

## **New Nationalism, Sectionalism, and the Age of Jackson**

- **James Madison's** Presidency (1809-1817)
  - British treatment of U.S. ships causes great resentment
  - War Hawks pressure Madison to act
    - Leads to **War of 1812** with England
    - 1812-1814 - battles at sea and in frontier
      - Fought against British and Indians
        - Mixed results for Americans - **British burn D.C.**
    - War ends with **Treaty of Ghent** (Belgium) 1814
      - Really only a cease fire
      - Relations between U.S. and GB eventually improve
    - **Andrew Jackson** gains national fame
      - Fighting Indians in West
      - Defeating British at Battle of New Orleans
- **James Monroe's** Presidency (1817-1825)
  - Leads to **Era of Good Feelings** a time of strong national pride
  - **Florida** purchased from Spain (1819)
  - **Missouri Compromise** (1820)
    - Kept balance of power in Senate between **slave and free** states
      - **Missouri** admitted as a slave state - **Maine** enters free
      - Remainder of Lou. Terr. divided - North free & South slave
        - Ended argument over slavery in the new territories - for now
- **Monroe Doctrine**
  - No European powers allowed to colonize in the Americas or try to recapture old colonies that had won freedom
  - U.S. would not interfere in Euro affairs or mess with existing Euro colonies in Americas
- ❖ Monroe declined a third term in tradition of Washington
  - ❖ **John Quincy Adams (MA)** – son of John – ran in 1824 election
    - ❖ Ran against **Andrew Jackson (TN)**, Henry Clay (KY) & William Crawford (GA)
    - ❖ All of the candidates were **Republicans** of some sort
    - ❖ Jackson was popular – a war hero
      - ❖ He won the popular election but lost the election
      - ❖ No one candidate won more than 50% of electoral vote
        - ❖ **12<sup>th</sup> Amendment** said that House would vote between the top three candidates
        - ❖ Adams and Clay made a deal – Clay would have his supporters in H of R vote for Adams if he could become Adams' Sec. Of State

- ❖ House vote put Adams in the White House – Angered Jackson’s supporters who called it a **“Corrupt Bargain”**
- ❖ Adams policies unpopular with the people
  - ❖ Jackson’s supporters refused to back any of his programs
    - ❖ Especially policy of protecting Indian land rights
- ❖ Sec. of State Clay’s **“American System”** called for economic self-sufficiency but tended to favor northern industrial interests
  - ❖ Southerners called for protection of **states’ rights**
  - ❖ Jackson supporters wanted less govt. intervention in econ.
- ❖ Americans started to prefer a **2-party** system
  - ❖ Gave people alternatives
    - ❖ One party was the Republicans (AKA “National Republicans”)
    - ❖ The new alternative was the **Democrats** – Jackson’s party
      - ❖ Party appealed to Southerners, Westerners
        - ❖ Jackson was their candidate in 1828
    - ❖ Party started a new campaign style – songs, slogans, rallies, buttons, etc.
      - ❖ Also catch-phrases – **“Old Hickory”**
  - ❖ The new style worked – election turnout 3X > than 1824
    - ❖ Jackson won election – his inauguration party attended by mobs of common folk, many of whom partied in the White House
      - ❖ Jackson a President of the People
        - ❖ A rags to riches story – Jackson was wealthy but worked to destroy aristocratic privileges
      - ❖ Jackson’s **Kitchen Cabinet** – personal friends
        - ❖ Like Clinton’s Arkansas friends
      - ❖ **Spoils system** – Jackson fired people hired during Adams admin. and filled jobs with Jacksonians
      - ❖ Played pork-barrel politics – projects went to loyal Democratic states
- ❖ Jackson was no friend to the Native Americans
  - ❖ Did not support eliminating them but was in favor of moving them out west away from American settlers
    - ❖ Congress passed **Indian Removal Act of 1830**
      - ❖ Sent eastern Indians west of Mississippi River
        - ❖ Jackson believed that it was best for them
          - ❖ Leads to **Trail of Tears** for the Cherokee
- ❖ Jackson also faced the real possibility of a break-up of the Union by Southerners who were angry about trade policies that favored the north
  - ❖ **Tariff of Abominations** (1828) and other tariffs led South Carolina to declare the tariffs “null and void” in SC

- ❖ Known as **Nullification** – states claim right to ignore certain fed. laws they don't agree with
- ❖ SC threatened to secede
- ❖ Jackson's position was firm – **Union over states' rights**
  - ❖ Threatened SC w/ troops if it did not follow law
- ❖ Another new national party formed by 1834 – the **Whigs**
  - ❖ Made up mostly of **Republicans** and unhappy **Demos** from the industrial north
    - ❖ Whigs were enemies of Jackson, led by wealthy city people
      - ❖ They represented small biz, small commercial farms, and non-immigrant workers
- ❖ Demo **Martin Van Buren** won 1836 election – Whigs failed to unify around one single candidate
- ❖ Whig **William Henry Harrison** wins 1840 election – died within 30 days of inauguration
  - ❖ **John Tyler** the first VP to succeed to the Presidency
- ❖ **Legacy of Age of Jackson – politicians looked for popularity over political reason**
  - ❖ **Politics became a form of mass entertainment – the public became much more politically aware and gained more power**