

Andrew Jackson Caricature



"Andrew Jackson Caricature." *American Government*, ABC-CLIO, 2018, americangovernment.abc-clio.com/Search/Display/876417. Accessed 2 Oct. 2018.

Andrew Jackson: Nullification proclamation (1832)

Context: One of President Andrew Jackson's most important pronouncements, on December 10, 1832, he issued his Proclamation to the People of South Carolina, in which he decried the doctrine of nullification as impractical while elevating the sovereignty of the federal government over states' rights. The climactic end of the nullification controversy that heightened sectional tensions between 1828 and 1832, Jackson's proclamation was initially met with hostility from South Carolinians. In fact, Vice President John C. Calhoun, himself from South Carolina, resigned his office in protest. As South Carolina threatened to secede from the Union, Jackson simultaneously asked Congress to reduce the hated Tariff of Abominations and pass the Force Bill, which gave him the authority to use federal troops to enforce U.S. law in all the states. The dual policy eventually worked, and the country temporarily pulled back from the brink of civil war.

For what would you exchange your share in the advantages and honor of the Union? For the dream of a separate independence—a dream interrupted by bloody conflicts with your neighbors and a vile dependence on a foreign power.

If your leaders could succeed in establishing a separation, what would be our situation? Are you united at home? Are you free from the apprehension of civil discord, with all its fearful consequences? Do our neighboring [Latin American] republics, every day suffering some new revolution or contending with some new insurrection, do they excite your envy?

But the dictates of a high duty oblige me solemnly to announce that you cannot succeed. The laws of the United States must be executed. I have no discretionary power on the subject; my duty is emphatically pronounced in the Constitution. Those who told you that you might peaceably prevent their execution deceived you; they could not have been deceived themselves. They know that a forcible opposition could alone prevent the execution of the laws, and they know that such opposition must be repelled. Their object is disunion.

But be not deceived by names. Disunion by armed force is treason. Are you really ready to incur its guilt? If you are, on the heads of the instigators of the act be the dreadful consequences; on their heads be the dishonor, but on yours may fall the punishment. On your unhappy state will inevitably fall all the evils of the conflict you force upon the government of your country. . . . The consequence must be fearful for you, distressing to your fellow citizens here and to the friends of good government throughout the world.

Its enemies have beheld our prosperity with a vexation they could not conceal. It was a standing refutation of their slavish doctrines, and they will point to our discord with the triumph of malignant joy. It is yet in your power to disappoint them. There is yet time to show that the descendants of the Pinckneys, the Sumters, the Rutledges, and of the thousand other names which adorn the pages of your Revolutionary history will not abandon that Union to support which so many of them fought and bled and died.

I adjure you, as you honor their memory, as you love the cause of freedom, to which they dedicated their lives, as you prize the peace of your country, the lives of its best citizens, and your own fair fame, to retrace your steps. Snatch from the archives of your state the disorganizing edict of its convention; bid its members to reassemble and promulgate the decided expressions of your will to remain in the path which alone can conduct you to safety, prosperity, and honor.

"Andrew Jackson: Nullification Proclamation (1832)." *American Government*, ABC-CLIO, 2018, americangovernment.abc-clio.com/Search/Display/210502. Accessed 2 Oct. 2018.

General Jackson Slaying the Many Headed Monster



GENERAL JACKSON SLAYING THE MANY HEADED MONSTER.

President Andrew Jackson (1767–1845) is shown in this 1836 print battling the “many-headed monster” of the Bank of the United States and its many state branches. Jackson was a sharp critic of the national bank, and in fact vetoed legislation to renew its charter in 1832. Jackson is shown on the left, raising a cane marked “Veto.” Jackson is aided in the fight by his vice president Martin Van Buren (center) and Major Jack Downing. The largest head of the monster is that of bank president Nicholas Biddle (1786–1844).

"Jackson Slaying the Many-Headed Monster." The Constitution and Supreme Court, Primary Source Media, 1999. American Journey. U.S. History in Context, http://link.galegroup.com/apps/doc/EJ2210008061/UHIC?u=mlln_m_wellhigh&sid=UHIC&xid=611e71c2. Accessed 2 Oct. 2018.

President Jackson's Veto Message Regarding the Bank of the United States; July 10, 1832

To the Senate:

The bill "to modify and continue" the act entitled "An act to incorporate the subscribers to the Bank of the United States" was presented to me on the 4th July instant. Having considered it with that solemn regard to the principles of the Constitution which the day was calculated to inspire, and come to the conclusion that it ought not to become a law, I herewith return it to the Senate, in which it originated, with my objections...

