



The Gilded Age 4.4

Political Machines

- Political machines: an organized group that controlled the activities of a city's political party and offered services in exchange for support

Political Machines

- Organized like a pyramid:

- City Boss



- Sometimes served as mayor
- Controlled city jobs, courts, licenses, etc.

- Ward Boss

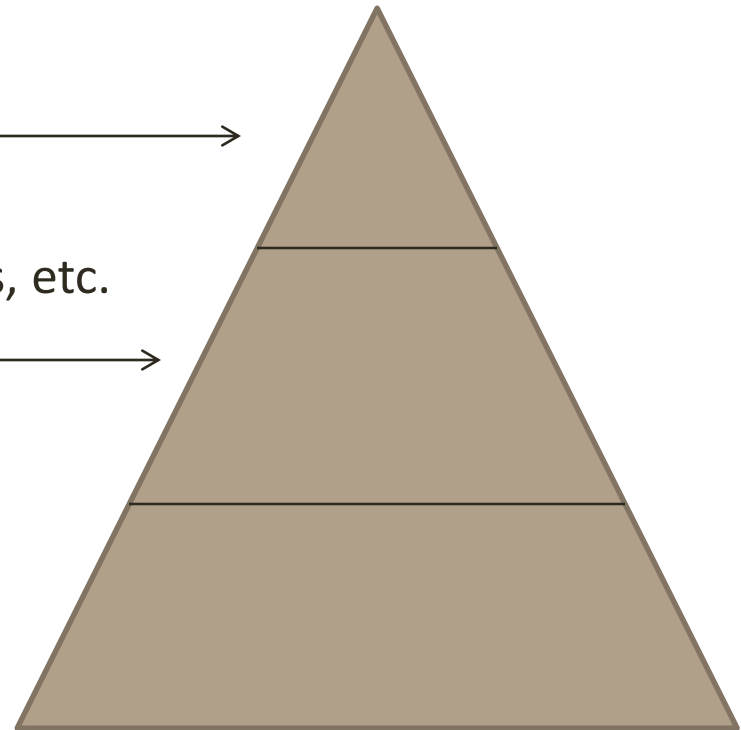


- Helped poor in their district
- Traded favors for votes

- Precinct Workers and Captains



- Helped gain support in small areas



Immigrants and the Machine

- Many of the people involved were immigrants who joined while very young
- They got the support of other immigrants because they spoke their language and understood their problems.
- The machines helped immigrants find housing and jobs and become citizens in exchange for their votes.

