Chapter 10
Democracy in America
Property and Democracy

- Property qualifications for voting
- Men who couldn’t meet property qualifications
- Lack of land didn’t mean you weren’t intellectually inferior
- Personal Independence
- Ownership in oneself
The Dorr War

- The lone exception was Rhode Island
- Real estate valued at $134 or rent $7
- 1841 peoples convention
- Drafted a new state constitution
- Ratification led to Thomas Dorr as new governor
- President Tyler sent federal troops
Toqueville on Democracy

- Alexis de Toqueville
- 1840 more than 90 percent of adult white men were able to vote
- Required individual initiative and belief in equality
- American culture individual initiative and belief in equality
- Age of Jackson
Market revolution and political democracy expanded the public sphere and drastically increased printing.

Application of steam power led to the cost of printing being reduced, "alternative" newspapers made (Black newspapers, Native American newspapers, Abolitionist newspaper, labor publications, etc.). Political parties also made their own newspapers which supported their views.

The "reading public" grew, allowing for the rise of female writers.
Democracy in America accepted native-born poor whites and immigrants, yet women and non-whites were arbitrarily rejected.

In 1851, *United States Magazine and Democratic Review* defined the "principle of universal suffrage" as "white males of age constituted the political nation" but excluded both women and non-whites from suffrage.

Nature drew a boundary between genders and races, justifying the exclusion of women and non-whites. American Democracy rested its views on this boundary.
A Racial Democracy

- “Equality” with white Americans; increased segregation with African Americans
- Racism in theater performances
  - Stereotypes present

- In 1830's, white Americans became obsessed with "equality"; in contrast to Europe, white Americans of all social classes dressed similarly, shared forms of transportation and entertainment, etc. However, blacks were increasingly segregated
- Racism present in minstrel shows and other theatrical performances
  - White actors portrayed stereotypical African Americans who were unintelligent, absurd, and deceitful
“Dandy Jim,” a piece of sheet music from 1843.
• Voting rights for non-whites became increasingly rare
  • The white-only voting qualification applied to only Virginia, South Carolina, and Georgia during the Revolutionary Era
  • All northern states allowed blacks to vote. Every state that joined the Union after 1800 (with the exception of Maine) instead established white-only voting qualifications
  • Kentucky (in 1799) and Maryland (in 1801) retracted their black voting rights

A Racial Democracy (Cont.)

- Difficulty for non-whites to acquire voting rights
  - White only voting rights in some states
  - Voting rights in northern states
  - States retracted non-white voting rights
In New York, property qualifications for white voters were removed. However, in 1821, voting requirements for blacks were raised for them to require $250 (which was too much for nearly all blacks in the state). North Carolina and Pennsylvania disenfranchised blacks in 1835 and 1838, respectively.

The "political nation" became more associated with race during the nineteenth century - created a boundary for those who enjoyed political freedom and those who didn't:

- The federal government stopped free blacks from serving in state militias and the army.
Nationalism and Its Discontents

The American System

- War of 1812 had demonstrated how fragmented the US was – the American System was Madison’s solution
  - Manufacturing enterprise
  - Younger Generation of Republicans
  - Albert Gallatin (Jefferson’s secretary)
  - Madison’s State of the Union

- 3 pillars
  - new national bank
  - tariff on imported manufactured goods
  - most controversial
  - federal financing of roads and canals

Nationalism and Its Discontents

The American System

War of 1812 had demonstrated how fragmented the US was – the American System was Madison’s solution

- Bank of US goes out of business in 1811
- No national currency
- Could not raise money for war

Poor transportation
- Hard to move men and goods around country

Manufacturing enterprise
- Spring up when trade with Britain was suspended
- Intense competition with low-cost imported goods

Younger Generation of Republicans
- Infant industries deserve national protection
- Still keep Jeffersonian beliefs about agrarian republic
  - Independent Yankee farmers
    - Artisans allowed and liberal ideas adopted into republican vision

Albert Gallatin (Jefferson’s secretary)
- Outlines plan for federal government to tie nation together with roads and canals on eastern seaboard
  - Connects Atlantic coast to the Great Lakes, Ohio River, and
Mississippi River
People afraid of excessive national power

Madison’s State of the Union
Blueprint for American System
Government promoted economic development

3 pillars
new national bank
tariff on imported manufactured goods
most controversial
federal financing of roads and canals
believers in strict construction of US Constitution objected
Calhoun replies “If we are restricted in the use of money to the enumerated powers, on what principle can the purchase of Louisiana be justified?”

