> century by creating a new civil code, which relied upon the Napoleonic Code. Japan followed the Napoleonic Code, although twice removed as it is based upon Germany's civil code. Turkey did the same, but structuring their civil code based on Switzerland's civil code. In 1946 Greece intertwined the German, Swiss, and French civil codes to create their own.<sup>61</sup> Yet they were not alone in manipulating the trio of civil codes. Brazil, Peru, and Mexico can all attribute their civil code to the trio mentioned above.

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<sup>58</sup> Portalis, *The Civil Code Index*, book II.

<sup>59</sup> Britannia Associated, *Napoleonic Code*.

<sup>60</sup> Ibid

<sup>61</sup> Ibid

In Latin American, countries were not much different, as the Dominican Republic and the Haitian civil code closely resemble the Napoleonic Code. Following suit were both Bolivia and Chile who closely follow the Napoleonic Code. Soon after Ecuador and Colombia copied the Chilean civil code, nearly word for word. Argentina and Uruguay did not completely copy the Chilean civil code, but instead began to closely follow it.

The Latin American countries were not forced to follow the Napoleonic Code. With this said, it has strengthened the Napoleonic Code's credibility as well as given rise to the code's legacy. The Latin American countries also were not specifically encouraged to use the code, this showing its ingenuity. If anything, the Latin American countries were deterred from using the Napoleonic Code because of the French and Spanish rivalry. The fact that many of the Latin American countries began to use the Napoleonic Code gives validation that the code is an extraordinary piece of work.

### **Unintended Consequences: The New World**

The two topics listed above, the Louisiana Purchase and the Napoleonic Code, although to most people, they are not as evident as the Napoleonic Wars, they are much more visible than the effects that he left on the 'New World'<sup>62</sup>. The effects that Napoleon had on Latin America are not always associated with Napoleon because they were unintended. As will be discussed, Napoleon's dealings with Saint Domingue were in an effort to reestablish the profitable colony. This effort led to the freedom for the slave society that inhabited the island. Much like Saint Domingue, Latin American independence can be attributed to Napoleon, yet he did not have a direct effect on the countries that make up Latin America.

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<sup>62</sup> From this point on, the New World will be referred to as Latin America, as it is more specific as well more common to be referred to as Latin America following Napoleon's rule.

This section deals with events Napoleon unintentionally initiated in Latin America. It discusses the independence movements that Napoleon inadvertently caused, changing the face of the Western Hemisphere. There are many changes that will be discussed, but only one will be discussed in detail. This section discusses the colony of Saint Domingue in detail, due to it being the first of the many Latin American colonies to gain freedom. Unlike Saint Domingue, who relied on Napoleon's decision, the rest of Latin America relied on other leaders such as Simon Bolivar, Miguel Hidalgo, and Jose Francisco de San Martine for their independence. Saint Domingue is the exception in this section as it was Napoleon who granted its independence, where as the Spanish crown was forced to grant the others.

Spain's colonies represented nine of the thirteen countries that currently make up South America. Napoleon, for many reasons unimportant to this thesis, invaded Spain in 1808. Upon capturing the Spanish throne, Napoleon placed his brother Joseph Bonaparte<sup>63</sup>, on the Spanish throne, in the place of Ferdinand VII. Although France and Spain had been allies, this did not sit well with the Spanish. It became even more unsettling to have a French ruler, Joseph<sup>64</sup>, rule those in Spain and subsequently Latin America. The discrimination began as comments like this, "The anti-French hysteria encouraged by official propaganda before the revolt was transformed into anti-gachupin very quickly. Even the measures taken were the same: in August 1808 local officials in Tixtla embargoed the goods of a Frenchmen",<sup>65</sup> were only the start. The effect that this would eventually have, could not have been predicted. The Spanish colonies began to revolt as a way to show their disapproval toward Napoleon and his decision to place Joseph atop the Spanish throne, and to show their loyalty to Spain.

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<sup>63</sup> In subsequent references to Joseph Bonaparte, he will be referred to as Joseph as to not become confused with Napoleon or any other Bonaparte, and due to the fact that he became royalty atop the Spanish throne.