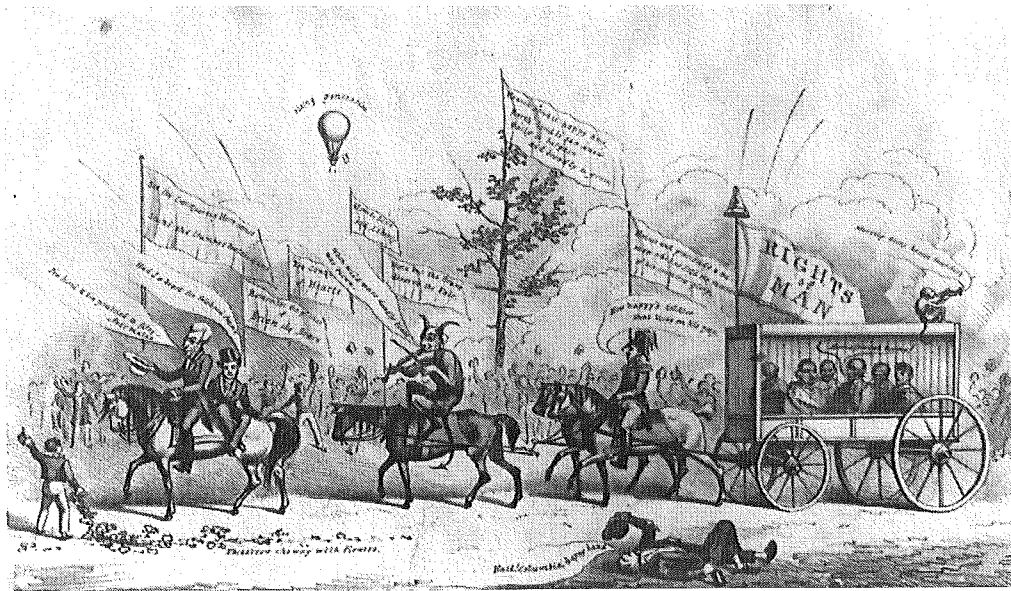
The bank is professedly established as an agent of the executive branch of the Government, and its constitutionality is maintained on that ground. Neither upon the propriety of present action nor upon the provisions of this act was the Executive consulted. It has had no opportunity to say that it neither needs nor wants an agent clothed with such powers and favored by such exemptions. There is nothing in its legitimate functions which makes it necessary or proper. Whatever interest or influence, whether public or private, has given birth to this act, it can not be found either in the wishes or necessities of the executive department, by which present action is deemed premature, and the powers conferred upon its agent not only unnecessary, but dangerous to the Government and country.

It is to be regretted that the rich and powerful too often bend the acts of government to their selfish purposes. Distinctions in society will always exist under every just government. Equality of talents, of education, or of wealth can not be produced by human institutions. In the full enjoyment of the gifts of Heaven and the fruits of superior industry, economy, and virtue, every man is equally entitled to protection by law; but when the laws undertake to add to these natural and just advantages artificial distinctions, to grant titles, gratuities, and exclusive privileges, to make the rich richer and the potent more powerful, the humble members of society-the farmers, mechanics, and laborers-who have neither the time nor the means of securing like favors to themselves, have a right to complain of the injustice of their Government. There are no necessary evils in government. Its evils exist only in its abuses. If it would confine itself to equal protection, and, as Heaven does its rains, shower its favors alike on the high and the low, the rich and the poor, it would be an unqualified blessing. In the act before me there seems to be a wide and unnecessary departure from these just principles.

Nor is our Government to be maintained or our Union preserved by invasions of the rights and powers of the several States. In thus attempting to make our General Government strong we make it weak. Its true strength consists in leaving individuals and States as much as possible to themselves-in making itself felt, not in its power, but in its beneficence; not in its control, but in its protection; not in binding the States more closely to the center, but leaving each to move unobstructed in its proper orbit.

Jackson, Andrew. "Jackson Vetoes the Second Bank of the United States." *The Constitution and Supreme Court*, Primary Source Media, 1999. *American Journey. U.S. History in Context*, http://link.galegroup.com/apps/doc/EJ2155000150/UHIC?u=mlln_m_wellhigh&sid=UHIC&xid=70ca608e. Accessed 2 Oct. 2018.

Andrew Jackson: Indian Removal Cartoon



A burlesque parade, led by Andrew Jackson and satirizing various aspects of his administration. The procession moves from right to left. At its head is Jackson, seated on a horse with Martin Van Buren cross-legged behind him. Next is a devil playing a fiddle, followed by a mounted officer whose horse is one of two drawing a wagon holding caged Indians, with a flag "Rights of Man" and liberty cap. Inside the cage a forlorn Indian sings "Home! Sweet home!" This may refer to Jackson's controversial Indian resettlement program.

