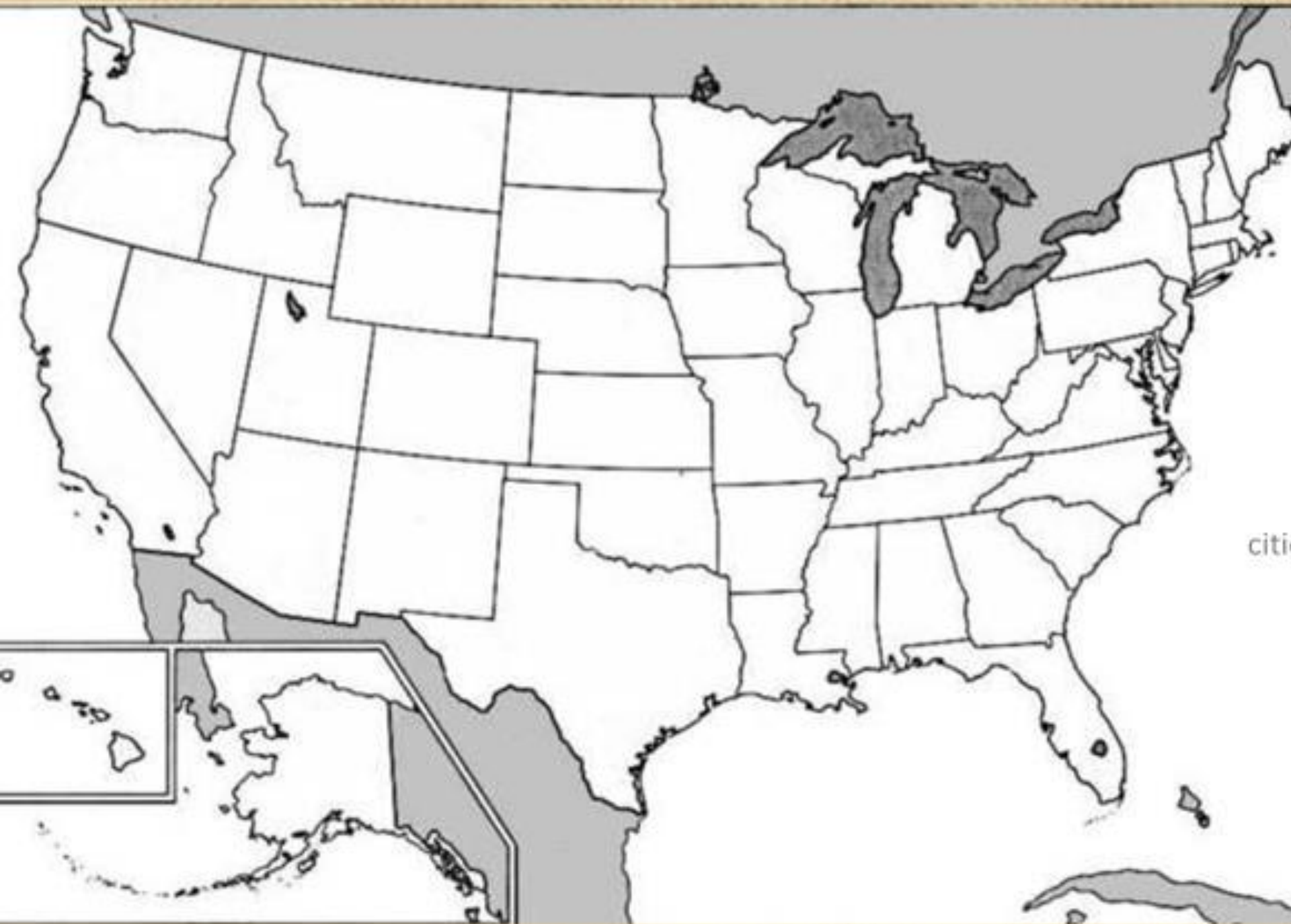


# Politics and Reform

**1877-1896**

**Chapter 16**



# Literacy Assignment

16-1

Spoils: government jobs obtained by winning elections.

Stalwart:

Steadfast loyal party member.