<sup>64</sup> Joseph Bonaparte was Napoleon's older brother. Upon Napoleon claiming Spain he installed Joseph on the Spanish throne.

<sup>65</sup> Christon I. Archer, *The Wars of Independence in Spanish America* (Wilmington, DE: Scholarly Resources, 2000), 111.

This sparked an independence sentiment in Latin America that would soon be taken advantage of. Simon Bolivar, seen as the Latin Napoleon, admired both the French and American revolutions, and aimed to free 'his people' by building a democracy. He swiftly took advantage, although in some cases much later, of the independence spirit. Bolivar quickly mustered up troops and began many revolts all over South America. Bolivar did not always have success, but his determination carried him through. This stubbornness led more than a handful of countries to their freedom, either under Bolivar's leadership, or due to Napoleon commandeering Spain. Bolivar is attributed to five South American countries' independence, and that of Panama.<sup>66</sup> Bolivar did this in a unique way; he offered freedom to any and every slave, as long as they killed their master.<sup>67</sup> This increased the tensions within Latin America, but slavery would soon be abolished.

As Napoleon can be inadvertently attributed to the independence movement, Bolivar was much more intentional on this subject. Bolivar did not bring a new idea to the South American countries, but either inspired declarations of independence or simply fought the ideas of them. Venezuela's declared independence in 1811, and successfully accomplished independence in 1821, is no surprise being attributed to Bolivar as it was his home country.<sup>68</sup> Colombia in 1819, Ecuador in 1820, Peru 1821, and Bolivia in 1825 all received their independence due to Bolivar, although they had called for it earlier.<sup>69</sup> Independence in Argentina (1810), Mexico (1810), Paraguay (1811), Uruguay (1811), and Chile (1818) were all under the Spanish crown.<sup>70</sup> This made Saint Domingue the most evident independence movement of Napoleon's rule.

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<sup>66</sup> David Bushnell, *Simón Bolívar: Liberation and Disappointment* (New York: Pearson Longman, 2004), 208

<sup>67</sup> *Ibid*, 50.

<sup>68</sup> Archer, *The Wars of Independence in Spanish America*, 49.

<sup>69</sup> *Ibid*, 197, 243, 278, 273.

<sup>70</sup> *Ibid*, 285, 95, 304.

Saint Domingue was an island colony of France. The island as a whole is now known as Hispanola, and is currently a part of the greater Antillean Archipelago. Hispanola was half owned by France (Saint Domingue) with the other half being owned by Spain (Santo Domingo), which is now known as the Dominican Republic. Originally the Spanish owned the whole island, but, while the Spanish neglected the island, the French made claims to the western side calling it Saint Domingue. This became France's most profitable colony. It was categorized as a plantation colony, mainly producing sugar and coffee. Saint Domingue, only the size of Maryland, produced forty percent of Europe's sugar, and sixty percent of their coffee.<sup>71</sup> With this said, this was not a holding that France wanted to cede. Soon they would have no choice with Saint Domingue breaking away as France was involved in a revolution of their own. France revolted against their king, Louis XVI, in 1789. The Revolution fever gave inspiration to the slaves, and those of the lower class, of Saint Domingue in 1791. France being involved in its own revolution was in no shape to deter Saint Domingue revolting. Saint Domingue's leader, Toussaint Louverture<sup>72</sup>, led the slaves revolting to their freedom, when in 1795; France granted the entire colony freedom.

Napoleon could not live with the fact that Saint Domingue, being so profitable, was free. He saw the former glory and riches that Saint Domingue brought France as her colony. Napoleon also saw the loss of Saint Domingue as a weakness due to the French nation's inability to retain its colony while it held its own revolution. This economic weakness can be seen as France's lack in funding the resistance of Saint Domingue's independence. In turn this negatively reflected on the French political sphere, as well as on their culture, showing their weakness. Napoleon's solution, to France's loss, was to return Saint Domingue to old. This solution reinstated slavery in hopes to increase revenue. The effect that Napoleon would have, on Saint Domingue, became drastic when he attempted to overturn the rights of the former slaves that inhabited the island.

