The Tariff and Nullification Issue

**1830**

**Webster:**
*Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable.*

**Jackson:**
*Our Federal Union—it must be preserved.*

**Calhoun:**
*The Union, next to our liberty, most dear.*

**1832 Tariff Conflict**

- 1828 — “Tariff of Abomination”
  - Tariff of 1828
- 1832 — new tariff
- South Carolina’s reaction?
- Jackson’s response?
- Clay’s “Compromise” Tariff?

**Tariff of 1828**

The constitutional doctrine of implied powers was used to justify higher protective tariffs

- Protective tariff would be raised to 45% on a dollar….
- South upset with this b/c they saw the US Govt. favoring the North and industry…
- Feared the US Govt. would take away slavery

**Jackson vs Calhoun**

- John C. Calhoun, resigns as VP because of the Eaton Affair and Tariff of 1828
  - Tariff of Abomination
- Calhoun becomes a US Senator from South Carolina and defends *slavery* and *state’s rights*.
- Calhoun threatened *secession* (leaving the US) if tariff was not lowered.
- Calhoun believed in the doctrine of *nullification* or each state had the right to decide whether to obey a federal law or to declare it null and void
  - *South Carolina Exposition***—Compact theory

**Nullification Crisis**

John C. Calhoun, former VP under Jackson, US Senator from South Carolina

President Jackson
Jackson persuaded Congress to pass a Force Bill giving the president authority to take military action in SC.

Jackson issued a Proclamation to the People of SC stating that nullification and disunion were treason.

Jackson also suggested that Congress lower the tariff.

Daniel Webster of Massachusetts debated Robert Hayne of SC on the nature of the federal Union under the Constitution in 1830.

Webster attacked the idea that any state could defy or leave the Union.

Hayne argued that the states had the right to nullify federal laws believed to be unconstitutional.

The Nullification Crisis

- Compromise of 1833
  - Henry Clay proposes a compromise
  - Tariffs were gradually lowered—25% over 10 years
  - South Carolina dropped nullification
  - South lost its dominance to North and West
  - Jackson preserved the Union

- Southerners believed they were becoming a permanent minority
  - As that feeling of isolation grew, it was not nullification but the threat of secession that ultimately became the South’s primary weapon.

The Center of Population in the Country Moves WEST

Renewing the Charter of the 1st National Bank

1830 ➔ Maysville Road project in KY [state of his political rival, Henry Clay]
The Bank of the United States, although privately owned, received federal deposits and attempted to serve a public purpose by cushioning the ups and downs of the national economy.

The National Bank Debate

Nicholas Biddle
President Jackson

Biddle v Jackson

• Jackson believed BUS was too powerful because it was privately owned.
  • Considered it unconstitutional regardless of Marshall’s McCulloch vs. Maryland

• Should be controlled more by government and the people because it was corrupt.

• Nicholas Biddle, President of the BUS, Henry Clay and Daniel Webster supported the BUS.

The Bank of the United States was unconstitutional

• In 1832, an election year, Henry Clay decided to challenge Jackson on the bank issue by persuading a majority in Congress to pass a bank recharter bill
  • Jackson vetoed this bill

The Cartoon from the 1832 presidential cartoon depicts Jackson as a cat with “Veto” written on his tail clearing Uncle Sam’s barn of bank and clay rats

The 1832 Election

• An overwhelming majority of voters approved of Jackson’s veto
  • Jackson won reelection with more than ¾ of the electoral vote

KING ANDREW

• The Bank War inspired numerous cartoons.
  • Opponents referred to him as King Andrew because used the veto more than any president to that time.....12 times

• Destroyed the BUS in 1832 with the veto.

Picture shows President Jackson holding a veto in his left hand and scepter in his right. US Constitution is torn up and Jackson is standing on it...
A triumphant Jackson holds his order to remove government deposits from the bank as the bank crumbles and a host of demonic characters scurry from its ruins.