After the election of President James A. Garfield in 1880, many of his supporters tried to claim the “spoils of office”—the government jobs that follow an election victory. One of these job-seekers was Charles Guiteau. In the spring of 1881, Guiteau made daily trips to the White House or State Department, repeatedly asking for a job. Finally, the night of May 18, he had a crazed inspiration: “[I]f the president was out of the way,” he thought, “everything would go better.” Unlike Garfield, Guiteau reasoned, Vice President Chester Arthur was comfortable with the old spoils system. Arthur would give him the position he deserved. On July 2, 1881, Guiteau shot President Garfield in a train station near Capitol Hill. In a note left behind, Guiteau stated:

“The President’s tragic death was a sad necessity, but it will unite the Republican party and save the Republic. . . . I had no ill-will toward the President. His death was a political necessity. I am a lawyer, theologian, and politician. I am a Stalwart of the Stalwarts. . . .”



# Stalemate in Washington

- *Its all about the money!!!*
- Who gets the government jobs?
  - Old Spoils System
    - Political jobs
    - Jobs for loyal party members
    - Patronage
  - New Pendleton Act
    - Gov. Jobs will not be political anymore
    - Gov. testing for jobs



Jackson



George Pendleton



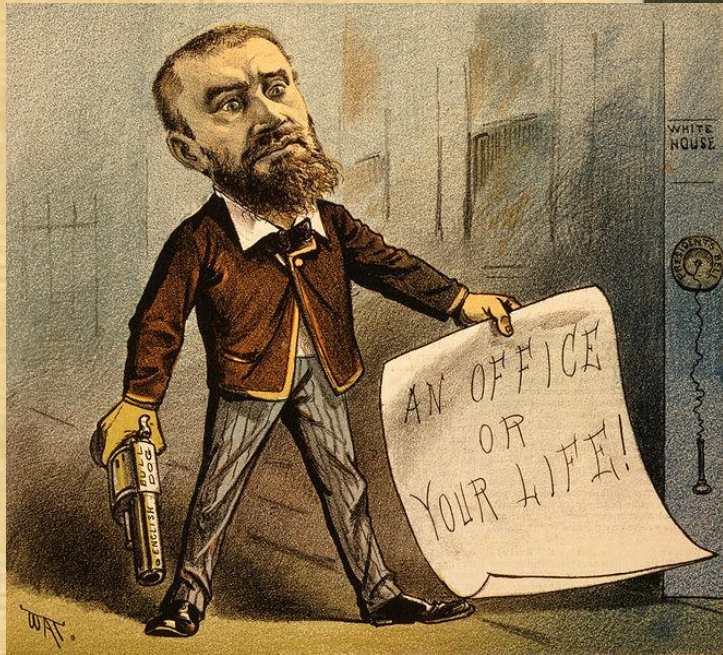
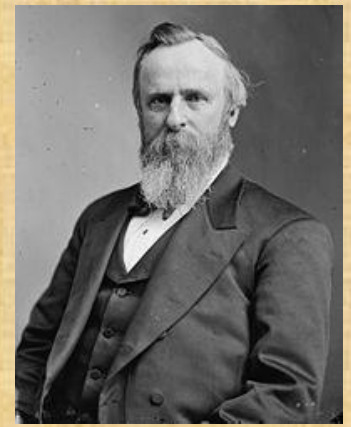
Theodore Roosevelt



# Political Stalemate Republicans vs. Democrats

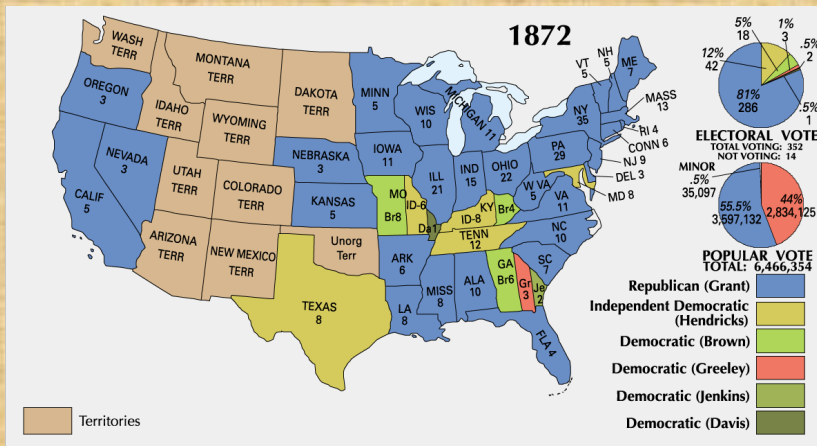
- 1877, Hayes, Rep. (halfbreed)
- 1880, Garfield, Rep. (halfbreed)
- 1881, Arthur, Rep. (stalwart)
- 1884, Cleveland, Dem.
- 1888, Harrison, Rep.
- 1892, Cleveland, Dem.
- 1896, McKinley, Rep.