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<sup>71</sup> Laurent Dubois and John D. Garrigus, *Slave Revolution in the Caribbean, 1789-1804: A Brief History with Documents* (New York (N.Y.): Palgrave Macmillan, 2006), 8.

<sup>72</sup> He was known as Toussaint Bréda until he took the name Louverture.

They had fought vigorously for their freedom, which cost them dearly. While the European estimated casualties, in an attempt to prevent this ‘minor’ revolution, totaled near 100,000, the cost of the freed slave victors’ was double to triple that of the European cost.

This cost was due to Napoleon, not only wanting to secure Saint Domingue as a French colony, but also wanting to reinstate slavery. Slavery had been informally abolished in Saint Domingue in 1794 and formally abolished in 1795.<sup>73</sup> During this time France dearly wanted to keep Saint Domingue as her colony, but it was not in any condition to fully fight off the slave rebellion that it had inspired. Louverture did not want to re-enslave his countrymen who had fought so vigorously for him. Napoleon, on the other hand, would not settle for anything less, nor would he settle for Louverture as the leader of Saint Domingue, as Napoleon did not believe Louverture was competent. Yet Louverture had begun to rule his countrymen, and favored the idea of keeping ties with France, as he saw this beneficial.<sup>74</sup> He strived toward getting his countrymen back to work with the goal of pre-revolt sugar production in mind. This required his countrymen to work receiving little pay. Louverture created a system that looked much like the slave structure that had ruled Saint Domingue prior to the revolt. This system was under the banner of freedom, as Louverture paid his workers, yet this still did not meet the lofty standards of Napoleon.

Napoleon had much higher hopes. Napoleon believed he could accomplish a full restoration of Saint Domingue to its prior glory before their revolution. As mentioned above, Napoleon had already fully acquired the Louisiana Territory, in which he planned to use to supply Saint Domingue’s every need. In Napoleon’s plan for Saint Domingue, he overlooked Toussaint

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<sup>73</sup> Philippe R. Girard, *French Historical Studies*, Fall 2009, 32, no. 4 (September 10, 2009): 587, accessed March 31, 2014, <http://ezproxy.wou.edu:4105/ehost/detail?sid=4d461d5d-5089-48cb-9389-e41cb24ab1d9%40sessionmgr112&vid=1&hid=119&bdata=JnNpdGU9ZWWhvc3QtbGl2ZQ%3d%3d#db=aph&AN=44446256>.

<sup>74</sup> Beard, *Memoir of General Toussaint L’Ouverture. Written by Himself*

Louverture, and the former slaves willingness to fight for their freedom. Napoleon became ignorant, or at least impatient, on the subject of Saint Domingue.

In doing this Napoleon took a situation that was under control, or at least seemed to be, and sent it spiraling into utter chaos. He did this by craving full control of the situation. Napoleon, after being virtually in control of Saint Domingue, tried to restore it to its former colonial lifestyle: slavery. The idea did not go over well, and who could blame the former slaves who had tasted freedom? In doing this, Napoleon took a relatively stable Saint Domingue and pushed it into chaos as the uprisings began. Toussaint Louverture seemed to be the man for the job of stabilizing Saint Domingue, but Napoleon did not agree. Napoleon offered Louverture a meeting, in which Louverture desired, but instead deceived him by putting him in shackles and shipping Louverture off to France.<sup>75</sup> In doing this Napoleon lost the best man for the job, as Louverture knew how to relate to the natives, being one himself. Louverture was even called ‘the black Napoleon’ by many, but Napoleon could not see past their minimal differences. With Louverture no longer in play, Napoleon’s ignorance with Saint Domingue continued as it caused unease, soon resulting in a revolt the lead to the death of Charles Leclerc. This was a hit to Napoleon, as Leclerc was, not only, the commanded the France troops in Saint Domingue, but was his brother-in-law.<sup>76</sup>

