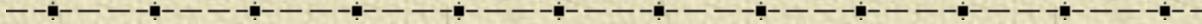




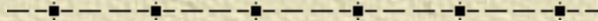
Chapter Ten

The Growth of Democracy, 1824—1840

Part One



Introduction



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?



Part Two

**Martin Van Buren Forges a
New Kind of Political
Community**

Martin Van Buren Forges a New Kind of Political Community

- ✦ The son of a tavern keeper, Martin Van Buren lacked the aristocratic connections necessary for political advancement in New York.
- ✦ Van Buren built a democratically controlled, well-disciplined party organization that brought him political power.



Part Three

The New Democratic Politics in North America

Continental Struggles over Popular 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.
- ✦ In Haiti, independence destroyed the sugar industry.
- ✦ The British Caribbean islands experienced 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.

The Expansion and Limits of Suffrage

✦ Map: Population Trends: Westward Expansion, 1830

- ✦ While the population of the United States more than doubled between 1800 and 1830, the trans-Appalachian population grew tenfold.

The Expansion and Limits of Suffrage

✦ Map: The Growth of Universal White Suffrage

- ✦ In 1800, only white, male, property owners could vote in most states.
- ✦ As new western states came into the Union, suffrage expanded.
- ✦ By 1820 most of the older states had dropped property qualifications.
- ✦ By 1840, 90 percent of adult white males could vote.
- ✦ Women and African Americans were barred from voting.

The Election of 1824

✧ Map: The Election of 1824

- ✧ The 1824 election marked an end to the political truce of the Era of Good Feelings. Four candidates ran for the presidency.
- ✧ Though Andrew Jackson had the most popular votes, John Quincy Adams won as a result of the so-called “corrupt bargain.”
- ✧ Hostile relations with Congress block many of Adams’s initiatives.

The New Popular Democratic Culture

- ✦ A more popular form of politics was emerging.
- ✦ New state organizations increased political participation and helped elect Andrew Jackson president. New techniques of mass campaigning encouraged increases in participation.

The New Popular Democratic Culture: The Print Revolution

✦ Table: The Burgeoning of Newspapers

- ✦ 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.

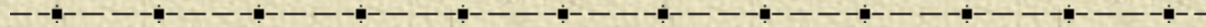
The Election of 1828

✦ Map: The Election of 1828

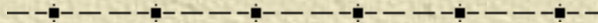
- ✦ In the 1828 election, Jackson triumphed as his supporters portrayed the contest as a struggle between democracy and aristocracy.
- ✦ His victory showed the strength of the new popular democratic culture and system of national parties made up of a coalition of the North, South, and West.



Part Four



The Jackson Presidency



A Popular Figure

- ✦ Jackson symbolized the personal advancement that the frontier offered.
- ✦ His inauguration brought out a mob of well-wishers whose unruly behavior led critics to fear that this was the beginning of the reign of “King Mob.”

A Strong Executive

- ✦ Jackson's Democrats created a national coalition that transcended sectional identity.
- ✦ Jackson was a strong executive who consulted with the "Kitchen Cabinet," largely ignoring his cabinet.
- ✦ Jackson strengthened the presidency by using the veto more frequently than had all of his predecessors combined.
- ✦ His most famous veto of the Maysville Road Bill of 1830 was a defeat for western rival Henry Clay.

The Nation's Leader versus Sectional Spokesmen

✦ Regional spokespeople included:

- ◆ Daniel Webster for the East;
- ◆ John C. Calhoun for the South; and
- ◆ Henry Clay for the West.

✦ Jackson overrode sectional interests and had national appeal.

The Nullification Crisis

- ✦ Constitutional ambiguity, sectional interests, and the states' rights issue caused political controversies.
- ✦ The 1828 “Tariff of Abominations” elicited a strong reaction from South Carolina. Southerners argued that the tariff was an unconstitutional effort to enrich the North at southern expense.
- ✦ John C. Calhoun wrote a defense of the doctrine of nullification claiming states could refuse to enforce laws they deemed unconstitutional.
- ✦ South Carolina nullified the 1833 tariff and threatened to secede.
- ✦ Jackson considered South Carolina's action treason and passed the Force Bill.
- ✦ Henry Clay engineered a compromise tariff that ended the threat of civil war.



