

FOLKWAYS RECORDS FSS 37260

WINNERS & LOSERS

Campaign Songs from the Critical Elections in American History

Volume 1 -1800-1876

Sung and with Notes by Peter Janovsky



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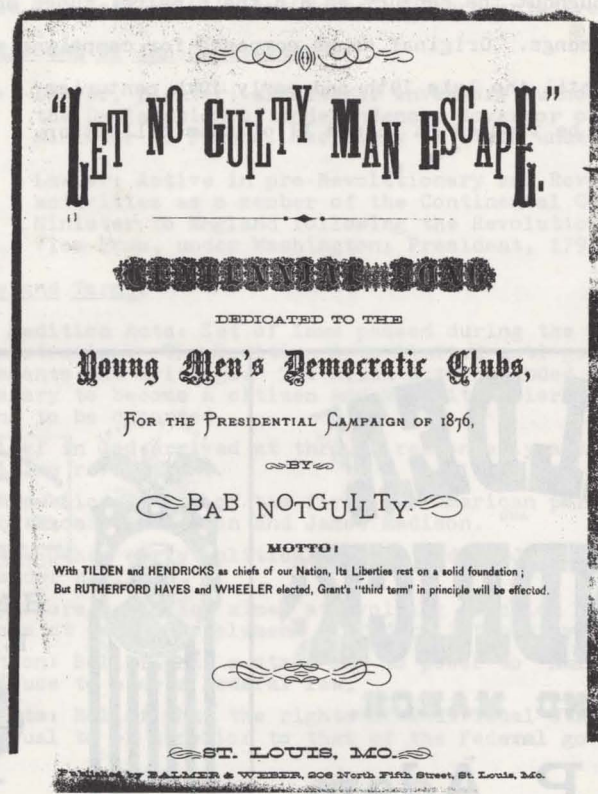
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DESCRIPTIVE NOTES ARE INSIDE POCKET

FOLKWAYS RECORDS FSS 37260

The Election of 1800: Emergence of the Two Party System

NOTES BY PETER JANOVSKY



Introduction

Certain elections are generally considered "turning points" in American history. These elections took place at crucial times in the development of American society. The issues debated during these elections determined the direction of the country for years following the election. The Presidents elected were dominant leaders and some of the giants in the

history of our country, while many of the defeated candidates, such as Henry Clay, Stephen Douglas or William Jennings Bryan, played a role in important events at times equal to that played by Presidents.

This collection is a musical study of some of these "turning point" elections. The campaign songs of the winners and losers in each election bring out the issues and personalities of each campaign and help us to understand the significance of that particular period. In this first volume, five elections have been chosen to represent the major periods of change in nineteenth century American history.

The election of 1800 represented the emergence of a two party system and the first major change of government from the hands of one party to another-- the Jeffersonian triumph over Adams and the Federalists.

The election of 1828 symbolized a broadening of democracy in the United States and the recognition of the West as a force in American politics. Jackson's election ushered in an age of reform movements and increased participation in elections and Jackson himself served as a model for the strong Presidents who followed in later years.

The election of 1844 served as a mandate for expansionism. Following the election of James K. Polk, the United States embarked upon policies to carry out the concept of "manifest destiny--" the belief that the United had a God given right to extend from coast to coast. By the end of Polk's term, the goal was a reality.

The four candidate election of 1860 gives us good insight into the degree of division prevailing in the nation on the eve of the Civil War. The final failure of compromise was evident as old party loyalties failed and sectional considerations overrode attempts at national reconciliation.

The controversial election of 1876 marked the formal

end to the period of Reconstruction. Hayes' contested victory over Tilden signaled the removal of Federal troops from the South and the return to power of traditional Southern leadership, effectively preventing any real gains for the freedmen.

In addition to enlightening the historical events of each campaign, the songs illustrate the development of folk and popular music over the nineteenth century. The early campaign songs featured ballads from the British, Scotch, and Irish tradition as well as the early national songs, such as "Yankee Doodle," "Hail Columbia," and "Anacreon in Heaven" (which later became "The Star Spangled Banner").

The campaigns of the 1840's began to reflect the influence of the minstrel shows with such tunes as "Old Dan Tucker" by Dan Emmet, which was used for many campaign songs, including "Clay and Frelinghuysen." (Side I, Band 9)

Stephen Foster gained his greatest popularity in the mid 19th century and many of his tunes were used as campaign songs. Douglas' "Old Uncle Abe" (Side II, Band 4) is set to "My Old Kentucky Home," and Foster's "Nelly Bly" provides the tune for Lincoln's "The People's Nominee." Sea chanties are also represented in this period by the John Bell version of "Blow Ye Winds in the Morning."

The great Civil War songs by composers such as George F. Root and Henry Clay Work were used in many post-war campaign songs for Grant and Hayes. Work's "Marching Through Georgia" provides the tune for Hayes' "The Bloody Hand of Treason." (Side II, Band 10) while "John Brown's Body" ("The Battle Hymn of the Republic") is the setting for "Our country must be Free," also for Hayes.

The songs which developed in each period remained

popular throughout the century. "Rosin the Beau," a western song which was first used as an anthem for William Henry Harrison ("Old Tippicanoe") was also used for songs for Henry Clay, Abraham Lincoln, Horace Greeley, Benjamin Harrison, and the Populist party in the 1890s. "Yankee Doodle" and the "Star Spangled Banner" remained standbys for campaign songs throughout the century as did the minstrel tunes and Civil War songs. Original songs composed for campaigns were a rarity until the late 19th and early 20th centuries. These will be treated in Volume II of this collection.

TILDEN AND HENDRICK

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FOR PRESIDENT



FOR PRESIDENT




W. A. WHEELER, OF N.Y.


Counting the Vote for President and Vice-President.
ADMIT READER
TO GALLERY OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.
1876.
February 12, 1877.
R. B. Hayes
Wm. Tilden

It took Congress three months to count the ballots and decide the winner of the 1876 race; where is a pass to the House gallery.

HAYES ELECTED.



TILDEN.



NUF CED.

The electoral college was better, and put down the wrong man, but just few days before the election, Hayes and Wheeler (above, left) were declared winners. The Republicans counted extensively right.

N. A. TILDEN, CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Election of 1800: Emergence of the Two Party System

<u>Party</u>	<u>Candidates</u>	
Democrat-Republican	Thomas Jefferson (Va.)	73
	Aaron Burr (N.Y.)	73
Federalist	John Adams (Mass.)	65
	Charles C. Pinckney (S.C.)	64

Because of the tie in the electoral college, the election was decided for Jefferson in the House of Representatives.

Brief Background of the Candidates

Jefferson: Lawyer, planter, architect, inventor; author of the Declaration of Independence, Governor of Virginia, Minister to France, Secretary of State under Washington.

Adams: Lawyer; Active in pre-Revolutionary and Revolutionary activities as a member of the Continental Congress; Minister to England following the Revolution, Vice-Pres, under Washington; President, 1797-1801.

Vocabulary and Terms.

Alien and Sedition Acts: Set of laws passed during the Adams administration. The Sedition Acts limited anti-government statements and writings. The Alien Acts extended the time necessary to become a citizen and made it easier for aliens to be deported.

Deism: Belief in God arrived at through reason only and rejection of divine revelation.

Democrat-Republicans: One of the first two American political parties; led by Thomas Jefferson and James Madison.

Federalists: Other early political party; led by John Adams and Alexander Hamilton.

Neutrality: Foreign policy aimed at avoiding friction with other nations at war. Key element of Federalist policy.

Nullification: Belief that a state has to power to "nullify" or refuse to obey a Federal law.

States Rights: Belief that the rights of individual states are equal to or superior to that of the Federal government.

Introduction

The election of 1800 witnessed the development of our first political parties, the Federalists and the Democrat-Republicans.

Thomas Jefferson and John Adams had faced each other in the election of 1796 and Adams won by only three electoral votes.

Between 1796 and 1800, differences between the parties had intensified and a clear ideological split was evident as the campaign began.

The campaign was quite different from those we know today.

It was conducted over the entire year of 1800. At the time, Presidential electors were chosen by differing methods in each state. The electors were chosen through direct popular election in only four states. In the majority of states, electors were chosen by state legislatures. Therefore, the outcome of the Presidential election depended on the outcome of the elections for state legislatures which took place at different times during the year.

The Federalists and the Democrat-Republicans (also known as "Republicans") had differing positions on both domestic and foreign policies. The Jeffersonian party favored the retention of states' rights as much as possible. Party members were opposed to a large standing army and a large national debt. They bitterly condemned Federalist laws such as the Alien and Sedition Acts (see "The Right of Thinking," Band 2), and in opposition to these restrictive laws, strongly advocated freedom of speech and press as defined by the first amendment.

The Federalists favored a strong central government and generally had less faith in the ability of the "common man" to govern himself. In their 1800 campaign, they cited the success of their policy of neutrality in avoiding war with either Britain or France as well as the success of Federalist financial policies in providing the nation with a sound economic base.