Opposition to the 2nd B.U.S.

- state bankers felt it restrained their banks from issuing bank notes freely.
- felt that coin was the only safe currency.
- supported rapid economic growth & speculation.
- didn't like any bank that issued bank notes.
- suspicious of expansion & speculation.

The “Monster” Is Destroyed!

- “pet banks” or wildcat banks
- 1832: Jackson vetoed the extension of the 2nd National Bank of the United States.
- 1836: the charter expired.
- 1841: the bank went bankrupt!

The Specie Circular (1936)

- “wildcat banks.”
- buy future federal land only with gold or silver.
- Jackson's goal?

Results of the Specie Circular

- Banknotes loose their value.
- Land sales plummeted.
- Credit not available.
- Businesses began to fail.
- Unemployment rose.

The Panic of 1837!
The Panic of 1837 Spreads Quickly!

Jackson's Native-American Policy

Indian Removal

- **Jackson's Goal?**
  - Expansion into the southwest for southern planters
- **1830: Indian Removal Act**
  - 5 Civilized Tribes: (forced removal)
    - Cherokee, Creek, Choctaw
    - Chickasaw, Seminole
- **Cherokee Nation v. GA (1831)**
  - "domestic dependent nation"
- **Worcester v. GA (1832)**
  - Cherokee law is sovereign and Georgia law does not apply in Cherokee nation.
- **Jackson:** John Marshall has made his decision, now let him enforce it!

**Cherokee Nation v. Georgia (1831): John Marshall**

- The Court ruled that the state of Georgia could not seize the lands of a "domestic, dependent nation" which possessed some sovereignty. The Cherokees were NOT a foreign nation as described in the Constitution.
- "The conditions of the Indians in relation to the United States is perhaps unlike that of any two people in existence," Chief Justice John Marshall wrote, "their relation to the United States resembles that of a ward to his guardian. (they were a) domestic dependent nation."
- Established a "trust relationship" with the tribes directly under federal authority.
**Worcester v. Georgia**
(1832): John Marshall

- Established tribal autonomy (self-governing state, community, or group within their boundaries),
- The tribes were “distinct political communities, having territorial boundaries within which their authority is exclusive (private).”
- The Court ruled that the laws of Georgia had not force within the territorial boundaries of the Cherokee Nation.

**Jackson’s Professed “Love” for Native Americans**

In 1829, Andrew Jackson reflected on the condition of the Indians, and on Indian-white relations. Jackson’s Indian Removal Act 1831.

“Our conduct toward these people is deeply interesting to our national character….Our ancestors found them the uncontrolled possessors of these vast regions.

By persuasion and force they have been made to retire from river to river and from mountain to mountain, until some of the tribes have become extinct and others have left but remnants to preserve for awhile their once terrible names.

**Division in the Cherokee Nation**

- Cherokee went from being a peaceful nation to a group of people who were divided.
- Some Cherokee in cooperation with the US government illegally signed the Treaty of New Echota
  
  "US government would give land and goods to the Cherokee who left their land peacefully.
- Georgia and the U.S. government used the treaty as justification to force almost all of the 17,000 Cherokees from their southeastern homeland.

**Trail of Tears**

Surrounded by the whites with their arts of civilization, which by destroying the resources of the savage doom him to weakness and decay, the fate of the Mohegan, Narragansett, and the Delaware is fast overtaking the Choctaw, the Cherokee, and the Creek.

That this fate surely awaits them if they remain within the limits of the States does not admit of a doubt.

Humanity and national honor demand that every effort should be made to avert such a calamity.
we have preaching or prayer meeting every night while on the march, and you may well imagine that under the peculiar circumstances of the case, among those sublime mountains and in the deep forest with the thunder often roaring in the distance, that nothing could be more solemn and impressive.

And I always looked on with awe, lest their prayers which I felt ascending to Heaven and calling for justice to Him who alone can & will grant it... [might] fall upon my guilty head as one of the instruments of oppression.