With the reality of this loss setting in for Napoleon, he had a choice to make; he was to either give Saint Domingue his full attention, or he was to discarded it. Napoleon realized the loss that had been inflicted upon France, as well as the cost that retaining Saint Domingue would cost France. He then decided the latter of the two options. In 1803 he fully ceded Saint Domingue to the slaves that had fought so valiantly for it.<sup>77</sup> In doing this Napoleon lost all need for the

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<sup>75</sup> Beard, *Memoir of General Toussaint L’Ouverture. Written by Himself.*,

<sup>76</sup> Girard, *French Historical Studies*, 617.

<sup>77</sup> *Ibid*, 616.

Louisiana territory, and quickly sold the claims to the United States. As was discussed, and will be stated again, the sale of the Louisiana territory can be attributed to the independence of Haiti.

Napoleon's failure or ignorance, depending on how it is interpreted, in Haiti showed a political weakness. This was new for Napoleon, as he was known for success.. This gave hope to those who wanted to break from France, especially in the Latin America. Politically in Haiti this event was a total and complete change. Haiti became an independent country that was based upon freedom. In There was also political turmoil, in Haiti, as Napoleon had taken the Haitian leader, Toussaint Louverture, as captive. As for the rest of the western hemisphere colonies, Spain had rights to many of them. When Napoleon placed his brother, Joseph, atop Spain, its colonies were flung into 'political' disagreement, and thus they revolted for their independence from the French empire. This caused political changed throughout Latin America as many of the countries that made up Latin America revolted.

Socially Haiti had hated Napoleon's rule as he tried to reestablish slavery. Upon Haiti granting freedom it changed the Haitian social structure eliminating the class of slavery. Much like Haiti, the countries that revolted for their independence gained freedom of enslaved. Socially these new countries had not been complete slave colonies, ever or at least not to the extent that Haiti had once been. Because of this, the Latin American countries social structures were more equally distributed, but they too met the same fate, as they were also destroyed. The class structure that of the feudal system, but these new countries became more like the emerging world powers, in the fact that they aspired towards freedom and equality. Socially many countries, although not all Latin American countries, adopted variations of the Napoleonic Code.

These holdings were tremendous economic losses on the French Empire. As a reminder Haiti had been France's most productive colony. The loss of Haiti dealt a major blow to Napoleon's plans. Napoleon saw Haiti's freedom a disappointment, as well as, the freedom of

many Latin American countries, because he was never able to enjoy the riches that he had inherited, by conquering Spain. France's inability to manage their fleet and take control of their new holdings was the cause of their pain. Napoleon had imagined that this would have been an easy task, but the superior, in both size and skill, fleet of the British did not allow Napoleon to achieve his goals as both the French and the British were constantly involved in war against each other.

Napoleon's dealings with Haiti were greatly connected to France and Napoleon's other ventures. When Napoleon had realized that he would either need to redirect his efforts to solely Latin America or consolidate his effort into Europe, he chose the latter. As Louisiana being reacquired from the Spanish as a way to support Haiti's needs, it no longer had a use to Napoleon without his claim in Haiti. Thus Haiti was the biggest reason that the sale of the Louisiana Territory occurred. Yet Haiti reverted to France's masterful Napoleonic Code. Like Haiti much of South America saw the brilliance of the Napoleonic Code, taking it at face value, or applying variations to the code.

### **All Good Things Come to an End**

On a cold weary island, in 1821, Napoleon died with what is believed to have been stomach cancer. His great successes did not die with him. As promised, this paper has shown the cultural, economic, and political ramifications that Napoleon left, not only in his lifetime, but also the lasting legacy that Napoleon had built. This paper has shown that Napoleon, who is known in the modern era for his military prowess, is more than just a great military mind. Napoleon's effort, to bring light to his nonmilitary affects, has shown that Napoleon was more than just a tyrant obsessed with war. In summation of Napoleon's affects, whether one chooses to believe it or not, he bettered the world through the care he had for his empire.

