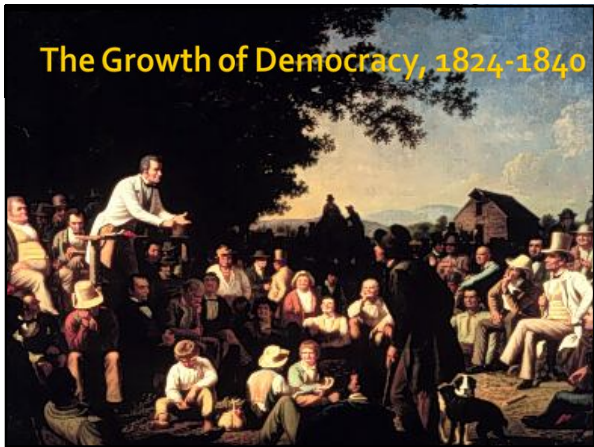


1824-1840
The Growth of Democracy



Focus Questions

- What was the role of Andrew Jackson's presidency in affirming and solidifying the new democratic politics?
- What part did the transportation revolution play in unifying the nation?
- How was the basic two-party pattern of American political democracy established?
- How did writers and artists and their audiences create a distinctive American cultural identity?

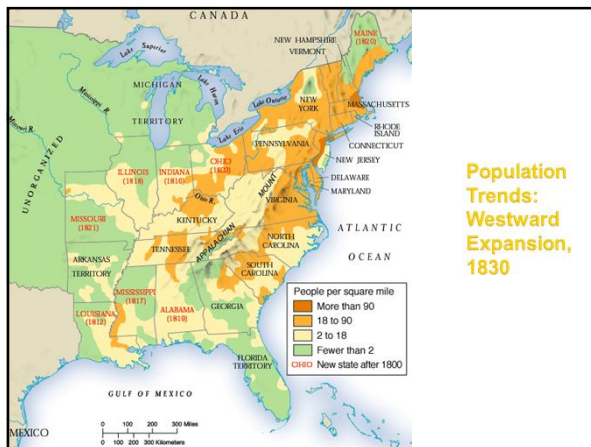
Van Buren Forges New Political Community

- Lacked aristocratic connections necessary for political advancement
- Built democratically controlled, well-disciplined party organization



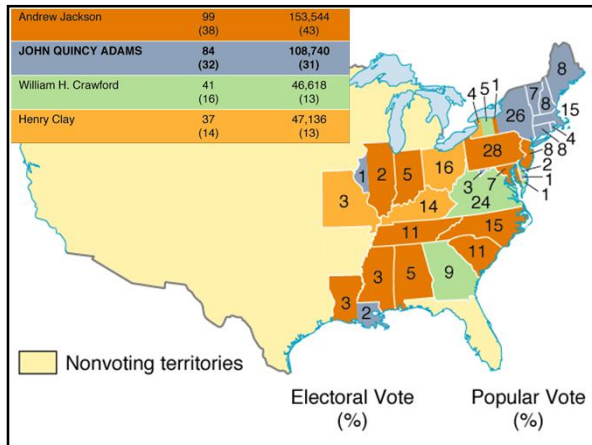
Continental Struggles over Political Rights

- In 1821, Mexico won independence from Spain.
 - Santa Anna was the strongest early President assuming dictatorial powers, but was in office when Texas and northern provinces were lost to the United States.
- Haiti
 - independence destroyed the sugar industry.
- British Caribbean islands
 - numerous revolts, leading to the abolition of slavery and the subsequent decline of the sugar industry.
- A revolt in 1837 by Upper and Lower Canada led to the union of the two regions to make the French-speaking population a minority.



Expansion and Limits of Suffrage

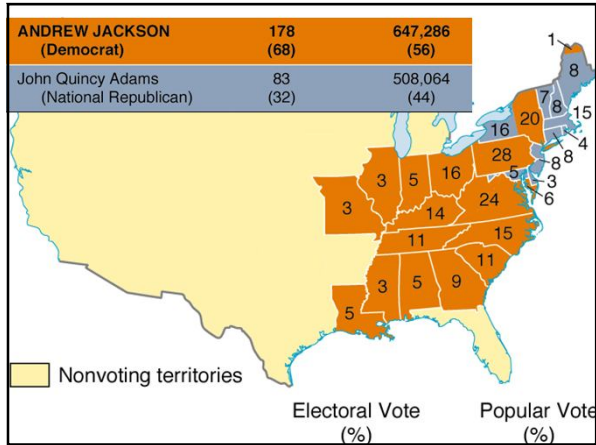
- 1800
 - only white, male property owners could vote in most states.
- New western states came into the Union
 - suffrage expanded.
- 1820
 - Most older states dropped property qualifications.
- 1840
 - ninety percent of adult white males could vote.
- Women and African Americans still barred from voting.