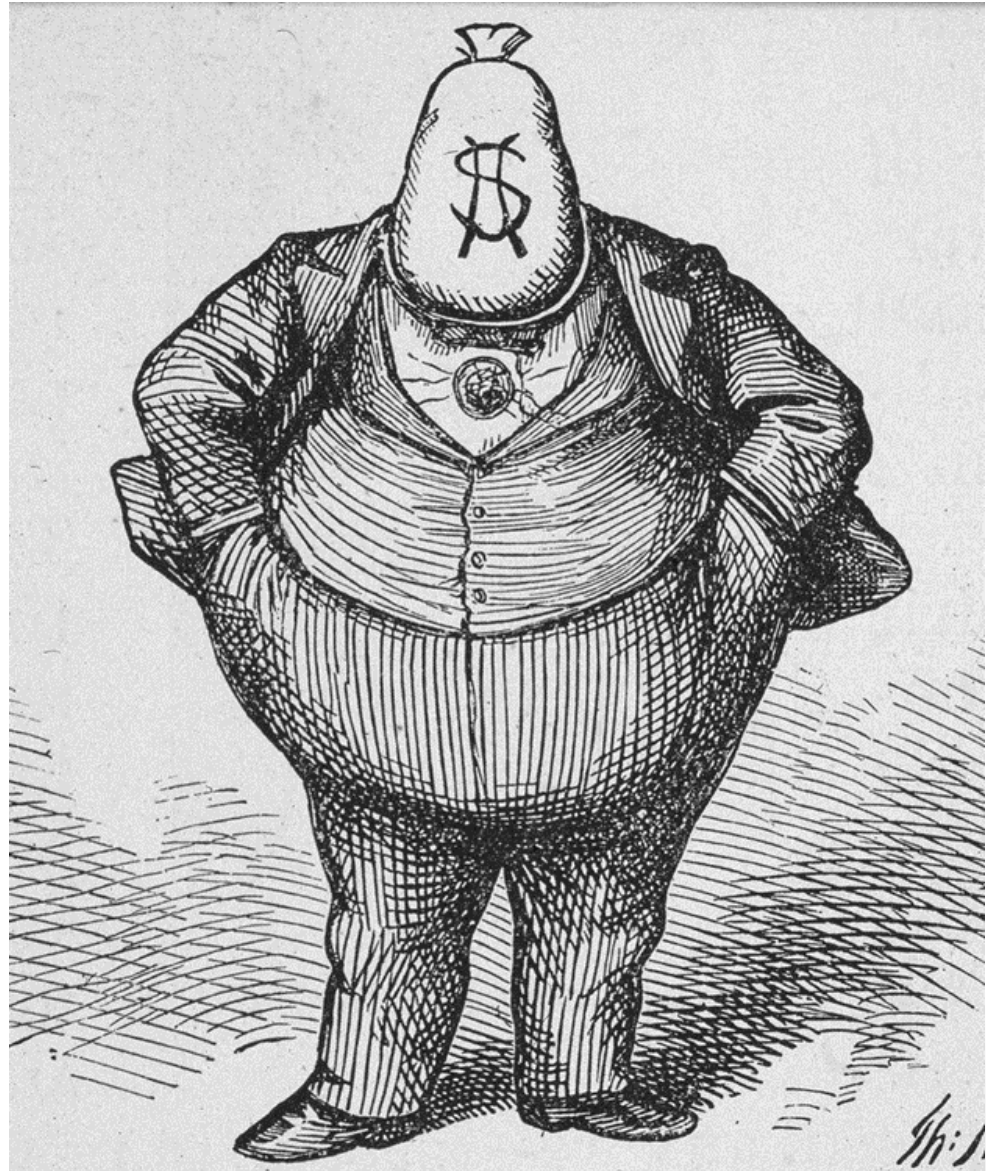
Fraud and Scandal

- Wrote fake names on ballots to win elections
- Graft: the illegal use of political power for personal gain
 - Received kickbacks or payments for their political services

Boss Tweed

- William Tweed:
 - Head of Tammany Hall, NYC's Democratic political machine
 - The Tweed Ring was a group of corrupt politicians that cheated the city out of millions of dollars.
 - Cartoonist Thomas Nast led to his prosecution and conviction.

Know this picture!!!!



HARPER'S WEEKLY.

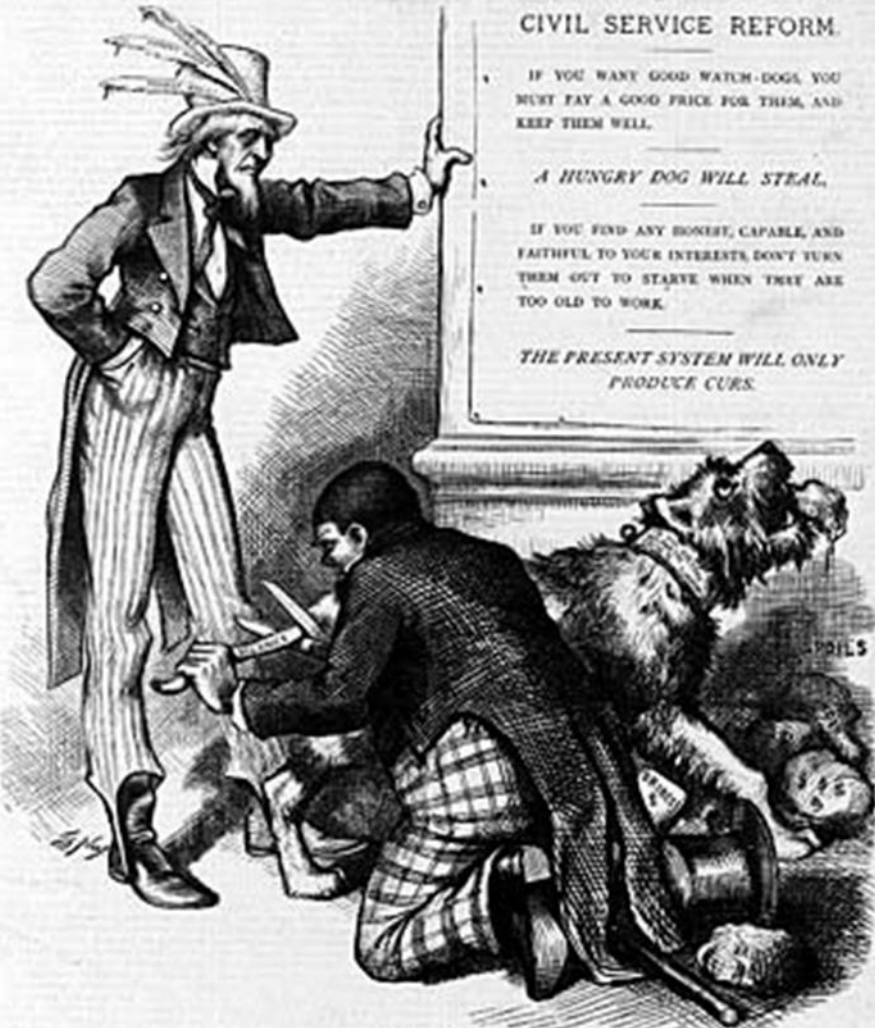
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["WORLD NEWSPAPER"]

