

# Currency Changes

- Amber Born

Last week, U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Jack Lew announced that the new twenty dollar bill will feature the abolitionist Harriet Tubman rather than the controversial president Andrew Jackson. This is the biggest news to hit the currency world since the Sacajawea Dollar Incident of 2008. Depending on how you look at it, the Tubman decision is either a pointless act of political correctness, or a genuine attempt to diversify currency and signal that the United States does not condone Andrew Jackson's actions toward Native Americans. I find it kind of amusing that Jackson is finally getting removed from something himself, but I'm a little concerned that changing the faces of our currency is going to start happening regularly. If it does, here are some of my predictions for who will be the first to go and who their replacements will be.

1. Sure, George Washington was an important political figure, being the first president of the United States and a military hero and all that, but the man owned slaves. We can't have slave owners on our money. That sends a bad message and reminds people that the United States wasn't founded by perfect 21st century wizards. Who should we replace Washington with? If we're trying to keep at least part of George Washington's name, either George Clooney or Kerry Washington. Everybody likes them, no one would have a problem with it.

2. Alexander Hamilton will probably be taken off the ten dollar bill, not because he's an unpopular figure, but because the Treasury needs to make room for his replacement, Lin-Manuel Miranda.

3. President/General Ulysses S. Grant was a Civil War hero, but as a president, he wasn't especially noteworthy. There are a number of other generals who could replace Grant on the hundred dollar bill: Eisenhower, Patton, Electric, etc.

4. Abraham Lincoln is on both the penny and the five dollar bill. At first I thought that seemed a little redundant, but then again, it's Abraham Lincoln. The only other president who might deserve two types of currency is William Henry Harrison, and that would only be to make up for the fact that he only spent 32 days in office.

5. Salmon P. Chase is pictured on the ten thousand dollar bill. The bill is no longer printed and most of them have been recalled, but I think it's un-American for this country to have currency featuring a man named Salmon. Might as well put Donald Trump on it, since he's probably the only person who would actually use ten thousand dollar bills on a regular basis. "Sure, I'll loan you five bucks. Do you have change for a ten thousand? No? Oh well, too bad for you. My money is the best. It's yuuge."