

HANDOUT

1832 ELECTION



Library of Congress
Prints & Photographs Division
[LC-USZ64-109]



ANDREW JACKSON and Martin Van Buren

POPULAR VOTE: 687,502
ELECTORAL VOTE: 219

DEMOCRATIC-REPUBLICAN

Jackson was the **incumbent President**.

Jackson appealed to the common people to help him **defeat moneyed interests** as represented by the “Monster Bank” of the United States under “Czar Nicholas” Biddle.

Jackson supported “**hard money**” with all currency based on gold or silver.

Jackson authorized the expulsion of Native Americans from their homelands to the West via the forced marches known as the “**Trail of Tears.**”

Jackson opposed **nullification**, the right of states to overrule federal law. His Vice President, South Carolinian **John Calhoun**, resigned over this issue and **Martin Van Buren** took his place on the ticket in 1832.

Jackson’s “**Kitchen Cabinet**” of unofficial advisors included influential newspapermen.

Political cartoons were used in the new popular press to criticize the President.

The Democratic-Republican Party held their first **nominating convention** in 1832.



Collection of the U.S.
House of Representatives



HENRY CLAY and John Sergeant

POPULAR VOTE: 530,189
ELECTORAL VOTE: 49

NATIONAL REPUBLICAN

Clay was a **U.S. Senator from Kentucky** and had run for President in 1824 along with Adams and Jackson.

Clay lobbied the Senate to recharter the **U.S. Bank**, which Jackson vetoed.

Clay proposed an “American system” of **internal improvements** and economic development.

THIRD PARTIES

This was the first election in which third parties played an important role.

The **Anti-Mason Party** was opposed to the Freemasons, a secretive and influential fraternity. They held the **first nominating convention** in 1831.

The **Workingmen’s Party** attracted urban workers who felt that their interests had been ignored by major parties. This was the **first labor party** in the U.S.A.

“I am surprised and alarmed at the new source of executive power which is found in the result of a presidential election.” — Henry Clay, candidate

DID YOU KNOW? President Jackson passed through Louisville, Kentucky (Clay’s hometown) during the campaign. People were lined up five miles down the road to greet him, waving hickory branches. One Clay supporter said, “There is no withstanding such arguments.”