Rutherford B. Hayes



15-14-13.-THE GREAT PRESIDENTIAL PUZZLE.

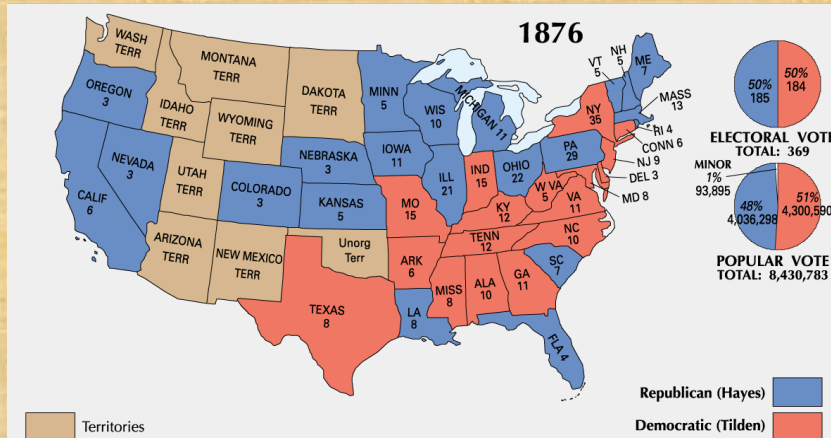




# Elections

Republican

Grant



Republican

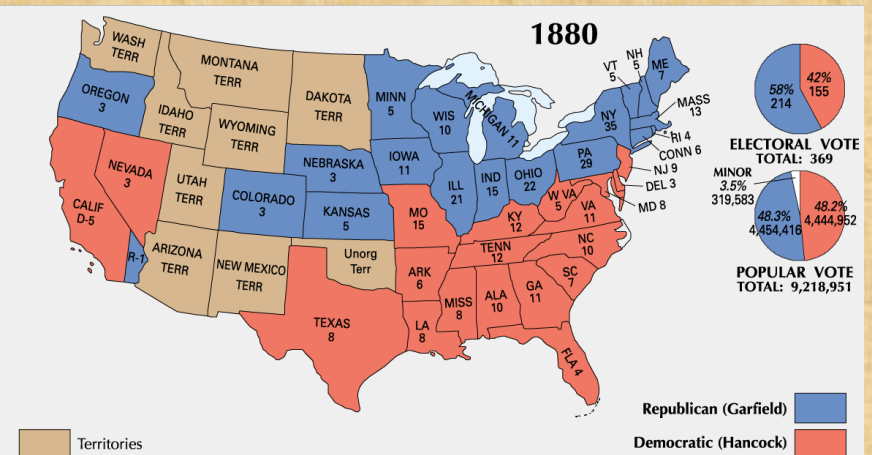
Hayes (halfbreed)

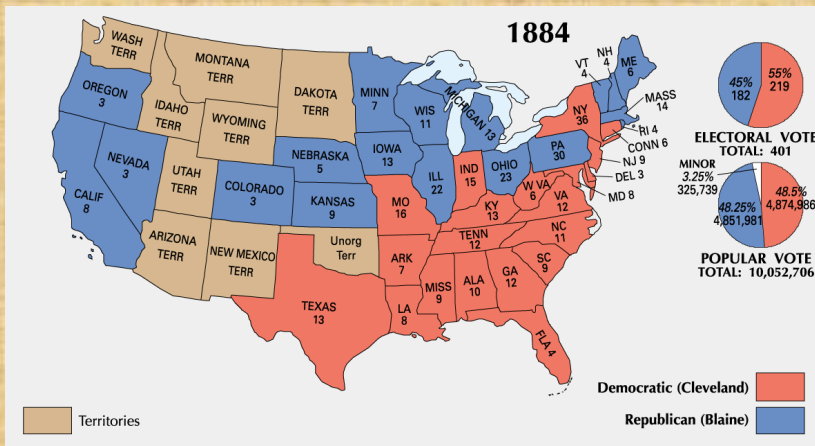
Republican

Garfield  
(halfbreed)

