

How did state rights and major political personalities contribute to the reemerging of a two party system in the period 1820 to 1840?

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Thesis

Between 1820 and 1840 there were many contributors to the reemergence of a two party system in America. Major political personalities and states rights were among the major contributors. Using their influence in the government and people, many major political personalities were able to reemerge the two different parties and influence the view of each party. Conflicts and arguments over state rights also ultimately helped the two party system reemerge by creating contrast in the views of states and their people.

Paragraph One

States Rights

States rights was a major issue that contributed to the reemergence of political parties. Jackson proposed that once the federal debt had been paid off, the government would be able to distribute the extra money among the states. This angered the westerners because if the government gave the extra money to the states then it would not be able to lower the price of public lands. The West proposed an alliance with the South based on this idea. Daniel Webster was able to prevent this from happening with a speech equating the position of states right to treason. This incident aided in the division of political ideas, that led to a separation of political parties.

Paragraph two

States Rights

Both Jackson and Calhoun were not very different in the ideas about America except in the idea of a states right to overrule federal authority. The two men became almost enemies and there were many times they each would attack the others personal character to try and gain what they wanted. In the end the different views of the two men influenced the views and stances of the political parties and created issues, which further divided the nation.

Paragraph Three

Political Personalities

Major political personalities was one of the primary contributors to the reemergence of the two party system. The presidential election of 1824 with candidates; Quincy Adams, Andrew Jackson, Samuel Crawford, and Henry Clay, marked the beginning of the reemergence. None of the candidates won the majority of the electoral votes leaving it to the House of Representatives to choose the winner. Henry Clay was the Speaker of the House and once eliminated, convinced the House to elect Quincy Adams as the president. In this election supporters of Adams began to call themselves National Republicans and supporters of Jackson called themselves Democratic- Republicans. The public felt as though a "corrupt bargain" had taken place because Andrew Jackson had won the popular vote. In the election of 1828 Andrew Jackson won presidency over Adams. Jackson formed many enemies during his first term as president. This is when his opponents joined the National Republicans to form the Whig party, their dislike for Jackson was the one thing that unified them. The Whig Party supported the natural harmony of society and the value of community. They favored a renewed national bank, protective tariffs, internal improvements, public schools, and moral reforms (the prohibition of liquor and the abolition of slavery). The Democrats favored the liberty of the individual. They supported states' rights and federal restraint in social and economic affairs. The Whig Party nominated Henry Clay to run against him in the election of 1832.