The results of the election show the two Democratic candidates tied in the electoral vote. The original wording of the Constitution provided that the candidate with the greatest number of electoral votes be elected President and the candidate with the next highest total, Vice-President. In this case, Jefferson and Burr, the two Democratic candidates, tied in the electoral vote. The House of Representatives chose Jefferson as President on the 36th ballot. (In 1804, the 12th

amendment to the Constitution was passed, providing for separate elections for President and Vice President in order to avoid situations such as that which occurred in 1800.

SIDE ONE: BAND ONE OVERTURE AND YANKEE DOODLE FOR ADAMS

The overture to this collection is a medley of tunes from the campaign songs featured on this album. The songs included are "Hail Columbia," "Yankee Doodle," "Rosin the Beau," "Old Dan Tucker," "My Old Kentucky Home," and "John Browns' Body," or "The Battle Hymn of the Republic."

The Federalist song which follows the overture appeared in the Gazette of the U.S. and Philadelphia Advertiser, a strongly pro-Federalist newspaper which had said of Jefferson:

"You have been, Sir, a Governor, an Ambassador, and a Secretary of State, and had to desert each of these posts, from that weakness of nerves, want of fortitude and total imbecility of character which have marked your whole political career, and most probably will attend you to your grave."

Federalist campaign efforts sought to convince voters that the election of Jefferson would lead to excesses such as occurred in France after the French revolution. Jefferson was also accused of atheism and deism.

1. Federalists be on your guard,
Look sharp to what is doing;
Your foes you see are working hard
To bring about your ruin.

Chorus: Yankee Doodle, keep it up,
Yankee Doodle Dandy,
Mind the music and the step,
And with the girls be handy.

2. There's not a man among you all
But what sincerely glories
To help-effect the destined fall
Of Democrats and Tories.

Chorus

3. Then rally strong and you'll defeat,
Their schemes of wicked action,
And trample down beneath your feet
The Jeffersonian faction.

Chorus

4. Be staunch and true on freedom's side,
And keep a firm connexion;
Let not the Democrats divide
Your votes at next election

Chorus

SIDE ONE: BAND 2 AMERICAN LIBERTY; or THE SOVEREIGN RIGHT
OF THINKING
TUNE: NANCY DAWSON

No other act of the Federalists was as unpopular as the Alien and Sedition Acts. Federalists justified the acts as necessary to limit subversion and prevent the threat of foreign influence in American affairs. The Jeffersonians saw the acts as a basic threat to the first amendment rights of free speech and press. The main intent of the acts, they said, was to limit the power of their party, through silencing dissent, eliminating opposition, and delaying the naturalization of immigrants. (Most immigrants became Republican voters.)

Democrat-Republican opposition to the Alien and Sedition Acts found expression in the Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions, which asserted that states had the right to "nullify" a Federal law, such as the Alien and Sedition Acts, with which they disagreed. Opposition to these acts also found expression in songs such as "American Liberty" or The Sovereign Right of Thinking," in which Republicans proclaim that their "right to think" would eventually triumph over those who sought to limit their spoken or written words. The song cites some of the heroes of the Revolution, such as Washington, John Hancock, John Dickinson (Dickerson in the song) and Thomas Paine (author of Common Sense) and states that the Revolution might never have occurred had these patriots kept silent. Also mentioned in the song are "Master Rawle" (U.S. Attorney of Pa.) and "Charley Lee" (U.S. Attorney-General). "George" in verse 2 refers to George III.

1. Since we're forbid to speak or write,
A word that might our betters bite,
I'll sit mum-chance from morn till night,
But pay it off with thinking,
One word they ne'er shal fish from me,
For Master Rawle or Charley Lee,
Yet, if they'll let my thoughts be free
I'll pay them off with thinking.
2. When George began his tyrant-tricks
And ropes about our necks would fix,
We boldly kickt against the sticks
Nor sat mum-chance a thinking.
We freely spoke, and freely thought,
And freely told him what we sought,
Then freely seiz'd our swords and fought,
Nor dream'd or silent thinking.
3. If Hancock and great Washington,
Had nothing said and nothing done,
His race the Tyrant would have run,
Whilst we were mum a thinking.
Had Dickerson not dar'd to write,
Had Common-Sense not spit his spite,
Our soldiers had not dar'd to fight,
But set down mum a thinking.
4. We swore that thoughts and words were free,
And so the press should ever be,
And that we fought for Liberty,
Not Liberty of thinking.
But Liberty to write and speak,
And vengeance on our foes to wreak;
And not like mice in cheese to squeak,
Or, sit down mum a thinking.
5. Again on Constitution Hill,
We swore the sov'reign People's will
Should never want a press or quill,
Or tongue to speak as thinking.
That still we're sovereign, who'll deny?
For though I dare not speak yet I
On sovereign right will still enjoy,
The sovereign right of thinking.



SIDE ONE; BAND THREE

JEFFERSON AND LIBERTY

TUNE: "THE GOBBY-O"

Jefferson's election was not finally assured until two weeks before the scheduled inauguration. When it became clear that Jefferson had won, his supporters called his election the "Revolution of 1800." While historians still debate the extent to which Jefferson brought fundamental change to the Federal government, the election was truly revolutionary in the sense that political power had changed hands from one party to another for the first time in American history.

Jubilant Jefferson supporters celebrated his victory by singing "Jefferson and Liberty," a song which characterizes the Federalist regime as a "reign of terror" featuring "gags, inquisitors and spies." The song brings out some of the important Republican appeals of the election. For example, "strangers from a thousand shores" are welcomed- quite a contrast — to the Federalist Alien acts. The stirring melody and lyrics to the tune makes one believe that the Republicans truly felt that Jefferson's election was to be the dawning of a new era in a paradise "remote from Europe's wants and woes."

1. The gloomy night before us flies,
The reign of Terror now is o'er;
Its Gags, Inquisitors and Spies,
Its herds of harpies are no more!

Chorus: Rejoice! Columbia's Sons, rejoice!
To tyrants never bend the knee,
But join with heart and soul and voice,
For Jefferson and Liberty.

2. Here strangers from a thousand shores,
Compelled by tyranny to roam,
Shall find amidst abundant stores,
A nobler and a happier home.

Chorus

3. Here Art shall lift her laurel'd head,
Wealth Industry and Peace divine,
And where dark pathless Forest spread,
Rich fields and lofty cities Shine.

Chorus

4. From Europe's wants and woes remote,
A dreary waste of waves between,
Here plenty cheers the humblest Cot.,
And smiles on every village green.

Chorus

5. From Georgia up to Lake Champlain,
From Seas to Mississippi's Shore,
Ye Sons of Freedom loud proclaim,
The Reign of Terror is no more.

Chorus

SIDE ONE: BANDS 4-6

THE ELECTION OF 1828:

TRIUMPH OF JACKSONIAN DEMOCRACY

<u>Parties</u>	<u>Candidates</u>	<u>Electoral Vote</u>	<u>Popular Vote</u>
Democrats (Democrat-Republican)	Andrew Jackson (Tenn.)	178	647,292 (56%)
	Martin Van Buren (N.Y.)		
National Republicans	John Quincy Adams (Mass.)	83	507,730 (44%)
	John Sargent (Penn.)		

Brief Background of the Candidates:

Jackson: Lawyer, planter; led victories against the Creek Indians in 1813, the British in the Battle of New Orleans in 1815 and the Seminole in 1819; unsuccessful candidate for President in 1824.

Adams: Secretary to his father John Adams when he was minister to Great Britain; lawyer; minister to the Netherlands, Prussia, Portugal; member of the U.S. Senate; professor at Harvard; minister to Russia, negotiated treaty which ended the War of 1812; Secretary of State in the Monroe administration; President from 1825-1829.

Vocabulary and Terms

Corrupt bargain: Phrase used to refer to the alleged "deal" made between John Quincy Adams and Henry Clay, giving Adams the Presidency in 1824.

Democrat-Republican (Democratic) Party: Party of Van Buren, Jackson and Calhoun; generally favored greater states' rights, and expressed greater interest in "the common man"

Era of Good Feelings: Period of little overt party strife during the administration of Monroe (1816-1824).

National Republican Party: Party of Adams, Clay and later of Harrison; generally favored a strong central government to promote internal improvements and other programs.

Property Qualifications: limits on the suffrage which required a certain amount of property in order to vote.

Sedition bills: Reference to the Alien and Sedition Acts (see the election of 1800).

Introduction

Historians have viewed Andrew Jackson's election in 1828 as a victory for "The Common Man" and as a symbol of the emergence of the West as a force in American politics. This view of the election is due in part to Jackson's personality and Western origins, but also to historical factors at the time which were working to bring about democratization on a local level throughout the nation. The election represented several important developments in democracy:

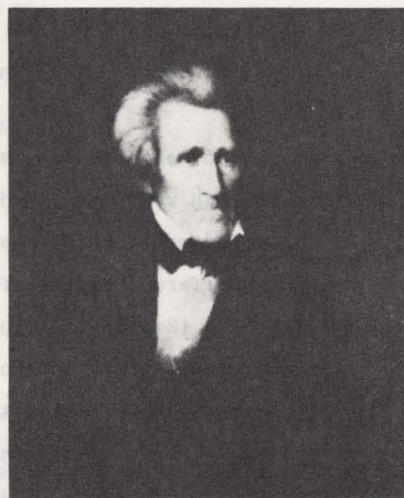
1. It was the first election in which most of the Presidential electors were chosen through popular vote. Previously, in many states electors were chosen by the state legislature.
2. A larger number of people voted in this election than in any previous election because by 1828, all but two states had dropped property qualifications for voting.
3. Jackson was the first President to come from a state in the West. All previous Presidents had come from either Virginia or Massachusetts.
4. The election represented the re-emergence of the two party system. Open party conflict did not exist during the "Era of Good Feelings." (However, the seeds of future divisions were developing at this time.)
5. Partly because of the broadening of the electorate, the election of 1828 was the first to use extensive campaigning coordinated through party organization. The election featured rallies, parades and other electioneering, especially on the part of Jackson's supporters, who formed "Hickory Clubs" to campaign for their hero.

