CHAPTER 10

Democratic Politics, Religious Revival, and Reform, 1824-1840

1. How did the democratization of American politics contribute to the rise of Andrew Jackson?

2. How did Jackson’s policies and the Panic of 1837 help launch and solidify the Whig Party?

3. What new assumptions about human nature lay behind the religious movements of the period?

4. Did the reform movements aim primarily at making Americans more free or more orderly?
The Rise of Democratic Politics, 1824-1832

Democratic Ferment

Politics became more democratic:
• Elimination of property requirements for voting
• Written ballots replaced voting aloud
• Appointed offices became elected

Political parties wanted to increase the number of voters in their regions, so they began courting them to win their votes
The Rise of Democratic Politics, 1824-1832

The Election of 1824 and the Adams Presidency

First, you need to know about the electoral college system of voting where you need to attain a majority of electoral votes (131 in the 1824 election) to win the presidency.
The Rise of Democratic Politics, 1824-1832

The Election of 1824 and the Adams Presidency

Only one party (Republican), but 5 candidates

John Quincy Adams
John C. Calhoun
William Crawford
Henry Clay
Andrew Jackson
The Rise of Democratic Politics, 1824-1832

The Election of 1824 and the Adams Presidency

“The Corrupt Bargain”

John Quincy Adams (became President when the House voted for him)

John C. Calhoun
(decided to run for vice president)

William Crawford
(had a stroke)

Henry Clay (supported JQA for Pres. and then became Sec. of State)

Andrew Jackson (felt cheated, probably wanted to shoot somebody)
The Rise of Democratic Politics, 1824-1832

The Election of 1824 and the Adams Presidency

A summary of John Quincy Adams’ presidency
The Rise of Democratic Politics, 1824-1832

The Rise of Andrew Jackson and the Election of 1828

Jackson v Adams... the rematch!

“Old Hickory” (Jackson) and “The Little Magician” (Van Buren) created a new political party... The Democrats

Republican:
John Q. Adams
Richard Rush

Democrat:
Andrew Jackson
John C. Calhoun
The Rise of Democratic Politics, 1824-1832

The Rise of Andrew Jackson and the Election of 1828

This election is often referred to as the dirtiest presidential campaign on record

The Democrats attacked Adams:
• Wore silk underwear (aristocrat)
• Gambling in White House
• Pimped a virgin to a czar
• Swam naked in the Potomac

The Republicans attacked Jackson:
• Murderer, barbarian, tyrant
• Gambler in general
• Adulterer
• Backwoodsman (this backfired)
• Called his wife a fat whore
The Rise of Democratic Politics, 1824-1832

Jackson in Office

Jackson first removed about 50% of the former officeholders and replaced them with his supporters… called the SPOILS SYSTEM or rotation in office.

He opposed using federal money for most internal improvements as seen by his Maysville Road veto.

His biggest early challenge, however, is going to come from a protective tariff passed during the Adams’ presidency that favored the Northeast and West, but hurt the South… the TARIFF OF ABOMINATIONS!
The Rise of Democratic Politics, 1824-1832

**Nullification**

The South feared the power to pass laws on tariffs was just a precursor to the power to pass laws on slavery… so they had to somehow get rid of these laws.

Vice-president Calhoun anonymously wrote *The South Carolina Exposition and Protest* which said that states have the right to NULLIFY the tariff of 1828 (sounds like the Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions of 1798-1799)

Jackson and Calhoun become enemies as Calhoun supports nullification and Jackson opposes it

Clay saves the day with his gradual reduction of the tariff in his Compromise Tariff of 1833, which means Jackson doesn’t get to use arms on South Carolina, a provision in the Force Bill. Clay (remember the Missouri Compromise) earns the nickname “The Great Compromiser”… and Clay isn’t done yet!
A-Jack hated banks and paper money, especially the 2\textsuperscript{nd} Bank of the U.S. (run by private rich folks), so he vetoed its recharter and decided to run again for president. This time he smashed Henry Clay and his American System.