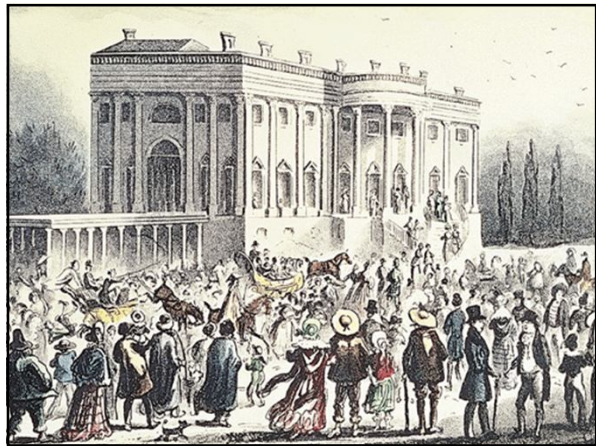




The Print Revolution

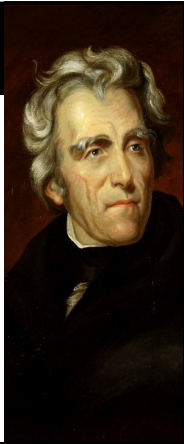
- The print revolution was most evident in the growth of newspapers.
- It also helped democratize politics by publicizing the new political pageantry.
- Tightly-organized, broad-based political groups emerged.
- Party loyalty among politicians and the public was stressed as politics became a feature of everyday life.





A Strong Executive

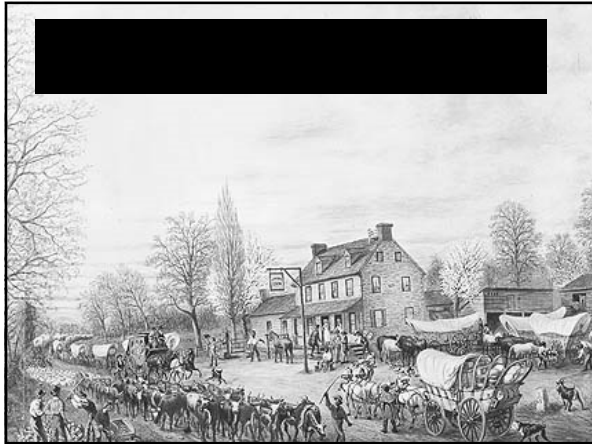
- Jackson's Democrats created a national coalition
 - transcended sectional identity.
- Strong executive
 - consulted with the "Kitchen Cabinet"
 - largely ignoring his cabinet.
- Strengthened presidency
 - Used veto more frequently than all of his predecessors combined.
 - Most famous veto of the Maysville Road Bill of 1830 was a defeat for western rival Henry Clay.

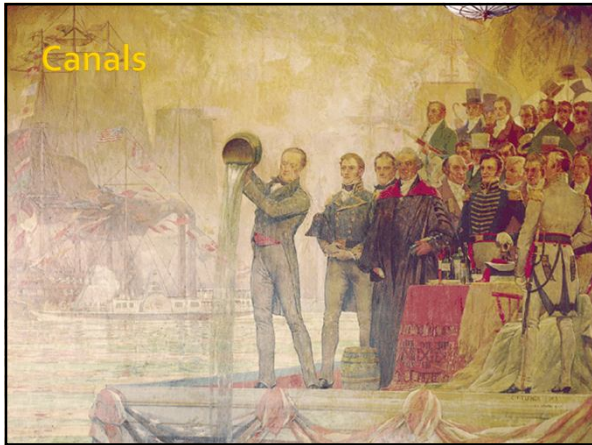


The Nation's Leader

- Regional spokespeople included:
 - Daniel Webster for the East;
 - John C. Calhoun for the South;
 - Henry Clay for the West.
- Jackson overrode sectional interests and had national appeal.







Steamboats and Railroads

- Steamboats:
 - made upstream travel viable;
 - helped to stimulate trade along western rivers;
 - turned frontier outposts like Cincinnati into commercial centers.
- The most remarkable innovation was the railroad.
- Technical problems included the absence of a standard gauge.
- By the 1850s, consolidation of rail lines facilitated standardization.

The Legal Infrastructure

- The Supreme Court fostered economic growth by:
 - asserting federal power over interstate commerce;
 - encouraging economic competition by denying monopolies.
- State laws enabled businesses to protect themselves by granting charters of incorporation.

