America Moves to the City
1865 – 1900
The Move to the Cities

• After Civil War, Americans moved to the city in huge numbers
  – New industrial jobs
  – Immigration from Europe
  – New agricultural technology that pushed people off farms
The Shift to the City

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1790</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1860</td>
<td>19.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900</td>
<td>39.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1920</td>
<td>51.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>54.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>69.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>73.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>73.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>75.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Urban Frontier

• Huge cities grew up in US
  – New York, Chicago, Philadelphia with over 1 million people
  – New York 2\textsuperscript{nd} largest city in world (behind London)
**Table 19-1 Urban Growth: 1870-1900**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>1870 Population</th>
<th>1900 Population</th>
<th>Percent Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boston</td>
<td>250,525</td>
<td>560,892</td>
<td>123.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago</td>
<td>298,977</td>
<td>1,698,575</td>
<td>468.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cincinnati</td>
<td>216,239</td>
<td>325,902</td>
<td>50.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>5,728</td>
<td>102,479</td>
<td>1,689.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milwaukee</td>
<td>74,440</td>
<td>285,315</td>
<td>299.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Orleans</td>
<td>191,418</td>
<td>287,104</td>
<td>49.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>1,478,103</td>
<td>3,437,202</td>
<td>132.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>1,293,697</td>
<td>647,022</td>
<td>99.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh</td>
<td>321,616</td>
<td>86,075</td>
<td>273.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portland</td>
<td>90,426</td>
<td>8,293</td>
<td>990.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richmond</td>
<td>51,038</td>
<td>85,050</td>
<td>66.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Francisco</td>
<td>149,473</td>
<td>342,782</td>
<td>129.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seattle</td>
<td>1,107</td>
<td>237,194</td>
<td>21,326.73</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Urban Frontier

• Skyscrapers allowed more people to pack into cities
  – Perfected by architect Louis Sullivan, using steel-framed construction
  – Invention of elevators allowed skyscrapers to become practical
A Skyscraper in New York Built by Louis Sullivan
The Urban Frontier

- City was broken into radiating circles
  - Center of city – business district
  - Next ring – workers housing around factories and warehouses
  - Outer ring – suburban housing for wealthy
  - Rings connected by mass-transit streetcars and railroads
  - Large cities replaced “walking city” where boundaries set by how far commuter could walk
The Urban Frontier

• Many people from rural America drawn into cities
  – Not only for jobs, but for the more glamorous and technological city lifestyle
  – Huge department stores (Macy’s, Marshall Field’s) attracted middle-class shoppers and gave lower-class jobs (mainly to women)
  – Sister Carrie (1900) by Theodore Dreiser
    • Young girl (Carrie Meeber) escapes from rural America to glamorous Chicago, dreaming of one day sharing the middle-class lifestyle
The Urban Frontier

• New problem of waste disposal
  – Rural Americans threw little away
    • Reused products; animals (like hogs) ate what little waste there was on the farm
  – Urban Americans generated huge amounts of waste
    • Products came in throw-away containers
    • Clothing went out of fashion quickly, necessitating new clothes
The Urban Frontier

• The dark side of cities
  – Criminals flourished
  – Sanitary facilities did not keep pace with need
  – Dirty water, uncollected garbage, dirty people, waste from animals led to horrible stench
The Urban Slum
The Urban Frontier

- City slums
  - Crowded, filthy, rat-infested section of cities where poorest people lived
  - Dumbbell tenements
    - 7 – 8 stories high, with air shaft in middle providing ventilation of filthy air
    - Families crammed into each floor
    - Many died of contagious diseases from the cramped, unhealthy conditions
  - “Flophouses”
    - Unemployed could sleep for a few cents on filthy mattresses
Overcrowding in New York City
The Evolution of the Tenement

From Jacob A. Riis, The Battle With the Slum
1. Old Knickerbocker dwelling.
2. The same made over into a tenement.
3. The rear tenement caves.
4. Packing-box tenement built for revenue only.
5. The limit; the air-shaft--first concession to tenant.
A Typical Tenement
A Cross-Section of a Typical Slum Dwelling
A Poverty Stricken Family in the New York Slums
The Urban Frontier