John Quincy Adams was the victim of forces which made his years in office quite possibly the most unhappy Presidency of any Chief Executive. His Presidency began under a cloud because of the "corrupt bargain" he had allegedly made with Henry Clay to gain the Presidency in 1824 (see "Johnny Q., My Jo John, Band 6). Adams position was not helped by his personality. Though a dedicated public servant and an idealist, he was cold and aloof. He even described himself as

"A man of reserved, cold, austere and forbidding manners. My political adversaries say, a gloomy misanthrope, and my personal enemies an unsocial savage. With the knowledge of the actual defects of my character, I have not the pliability to reform it."



John Quincy Adams



Andrew Jackson

SIDE ONE:
BAND FOUR: THE HUNTERS OF KENTUCKY (Jackson)

Tune: Unfortunate Miss Bailey

Contrasted with Adams' reserved image, Jackson's reputation as a duelist, Indian fighter, and hero of the Battle of New Orleans had tremendous appeal, especially to the newly enfranchised voters. This song is a celebration of Jackson's victory in the Battle of New Orleans- the greatest victory for the U.S. in the War of 1812, even though it was fought after the peace treaty ending the war had been signed. As a result of the battle, Jackson became

a national hero, subject to near deification by many of his supporters. "The Hunters of Kentucky," a history of his exploits at New Orleans, served as a campaign song both in Jackson's 1824 and 1828 campaigns. Packenham, mentioned in the second verse, was the British general in command of the forces at New Orleans opposing Jackson. Two verses of the song are included here.

1. You gentlemen and ladies fair, who grace this famous city:
Just listen if you've time to spare, whilst I rehearse a ditty;
And for the opportunity, conceive yourselves quite lucky,
For 'tis not often here you see a Hunter of Kentucky.

Chorus: Oh! Kentucky, the Hunters of Kentucky!
Oh! Kentucky, the Hunters of Kentucky!

2. I 'Spouse you've read it in the prints, how Packenham attempted,
To make old Hickory Jackson wince, but soon his schemes repented.
For we with rifles ready cocked, thought such occasion lucky,
And soon around the hero flocked the hunters of Kentucky.

Chorus

SIDE ONE:
BAND FIVE: JACKSON AND THE MILITIAMEN (Adams song)

Tune: The Ballad of Major Andre

While Jackson's victories were an inspiration to his ardent supporters, his opponents found evidence in his record that depicted him as a ruthless, wild western cutthroat who thought nothing of needlessly executing innocent militiamen and who would fight a duel at the drop of a hat. Anti-Jackson forces feared his election would lead to turmoil, riot and anarchy.

In support of this contention, they circulated a leaflet known as "The Coffin Handbill" which showed six coffins representing the six militiamen executed by Jackson during the Creek war. The implication of the handbill and of songs such as "Jackson and the Militiamen" was that Jackson's election might result in summary executions on the White House lawn.

Defenders of Jackson say that the executions were justified- that the men were in fact deserters. In any case, the executions might have been responsible for an increased discipline among the Tennessee militia which enabled the Americans to defeat the Creeks and hence remove a powerful British ally.

1. Ye honest men of every kind, attend while I relate
Of six unhappy citizens the melancholy fate.
'Twas when the sons of liberty were fighting with their foes,
They drafted men from Tennessee, the British to oppose.
2. The farmer left his plow and hoe, the merchant left his trade.
To serve three months in camp; for so the Act of Congress said.
They marched them over stones and sand through all the burning day.
They marched through water and o'er land to far off Florida.
3. 'Twas on the twentieth day of June, their three months tour began,
And when their ninety days were up, their thoughts all homeward ran,
For Captain Strother he had told the privates of the corps,
There was no law that them could hold a single minute more.
4. They buckled each his knapsack, and started home to go.
But soon, alas! They were seized up and put in prison low.
Then General Jackson called a court these citizens to try.
Three officers of every sort, determined they should die.
5. They tried them for deserters then and mutiny withal.
And finding guilty these poor men, their tears began to fall.
Then General Jackson issued out an order from his pen,
That in four days they should be shot, these six militia men.
6. Now God protect the United States and all militia men.
And may it never be our fate to hear such things again.
And God forbid our President this Jackson e'er shall be,
Lest we should to his camp be sent, and shot for mutiny.



SIDE ONE
BAND SIX:

JOHNNY Q., MY JO JOHN

Tune: John Anderson, My Jo John

The campaign of 1828 was one of the most vicious of the century. Adams forces accused Jackson of everything from murderous duels and executions (see "Jackson and the Militiamen") to adultery and even bigamy. The unhappy Adams was the victim of equally vituperative charges ranging from anti-Catholicism and atheism to buying a billiards table at taxpayers' expense.

This song catalogues some of the more serious charges against Adams. In the first verse, Adams is parried with his father, the second President, as a champion of Aristocracy, and an enemy of the common man. The memory of the hated Alien and Sedition Acts is resurrected and the son is forced to bear the sins of his father.

The second verse continues its abuse of Adams, charging with pro-British sentiments and a preference for Aristocracy. In addition, Adams is held responsible for spreading the rumor that Thomas Jefferson had an affair with Sally Hemmings, one of his slaves. (Recent biographers of Jefferson are still in disagreement about the existence of this affair.)

The third verse contains the key charge against Adams- that he and Henry Clay engineered the famous "corrupt bargain" in the House of Representatives which gave the election of 1824 to Adams over Jackson. There were four candidates in the election of 1824, and although Jackson received 99 electoral votes, 15 more than Adams, he did not receive a majority in the electoral college and the election was thrown into the House of Representatives. Henry Clay, realizing that he had no chance to win the election, gave his support to Adams. Jackson and his supporters were enraged when Clay was subsequently appointed Secretary of State- a traditional stepping stone to the Presidency. Jacksonians cried that they had been robbed of the election and used what was actually legitimate political maneuvering as the fuel for a crusade which haunted

Adams throughout his entire Presidency and was in large part responsible for his defeat in 1828.

The final verse of the song predicts that Adams will lose the election and the "line" of Presidential Adams which had begun with his father, would not be continued with John Quincy's son. There is irony in the final verse which predicts that Adams would return to his "county seat," for this is exactly what he did. Following his retirement from the Presidency, Adams served 20 years as a representative from Massachusetts in the House and achieved greater prestige and respect in this role than he ever had as President. Adams gained particular notoriety in his advocacy of the abolition of slavery.

1. John Quincy John, my Joe, John
You mind your father's creed,
Was that the rich should govern, John,
But that the poor should bleed;
And for to silence all complaint
Enacted laws you know--
Sedition bills were gagging pills,
John Adams Q., my Joe.
2. John Adams' son, my jo, John!
Ye praised the British then,
To build up Aristocracy,
Ye plied baith tongue and pen; * baith=both
Ye libell'd Thomas Jefferson,
As "dusky Sal" will show
Wi' wit lascivious and profane,
John Adams' son, my Jo!
3. O, Johnny Q., my Jo, John, your honor's deeply stained,
The gem that now hangs on your brow, by bargain was obtained--
A bargain made with Clay, John, "as all the world do know,"
And Webster too, was bought by you, O, Johnny Q, my Jo.
4. O, Johnny Q. my Jo John, your race will soon be run,
Nor regal Gem nor diadem, descend upon your son!
You, to your county seat, John, reluctant then must go,
Where time mispent, you will lament, O Johnny Q, my Jo.

Jackson's supporters treated his election as a "revolution" similar to Jefferson's 1800 triumph. At his inauguration, his supporters streamed into Washington and nearly turned a White House reception into a brawl. This outpouring of sentiment certainly is some indication that Jackson's election was perceived as victory for the "common man." The period of Jackson's Presidency

was marked by a growth of humanitarian movements, increased extension of suffrage and other democratic reforms. However, it is interesting to note that Jackson himself might have opposed some of these reforms, such as the movement to abolish slavery. Jackson himself was a strong President, freely using his veto power and even threatening the use of force to quell southern opposition to a tariff bill.



KING ANDREW THE FIRST.

SIDE ONE: BANDS 7-11

THE ELECTION OF 1844: MANDATE FOR EXPANSIONISM

Parties	Candidates	Electoral Vote	Popular Vote
Democrats	James K. Polk (Tenn.)	170	1,337,243
	George M. Dallas (Penn.)		
Whigs	Henry Clay (Ky.)	105	1,299,062
	Theodore Frelinghuysen (N.J.)		