Democrat: 
Andrew Jackson  
Martin Van Buren

Republican: 
Henry Clay  
John Sergeant
A-Jack “killed” the Bank of the U.S. by withdrawing federal money and depositing it in “pet banks.” Although the bank “died”, his plan backfired as the state banks loaned out WAY more money than the National Bank ever did, allowing for reckless speculation and rapid inflation.
The Bank Controversy and the Second Party System, 1833-1840

The Rise of Whig Opposition

The National Republicans change their party name to the Whigs. Others who join...

- Temperance Reformers
- Bankers
- Public School Reformers
- Manufacturers
- Anti-Masons
- Anti-Immigrant Folks
- Anti-Catholic Protestants
- Merchants
The Bank Controversy and the Second Party System, 1833-1840

The Election of 1836

**Democrat:**
- Martin Van Buren
- Richard Johnson

**Whigs:**
- William Henry Harrison
- Francis Granger
- Hugh White
- John Tyler
- Daniel Webster
- Francis Granger

Mangum & Tyler ran as Independents
The Bank Controversy and the Second Party System, 1833-1840

The Panic of 1837

As Van Buren took office, the country went into an economic depression (Panic)

Some causes…
- Jackson’s SPECIE CIRCULAR
- Decrease in foreign specie investments
- Decrease demand and increase in supply of cotton

Some effects…
- Lost jobs and/or decreased wages
- Half-built canals
- Van Buren creates the Independent Treasury Bill, divorcing the government’s money and banks
The Bank Controversy and the Second Party System, 1833-1840

Log Cabins, Hard Cider, and a Maturing Second Party System

**Whigs:**
William Henry Harrison
John Tyler

**Democrat:**
Martin Van Buren
Richard Johnson

![Map of the Presidential Election of 1840](image)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>Electoral Vote (Share)</th>
<th>Popular Vote (Share)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Whig</td>
<td>W.H. Harrison</td>
<td>234 (80%)</td>
<td>1,275,016 (53%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democratic</td>
<td>Van Buren</td>
<td>60 (20%)</td>
<td>1,129,102 (46.75%)</td>
</tr>
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*Non-voting territory*
The Rise of Popular Religion

The Second Great Awakening

- Started in 1790s, continued into the first half of the 19th century
- Very emotional, heart before head, more similar to the former New Lights from the 1st G.A.
- Rolled like logs
- Barked like dogs
- “The jerks”
- Had many critics
The Rise of Popular Religion

Eastern Revivals

- Charles Finney, “The father of modern revivalism” was the eminent preacher of the 2nd G.A.
- Most religions began to reject Calvinism and instead focused on the concept of destiny being in your own hands
- Finney preached that you no longer had to sin (perfectionism)
- He taught the idea that you could be “born again” after a religious conversion
- 2nd G.A. reached out to twice as many women than men
Critics of Revivals: The Unitarians

- William Ellery Channing was the eminent Unitarian leader

- A main belief is that Jesus Christ isn’t divine, but just a good role model of how to live your life

- Also rejected Calvinist beliefs and believed in perfectionism

- The purpose of Unitarianism… “the perfection of human nature, the elevation of men into nobler beings”
The Rise of Popular Religion

The Rise of Mormonism

- Joseph Smith founded this new religion in the 1820s
- Moved his followers to Nauvoo, Illinois
- Began practicing polygamy
- Smith was persecuted, sent to jail, and murdered while in jail
- Later, led by Brigham Young, the Mormons moved out west and founded the territory of Deseret (modern-day Utah)
The Rise of Popular Religion

The Shakers

- Mother Ann Lee founded the Shaker religion
- Named because of their convulsive dance moves
- Make good furniture
- Celibate
- In pursuit of religious perfection
- Shared the wealth… and became prosperous
The Age of Reform

The War on Liquor

People drank A LOT in the early 1800s!

