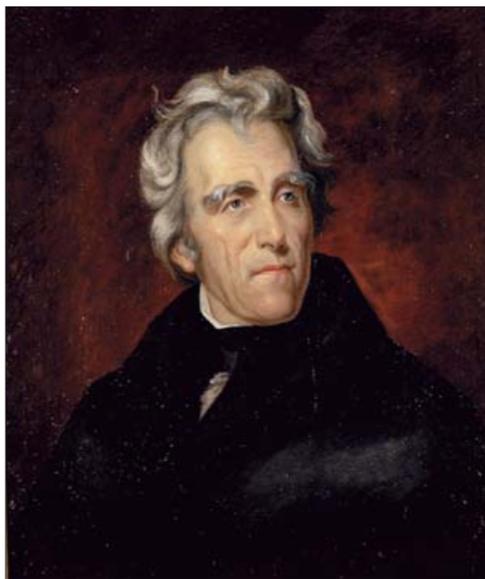


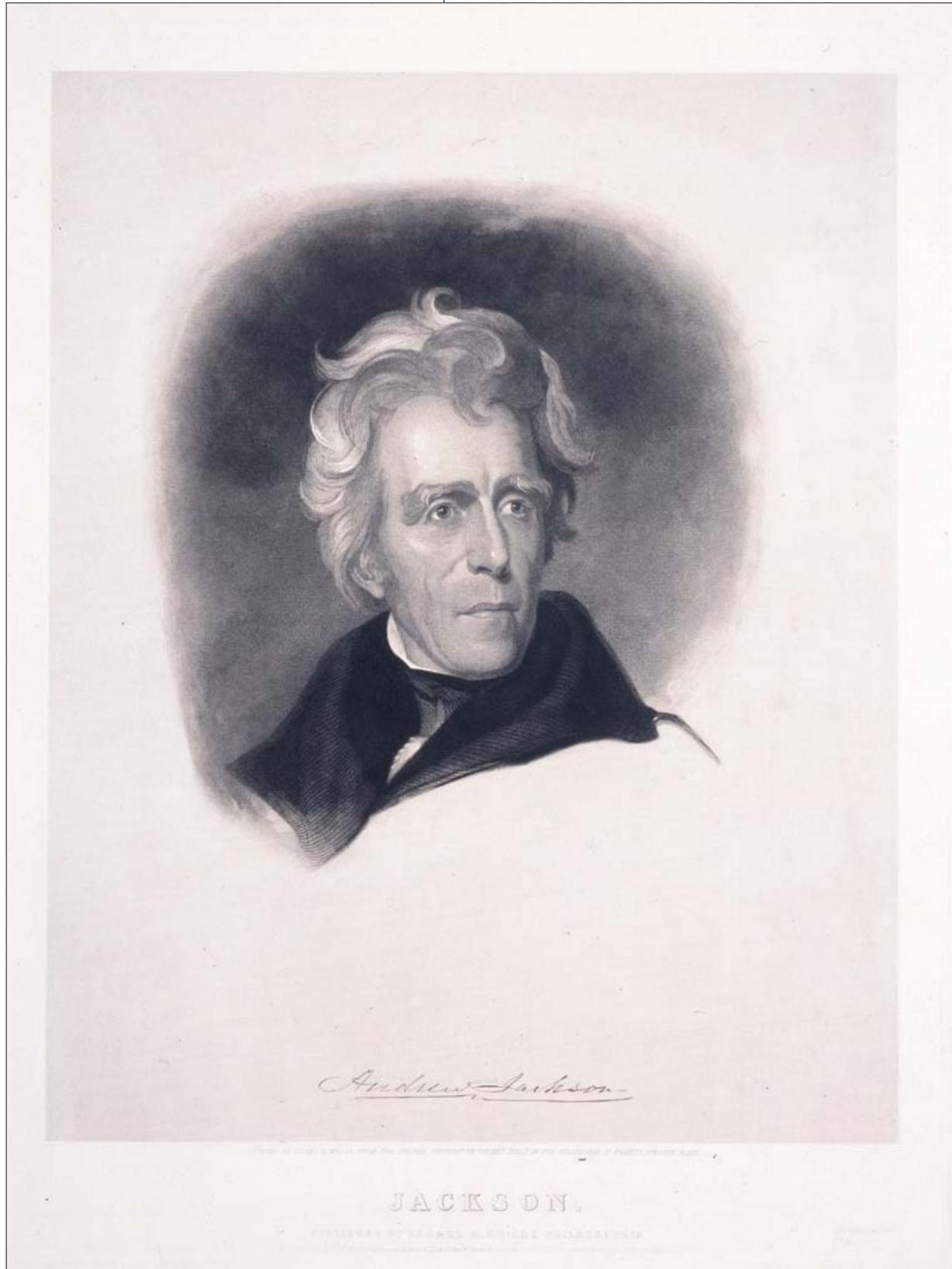
Thomas Sully first painted Andrew Jackson in 1824. The hero of the Battle of New Orleans was by then a U.S. senator from Tennessee and a Democratic nominee for president. Sully painted a total of 11 portraits of Jackson, from a head-only likeness to a full-length, life-size image. One of the half-length portraits came into the possession of Francis Preston Blair, Jr., a lawyer, politician, and later U.S. representative and senator from Missouri. Blair was reported to have loaned his Sully painting to Philadelphia publisher George W. Childs, who had Thomas Welch engrave the Jackson portrait. Childs sent complimentary copies of the engraving to prominent individuals, hoping for testimonials that could be published in newspapers to increase sales of the print. Sully's half-length image of Jackson is the most widely recognized portrait of the president; it was the basis for

the likeness that appears on the \$20 bill.

The Senate owns an oil on canvas painting attributed to Thomas Sully that shares many stylistic similarities to the 1852 Welch engraving, especially in the hair, eyebrows, chin, and facial lines, but differs from Sully's other Jackson portraits. Although Sully may have replicated it from an engraving of his own painting, it is also possible that the Senate's oil portrait was copied from Welch's engraving by another, unidentified artist. ❧



Andrew Jackson
attributed to Thomas Sully, ca. 1857,
oil on canvas. (U.S. Senate Collection)



[Andrew] Jackson.

Thomas B. Welch after painting by Thomas Sully
George W. Childs, 1852
Engraving, black and white
22 ½ x 17 ½ inches (57.2 x 44.5 cm)
Cat. no. 38.00963.001