"Andrew Jackson: Indian Removal Cartoon." The American Mosaic: The American Indian Experience, ABC-CLIO, 2018, americanindian.abc-clio.com/Search/Display/1702744. Accessed 2 Oct. 2018.

Andrew Jackson: Indian removal message to Congress (1829), excerpt

Context: President Andrew Jackson's message on the removal of Southern Indians, part of his first annual message to the U.S. Congress of December 1829, precipitated government removal of Native Americans from their lands in the eastern United States and exiled them to reservations in the West. Congress subsequently adopted the Indian Removal Act of 1830, approving Jackson's proposed policy. The Supreme Court decisions in *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia* (1831) and *Worcester v. Georgia* (1832) proved inadequate to protect Native American interests in the face of state, presidential, and congressional opposition, and they were ultimately forced off their

land, culminating in the devastating and dramatic removal of the Cherokee in 1838 on the Trail of Tears.

The consequences of a speedy removal will be important to the United States, to individual states, and to the Indians themselves. The pecuniary advantages which it promises to the government are the least of its recommendations. It puts an end to all possible danger of collision between the authorities of the general and state governments on account of the Indians. It will place a dense and civilized population in large tracts of country now occupied by a few savage hunters. By opening the whole territory between Tennessee on the north and Louisiana on the south to the settlement of the whites it will incalculably strengthen the southwestern frontier and render the adjacent states strong enough to repel future invasions without remote aid. It will relieve the whole state of Mississippi and the western part of Alabama of Indian occupancy, and enable those states to advance rapidly in population, wealth, and power.

It will separate the Indians from immediate contact with settlements of whites; free them from the power of the states; enable them to pursue happiness in their own way and under their own rude institutions; will retard the progress of decay, which is lessening their numbers, and perhaps cause them gradually, under the protection of the government and through the influence of good counsels, to cast off their savage habits and become an interesting, civilized, and Christian community. These consequences, some of them so certain and the rest so probable, make the complete execution of the plan sanctioned by Congress at their last session an object of much solicitude. . . .

With a full understanding of the subject, the Choctaw and the Chickasaw tribes have with great unanimity determined to avail themselves of the liberal offers presented by the act of Congress, and have agreed to remove beyond the Mississippi River. Treaties have been made with them, which in due season will be submitted for consideration. In negotiating these treaties, they were made to understand their true condition, and they have preferred maintaining their independence in the Western forests to submitting to the laws of the states in which they now reside. These treaties, being probably the last which will ever be made with them, are characterized by great liberality on the part of the government. They give the Indians a liberal sum in consideration of their removal, and comfortable subsistence on their arrival at their new homes. If it be their real interest to maintain a separate existence, they will there be at liberty to do so without the inconveniences and vexations to which they would unavoidably have been subject in Alabama and Mississippi. . . .

"Andrew Jackson: Indian Removal Message to Congress (1829), Excerpt." American History, ABC-CLIO, 2018, americanhistory.abc-clio.com/Search/Display/2124857. Accessed 2 Oct. 2018.

Cartoon depicting a statue dedicated to Andrew Jackson's "spoils system."



Cartoon depicting a statue dedicated to Andrew Jackson's "spoils system." In this cartoon, Jackson rides a pig on a pedestal that reads, "To the victors belong the spoils." Jackson removed many people from governmental positions and then appointed replacements who supported him or had provided political favors, a process fraught with corruption and fraud.

"Cartoon depicting a statue dedicated to Andrew Jackson's 'spoils system.' In it, Jackson rides a pig..." Gale Encyclopedia of U.S. History: Government and Politics, vol. 1, Gale, 2008. U.S. History in Context,
http://link.galegroup.com/apps/doc/PC3048487158/UHIC?u=mlln_m_wellhigh&sid=UHIC&xid=c6129b8e. Accessed 2 Oct. 2018.

Andrew Jackson: Inaugural Address (1829)

Newly inaugurated President Andrew Jackson delivered this speech on March 4, 1829, his first of two inaugural addresses.

About to undertake the arduous duties that I have been appointed to perform by the choice of a free people, I avail myself of this customary and solemn occasion to express the gratitude which their confidence inspires and to acknowledge the accountability which my situation enjoins. While the magnitude of their interests convinces me that no thanks can be adequate to the honor they have conferred, it admonishes me that the best return I can make is the zealous dedication of my humble abilities to their service and their good.