The American Temperance Society along with many men, women, and children wanted to put an end to the Drinking (Cold Water Army, Martha Washingtonians).

The movement was one of the quickest-growing reforms of the time period and resulted in the consumption rate of the 1820s being cut in half by the 1840s.
Public-School Reform

Schools were typically one room and had kids from ages 3 to 20 in one class to learn how to read and count. They would attend about three months out of the year.

Harsh discipline, baby! Floggings until “the youngster vomited or wet his breeches”

That all changed with one man… Horace Mann!
- State financed schools
- Longer terms (up to 10 months)
- Standardized textbooks
- Grades based on age and ability
- Compulsory attendance
Public-School Reform

The McGuffey readers were the most popular textbooks. They taught:

- Industrial skills (promptness, competition)
- Honesty
- Sobriety
- Patriotism

The reforms worked well in the industrial North, but not so much in the agricultural South.

It also worked well for whites, not so much for free blacks.

It also allowed women to expand their “sphere” as many became teachers.
The Age of Reform

Abolition

The American Colonization Society attempted to send blacks to Liberia, but not many went, and those who did were mostly free blacks.

William Lloyd Garrison (and his newspaper, *The Liberator*) was the first major militant white supporter of abolition:

- Immediate emancipation without compensation
- Full equality for blacks
- Led to the creation of the American Antislavery Society

Former slaves, Frederick Douglass and Harriet Tubman helped to spread abolitionist ideas.
The Age of Reform

Abolition

The American Antislavery Society had three major internal issues

1) Does equality mean just political equality or political AND social equality?

2) How political should the AAS get?

3) How involved should women be in the AAS?

Sarah and Angelina Grimké spoke in front of both men women... kinda controversial at that time
Women's Rights

Women had it pretty bad in the early 1800s…
- No suffrage
- Couldn’t hold a public office
- Denied higher education and professions

Married women had it just as bad…
- Couldn’t own property
- Couldn’t control her earnings
- Couldn’t sue or be sued
- Couldn’t enter into a contract
- No custody of kids if divorced

This all says… a woman’s place is in the home!
Women’s Rights

Lucy Stone, Lucretia Mott, and Elizabeth Cady Stanton were the biggest movers and shakers when it came to the early women’s rights movement.

The “birth” of the women’s rights movement came in 1848 at the Seneca Falls Convention in New York where Mott and Stanton wrote the Declaration of Sentiments.
The Age of Reform

Penitentiaries and Asylums

What causes deviant behavior?

Therefore, reformers thought you could change the behavior by changing the environment. This led to the creation of penitentiaries, asylums, almshouses, and workhouses whose main goal was to reform the person rather than to inflict punishment.

Dorothea Dix was the main reform agent.
The Age of Reform

Utopian Communities

The ideas of perfectionism and the ability to change people based on their environments led to an upsurge in utopian communities. The ideals were lasting, but most communities were extremely short-lived.

Brook Farm, Massachusetts → was a popular retreat for transcendentalist authors and thinkers.
The Age of Reform

Utopian Communities

The Oneida Community, founded by John Humphrey Noyes was one of the longer-lasting utopias (they found a way to make money), but also one of the most controversial...

- Communist ideals applied to everything… share, share, share!
- No private property
- No gender roles (equality among the sexes)
- After conversion, all were sinless (perfectionism)
- Mutual Criticism – people were reprimanded in front of everybody
- Male Continence – men were not to ejaculate except when procreating
- Complex Marriage – all were married to all, but could only “hook up” under the approval of Noyes and/or his Executive Council (his buddies), so guess who got all the hotties whenever they wanted?
- When a youngster became of age, the Council would select one of them to take his or her virginity… this is eventually what caused the Oneida Community to fall apart

Many of you (yes… you) probably have something in your home that connects you with the Oneida Community…