Arthur

(Stalwart)

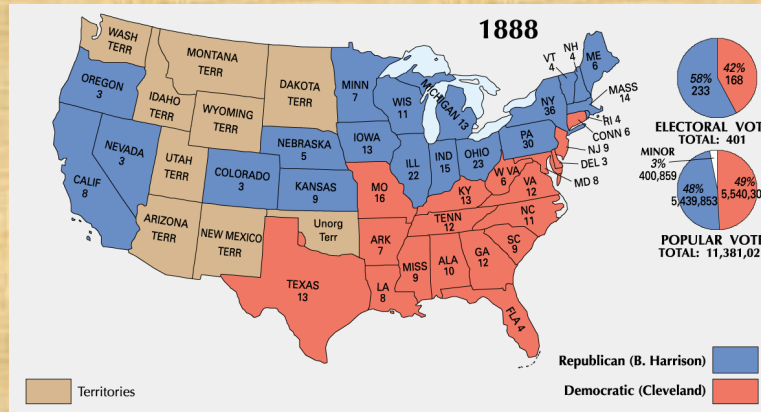




# Elections

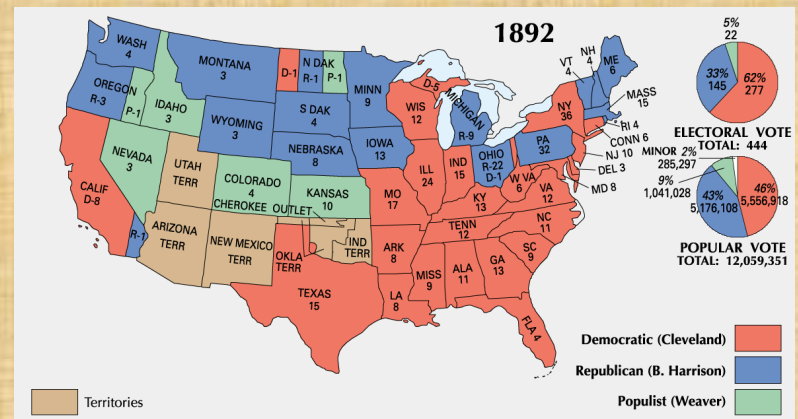
Democrats

Cleveland



Republicans

Harrison



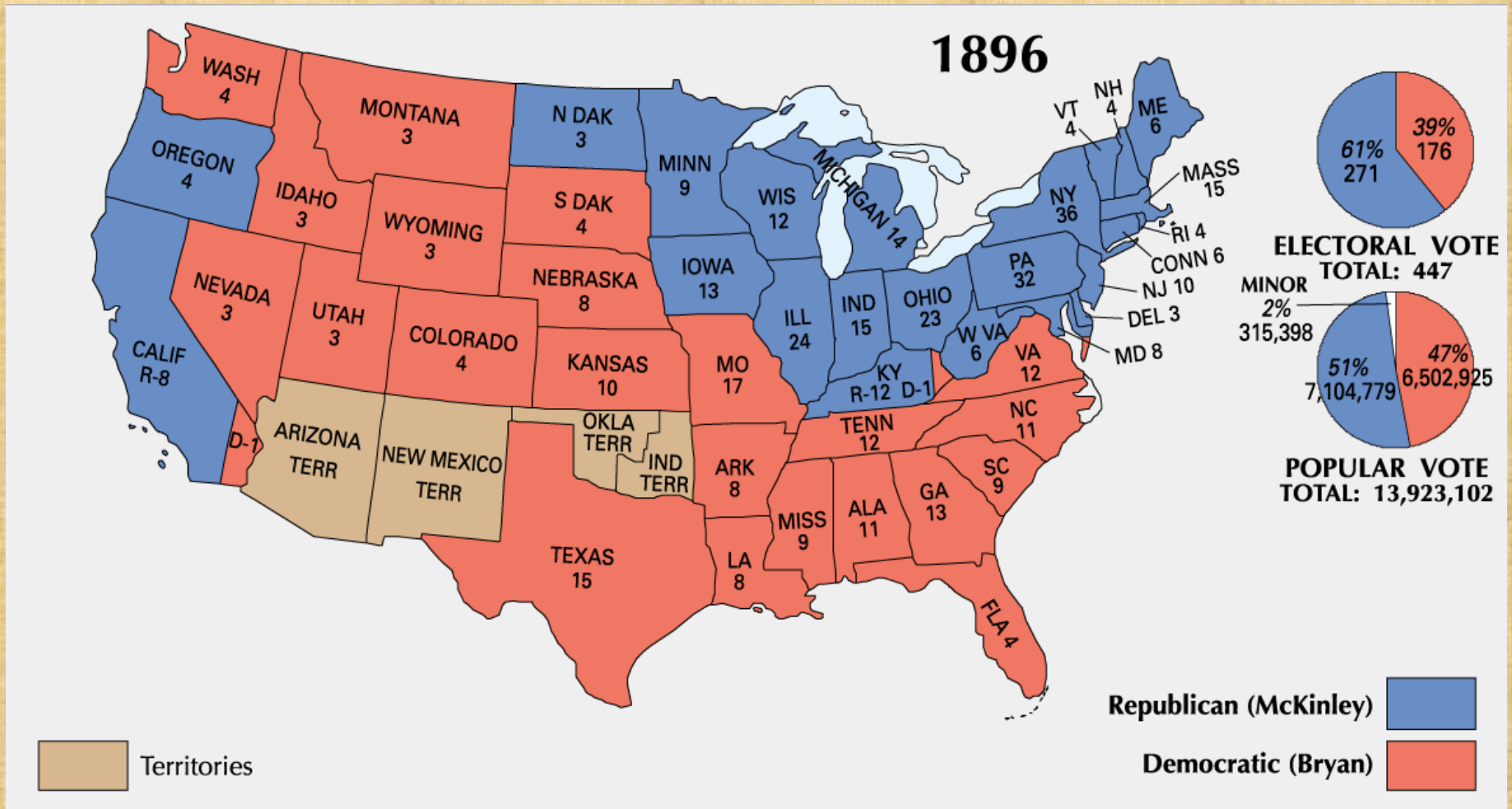
Democrats

Cleveland



# Republican Rule

## Populism/Democrats Fail



## **Review-Washington Politics in the late 1800s**

1. With the \_\_\_\_\_, the federal government had begun a shift away from the spoils system.
2. Under the Pendleton Act, people would gain government jobs according to the results of an \_\_\_\_\_.

# Literacy Assignment

16-2

Reject: publically refuse to accept something.

Sectional:

A portion of a larger area



On July 4, 1890, Leonidas L. Polk took a political gamble. He stepped up to make a speech to a crowd of 6,000 in a small town in Kansas. Polk was a Southerner, a lifelong Democrat, and a former Confederate soldier. He was not in friendly territory.

Polk had come to Kansas because he was now involved in a different kind of battle, one that cut across the lines dividing Northerners from Southerners and Democrats from Republicans. He was calling on farmers from both parties and both regions to unite for their common good. Polk urged the crowd to reject the two-party system and join the emerging movement that became known as populism:

“I tell you this afternoon that from New York to the Golden Gate, the farmers have risen up and have inaugurated a movement such as the world has never seen. It is a revolution of thought. . . . The farmer of North Carolina, Georgia, Texas, South Carolina is your brother. . . . Some people have stirred up sectional feelings and have kept us apart for twenty-five years. . . . They know that if we get together and shake hands . . . their doom is sealed. . . . Congress could give us a bill in forty-eight hours that would relieve us, but Wall Street says nay. . . . I believe that both of the parties are afraid of Wall Street.”

# Populist Issues 1870s-1890s

- Corruption

- Tammany Hall
- Credit Mobilier

- Monopolies

- ICC
- Tariffs
- Sherman Anti-Trust Act

- No president would enforce it until T. Roosevelt

*My party's in power in the city ... . Well, I'm tipped off, say, that they're going to lay out a new park at a certain place. I see my opportunity and I take it. I go to that place and I buy up all the land I can in the neighborhood... . Ain't it perfectly honest to charge a good price and make a profit on my investment and foresight? Of course, it is. Well, that's honest graft.*

—G. W. Plunkitt

1. Write a letter to your mom describing how you felt after you found that you were one of the land owners who Mr. Plunkitt profited by in the quote.