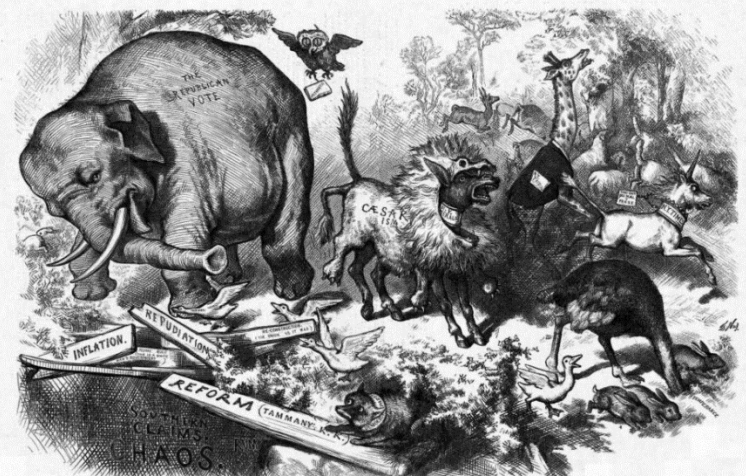
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CUZ-TAX-PRIMA

U.S. "Beware he steals? You are, as usual, 'His Majesty's' at the wrong end."

Thomas Nast



THE THIRD-TERM FAN.

"An American put on the Lion's skin, mounted about in the Forest, and named 'Reform' by highlighting all the British animals he met with in his wanderings."—REPRODUCTION OF NAST'S.

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HARPER'S WEEKLY.

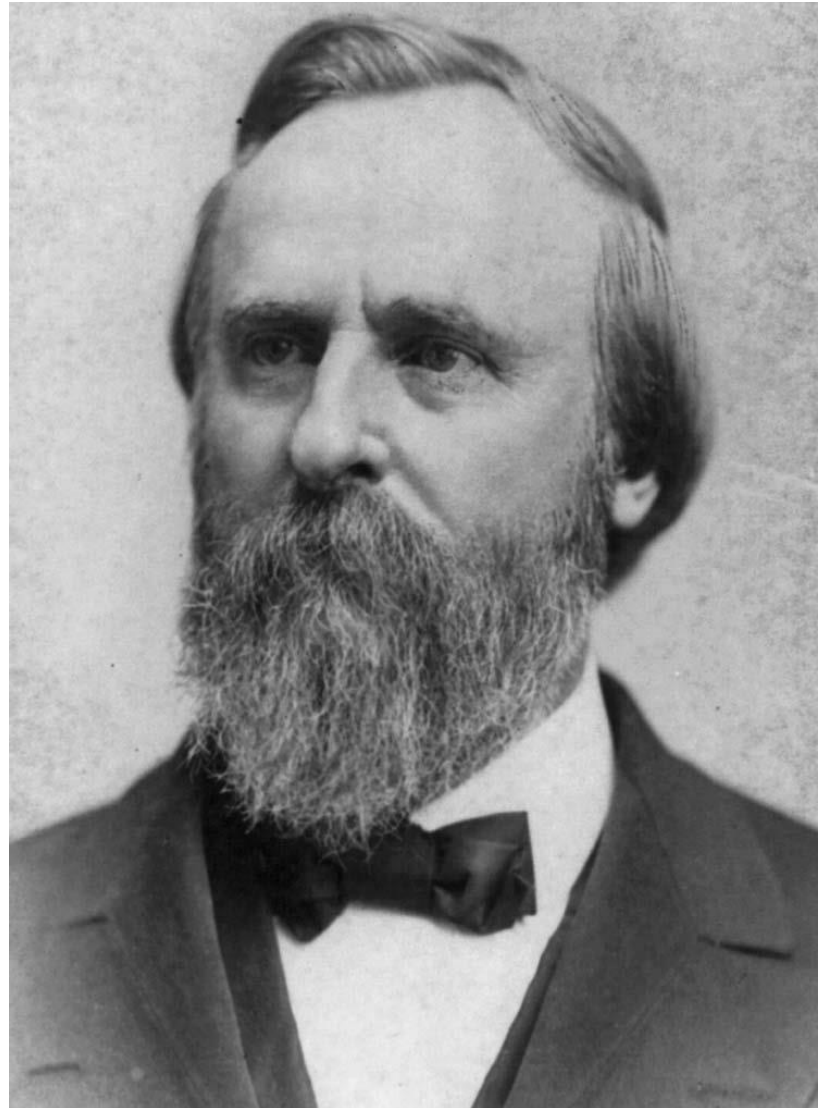
November 2, 1876

Civil Service

- The spoils system or patronage gave government jobs to people who helped candidates get elected. Supported by Stalwarts
- Reformers wanted civil servants (government employees) to be chosen by their own merit.

Pres. Rutherford B. Hayes

- Elected 1876 as Rep.
- Chose independents for his cabinet and turned against his own party while investigating customhouses



Pres. James A. Garfield

- Elected in 1880 as a reformer Rep. with Arthur, a Stalwart, as VP
- Assassinated by Charles Guiteau, a Stalwart



Pres. Chester A. Arthur

- Once President, he became a reformer passing the Pendleton Civil Service Act, which created an exam system for civil service jobs



Cleveland vs. Harrison

- Pres Cleveland wanted to lower tariffs on imports.
- 1888: Cleveland lost reelection to Benjamin Harrison who raised the tariffs to help the big businesses.
- 1892: Cleveland reelected, wants to lower tariffs, but fails.