Although Napoleon was no economist, nor did he come up with a new economic theory, he did change the economics of the world. As this thesis has shown, under Napoleon, there were many independence movements in Latin America. With the former colonies becoming independent nations, countries then had to find a different source of income. In the United States, with the sale of the Louisiana Territory, Napoleon helped secured the southern economy that used the Mississippi as a way to export. In turn this helped the United States thrive. Yet it was the Napoleonic Code that had the largest economic effect on the world. The code created equality and dealt greatly in the realm of property rights. With its exportation it did the same for the countries that adopted it.

The political aspect argued in this paper shows the great effect on the world. It not only created new countries through Napoleon's actions, which structured the politics in Latin America differently, but also redefined countries politics. As discussed Thomas Jefferson of the United States redefined the US constitution by allowing interpretation, of the US Constitution, when he supported the purchase of the Louisiana Territory. As has been shown and said, the Napoleonic Code has had the greatest political effect on not only France, but on the world. This code redefined politics by changing the rights of men as well as discussing many political aspects. When politics change one can be sure that there is a cultural change that follows.

Under Napoleon's rule the culture of not only France, but that of the world changed. Napoleon gave the young country of the United States a new identity to expanding and be defined by its own westward expansion. The new frontier that the Louisiana Purchase gave the United States also made the United States a world power. The dealings that Napoleon had, either directly or indirectly, with Latin America created new cultural identities, as they broke free from being under colonial rule. Yet his most important cultural affect was that of the Napoleonic Code as it first unified France, and then through its exportation became the cornerstone to many countries legal codes and their ways of life.

Throughout this paper, the thesis of, “Through Napoleon increasing the size of the French empire it became his largest effect on the world; his sale of the Louisiana Purchase, ceding of Haiti, and conquering of Spain allowed the Napoleonic code to spread throughout the Western Hemisphere causing greater changes, both in duration and magnitude, than the Napoleonic Wars”, argues that Napoleon was more than his military dealings. Many details and points have been made in support of this thesis, with three areas of focus: the Napoleonic Code, the sale of Louisiana, and the dealings in Latin America. Through the examination of these points, the relationship has been revealed. In a concluding effort to better understand their relationship, it has been rehashed as follows. The Napoleonic Code, which ties into both of the other topics as it is used in both areas, can be seen as the cause for the freedom in Haiti. The reason for this, is because it reinstated slavery, and thus caused Haiti to revolt even more desperately. Haiti, as previously stated, presently follows the Napoleonic Code, but has made adjustments. Through the Haitian independence the sale of the Louisiana Territory was made possible. As France, reacquired Louisiana, for the sole purpose of supplying Haiti with its every need, it no longer had a purpose in the French empire. Thus, upon the United States interest, the price was negotiated relatively quick. These two connections can easily be seen, but the following two connections take a little more analysis.

Through research and analysis, for this thesis, the connection between the Louisiana Purchase and Napoleon’s dealings in Latin American are evident. Louisiana, as exhausted, was sold for the price of fifteen million dollars. Through accounting for inflation this thesis has found it to be worth 230 million US dollars in a present value. This although a rough estimate, gives insight and relevance to France’s economic gain. The actual price of fifteen million US dollars was then used to support Napoleon in his venture in the Napoleonic wars. As a result of the Napoleonic wars Napoleon took charge of Spain. After Napoleon placed his brother Joseph atop the Spanish throne, the resentment caused the independence movement throughout Latin

America. The Spanish holdings soon broke free of Napoleon's empire, as they were unchecked. Yet Latin America, although diminished the size of Napoleon's empire, greatly expanded Napoleon's legacy. Latin America did this by using the Napoleonic Code as a corner stone to their civil law codes. This brief, yet in depth summation, not only strengthens this thesis, but gives a more direct understanding of it as well. In connecting to each topic, it shows Napoleon as more than just a military leader. It also shows how great, each of the effects were. In conclusion, Napoleon had a great nonmilitary affect on the world, which, is seen by the illumination of his political events that were intertwined together to create Napoleon a lasting legacy.

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