Part Five

Changing the Course of Government

Indian Removal

✧ Map: Southern Indian Cessions

- ✧ Jackson embraced the policy of Indian cession of their lands and removal west of the Mississippi River.
- ✧ The five civilized tribes of the South were most affected.
- ✧ Even though the Cherokee had adopted white ways and accepted white culture, Jackson pressed for their removal.
- ✧ Jackson defied the Supreme Court ruling in favor of the Cherokee.
- ✧ The Cherokee removal was called the “Trail of Tears.”
- ✧ The Removal Act of 1830 was strongly opposed by northerners.

Internal Improvements

- ✦ By 1850, rivers, canals, road, and railroads tied the nation together.
- ✦ The transportation revolution dramatically reduced travel times and connected people to the outside world.
- ✦ States provided more funding for roads, canals and railroads than the federal government.

Legal Support for Private Enterprise

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

The Bank War

- ✦ Chartered in 1816, the Second Bank of the United States was a quasi-private institution.
- ✦ The Second Bank acted as a currency stabilizer by:
 - ◆ encouraging the growth of strong and stable financial interest; and
 - ◆ 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.

Jackson's Reelection in 1832

- ✦ In the election of 1832 Jackson soundly defeated Henry Clay.
- ✦ After his victory, Jackson withdrew federal deposits and placed them in “pet” banks.
- ✦ Jackson claimed that he was the direct representative of the people and could act regardless of Congressional opinion.

Whigs, Van Buren, and the Election of 1836

- ✦ The Bank called in commercial loans, causing a recession.
- ✦ Jackson's opponents founded an opposition party—the Whigs.
- ✦ The new party lost the 1836 election to Martin Van Buren.

The Panic of 1837

- ✦ The death of the Bank led to feverish speculation and the Panic of 1837.
- ✦ The depression that resulted led to great hardship giving the newly formed Whig Party its opportunity.



Part Six

The Second American Party System

Whigs and Democrats

✦ Democrats:

- ✦ Organized to elect Jackson to presidency in 1828
- ✦ Party spoke for Jeffersonian democracy, expansion, and the freedom of the “common man” from interference of the government of financial monopolies
- ✦ It’s power base lay in the rural South and West and among northern urban workers

Whigs and Democrats

✦ Whigs:

- ✦ Organized in opposition to Jackson in early 1830s
- ✦ Heirs to Federalism, they favored strong role for national government in economy and supported active social reform
- ✦ It's power base lay in the North and Old Northwest among voters who benefited from increased commercialization and among southern planters and urban merchants

The Campaign of 1840

✦ Map: The Election of 1840

- ✦ In the election of 1840 Whigs portrayed their candidate, William Henry Harrison, as a humble man happy to live in a log cabin.
- ✦ The Whigs won a sweeping electoral victory in a campaign with 80 percent voter turnout.

The Whig Victory Turns to Loss: The Tyler Presidency

- ✦ The Whig triumph was short-lived as Harrison died a month after his inauguration. Vice-President John Tyler assumed office.
- ✦ A former Democrat, Tyler vetoed a series of bills calling for a new Bank of the United States, tariffs, and internal improvements.
- ✦ The Whigs were unable to bridge the gap between North and South.



Part Seven

American Arts and Letters

Popular Cultures and the Spread of the Written Word

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

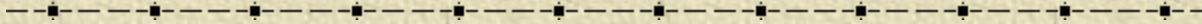
Creating a National American Culture

- ✦ An intellectual movement was stimulated by eastern societies and journals.
- ✦ Washington Irving, James Fenimore Cooper, and especially Ralph Waldo Emerson created a distinctly American culture.

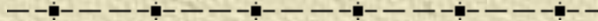
Artists and Builders

- ✦ Artists such as Albert Bierstedt and George Caleb Bingham drew upon dramatic themes from the American landscape and lifestyles.
- ✦ Neoclassical remained the architectural style for public buildings.
- ✦ Balloon frame construction enabled Americans to build homes at a rapid clip.

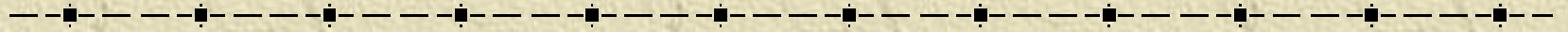
Part Eight



Conclusion



The Growth of Democracy, 1824-1840



✦ Media: Chronology