Commercial Agriculture in the Old Northwest



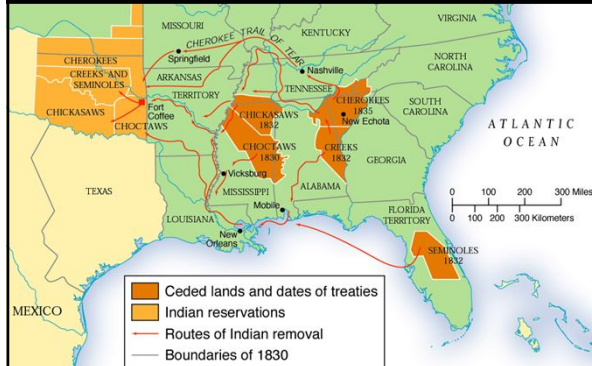
Effects of the Transportation Revolution

- The transportation revolution:
 - Provided much greater mobility;
 - Allowed farmers to produce for national market
 - Fostered risk-taking mentality
 - promoted invention and innovation.
- Americans increasingly looked away from the East toward the heartland, fostering national pride and identity.

The Nullification Crisis

- Constitutional ambiguity, sectional interests, and states' rights caused controversies.
- 1828, "Tariff of Abominations"
 - elicited a strong reaction from South Carolina.
- John C. Calhoun
 - Wrote defense of doctrine of nullification.
- South Carolina nullified 1833 tariff
 - threatened to secede.
- Jackson considered South Carolina's action treason
 - passed the Force Bill.
- Henry Clay engineered compromise

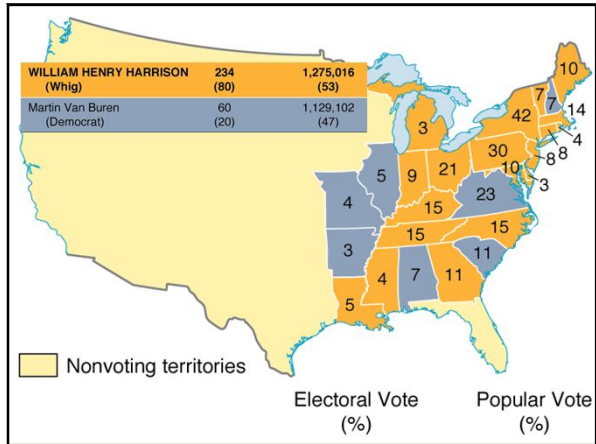
Southern Indian Cession & Removals



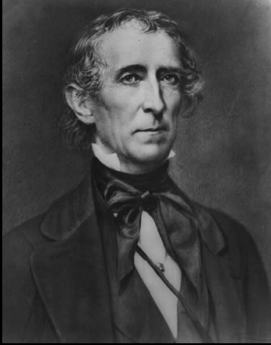
The Bank War



- Chartered in 1816, the Second Bank of the United States was a quasi-private institution.
- Acted as a currency stabilizer by:
 - encouraging the growth of strong and stable financial interest;
 - curbing less stable and irresponsible ones.
- Eastern merchants found the bank a useful institution.
- Western farmers and speculators feared the Bank represented a moneyed elite.
- Jackson vetoed the bill when Clay and Webster pushed for early re-chartering.




The Tyler Presidency



- The Whig triumph short-lived
 - Harrison died a month after his inauguration
 - Vice-President John Tyler assumed office.
- Whigs unable to bridge gap between North and South.

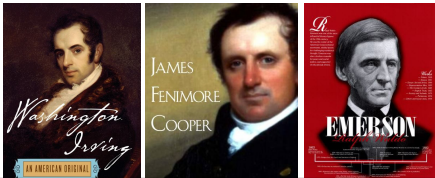
Creating a Popular Culture

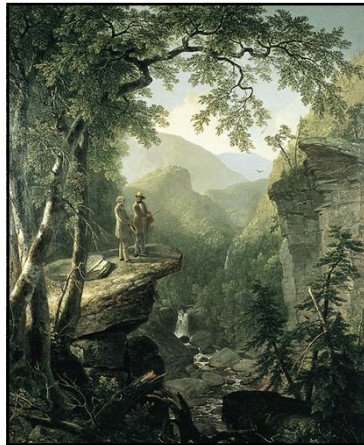
- Steam-powered presses, the transportation revolution, and the telegraph helped facilitate a communications revolution.
- Newspapers and almanacs fostered popular culture.



Creating National American Culture

- Intellectual movement stimulated by eastern societies and journals.
- Irving, Cooper, and especially Emerson created distinct American culture.





Artists and Builders

1824-1840

The Growth of Democracy