Brief Background of the Candidates

Polk: Lawyer, served in the Tennessee House of Representatives, and the U.S. House of Representatives; Speaker of the U.S. House; Governor of Tennessee

Clay: Lawyer; Speaker of the House; Senator, "War Hawk" in War of 1812; architect of Missouri Compromise (1820) and Compromise of 1850; Secretary of State under Adams; unsuccessful candidate for President in three elections (1824, 1832 and 1844)

Vocabulary and Terms

Annexation: Addition of new territory to a nation

Locofocos: Name used to refer to Democrats by their opponents. (was the brand name of a safety match which had been used to light a New York Democratic meeting after the lights had been extinguished)

Manifest Destiny: Belief that the United States had a "God given" right to expand its borders from the Atlantic to the Pacific Oceans

Whigs: Political party which emerged in the early 1830s originally as a coalition of anti-Jackson forces including National Republicans and dissatisfied Democrats; generally more conservative in orientation than the Democrats



Introduction

According to the concept of "Manifest Destiny" the U.S. was fated to extend its boundaries from coast to coast. The fulfillment of this concept was the most important result of the election of 1844, since the election of James K. Polk assured that an aggressive policy of expansion was carried out. Between Polk's election in 1844 and his retirement in 1849, the U.S. had annexed Texas, acquired the Oregon territory up to the 49th parallel and acquired vast new lands, including California, as a result of the Mexican War,

The election of Polk was a reversal of the results of four years earlier when Whig candidate William Henry Harrison (Tippicanoe) won a landslide victory over Martin Van Buren.

SIDE ONE

BAND SEVEN

TIP AND TY (Wm. Henry Harrison)

Tune: "Little Pigs"

The election of 1840 is not one of the elections studied in this collection. However, one song from the Harrison-Van Buren contest is included because that election was a key one in the development of campaign songs, and set a pattern for campaign songs for the remainder of the 19th century.

In 1840, the Whigs launched an unprecedented "singing campaign" on behalf of William Henry Harrison, an aging general who received his nickname "Tippicanoe" because of his victory there over the Indian Tecumseh, in 1811.

Although Harrison was a wealthy slaveowner, his campaign sought to portray him as a "man of the people." An opposition newspaper had poked fun at Harrison, saying that with a \$2,000 pension, he'd be content to sit in a log cabin and drink hard cider the rest of his life. The Whigs took this charge and used it to their advantage, glorifying the "log cabin" and "Hard cider" themes as examples of Harrison's homely virtues. "Log cabin" songsters were sold by the thousands.

The Harrison songs contrasted the Hero of Tippicanoe with Democratic incumbent Martin Van Buren. Van Buren was pictured as an effete Aristocrat with contempt for the common man. In reality, Van Buren was of humbler origin than Harrison. However, he didn't stand a chance in the face of the onslaught of songs, parades and rallies which shouted "Van is a used up man," and made Harrison's victory at Tippicanoe as significant as Rome's victory over Carthage. Van Buren, who had been noted for his skill at political maneuvering, could not maneuver himself away from the relentless barrage of propaganda deifying Harrison

and castigating "little Matty" as a dishonest, Aristocratic enemy of the poor. "The Ball a rolling on" in the song, refers to giant balls inscribed with the names of states and campaign slogans, which were rolled from town to town during parades and rallies.

1. What's the cause of this commotion, motion, motion,
Our country through.
It is the ball a rolling on

Chorus: For Tippicanoe and Tyler too
Tippicanoe and Tyler, too.
And with them we will beat little Van, Van,
Van is a used up man
And with them we will beat little Van.

2. Like the rushing of mighty waters,
On it will go!
And in its course will clear the way..

Chorus

3. Let them talk about hard cider, cider, cider,
And Log cabins, too.
It will only help to speed the ball...

Chorus

4. Little Matty's days are numbered, numbered, numbered
Out he must go!
And in his place we'll put the good old...

Chorus

SIDE ONE

BAND 8 YE TRUE HEARTED WHIGS OF THE UNION (Clay)
Tune: Rosin the Beau

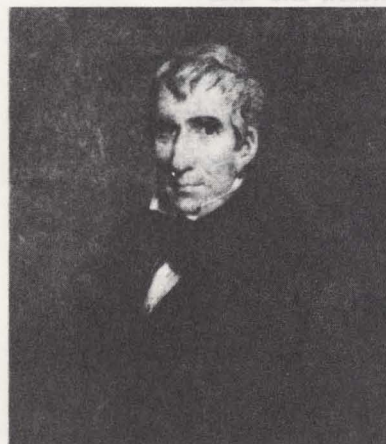
William Henry Harrison served the shortest term of office of any President. The elderly general caught pneumonia at his inauguration and died one month later. John Tyler became the first Vice-President to succeed to the Presidency. However, the Whigs who nominated "Tyler, too" probably did not seriously consider this possibility. Tyler opposed the Whigs on almost every major issue between 1841 and 1844, including the tariff, the creation of the second U.S. Bank, and the annexation of Texas.

With Tyler a traitor to the Whig cause, Henry Clay emerged as Tippicanoe's heir. While Clay had gained a great

deal of National prestige in his own political career, the Whigs felt that linking him to their departed hero could certainly do him no harm. In this song, "Harry the Honest and True," is seen as carrying on the banner of Tippicanoe, who has been "promoted to join the high army."

The song also brings out Whig sentiments toward Tyler, who "treacherously" stole the victory nobly gained by Tippicanoe.
(See verse 3)

1. Ye true hearted whigs of the army
That conquered for Tippicanoe
Come join with us now the high standard
Of Harry the honest and true.
Our Harry the honest and true
Our Harry the tried and the true
Who fought in our ranks as a soldier
With us for old Tippicanoe.
2. We have not my friend now to guide us
Our former commander 'tis true
For death has been here and promoted
Our chieftain, brave Tippicanoe
Our chieftain brave Tippicanoe
Our chieftain, brave Tippicanoe
He's left us to join the high army
Of those who are faithful and true.
3. The victory once gained so nobly
We lost and by treachery too
But shall ever the soldiers despair boys
Who've fought for old Tippicanoe
Who've fought for old Tippicanoe
Who've fought for old Tippicanoe
Pick your flints and look to your rifles
And fire for Harry the true.



William Henry Harrison



John Tyler

SIDE ONE

BAND NINE

CLAY AND FRELINGHUYSEN

Tune: Old Dan Tucker

In spite of two previous defeats for the Presidency, Henry Clay was probably the most popular national figure of the time. Using Clay's reputation, the Whigs tried to duplicate their 1840 success by turning out songsters acclaiming "The Farmer of Ashland" as a national savior. The introduction to the Whig Banner Melodist states:

"It may be safely asserted that this history of the world does not furnish an instance of more eminent purity, disinterestedness, zeal, and ability combined in a great statesman than may be found in the life and services of Henry Clay."

In "Clay and Frelinghuysen," the "Coon" mentioned in the first verse was the symbol of the Whigs, similar to our Republican elephant and Democratic donkey. "Locos" is short for "Locofocos" (see vocabulary at beginning of this section). "Little Martin" refers to Martin Van Buren. Van Buren had been the favorite to win the Democratic nomination. However, Southerners opposed to his anti-expansionist stand were able to block his nomination and after several ballots, James K. Polk was nominated. Polk was not seriously considered as a candidate before the convention and thus is considered the first "Dark Horse" candidate.

Both Van Buren and Clay were victims of their position against the annexation of Texas. In 1842, expecting that they would be the two Presidential candidates, both Van Buren and Clay published letters opposing the annexation of Texas. When Van Buren failed to get the Democratic nomination, Clay was faced with a pro-expansionist opponent in Polk. Since "manifest destiny" had captured the public's imagination, Clay's opposition to "Texas Humbugs" (see the final verse) may have cost him the election.

"Clay and Frelinghuysen" to Dan Emmets "Old Dan Tucker"

a popular minstrel tune, makes the most of the "risin'-Frelinghuysen" rhyme as well as various rhymes for Polk's running mate Dallas (fallacies-Dallases).

1. A first rate rhyme was made of late
By a Whig from the Buckeye state.
It goes by that familiar tune,
Which Old Dan Tucker taught the Coon.

Chorus: Hurrah! Hurrah! The country's risin'
For Harry Clay and Frelinghuysen.
Hurrah! Hurrah! the Country's risin'
For Harry Clay and Frelinghuysen.

2. The Loco's cause is out of season,
For it has neither rhyme or reason.
The people tried and found it lacking
Their promises had not good backing. Chorus
3. When Locos see them on our ticket
'Tis a sight which they grow sick at,
For anything from Humbug free
With Locos systems don't agree Chorus
4. 'Their own true friends they would dishearten
And clipt the wings of little Martin
To calls of justice they proved callous,
And victimized poor Polk and Dallas. Chorus
5. The people say 'tis not surprisin'
We go for Clay and Frelinghuysen.
The ship of state needs no such ballast
As James K. Polk and George M. Dallas. Chorus
6. Our Clay and Frelinghuysen team
Will make the Locos kick and scream.
We'll drive it over all their fallacies,
Texas Humbugs, Polk and Dallases. Chorus

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No Mexicans between Pt. Isabel & Gen. Taylor.