# More Populist issues

- Supply and Demand
  - New Tech. produced more
  - Oversupply leads to lower prices
  - Farmers hurt
- Monetary policy
  - Inflation
    - Greenbacks
      - Silverites
      - Chester Arthur
  - Deflation
    - Gold Standard

Design a graph for one:

Prices for:	Cotton (Pound)	Corn (Bushel)
1881	\$ .11	\$1.20
1891	\$ .08	\$ .83
1892	\$ .07	\$ .62
1893	\$ .05	\$ .53





# Farmers try to organize

- Who are the Populists?
  - Poor whites & Blacks
  - Westerners & Southerners
- The Grangers---Fails
  - Farmer's Unions
  - Limited Railroad rates
- Farmer's Alliances---Fails
  - Too small
  - Too many Bad loans
  - Little cooperation from
    - banks
    - Railroads
    - wholesalers
- People's Political Party---  
Populists



# Populism's Objectives

- Inflation
  - Greenbacks
  - Coin silver
- Control Monopolies
  - Federal ownership of Railroads
  - Granger Laws (some western states)
    - Limited railroad rates
- Tax the rich
  - income tax, 16<sup>th</sup> Amendment 1913
- Panic of 1893---Depression
  - Silverites vs. Goldbugs
  - Inflation vs. Deflation
  - Crucify on Cross of Gold vs. Gold Standard
  - Election of 1896



William Jennings Bryan



William McKinley

***Having behind us the producing masses of this nation and the world supported by the commercial interests, the laboring interests and the toilers everywhere, we will answer their demand for a gold standard by saying to them: You shall not press down upon the brow of labor this crown of thorns; you shall not crucify mankind upon a cross of gold.***

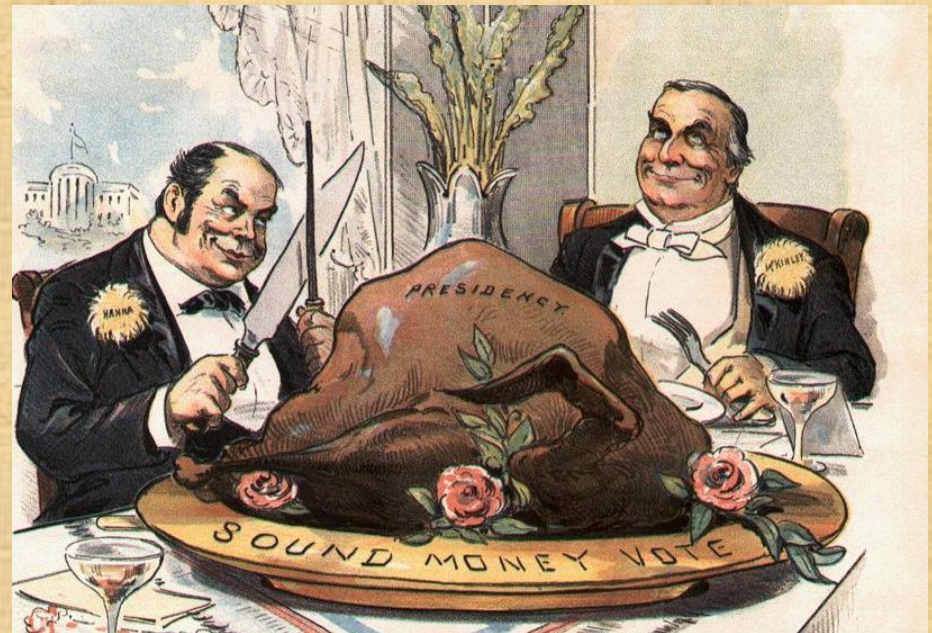
***---Williams Jennings Bryan, 1896***

1. Who does Bryan claim is asking for the "Gold Standard"?
2. Who does Bryan believe supports his cause?
3. What is Bryan's cause?



# Election of 1896

- William Jennings Bryan
  - Dem. & Populist
  - Coin Silver
  - West
- William McKinley
  - Rep.
  - Gold Standard
  - Protective Tariff
  - East





# Review Populism

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ failed because they were too small, railroads discriminated against them, and they performed too many bad debts.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ was ineffective without a dedicated president to enforce the law, only the courts were responsible for enforcement and they could do little.
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ laws limited railroad rates in some states.
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ wanted unlimited coinage of silver, federal ownership of railroads, and a graduated income tax.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ was candidate for president in 1896 for the Populists and Democrats but did not win.