As the instrument of the Federal Constitution it will devolve on me for a stated period to execute the laws of the United States, to superintend their foreign and their confederate relations, to manage their revenue, to command their forces, and, by communications to the Legislature, to watch over and to promote their interests generally. And the principles of action by which I shall endeavor to accomplish this circle of duties it is now proper for me briefly to explain.

In administering the laws of Congress I shall keep steadily in view the limitations as well as the extent of the Executive power, trusting thereby to discharge the functions of my office without transcending its authority. With foreign nations it will be my study to preserve peace and to cultivate friendship on fair and honorable terms, and in the adjustment of any differences that may exist or arise to exhibit the forbearance becoming a powerful nation rather than the sensibility belonging to a gallant people.

In such measures as I may be called on to pursue in regard to the rights of the separate States I hope to be animated by a proper respect for those sovereign members of our Union, taking care not to confound the powers they have reserved to themselves with those they have granted to the Confederacy.

The management of the public revenue—that searching operation in all governments—is among the most delicate and important trusts in ours, and it will, of course, demand no inconsiderable share of my official solicitude. Under every aspect in which it can be considered it would appear that advantage must result from the observance of a strict and faithful economy. This I shall aim at the more anxiously both because it will facilitate the extinguishment of the national debt, the unnecessary duration of which is incompatible with real independence, and because it will counteract that tendency to public and private profligacy which a profuse expenditure of money by the Government is but too apt to engender. Powerful auxiliaries to the attainment of this desirable end are to be found in the regulations provided by the wisdom of Congress for the specific appropriation of public money and the prompt accountability of public officers.

With regard to a proper selection of the subjects of impost with a view to revenue, it would seem to me that the spirit of equity, caution, and compromise in which the Constitution was formed

requires that the great interests of agriculture, commerce, and manufactures should be equally favored, and that perhaps the only exception to this rule should consist in the peculiar encouragement of any products of either of them that may be found essential to our national independence.

Internal improvement and the diffusion of knowledge, so far as they can be promoted by the constitutional acts of the Federal Government, are of high importance. Considering standing armies as dangerous to free governments in time of peace, I shall not seek to enlarge our present establishment, nor disregard that salutary lesson of political experience which teaches that the military should be held subordinate to the civil power. The gradual increase of our Navy, whose flag has displayed in distant climes our skill in navigation and our fame in arms; the preservation of our forts, arsenals, and dockyards, and the introduction of progressive improvements in the discipline and science of both branches of our military service are so plainly prescribed by prudence that I should be excused for omitting their mention sooner than for enlarging on their importance. But the bulwark of our defense is the national militia, which in the present state of our intelligence and population must render us invincible. As long as our Government is administered for the good of the people, and is regulated by their will; as long as it secures to us the rights of person and of property, liberty of conscience and of the press, it will be worth defending; and so long as it is worth defending a patriotic militia will cover it with an impenetrable aegis. Partial injuries and occasional mortifications we may be subjected to, but a million of armed freemen, possessed of the means of war, can never be conquered by a foreign foe. To any just system, therefore, calculated to strengthen this natural safeguard of the country I shall cheerfully lend all the aid in my power.

It will be my sincere and constant desire to observe toward the Indian tribes within our limits a just and liberal policy, and to give that humane and considerate attention to their rights and their wants which is consistent with the habits of our Government and the feelings of our people.

The recent demonstration of public sentiment inscribes on the list of Executive duties, in characters too legible to be overlooked, the task of reform, which will require particularly the correction of those abuses that have brought the patronage of the Federal Government into conflict with the freedom of elections, and the counteraction of those causes which have disturbed the rightful course of appointment and have placed or continued power in unfaithful or incompetent hands.

In the performance of a task thus generally delineated I shall endeavor to select men whose diligence and talents will insure in their respective stations able and faithful cooperation, depending for the advancement of the public service more on the integrity and zeal of the public officers than on their numbers.

A diffidence, perhaps too just, in my own qualifications will teach me to look with reverence to the examples of public virtue left by my illustrious predecessors, and with veneration to the lights that flow from the mind that founded and the mind that reformed our system. The same diffidence induces me to hope for instruction and aid from the coordinate branches of the Government, and for the indulgence and support of my fellow-citizens generally. And a firm reliance on the goodness of that Power whose providence mercifully protected our national infancy, and has since upheld our liberties in various vicissitudes, encourages me to offer up my ardent supplications that He will continue to make our beloved country the object of His divine care and gracious benediction.

"Andrew Jackson: Inaugural Address (1829)." American Government, ABC-CLIO, 2018, americangovernment.abc-clio.com/Search/Display/210499. Accessed 2 Oct. 2018.