

The background of the slide is a close-up, slightly blurred image of the American flag. The stars and stripes are prominent. Overlaid on the flag are several dark, semi-transparent shadows of people, appearing to be in motion, possibly walking or standing in a line. These shadows are positioned across the middle and right side of the frame.

# **Origins of the Republican and Democratic Political Parties**

# **Political Party:**



**an organization that tries to get political power by electing members to public office so that their political ideas can become laws or policies**

# Political Parties Background

- **The Founders were concerned that factions/ parties might divide and harm our constitutional republic. Because of this, they are not mentioned anywhere in the U.S. Constitution.**
- **Factions or parties were almost immediately formed from disagreements in Washington's cabinet. The two first parties were called the Federalists and the Democratic-Republicans.**
- **From 1816-1824, the United States only had one main party (Democratic-Republicans) because of the lack of division. This time is known as "The Era of Good Feelings."**

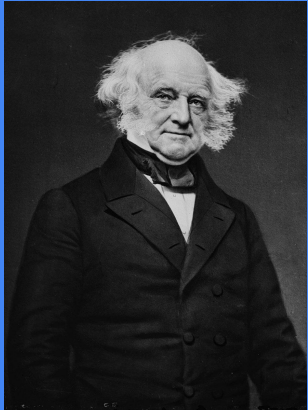
# **Why did the Democratic Party form?**

- **Leading up to 1828, the "Era of Good Feelings" was ending as various issues began dividing Americans into factions again.**
- **The loss in the 1824 presidential election showed like-minded citizens that they needed to stop splitting their votes and unite behind one individual.**

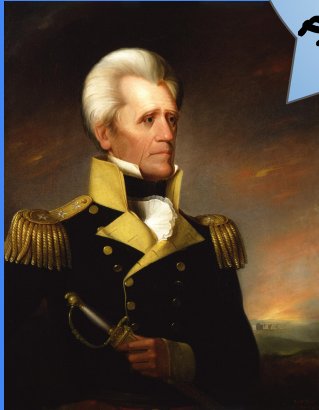
# Democratic Party

**Established 1828**

## *Influential People*



**Martin Van Buren**



**Andrew Jackson**

I WAS THE  
FIRST  
PRESIDENT  
ELECTED FROM  
THE  
DEMOCRATIC  
PARTY!

***Who did they  
represent?:***

**At its inception, the  
Democratic party  
was the party of the  
"common man"**

# Why did the Republican Party form?

- **A conservative political party known as the Whig Party (1833-1856) began to divide over the issue of slavery.**
- **Those who did not want slavery to expand into new U.S. territories broke away from others and formed the Republican Party.**



# Republican Party

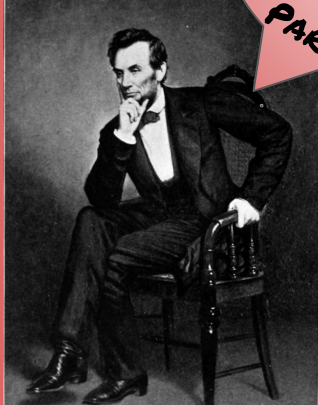
**Established 1854**

*Influential  
People*

I WAS THE  
FIRST  
PRESIDENT  
ELECTED FROM  
THE  
REPUBLICAN  
PARTY!



**John C. Fremont**

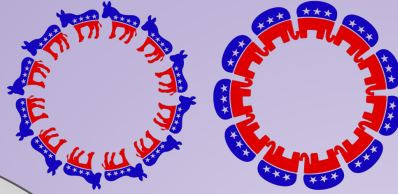


**Abraham Lincoln**

***Who did they  
represent?:***

**Mainly  
northern states**

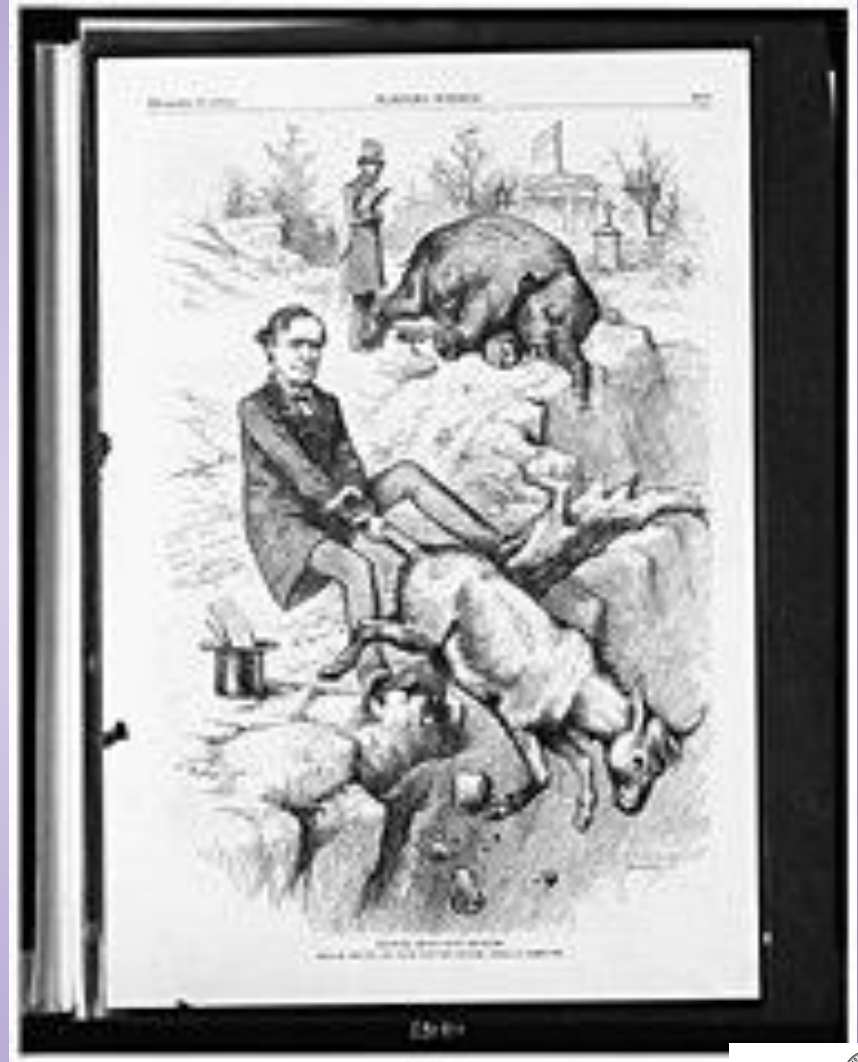
# Party Symbols



SOME PEOPLE CALL ME  
THE FATHER OF THE  
AMERICAN CARTOON OR  
THE PRESIDENT MAKER,



**The originator of the political cartoon, Thomas Nast choose cartoon animals to represent the political parties that are still used to this day.**





# How have the parties changed over the years?

While the Democratic and Republican parties have stayed the two main political parties in this country since the 1850s, who they represent, their platforms...etc. have continued to change, evolve, even completely swap at times throughout the remainder of U.S. history!



**WHAT?**

## The Old Switcheroo

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