# Literacy Assignment

16-3

**Fleece:** obtain a great deal of money from someone, typically by overcharging or swindling them.

**Vowed:** solemnly promise to do a specified thing.

In the fall of 1892, H.S. Doyle, a young African American preacher, defied Georgia's power structure—dominated by whites and Democrats—by giving more than 60 speeches on behalf of a white Populist, Tom Watson, who was running for Congress.

Doyle took that risk because Watson was doing something almost unbelievable for a Southern politician. He was urging poor whites and blacks to unite against the wealthy white elite. "You are kept apart that you may be separately fleeced of your earnings," Watson told a racially mixed audience at one gathering. "The accident of color can make no difference in the interests of farmers."

Shortly before the election, Doyle himself received a death threat. Watson offered the preacher refuge in his home and alerted supporters in the area. An estimated 2,000 Populists gathered there with guns in hand. The crowd then marched to the local courthouse, where Watson vowed to protect Doyle and other African American Populists.

"We are determined in this free country that the humblest white or black man that wants to talk our doctrine shall do it," he declared, "and the man doesn't live who shall touch a hair of his head, without fighting every man in the People's Party."



# Segregation

- Sharecroppers
- Exodusters
- Southern Politics
  - Populism doesn't work
  - Too much racism
  - Democratic Party rules

*A Missouri steamboat arrived at Wyandotte, Kansas, and discharged a load of negro men, women and children, with barrels, boxes, and bundles of household effect. Their garments were incredibly patched and tattered and there was not probably a dollar in money in the pockets of the entire party. They looked like persons coming out of a dream. And, indeed, such they were for this was the advance guard of the Exodus.*

*---Henry King, 1879*

1. How did King describe these people?
2. Why would these people be as King described?
3. What is the Biblical Exodus?

# Disfranchisement

- 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment
  - All male citizens allowed to vote
- But....
  - Poll tax
    - Help pay for elections
    - Poor don't vote
  - Grandfather clause
    - Loyal Americans only
    - Ex-slaves & Immigrants can't vote
  - Literacy tests
    - Politically aware people only
    - Uneducated don't vote
  - Fear Tactics---Klan



# Legal Segregation

- Supreme Court
  - Civil Rights Act of 1875 overturned
  - States' Jim Crow Laws
    - Legal segregation in south
- Lynching
  - Executions by mobs
  - Ida B. Wells
    - When Blacks competed against whites, they were lynched
- Plessy vs. Ferguson
  - Railroad accommodations
  - Separate but equal doctrine
  - Legalized Jim Crow



The barefoot corpse of Laura Nelson. May 25, 1911, Okemah, Oklahoma.

*Even on our way to school some days, men would come by and throw oranges at us, sometimes a rock perhaps. We also were very much aware of police brutality in that city at that time. We were conscious of the Ku Klux Klan riding around the town to keep everybody in check.*

*—Dr. Oswald P. Bronson*

1. List three fears the Dr. Bronson experienced?



# Review-Jim Crow

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ set the stage for legalized segregation by overturning the Civil Rights Act of 1875.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ reported that three African American grocers in Memphis had been lynched because they had competed successfully against whites in that city.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ are executions carried out by a mob without allowing the accused to appear in court.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ court case established the doctrine of “separate but equal.”
5. The grandfather clause was used to prevent many African Americans from \_\_\_\_\_.

# African American Response

## Booker T. Washington vs. W.E.B. DuBois



*The opportunity to earn a dollar in a factory just now is worth infinitely more than the opportunity to spend a dollar in an opera house.*  
---Booker T. Washington



- Education
  - vocational
- Atlanta Compromise
- Economic equality before social equality
- Temp. condition

- Education
  - Talented Top 10%
- No compromise
  - Social & economic equality now

***In the great leap from slavery to freedom ... the masses of us are to live by the production of our hands.***

***We refuse to allow the impression to remain that the Negro-American assents to inferiority, is submissive under oppression and apologetic before insults.***

***We shall prosper as we learn to dignify and glorify common labor.***

- Synthesize authorship: Who was the author of each quote? Washington or Dubois
  - 1.
  - 2.
  - 3.



## Review-African American Goals, late 1800s

1. \_\_\_\_\_ was particularly concerned with protecting and exercising voting rights for African Americans immediately.
2. African Americans should pursue economic goals before political goals was the importance of \_\_\_\_\_ voiced by Booker T. Washington.