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SIDE ONE

BAND TEN

A SONG OF THE HICKORY (POLK)

Tune: 'Tis My Delight

While Whigs invoked the name of the late Tippicanoe on behalf of Henry Clay, Democrats called thier standard bearer the heir to Andrew Jackson or "Young Hickory," successor to "Old Hickory," hero of the Battle of New Orleans. The aging Jackson himself endorsed the Democratic dark horse candidate.

The expansionist theme of the Polk campaign is quite evident in the "Song of the Hickory." The Democrats openly welcome "the Lone Star State" (Texas) and also proclaim their desire to take Oregon from the British. Inclusion of Oregon in the Democratic expansionist aims was an attempt to ease Northern fears that the admission of Texas, a slave state, would upset the balance of slave and free states.

1. And when our soil's invaded and our rights are trampled on
We'll gather 'round "Young Hickory" from Maine to Oregon.
And British Whigs and Yankee Whigs alike will rue the day.
For while we flog the British boys, we'll use up Henry Clay

Chorus: Hurrah! Hurrah! for the Hickory tree and down with Henry Clay!
Hurrah! Hurrah! for the Hickory tree and down with Henry Clay!

2. And now the brave young Hickory, spreads out its branches wide
They're broad enough to shelter us and Texas by our side.
Then welcome to the Lone Star State, come Democrats make way.
Young Hickory will shelter us, in spite of Henry Clay.

Chorus

SIDE ONE

BAND ELEVEN

GOODBYE HARRY (Polk)

Tune: Derry Down

As in the elections of 1828 and 1840, opposing parties had few qualms about hurling invective at their rivals. This Polk song is merciless in its attacks on Clay. In

the second verse the famous "corrupt bargain" of 1824 between Clay and Adams is resurrected once again (see Johnny Q. my Jo John, Band 6). In addition, the song calls Clay "dictator of the extra session." The extra session was a special session of Congress called in 1841 during which Clay, as the dominant Congressional leader, pushed through various parts of the Whig program, including Bank and tariff bills. However, these programs were vetoed by Tyler.

The song treats the bank issue in verse three. In the Jacksonian tradition, a National Bank is seen as the oppressor of the common man, and Clay's advocacy of the bank shows his desire to "grind off the nose from the face of the poor."

Finally, the song accuses Clay of straddling the issues and varying his speeches depending on his geographical location. ("Your speeches for North and for South and for West." Clay's vacillation on the Texas issue in particular gives some validity to this charge. Seeing the unpopularity of his anti-annexation stand, Clay tried to modify it as the campaign progressed. However, his late pro-annexation statements lost him votes to Birney, the candidate of the abolitionist party, especially in the key state of New York.



Discussing the Texas Question

1. Go home Henry Clay, there's no room for you here,
 So pack and be jogging and leave the track clear.
 We've Polk and Dallas, both men to our mind,
 For whom we will vote and prosperity find.
 Goodbye Harry, Go Home Harry!
 Your cornfield at Ashland is waiting for you.

2. Your bargain with Adams we've not forgot
 And all your bold cheering will now go to pot.
 Dictator you was of the famed extra session,
 But of the White House your will ne'er get possession
 Goodbye Harry, Go Home Harry!
 Your slaves at the farm are waiting for you

3. A Bank is your hobby, a bank you shall have;
 A bank of good earth when you go to your grave.
 But never a bank of fifty millions power,
 To grind off the nose from the face of the poor
 Goodbye Harry, Go home Harry!
 At Ashland there's sackcloth and ashes for you.

4. Your triple faceknavery all should detest.
 Your speeches for North and for South and for West
 So driven in practice and principles too.
 That an honest mouth they could never pass through.
 Goodbye Harry, go home Harry!
 A three headed President never will do.

The election was extremely close. Clay lost by only
 8,000 popular votes and a difference of a few votes in several
 states would have altered the results. However, Polk was elected
 and departing President Tyler took his election as a mandate to
 press for the annexation of Texas which took place just before
 he left office.

The fact that the people of the U.S. had opted for expansion
 was crucial for the further development of the country.
 The nation would now have to face the problem of the spread
 of slavery to these new territories. It was a challenge
 which compromise failed to solve and was only finally resolved
 through the tragedy of Civil War.

SIDE TWO, BANDS 1-6

THE ELECTION OF 1860: PRELUDE TO CIVIL WAR

Parties	Candidates	Electoral Votes	Popular Votes
Republicans	Abraham Lincoln (Ill.) Hannibal Hamlin (Me.)	180	1,866,452
Democrats (Northern)	Stephen A. Douglas (Ill.) H.V. Johnson (Georgia)	12	1,375,157
Democrats (Southern)	John C. Breckenridge (Ky) Joseph Lane (Oregon)	72	847,953
Constitutional Union	John Bell (Tenn.) Edward Everett (Mass.)	39	590,631

Brief Background of the Candidates

Lincoln: Lawyer; fought in the 1832 Seminole wars; as representative in Congress opposed the Mexican War; active in the formation of the Republican party; unsuccessful candidate for the Senate from Illinois in 1858, but gained national prominence during the Lincoln-Douglas debates.

Douglas: Lawyer; Illinois Attorney General; also Secretary and Supreme Court Justice in Illinois, U.S. Representative and Senator from Illinois

Breckenridge: Vice President under Buchanan; supported compromise of 1850

Bell: Congressman; Secretary of War; Senator; associated with the Know-Nothing Party.

Vocabulary and Terms

Abolitionists: Those who advocated the immediate end to slavery

Doughfaces: Northerners sympathetic to the South and slavery

Fireeaters: Radical southerners who favored secession and rejected any compromise with the North

Freesoil party: Group opposed to the spread of slavery to the western territories

Know-Nothings: Third party formed in the 1850s based largely around anti-immigrant and anti-Catholic sentiment.

Introduction

The election of 1860 was one of the most crucial and complex in our nation's history. The fact that four candidates ran is some indication of the degree of division which would lead

to secession and Civil War almost immediately following the election.

For the first part of the nineteenth century, several compromises had postponed direct confrontation over the issue of slavery. In 1820, the Missouri Compromise, engineered by Henry Clay, established a line (36°30' latitude) which would serve as the dividing line for slavery in future states formed from the Louisiana Territory. Slavery was to be prohibited in any future state north of this line.

This line served to help maintain a balance between slave and free states until newlands were gained through the annexation of Texas and war with Mexico. Another compromise in 1850 tried to solve the problem of the extension of slavery to the areas gained from Mexico. The Compromise specified that in the territories gained from Mexico, the people of the territory would be able to choose for or against slavery. This doctrine was known as popular or squatter sovereignty.

The 1850's, however, saw the end of the period of compromise. In all the debates on slavery, the arguments centered around one issue- whether Congress had the power to regulate slavery in the territories. Behind this issue was the basic question of whether Congress had power to regulate slavery at all.

Two events of the 1850's disheartened those who wanted to check the spread of slavery. In 1854, the Kansas-Nebraska Bill was passed. This bill, sponsored by Senator Stephen Douglas of Illinois applied the doctrine of popular sovereignty to the Kansas and Nebraska territories- part of the Louisiana Territory. In effect, the act contradicted the Missouri Compromise, since slavery was supposed to be prohibited in those territories under the Missouri Compromise. The Kansas-Nebraska Act led to a bloody struggle between pro- and anti-slavery forces in Kansas. Later, in 1857, the Dred Scott decision stated categorically that the Missouri Compromise was unconstitutional and that Congress had no power to regulate slavery under the Constitution.



Stephen A. Douglas



Abraham Lincoln

These developments led to the creation of a strong sentiment against the spread of slavery and a coalition between the free-soilers and abolitionists (see vocabulary). The Republican party gathered under its banner all those with a common interest against the extension of slavery. In 1856, John C. Fremont made a strong showing, but was defeated by Buchanan.

BAND ONE

SLAVERY IS A HARD Foe TO BATTLE
by Judson Hutchinson
Tune: Jordan is a Hard Road to Travel

The Hutchinsons were a popular singing family of the mid-19th century who preached the causes of abolitionism and temperance through their songs. Their version of "Old Dan Tucker," called "Get Off the Track" was a powerful appeal for the abolition of slavery, comparing emancipation to the powerful image of a new age- the railroad.

"Slavery is a Hard Foe to Battle" was another Hutchinson song, published in their 1860 songster for the Republican campaign. The tune is "Jordan is a Hard Road to Travel," a popular minstrel tune by Dan Emmet, composer of "Dixie." The song is included as an expression of Northern anti-slavery sentiment. Although most Northerners did not yet favor abolition, most saw its spread to the West as a serious threat to the existence of free labor there. This view is reflected in the last verse of the song which stresses "we'll get our pay the other side of Jordan." It is interesting to note that though the song uses militant imagery ("the sword unsheath") the emphasis of the song is on political action. For example, slavery is hit "a few knocks with a free ballot box," and the legislature is urged to free the slaves. The authors of the song, and most Northerners, still hoped to prevail over slavery in a political fight. However, the depth of sectional divisions and the political turmoil of the 1860 election made it clear by 1861 that traditional political solutions would not suffice for the solution of this issue.

