Jacksonian Era – Part II

I. Election of 1828
   A. Intense mudslinging between the two factions of the Republican party
      1. National Republicans supported J.Q. Adams
      2. Democratic Republicans supported Jackson

   B. Jackson defeated Adams 178 electoral votes to 83 (pop. vote 647,286 to 508,064)
      1. First President from the West; seen as a great common man -- Actually
         owned one of the largest plantations in the country; owned many
         slaves
      2. Jackson’s support came from the West, the South, and laborers on eastern
         seaboard; i.e. the common people
         -- Yet, considerable support came from machine politicians, especially
         in NY and PA.
      4. Election called "The Revolution of 1828"
         a. Like 1800, no upheaval or landslide that swept out one opponent.
            -- No sitting president had been removed since John Adams in 1800
         b. Increased voter turnout in universal-white-manhood suffrage states was a
            powerful force.
         c. Balance of power was shifting from the East to the expanding West.
         d. America hitherto had been ruled by an elite of brains and wealth --
            Federalist shippers and Jeffersonian planters.
         e. Jackson was the hero of the working masses.

   C. Andrew Jackson ("Old Hickory")
      1. Personified the new West
      2. Suspicious of federal gov't as a bastion of privilege remote from popular
         scrutiny
      3. Like Jefferson, sought to reduce role of the federal gov’t in favor of states’
         rights -- Hated Clay’s "American System"
      4. Fierce unionist and nationalist (to the dismay of the South); federal
         supremacy over states.
      5. At times defied will of Congress and the Supreme Court
         a. Employed the veto 12 times; six predecessors combined only vetoed 10
            times!
         b. Opponents condemned him as "King Andrew I"