

Key Supreme 19th Century Court Decisions

Key Decisions of the Supreme Court Under Federalist John Marshall	
Case	Significance
Marbury v. Madison (1803)	first time an act of Congress declared unconstitutional; establishes principle of judicial review
Fletcher v. Peck (1810)	first time a state law declared unconstitutional; contract clause of the Constitution overrode state law
Dartmouth College v. Woodward (1819)	the charter of a private corporation is protected under the Constitution
McCulloch v. Maryland (1819)	upheld constitutionality of Bank of the United States; example, of loose construction of the Constitution
Gibbons v. Ogden (1824)	affirmed federal control of interstate commerce under commerce clause of the Constitution

Key Decisions of the Supreme Court Under Democrat Roger B. Taney	
Case	Significance
Charles River Bridge v. Warren Bridge (1837)	The idea that the rights of the public were more important than the rights of property became one of the principles of the Supreme Court.
Dred Scott v. Sandford (1857)	Declared that the Missouri Compromise unconstitutional. Slavery could not be prohibited in the territories.
Ex Parte Merryman (1861)	Lincoln's suspension of habeas corpus during the war was ruled unconstitutional

Ex Parte Milligan (1866) Military tribunals in civilian areas were ruled unconstitutional

Plessy v. Ferguson (1896) Segregation was legal. Separate but equal doctrine established