



Injured Girl Released
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boycotts of Haitian trade. In 1806, trade between the United States and Haiti was surcease, but U.S. ships could dock freely at Haitian ports, but Haitian ships were banned from U.S. ports. This decimated the Haitian economy, which was weakened by their fight for independence starting 15 years earlier.

This embargo let U.S. merchants dictate the terms of trade between the two countries establishing a new form of colonization. Jefferson along with a strong slave holding contingent in the U.S. government steadfastly refused to acknowledge Haiti as a true country until 1862 when President Abraham Lincoln finally granted the country diplomatic recognition. Meanwhile, in 1825, in return for conditional recognition President Jean-Pierre Boyer proposed 150 million gold francs to France as remuneration and to lower customs duties for French products to half those of any other nation, which was lowered to 60 million francs in 1838, but the damage was already done to Haiti.

The money was earmarked to remunerate the slave owners and their heirs for their "losses" during Haiti's revolution. The freedom they acquired with their blood also came with a stiff monetary price. After France's conditional recognition, Great Britain and the other European powers quickly followed suit, but the United States refused. France's financial hold on Haiti continued until the first U.S. occupation in 1915 led by President Woodrow Wilson. Haiti was so handcuffed by that prior contractual agreement that when it set up its Banque National d'Haïti in the 1880s, it was done with French capital and French bank officers.

"Boyer shared Petion's conciliatory approach to governance, but he lacked his stature as a leader. The length of Boyer's rule (1818-43) reflected his political acumen, but he accomplished little. Boyer faced drastically diminished productivity as a result of Pétion's economic policies. Most Haitians had fallen into comfortable isolation on their small plots of land, content to eke out a quiet living after years of turmoil and duress. As the Haitian economy stagnated under Boyer, Haitian society ossified. The lines separating mulattoes and blacks sharpened, despite Boyer's efforts to appoint blacks to responsible positions in government. The overwhelming rate of illiteracy among even well-to-do blacks foiled Boyer's intentions."

These types of socio-economic and cultural problems have persisted through the centuries. From 1843-1915 Haiti had 22 different presidents. The majority of them died in office, were overthrown, or assassinated. It was one of the