Madison vetoes the bill on the eve of his retirement
Believes giving more power than what was mentioned in the Constitution was dangerous
Need amendment
Rest becomes law
1816 2nd Bank of US created
Banks and Money

Public resented
Government’s financial agent by being a private, profit making corporation that issued paper money, collected taxes, and paid government debts, and control state banks – stop them from giving out soft loans

Local banks (now 200) rise-accelerating market revolution
2nd Bank of US ensured local banks issued money of value too much control

local banks improve financial growth by financing
Manufacturing
Commerce
Extends loans to farmers to:
Purchase land, tools, consumer goods
Slaves (South)
Paper money

Paper money was a promise to pay the bearer for a specie (gold/silver)

Value of currency depends on bank
2nd Bank of US supposed to prevent over issuance of money

Has a lot of paper money from local banks from buying land
Could demand payment in gold/silver from local banks anytime
Prevents local banks from acting improperly – if they can’t
provide a specie when asked-operation would be suspended
Nationalism and Its Discontents

- The Panic of 1819
  - Bank did not effectively regulate currency and loans issued by local banks
  - Resumption of trade with Europe- huge overseas market for American cotton and grain
    - Prices go down now that there is more product
  - Western expansion

The Panic of 1819
Bank did not effectively regulate currency and loans issued by local banks
Resumption of trade with Europe- huge overseas market for American cotton and grain
  - Prices go down now that there is more product
    - Prices were high since number one trading partner was cut off
Western expansion
  - Stimulated loans to get land
  - Banks print more money
  - Cotton kingdom expands-very popular
European demand for American goods levels

- Land plummets
  - Especially western land
  - Many lose millions
- Now loans became short term an bank could demand payment at any time
  - Many farmers and businessmen could not repay and had to declare bankruptcy

Unemployment rises
The Politics of the Panic:
Citizens suffering from the economic downturn following the Panic of 1819 sought assistance from the national and state governments. Many western states suspended the collection of taxes. Kentucky established a bank that flooded the states with paper money. A few states retaliated against the national bank by taxing its local branches. This led to the famous case, *McCulloch v. Maryland*
McCulloch was manager for the Second Nation Bank Baltimore Branch. Maryland tried to tax the bank out of business and McCulloch refused to pay the tax. McCulloch sues and the case is taken to supreme court. John Marshall ruled that the states could not tax the national bank, as the power to tax involves the power to destroy, and no state could destroy a federal agency.
The Missouri Compromise:

In 1819 Missouri applied for admission to the Union. Traditionally, states applied for statehood in groups to maintain the balance between free and slave states. James Tallmadge proposed that Missouri be admitted under the following conditions:

- Introduction of new slaves is prohibited
- Children of those already enslaved in Missouri are freed at age 25

Jesse Thomas, a congressman from Illinois, proposed the Missouri Compromise in 1820. Missouri would be added to the country without Tallmadge's restrictions. Maine be admitted to the Union to maintain the balance of free and slave states. Slavery is legal in all states south of Missouri's northern border (36°30’) and illegal in territory north of the border.

1821, Missouri presented their Constitution to Congress with the above conditions, allowing slavery, and also prohibited free blacks from entering the state. A Provision was made saying that Missouri could not deprive citizens of other states the rights granted under the federal Constitution (free blacks were still sometimes considered citizens) as doing so would violate the "comity" clause. This provision was largely ignored.
Map of Missouri Compromise
The US and Latin Countries

- Latin Countries wanted Independence from Spain
- Est. of Latin Countries
- A connection between the US and Latin Countries formed
Monroe Doctrine

- Written by James Monroe (5th President)
- No further European colonization in Americas
- Noninterference by European powers in Latin American republics
- Noninvolvement of United States in European wars
The Election of 1824

1. Candidates and their constituencies
   - Andrew Jackson - popular vote due to military victories at the Battle of New Orleans and over the Creek and Seminole Indians, few voters knew his views
   - John Quincy Adams - support mainly in New England and the north
   - William H. Crawford - Secretary of Treasury - represented South’s Old Republicans “who wanted the party to reaffirm the principles of states’ rights and limited government”
   - Henry Clay - one of era’s most popular politicians, support = primarily west

2. Outcome
   a. Attainment by Jackson of first place in popular vote
   b. Attainment by Adams of electoral vote majority (in House)
   c. no one received a majority of the votes
   d. Clay was eliminated as required by the Constitution
   e. Charges of “corrupt bargain” between Adams and Clay
      1. Clay gave his support to Adams
      2. Clay becomes secretary of state in Adam’s cabinet
      3. Made it impossible for Clay to reach office

3. Formation of parties
   a. Jackson and Crawford supporters became the Democratic Party
   b. Clay and Adams supporters became Whig Party
Map 10.3 The Presidential Election of 1824.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No Parties</th>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>Electoral Vote (Share)</th>
<th>Popular Vote (Share)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>99 (38%)</td>
<td>153,544 (43%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adams</td>
<td>84 (32%)</td>
<td>108,760 (31%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Crawford</td>
<td>41 (16%)</td>
<td>46,618 (13%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Clay</td>
<td>37 (14%)</td>
<td>42,336 (13%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Adams won 3 electoral votes in Maryland, and 1 in Delaware.
John Q. Adams