• Escaping the slums
  – Slums were reserved for newcomers (immigrants) to US
  – Most hard-working people were able to escape slums
    • Immigrants moved into neighborhoods with people of their ethnicity or religion
  – Wealthy people left the cities and moved to suburbs
Hester Street, a Jewish Street in New York City
The New Immigration

- Immigrants from Europe poured into US
  - 1850s – 1870s – about 2 million per decade
  - By 1880s – about 5 million per decade entered US
Annual Immigration, 1860–1997
The New Immigration

• Through 1870s – most immigrants came from Britain and Western Europe (mainly Germany and Scandinavia)
  – Usually white Anglo-Saxons, Protestant (except for Catholic Irish and some Catholic Germans)
  – Generally had high literacy rates and experience with democratic government
  – Fit well into American society as farmers
The New Immigration

• After 1880s – New Immigrants came from southern and eastern Europe
  – Italians, Croats, Slovaks, Greeks, Poles
  – Mainly Roman Catholic, Greek Orthodox, Russian Orthodox, and Jewish
  – Came from autocratic countries, so they were unused to democracy
  – Poor and illiterate peasants who worked in low-skill, low-wage industrial jobs
  – Crowded into poor, ethnic neighborhoods in major eastern cities like New York and Chicago
  – Had much more difficult time assimilating into US
Old and New Immigration (by Decade)

[Bar chart showing immigration numbers by decade from 1871-1880 to 1911-1920.]

- Leading nations of the Old Immigration: England, Ireland, Germany
- Leading nations of the New Immigration: Italy, Austria–Hungary, Russia
Southern Europe Uprooted

- Pushes
  - Rapid population growth in Europe because of food imports from US and cultivation of potato
  - Poverty of displaced farm workers driven from the land by mechanization and food imports from US
  - Overcrowding and joblessness in European cities because of population boom
  - Religious persecution, especially in Russia against the Jews
Southern Europe Uprooted

• Pulls
  – “America letters” sent by immigrants already in US back home, telling of the abundant opportunity
  – US had reputation for political and religious freedom, including freedom from military conscription (forced service)
  – Economic opportunities advertised by American interests
    • Industrialist wanted low-wage labor, railroads wanted buyers for their land grants, states wanted more population, steamship lines wanted people to carry
  – Large steamships and relatively inexpensive one-way passage
Southern Europe Uprooted

- Birds of passage
  - 25% of the immigrants came to work for a few years, save money, and return to Europe
Southern Europe Uprooted

• Europeans who stayed struggled to keep their culture alive
  – Some established separate schools for their children (Catholics and Jews)
  – Foreign-language newspapers
  – Theaters, stores, churches, restaurants serving specific ethnicities
  – Most children eventually rejected their parents’ traditions and cultures, becoming part of mainstream America
Reactions to the New Immigration

• Government did little to help new immigrants
  – Federal government weeded out criminals and insane
  – State governments (dominated by rural interests) did even less
  – City governments overwhelmed by job of assimilating huge number of immigrants
Reactions to the New Immigration

• Job of taking care of immigrants went to bosses and political machines
  – In return for immigrants’ votes, boss provided jobs on city payroll, housing for newly arrived, gave food and clothes to poor, helped fix small problems with law, and got parks and schools built in immigrant neighborhoods
  – In spite of corruption, bosses gave immigrants needed assistance that no one else did
The City Boss
Afloat and Ashore – an Immigrant is Transformed into a Tammany Hall Supporter
Reactions to the New Immigration

• Social reformers gradually worked to help fix urban problems, including those of immigrants
Reactions to the New Immigration

- “social gospel” movement
  - Protestant ministers who tried to apply the lessons of Christianity to the urban slums
    - Walter Rauschenbusch (New York) and Washington Gladden (Columbus, Ohio) were prominent leaders
  - Called on churches to use the lessons of the Sermon on the Mount to fix problems in society
    - Socialism was the logical outcome of Christianity
  - Made middle class aware of problems of poor, leading to progressive reforms in early 1900s
Walter Rauschenbusch
Reactions to the New Immigration

• Background on Jane Addams
  – Born in wealthy Illinois family
  – One of first women to get college education
  – Obtained Hull mansion in Chicago in 1889
  – Established Hull House, most famous of the settlement houses
  – Condemned war, making many Americans hate her
Hull House in Chicago
Reactions to the New Immigration