1. I looked to the South and I looked to the West,
And I saw old slavery a coming.
With four Northern doughfaces hitched up in front,
Driving freedom to the other side of Jordan.
Then take off your coats and roll up your sleeves,
Slavery is a hard foe to battle I believe. (repeat last two lines)
2. Slavery and freedom they both had a fight,
And the whole North came up behind 'em.
Hit slavery a few knocks with a free ballot box
Sent it staggering to the other side of Jordan
Then rouse up the North, the sword unsheath,
Slavery is a hard foe to battle I believe. (repeat)
3. If I was the Legislature of these United States,
I'd settle this great question accordin';
I'd let every slave go free over land and on the sea,
And let them have a little hope this side of Jordan.
Then rouse up the free, the sword unsheath,
Freedom is the best road to travel I believe. (repeat)
4. The South have their school where the masters learn to rule,
And they lord it o'er the free states accordin';
But sure they better quite, e'er they raise the Yankee grit,
And we tumble 'em over 'tother side of Jordan.
Then wake up the North, the sword unsheath,
Slavery is a hard foe to battle I believe. (repeat)

5. But the day is drawing nigh that Slavery must die,
And every one must do his part accordin';
Then let us all unite to give every man his right,
And we'll get our pay the other side of Jordan.
Then wake up the North, the sword unsheath,
Freedom is the best road to travel I believe. (repeat)



Police ejecting a group of abolitionists and Negroes from Tremont Temple in Boston in 1860.

BAND TWO

BELL SONG

Tune: Blow Ye Winds in the Morning

As 1860 approached the prospects for compromise on the slavery issue looked dim. Republicans, led by spokesmen such as Abraham Lincoln of Illinois and William Seward of New York, were united in their opposition to further expansion of slavery. Democrats were so divided over the slavery issue that they could not agree on one candidate and split into a Northern and Southern wing. Southerners vowed to secede in the event of the election of an anti-slavery President.

In this atmosphere of sectional strife, a new party, the Constitutional Union Party, proclaimed itself the only force which could avert disaster. The party nominated John Bell, a moderate Senator from Tennessee who had supported the previous

compromises. Bell's closest rival for the nomination was Sam Houston, former President of the Republic of Texas. The Constitutional Union Party platform did not deal with specific issues and stated simply:

"Resolved, that it is both the part of patriotism and of duty to recognize no political principal other than the CONSTITUTION OF THE COUNTRY, THE UNION OF THE STATES AND THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAWS.

The membership of the Constitutional Union Party was drawn primarily from conservative former Whigs and members of Fillmore's "Know-Nothing" party of the 1856 campaign.

1. Come all ye Union men give ear,
That's scattered o'er the land,
I'm going to build a Union ship,
To sail upon dry land.

Chorus: Sing blow ye winds in the morning,
Blow ye winds hi-o,
Three cheers for our gallant Bell,
Blow, Blow, Blow.

2. My crew shall all be Bell men,
I'll hire no other men.
They're able to stand before the mast,
And I can trust in them.

Chorus

3. My mast was brought from Tennessee
From General Jackson's farm.
It's able to sail the ship for me,
And stand the hardest storm.

Chorus

SIDE TWO BAND THREE

BRECKENRIDGE AND LANE
Tune: Auld Lang Syne

The Democrats held two conventions in 1860 and still could not unite behind a candidate. Southerner delegates walked out of the conventions because they felt that the platform was not strong enough in its protection of slavery. This breakup of the Democrat party was the goal of the "fire-eaters" who felt that secession was the only solution to the slavery question.

The Southerners who walked out of the second Democratic Convention met in Baltimore in June, 1860 and nominated John

Breckenridge of Tennessee for President. Breckenridge was Buchanan's Vice-President and had in the early 1850's supported popular sovereignty. However, he now found himself at the head of the Southern wing of the Democratic party, committed to the principle that slavery was protected under the Constitution and that Congress had no power to regulate it. The lines "O'er Buena Vista's blood stained soil" refers to the Battle of Buena Vista of the Mexican war.

1. Come rally round the nation's flag and catch the nation's song.
Ring forth our party's battle cry, in chorus loud and long.
For Breckenridge and Lane, my boys, o'er valley hill, and plain,
The cry now echoes through the land, for Breckenridge and Lane.
2. O'er Buena Vista's blood stained soil, o'er Mexico's domain,
Fame spreads her scroll there high inscribed stand Breckenridge
and Lane.
Brave Breckenridge and Lane, my boys, who led mid shot and shell,
And gallantly won victory, once more will lead us well.
3. We fight, 'tis true, a might host, a host of every hue,
But truth and right will nerve us on, and bear us bravely through.
For Breckenridge and Lane, my boys, in forum and in field,
Have met and vanquished better foes, to these they'll never yield.

SIDE TWO: BAND FOUR

OLD UNCLE ABE (Douglas Song)

Tune: My Old Kentucky Home

After the walkout by the Southerners, the remaining Democrats nominated Stephen Douglas, the well-known Senator from Illinois. Douglas viewed his "popular sovereignty" doctrine as the only way out of the slavery deadlock. He felt that slavery was unsuited to the territories and that left to the will of the settlers there it would die of its own accord. However, his Kansas-Nebraska bill failed miserably as a test of popular sovereignty, leading to bloodshed in Kansas.

In 1858, Lincoln and Douglas had articulated their differences on this issue in their famous debates. In 1860, the two did not meet face to face, but Douglas carried out a tireless campaign in all parts of the country. Douglas' campaigning on his own behalf was unheard of in political campaigns of that time.

Douglas was a victim of the fact that in a sectionally oriented election, he had no real sectional base. While he had the second highest total of popular votes, he received only 12 electoral votes, illustrating that his support was great in the nation as a whole, but not strong enough in any one area to win him more than two states. This Douglas song shows that his supporters did not hesitate to use low politics in their attacks on Lincoln. It also indicates that they considered Lincoln to be their main opposition in the campaign.

1. The sun shines bright on the Douglas cause today,
And brighter tomorrow will be.
Old Abe Lincoln's hopes are passing all away,
But sadder times yet he will see.
The Republican crowd are exultant no more,
Buchanan has given up the fight.
Even Breckinridge stops his knocking at the door.
While Douglas keeps ahead all right.

Chorus: Weep no more Abe Lincoln,
Ere weeks shall pass away.
You shall be forgot, as you were unknown before,
Except in Illinois far away.

2. You need hunt no more for the game is safely stowed
And Douglas the victor is found.
You'd much better go home, for you only will get snowed,
If the boys find you lying around.
Keep to splitting rails, or any other fun,
That suits your Republican crew.
For a Presidential race has never yet been won,
By such looking chap as you

Chorus



Mocking Stephen A. Douglas

SIDE TWO: BAND FIVE

THE PEOPLE'S NOMINEE (Lincoln)

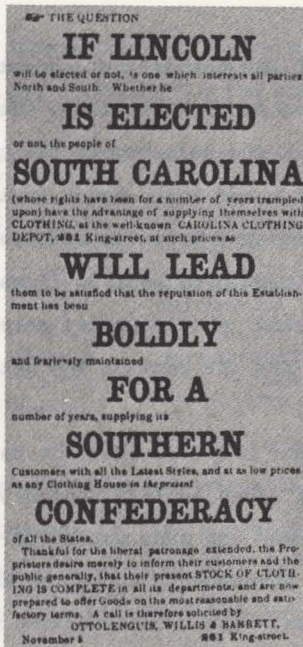
Tune: Nelly Bly (Stephen Foster)

The unity of the Republicans at their convention in Chicago was in marked contrast to the disarray of the Democrats. Although there were several aspirants for the nomination, they all shared the same general views and found it easy to close ranks behind Lincoln.

This song gives us a brief history of the troubles of the 1850's. The second verse mentions a compromise (the Missouri Compromise) as a "check to slavery's wrongs," and says that Douglas crushed the compromise (through the Kansas Nebraska Acts) for his own interests. The line "Pierce succumbed to the South's request," probably refers to Pierce's acceptance of the pro-slavery government organized in Kansas.

The third verse is a description of the Democratic convention. The "office rats" refers to Buchanan administration officeholders who were present at the convention. The fire-eaters were the no compromise southerners whose goal was the breakup of the Democratic party and secession to "sever state from state." "Covode" refers to the Covode Committee, an investigative committee formed in the 1850s to investigate Congressional corruption. In the final part of the verse, Douglas is given at least some credit for not bowing to the extremist pro-slavery elements at the Convention. It's clear that the song was written before the final breakup of the Democrats, since it refers to "our united foe."

The final verse mentions some of the candidates put in nomination in Chicago, including William Seward, Senator from New York; Salmon P. Chase, Governor of Ohio; Justice John McClean of Ohio, and Edward Bates of Missouri. Seward was the favorite for the nomination and led on the first ballot. However, Lincoln, perceived as more moderate than Seward, was nominated on the third ballot.



1. Republicans with peerless might,
 Proudly lead the van.
 Strike for freedom! Strike for right,
 Old Abe's an honest man.
 He a noble President,
 The ship of state shall guide.
 While o'er a nations Senators,
 Hamlin shall preside.

Hi! Lincoln. Ho! Lincoln.
 An honest man for me.
 I'll sing for you, I'll shout for you,
 The People's Nominee.
 (repeat chorus each time)

2. Once we had a compromise,
 A check to slavery's wrong.
 Douglas crushed the gold prize,
 To help himself along.
 Then the North and then the West,
 Arose with giant power.
 Pierce succumbed to the South's request,
 But Douglas had to cower.