- Supported American system of government-sponsored economic development
- Encouraged American commerce throughout the world
- Expended American Influence throughout the western Hemisphere
- Signed a treaty that let the US get Florida from Spain
- The Alien and Sedition Acts of 1798,
  - Passed into law following revelation of the XYZ Affair
  - Designed to protect Americans from foreign insurgents.
- Made relations with Britain better
Gathering Jacksonian challenge

1. Themes: "Liberty is power"
   a. Individual liberty
   b. States' rights
   c. Limited government
   d. Adams proposals
      1. Steep increase in tariff rate in 1828
      2. Adam’s ideas receive little support in Congress
      3. Not until the twentieth century would the kind of national and economic and educational planning envisioned by Adams be realized
   e. Adams set a program for an activist national state
      1. Legislation to promote agriculture, commerce, manufacturing, and “the mechanical and elegant arts”
      2. Plans to establish a national university, astronomical observatory, and a naval academy
   3. Adams predicted the US would become the mightiest nation

2. Mobilization of Democratic party
   a. Martin Van Buren’s approach to party politics
      1. Senator from New York
      2. Clash between Adams and Van Buren demonstrated how democracy was changing American Politics
   b. Quest for revived Jeffersonian coalition
      1. Reconstruct Jeffersonian political alliance
Election of 1828

1. Old politics (Adams) vs. new politics (Jackson)
   a. Van Buren established political apparatus of Democratic Party
   b. Adams disdained political organization
2. Scurrilous campaigning
   a. Adams accused of having a series of mistresses while serving as a diplomat in Europe, ridiculed Adams intellectual attainments
   b. Jackson was condemned as a murderer, his wife’s morality was questioned
3. Voters choose presidential electors (not in South Carolina)
4. Jackson's victory
5. Affirmation of a new American politics
The Age of Jackson
You say that American public life in the Jacksonian period was both expansive and exclusive. What do you mean by that, and what is the basis for exclusion changing in this period?
Jackson and the Bank

- Jackson did not believe in the bank of the US
- Banks overly issued money having it loose its value
  - People being “paid less”
  - Believed in hard money
Nickolas Biddle

- President of the bank
  - Jackson’s opponents convinced Biddle to get congress to have an early renewal of the bank
- Used banks power to stop banks from issuing soft money
  - Creating stability (keeping money at same value)
Jackson and the Veto

- Jackson believed this as blackmail
  - Thought people believed in Bank of US and would not reelect him if showed he was against the Bank
- Jackson beats Whig’s candidate in 1832 election
- When Jackson surprisingly won the election, he saw this as the acceptance of the veto
Pet Banks

- Local Banks
- Money taken from national bank is put in pet banks
- “Pet Banks” because Jackson had control over them
  - Cabinet family members were in control of these banks
- Congress tired to fight Jackson doing this and appointed Attorney General Roger B. Taney to approve of what he was doing.
- To go against this banks issued and printed more soft money which increased wages but that did not keep it up because prices rose up.
The panic of 1837

- Government selling lots of land
- People buying land in soft money that had no values to sold money to back it up
- Jackson got mad because money coming form selling land was worthless and made them switch to all gold and silver
The panic of 1837

- All international business had to be in hard money because Britain had been on to the paper money (Specie circular)
- Taken together these effects caused the economic collapse of 1837- depression that lasted until 1843
  - Many business failed
  - Farmers could not pay moorage so lost their land
  - Jobs disappeared
  - Strikes didn’t work because everyone was out of a job
- 1842-9 states had defaulted on debts
- Only successes was Jackson Splitting government from economy
Van Buren in office

- President- to clean up depression
- Undo Jackson by taking money out of pet banks and into the treasury
- 1840-congress approved movement of the money
- 1841- The Whigs brought back pet banks
- 1846- James K Polk reinstated the treasury
- 1848- Gold was found in California supported the economy (49ers)
Election of 1840

- Van lost popularity- Whigs take over
  - Blamed for the panic because he didn’t do much to help
- William Henry Harrison
  - Claim to Fam- Military success in the war of 1812
  - Promoted as the common man
  - Really a rich guy (faked it)
  - Whigs stated- Spent too much of people’s money
- Harrison won election
His Accidence

- Right after he won he died of pneumonia
- VP took his place
- Tyler came to office getting nothing done
  - Political parties had become a huge part of U.S. government.
How, then, was Jackson able to enlarge the powers of the presidency?