Lt. L.B. Webster

We were eight days in making the journey (80 miles), and it was pitiful to behold the women & children who suffered exceedingly as they were all obliged to walk, with the exception of the sick...

I had three regular ministers of the gospel in my party, and

TRAIL OF TEARS 1838 TO 1839

Long time we travel on way to new land. People feel bad when they leave old nation. Women cry and make sad wails. Children cry and many men cry, and all look sad like when friends die, but they say nothing and just put heads down and keep on go towards West. Many days pass and people die very much. We bury close by Trail.

Survivor of the Trail of Tears
**Accomplishments**

- Enlarged the power of the presidency
  - “The President is the direct representative of the American people”
  - Only responsible to the people, not Congress
- Converted the veto into an effective presidential power
  - The veto would help presidents shape legislation in Congress
- Political parties seen as a positive good

**KING ANDREW**

- Opponents referred to him as King Andrew because used the **veto** more than any president to that time... **12 times**
- Used **veto** to benefit the Common Man.
  - Destroyed the **BUS** in 1836
  - Used the **veto** for personal revenge against his enemies...
  - Henry Clay—Maysville Road
- Opposed increasing federal spending and the national debt
- Interpreted the powers of Congress narrowly
- Kitchen cabinet

**JEFFERSONIAN DEMOCRACY**

Grew out of the rich soil of Jeffersonian republicanism

**JACKSONIAN DEMOCRACY**

Political world changed during the New Democracy. Two new political parties emerge

**WHIGS**

1. Strong national govt.
2. Favored the BUS, protective tariffs, internal improvements, industry, public schools and moral reforms such as prohibition of liquor and abolition of slavery.
3. Believed in state’s rights and federal restrain in economic and social affairs.

**DEMOCRATS**

1. Opposed increasing federal spending and the national debt
2. Liberty of the individual and were fiercely on guard against the inroads of privilege into the government. Pro-slavery
3. Protected the common man...
**JACKSON’S LEGACY**

** Failures 

- Growing social stratification 
  - Gap between rich and poor visibly widened
- Jackson’s financial policies and lack of a national bank helped lead to the Panic of 1837, which was a serious depression that lasted until 1843

**Photo of Andrew Jackson in 1844**

(one year before his death)

**Martin Van Buren**

Eighth President (1837-1841)

DEMOCRAT

- New York
- The “Little Magician”
- Panic of 1837
- Panic of 1839

**The Presidency of Martin Van Buren**

**The 1836 Election Results**

- Van Buren (Democrat)
- Clay (Whig)
- Crawford (Democrat)
- Van Buren (Democrat) wins with a popular vote of 53.3% and electors of 170
- Map showing the results of the election with states shaded in dark blue for Van Buren, light blue for Crawford, and yellow for Clay

Andrew Jackson in Retirement
The Presidency of Martin Van Buren

- V.P. Martin Van Buren wins in 1836
- Van Buren did not appeal to the common people
- Panic of 1837
  - Blamed on the Democrats
  - “Van Ruin’s” Depression
- “Divorce Bill”
  - Separating the bank from the government and storing money in some of the vaults of the larger American cities,
  - Thus keeping the money safe but also unavailable that advocated the independent treasury, and in 1840, it was passed.
- Independent treasury

Election of 1840

- “Log Cabin and Hard Cider”
  - William Henry Harrison (Whig)
  - “Tippecanoe and Tyler too”
  - “Van! Van! Is a Used-up Man!”
  - The Whigs’ Triumph

Election of 1840
Elitist Whigs Regroup

The “Log Cabin” Campaign
Whigs beat the Democrats at their own game.

Tippecanoe and Tyler Too!

William Henry Harrison

Looks like democracy...
smells like democracy...
tastes like democracy...

The People’s Line—Take care of the Locomotive
The Whigs' Triumph
(Second Party System)