Hi! Douglas. Ho! Douglas.
 A Senator would be.
 So he tried the squatter dodge **
 And went for Kansas free.

* As Vice President, Hamlin would preside over the Senate.

** A reference to Douglas' proposal for squatter sovereignty or popular sovereignty.

3. Democrats or office rats,
 Met to nominate.
 Fire eaters came aflame,
 To sever state from state.
 Their slave code and "covode,"
 Caused the softs to quake.
 The little giant, now defiant,
 No slave code would take.

Oh! Alas, Beef is scarce.
 To the North they go.
 See once more at Baltimore
 Our united foe.

4. But the people met en masse,
 In the boundless West.
 Of Freedom's sons a noble class
 Some loved Seward best!
 Chase Mclean, and Bates I ween,
 Are worthy such a call.
 "Old Honest Abe's" the people's
 choice.

And we'll roll on the ball.
 Hi! Lincoln. Ho! Lincoln!
 President shall be.
 One and all, roll on the ball
 For the people's nominee.

SIDE TWO: BAND SIX

THE PEOPLE HAD FIVE CANDIDATES

Tune: Dame Durden

The Republican campaign of 1860 was marked by torchlight parades, enthusiastic crowds and tributes to Lincoln- a "log cabin" and "rail splitting" man of the people in the tradition of Tippicanoe. The Republican campaign even published a newspaper called "The Railsplitter."

The second Lincoln song is from the "Wide Awake Songster." The "Wide Awakes" were pro-Lincoln clubs who led Lincoln parades in snake-dances in the streets wearing capes and helmets and waving fence rails and log cabins. This song is of interest because it mentions five candidates including the four who eventually ran plus Sam Houston, who lost the Consitutional Union nomination to John Bell. The song even mentions Vice Presidential candidates Lane, Hamlin and Johnson.

The song's prophecy "Lincoln He beat them through" came to pass in November. Lincoln was elected and his accession to the Presidency led to the immediate secession of South Carolina followed by the other states which formed the Confederacy. A few months later the nation was plunged into the disaster of Civil War.

1. The people had five candidates, whom they put upon the course.
 They also had five five ditto, some riding the wooly horse.

Chorus: There was Bell and Breck and Dug and Sam and Lincoln
 the just and true.
 Poor Bell, poor Breck, poor Dug the giant and Sam of
 Texas, too.
 Now Bell pushed Douglas, and Breck kicked Houston and
 Lane smashed Johnson and Dug poked Hamlin,
 But Lincoln he beat them through.
 Now was this not a medley crew as ever a mortal knew.
 Now was this not a medley crew, as ever a mortal knew.

2. These racers had an itching palm to handle the nation's cash.
 With Uncle Sam to foot the bills, they'd like to cut a dash.

Chorus

3. But Lincoln led and ran them blind, passed Breck and Dug and Bell,
 And even Sam was out of sight, Abe ran so mighty well.

Chorus

The End of Reconstruction

<u>Parties</u>	<u>Candidates</u>	<u>Electoral Vote</u>	<u>Popular Vote</u>
Republicans	Rutherford B. Hayes William A. Wheeler	185	4,036,298
Democrats	Samuel J. Tilden Thomas A. Hendricks	184	4,300,590

Brief Background of the Candidates

Hayes: Lawyer; general in the Civil War, Governor of Ohio

Tilden: Lawyer; member of the New York State Legislature; active in the prosecution of Boss Tweed; Governor of New York State.

Vocabulary and Terms

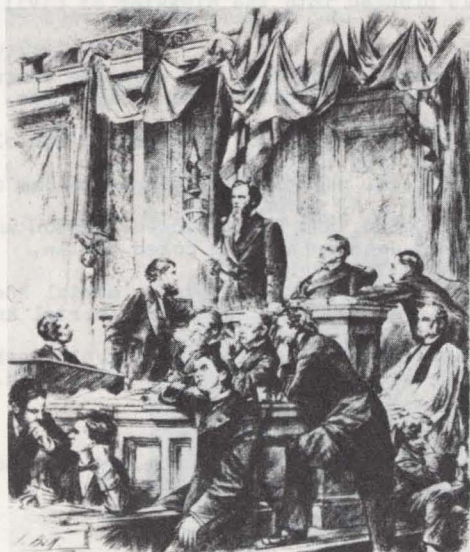
Ante-bellum: referring to the period before the Civil War

"The Bloody Shirt:" Campaign tactic of post-war Republican candidates which implied that Democratic victory would mean a betrayal of the Northern Civil War victory.

Carpetbaggers: Name given to Northerners who took positions of power in southern states during Reconstruction

Scalwags: Southerners who cooperated with the carpetbaggers

Whiskey Thief: reference to the Whiskey Ring scandals of the Grant administration.



Left: Sen. Thomas W. Ferry, presiding officer of the joint sessions of Congress, declaring the election of Rutherford B. Hayes as President of the United States, March 2, 1877.

Introduction

The election of 1876 was one of the closest and most controversial elections in American history. Its outcome was not finally known until just a few days before the scheduled inauguration. The election has been chosen in this study not only because of the controversy over its outcome, but also because it marked the end of the period of post-Civil War Reconstruction. The circumstances of the end to this period were crucial to the development of the South and the rest of the nation in the late 19th century.

Although the Civil War had been over for ten years, bitter feelings remained on both sides in 1876. Union troops were still stationed in southern states and many southerners deeply resented the "carpetbag" governments and attempts at extending rights to the freed blacks. The reconstruction period had been largely a struggle between Northern carpetbaggers allied with sympathetic white southerners and freedmen and southern "redeemers" who wished to return the southern governments to the hands of the ante-bellum leadership.

SIDE TWO: BAND 7

OH, I'M A GOOD OLD REBEL

Tune: Joe Bowers

This song is included as an introduction to this section because although an exaggeration, it gives us an idea of the depth of feeling still prevalent in the South following the war. "Old Marse Robert" is Robert E. Lee. The "pardon" in the song refers to the pardons given to ex-Confederates under the Reconstruction plan in which they could return to public life if they took an oath of allegiance to the union. By the time of the election of 1876 many former Confederates had, in fact, returned to their seats in Congress.

1. Oh I'm a good old rebel, now that's just what I am.
For this "fair land of freedom" I do not give a damn.
I'm glad I fit against it, I only wish we'd won.
And I don't want no pardon for anything I've done.

2. I followed old Marse Robert for four years near about.
Got wounded in three places near starved at Point Lookout.
I caught the "roomatism" a camping in the snow,
But I killed a chance of Yankees and I'd like to kill some mo'.
3. I can't take up my musket and fight 'em now no more.
But I ain't gonna love 'em now that's for certain sure.
And I don't want no pardon, for what I was and am
I won't be reconstructed, and I don't give a damn.

SIDE TWO: BAND EIGHT

LET NO GUILTY MAN GO FREE
Centennial Democratic Campaign Song
by "Bab Notguilty"

Tunes: Hail! Columbia.
Yankee Doodle
The Star Spangled Banner

One of the main charges against the carpetbag governments and one of the main justifications for their replacement by "redeemed" governments was that they were riddled with political corruption. This was undoubtedly the case in many southern post war governments. However, in the 1870's corruption was the rule, rather than the exception, in all areas of the country. In New York, the Tweed Ring stole millions of dollars from taxpayers. However, on the highest level of government, the Grant administration was the most corrupt in American history up until that time. Grant's terms were marked by scandal after scandal. His private secretary, Orville E. Babcock, was indicted for his part in the Whiskey Ring scandal; his Secretary of War, William E. Belknap, was impeached; and his Ambassador to Britain resigned under pressure after being censured by a House committee.

While Grant was a great general, he is generally considered to have been one of our worst Presidents. Though he was not guilty of complicity in the scandals surrounding him, he was either oblivious to the evil deeds of his closest advisors or chose to ignore them.

In 1876, the Democrats saw a golden opportunity to exploit the rampant depravity of the Grant administration and elect their first President since before the Civil War. They nominated Samuel J. Tilden, the Governor of New York, who had gained a reputation as a reformer through his prosecution of Boss Tweed.

The Democratic campaign theme was "Tilden and Reform."

"Let No Guilty Man Escape" is an unsparing attack on Grant and Hayes. Its author was listed as the infamous "Bab Notguilty." The song speaks through Grant, at first, and depicts him as lusting after a third term (until FDR, no President served more than two terms). Grant also is shown as shrugging off the Whiskey Ring scandal ("Though I really can't conceive/What they mean by Whiskey thief"). However, the song continues, Grant will accept a "pliant tool" if he himself cannot rule. The "tool" revealed in the second verse is "bloody shirt Ohio Hayes." However, in the event of emergency, say the Democrats, Ulysses will be forced to appoint himself "Grant the First."

SIDE TWO: BAND NINE

MARSEILLAISE FOR TILDEN

Both the Tilden and Hayes campaigns featured jokes as well as songs in their campaign materials. Both published "Campaign Song and Joke Books." Samples from these collections follow:
From the Hayes collection:

The Democrats brag of an occasional man "coming out" for Tilden. They have been "coming out" of State Prison on Governor Tilden's pardons.

