

Social Studies 7

Chapter 9

Why did Daniel Shays' Rebellion 1786 cause a need to revise the Articles of Confederation?

Was Shays Rebellion justified?

It appears that they were justified because there is clear evidence of tyranny

Daniel Shays was a respected war veteran, not a radical who was looking for trouble

The Massachusetts government and courts were tyrannical because it did not protect the life, liberty or property of the farmers

Why were the Massachusetts farmers angry?

- Excessively high property taxes
- Polling taxes which reduced the number of votes
- Unfair actions by the courts (foreclosures)
- Lack of stable currency
- Salaries of the government officials were too high
- Farmers were being jailed under unfair circumstances

How did Shays' Rebellion lead to a need for a change in the Articles of Confederation?

It proved that the central government could not respond to an attack on a federal arsenal. The rebellion was put down by Massachusetts militia. To prevent such anarchy from happening again, a Constitutional Convention was called to revise the Articles of Confederation shortly after the rebellion.