(In the campaign, Republicans charged that Tilden had been an ally of Boss Tweed, even though he actually was responsible for sending him to jail)

From the Tilden collection:

A comment on Hayes military record:

"What no ammunition?" cried the General (Hayes) on a field day.
"No more," replied the men. "Then cease firing," replied the officer."

Another Tilden jest quoted a dialogue between an "eminent Republican and his wife:

"Oh wifey, I'm appointed treasurer for campaign funds for our party. The wife replied, "Oh, how fortunate! Now I can have that new silk dress and we can take all the children to the Centennial."

Between the jokes, the Tilden publication included songs such as the following version of "The Marseillaise," stressing the Tilden campaign theme of reform.

Opposing all of this venality and ambition is "Tilden the Reformer," who enters the song at the close of each verse to the triumphant tune of "The Star Spangled Banner."

1. "Let no guilty man escape"
Till the third term is in shape.
So that people may believe,
Mercy finds no Whiskey Thief.
And if I can't in person rule,
Luck will provide a pliant tool.

Now prosecute and execute,
Discretionary I may commute,
The higher law is now in vogue,
And people loyal bear the yoke.

With TILDEN inscribed, triumphantly wave,
The Star Spangled Banner, o'er the home of the brave.

2. "Let no guilty man escape!"
Till the third term is in shape,
Though I really can't conceive,
What they mean by whiskey thief,
The Tool is found, let all give praise,
In bloody shirt Ohio Hayes.

A Presidency of eight years
Gives confidence devoid of fears
I' Bad gets worse and worse gets worse,
I ll be on hand as Grant the First.

Sing Hallelujahs! The country is safe.
Cur Tilden is the choice of the free and the brave.

For truth and justice is our battle,
For honor and for honesty.
We are no herds of voting cattle,
But faithful children of the free.
But faithful children of the free!
Too long have we been robbed and plundered,
By rascals who divide and steal,
But now our vengeance they shall feel,
And North and South no more be sundered.

Join Hands! Join hands as one!
Ye children of the free!
Reform! Reform! Our battle cry-
For Tilden's victory!

SIDE TWO: BAND TEN HAYES: THE BLOODY HAND OF TREASON
Tune: Marching Through Georgia

Republican campaign songwriters profitted greatly from the songwriting boom of the Civil War. During the War, writers such as George F. Root and Henry Clay Work turned out marching songs and ballads which became instant national hits. These included "The Battle Cry of Freedom," "Just Before the Battle Mother," "Tramp, Tramp, Tramp," "The Vacant Chair," and "Marching Through Georgia." Some of these songs were popular in both the North and the South and in some cases Northern and Southern versions were written for the same tune. However, in 1876, the Hayes campaign seems to have monopolized the use of these Civil War standards.

"The Bloody Hand of Treason" is an excellent example of a "bloody shirt" rallying song. The song begins by evoking memories of the beginning of the war at Fort Sumter. The song then goes further and links Tilden with those who thought the war a failure. The song cries out against the former rebels now occupying seats in Congress and vows to "rout the ex-Confederates."

In historical perspective, the song is heavy with irony. As a result of the election of 1876, all remaining troops were removed from the South and the Northern role in reconstructing the South was ended. The song's chorus loudly proclaims "The Black Man wears no chains." In fact, it was after the election of 1876 that southern governments, free from Northern interference passed "Jim Crow" laws segregating and restricting the freedmen's rights so completely that it was not until the 1960's that the promise of equal rights for the blacks of the U.S. began to be fully realized.

1. Republicans remember, how in 1861
The fight for human liberty at Sumter was begun,
And rebels thought the Union then its race of life had run,
When stricken by the bloody hand of treason.

Chorus: Hurrah! Hurrah! The Union still remains.
Hurrah! Hurrah! The Black Man wears no chains.
The will of loyal millions now the government sustains
Against the foul and bloody hand of treason.

2. The war is all a failure, slippery Tilden loudly cried.
But the valor of our soldiers gave the answer that he lied.
When Hayes and all the boys in blue were fighting side by side.
Against the foul and bloody hand of treason.

Chorus

3. We can and will forgive the wrong where rebels do repent,
When they will act like honest men and show a pure intent,
But Uncle Sam their necks will break when they will not be bent,
But show the foul and bloody hand of treason.

Chorus

4. We see the men who drew the sword against their native land,
In Congress as a unit, still the foes of freedom stand,
To rout these ex-Confederates, honest Hayes must take command,
And paralyze the bloody hand of treason.

Chorus

SIDE TWO: BAND ELEVEN

HAYES: OUR COUNTRY MUST BE FREE

Tune: John Brown's Body

When the results of the election of 1876 were first tallied, Tilden had 184 electoral votes, one short of the number necessary for victory. Hayes had 165 electoral votes. However, 20 electoral votes, mostly from southern states, were in dispute. After a period of debate, crisis, and compromise, all twenty of the disputed votes were awarded to Hayes, giving him the election. In order to gain Southern approval of this settlement, Hayes agreed to the removal of Federal troops from the South.

Thus, the man who used the "bloody shirt" as a primary campaign theme, in a sense "buried" the bloody shirt himself thought his removal of troops from the South. The final song in this first volume is another example of the musical exploitation of the bloody shirt theme in the Hayes campaign. Once again, however, it is with irony, that we listen to the words "Our country must be free," in light of two factors: The disenfranchisement and segregation of the southern blacks which followed the end of reconstruction and the dubious process through which Hayes was finally awarded the election, in spite of Tilden's 300,000 more popular votes.

1. Once more ye true Republicans, Columbia calls for you,
Who in the hour of danger to the starry flag were true,
Turn out as her defender all ye gallant Boys in Blue,
Our country must be free.

Chorus: Hurrah, Hurrah for Hayes and Wheeler!
Hurrah, Hurrah for Hayes and Wheeler!
Hurrah, Hurrah for Hayes and Wheeler!
Our Country Must be Free!

2. Let lovers of true liberty throughout the land unite,
And now as we have done before we'll put our foes to flight,
With the ballot, not the bullet, we will battle for the right,
Our Country must be free.

Chorus

3. What was won upon the battle field we will not now let go,
Our liberties we must defend against the common foe,
Who would our institutions in a moment overthrow,
Our Country must be free.

Chorus

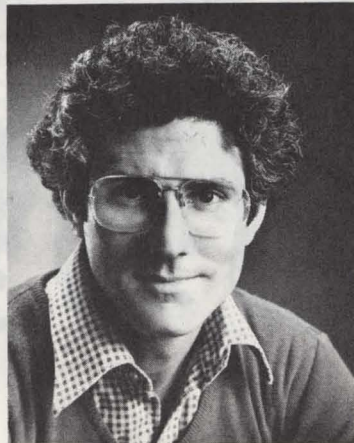
4. Our enemies are forming line with Tilden in command.
But home and foreign rebels cannot rule this glorious land,
This fact in next November all the world shall understand,
Our country must be free.



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The Hunters of Kentucky	Broadside, published in Boston; in Carl Sandburg, <u>The American Songbag</u>
Jackson and the Militiamen	Joseph M. Clary, <u>Our Nation's History in Song</u> , (1896)
Johnny Q., My Jo John *	<u>Philadelphia Mercury</u> , August 23, 1828 <u>Richmond Enquirer</u> , Sept. 30, 1828
Tip and Ty	by Alexander Coffman Ross, in various collections
Ye True Hearted Whigs of the Union	<u>Whig Banner Melodist</u> (1844)
Clay and Frelinghuysen	<u>Whig Banner Melodist</u> (1844)
Young Hickory	<u>Polk Songster</u> (1844)
Goodbye Harry!	<u>Polk Songster</u> (1844)
Slavery is a Hard Foe to Battle	<u>The Harp of Freedom</u> , by G.W. Clarke
Bell Song (Blow Ye Winds)	<u>Bell and Everett Songster</u> (1860)
Breckenridge and Lane	Clary, <u>Our Nation's History in Song</u>
Old Uncle Abe	<u>Democratic Campaign Songster</u> , (1860)
The People had Five Candidates	<u>Wide Awake Vocalist or Rail Splitter's Songbook</u> , (1860)
I'm a Good Old Rebel	Paul Glass, <u>The Spirit of the Sixties</u>
Let No Guilty Man Escape	Sheet Music, library of Congress
Marseillaise for Tilden	<u>Tilden Illustrated Song and Joke Book</u> (1876)
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Peter Janovsky

Biography

Peter Janovsky is Chairman of the Social Studies Department at Grace Dodge High School in New York City. He is also a guitarist and folksinger who performs at colleges, coffeehouses, and folk festivals throughout the East. He has appeared on New York radio stations as well as the National Public Radio Network.

In his classes, as well as his concerts, Janovsky uses the songs of a period in history to bring that period to life for his students and audiences. He has presented workshops and performed at National Council for the Social Studies Conventions as well as local conventions, and libraries.

In 1975, Mr. Janovsky was the subject of a profile in the New York Times. Referring to some of his original songs about New York City, Richard Shepard called him a "Lyrical local patriot."

Richard B. Morris, Professor Emeritus of History at Columbia University, called Janovsky "a delightful performer of historical music."