• The settlement house movement
  – Located in poor, ethnic neighborhoods in big cities
  – Provided instruction in English
  – Taught immigrants how to survive in US
  – Provided child care for working mothers
  – Hosted cultural activities
Reactions to the New Immigration

• Other women followed Addams’ lead, forming settlement houses in big cities
• Settlement houses became centers of women’s activism for social reform
  – For instance, women lobbied for laws protecting women and children workers
• Some women entered into careers in social work after working in settlement houses
Reactions to the New Immigration

- Opportunities for women in the cities
  - 1 million women joined workforce
  - Mostly single women because of taboo against married women working
  - Women’s jobs depended on race, ethnicity, class
    - Black women worked as domestic servants
    - Native-born women worked as social workers, secretaries, department store clerks, telephone operators
    - Immigrant women worked in particular industries (depending on ethnicity of women)
  - Long hours, low pay, limited advancement
  - Most women gave most of their earnings to help support their family
  - Kept some spending money that gave them some independence
Narrowing the Welcome Mat

• Nativism had been aroused in 1840s and 1850s against Irish and German
• 1880s – stronger anti-foreignism against New Immigrants aroused
  – Feared foreigners (with a higher birthrate than native-born Americans) would outbreed them
  – Feared mixture of foreigners with Anglos, “mongrelizing” American race
  – Blamed immigrants for corruption of city governments
  – Workers in unions attacked immigrants’ willingness to work for “starvation” wages
  – Immigrants blamed for radical ideas (socialism, communism, anarchism)
Uncle Sam Refuses Entrance to a Foreign "Radical"
A Map of Part of the United States (as it Might Be in 1900)
The Great Fear of the Period
That Uncle Sam May be Swallowed by Foreigners
The Last Yankee
Narrowing the Welcome Mat

• New anti-foreign organizations formed
  – American Protective Association (APA)
    • Formed in 1887; over 1 million members
    • Urged voting against Catholic candidates
    • Published false stories about runaway nuns from sexual exploitation by priests
Narrowing the Welcome Mat

• Unions supported anti-immigrant causes
  – Immigrants used as strikebreakers
  – Immigrants pushed wages down
  – Immigrants difficult to unionize because of language barrier
  – If American business got protection (through tariffs), American workers should get protection (through immigration restrictions)
Striking Miners Threaten Immigrant “Scab” Strikebreakers
Narrowing the Welcome Mat

• 1882 – poor, criminals, convicts banned
  – Would have to be shipped back at expense of shipper
• 1882 – Chinese (as a race) completely banned by Congress
• 1885 – importation of foreign workers under contract (with US businesses who would pay them much less than American workers) banned
Workers feared that Chinese immigrants would steal their jobs.
Narrowing the Welcome Mat

• Further laws in late 1880s banned insane, polygamists, prostitutes, alcoholics, anarchists, those carrying contagious diseases
• Literacy test passed in 1917
  – Supported by nativists because it favored Old Immigrants over New
  – Had been vetoed by 3 previous presidents because literacy was test of opportunity, not intelligence
Narrowing the Welcome Mat

• 1886 – Statue of Liberty erected in New York Harbor
  – Poem by Emma Lazarus on base:
    • “Give me your tired, your poor
      Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
      The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.”
  – Nativists wanted to ban the kinds of people described in the poem
  – These immigrants brought muscle and brain; worked in US factories and made US industrial giant
The Statue of Liberty
The New Colossus, by Emma Lazarus

The New Colossus

Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame,
With conquering steps and笑意From land to land,
Here at our sea-washed, storied island tread,
The pale-faced, sturdy, woman with a torch, whose flame
Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name
Mother of exiles from her beacon-sails.
Goes world-wide welcome: her wild eyes command;
The air-brushed Harrow that twin cities trust:
Deep, ancient lands your storied home?

cries she

with silent lips: "Give me, your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these the homeless, tempest-tossed, to me:
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

The tablet, with her thought, is the沐浴ed emblem
Of Liberty inscribed upon it is placed upon this base
In loving memory of

Emma Lazarus
Born in New York City, June 22, 1849–January 19, 1887
Died in New York City, July 1, 1887

THE NEW COLOSSUS
Churches Confront the Urban Challenge

• Older Protestant churches (and leaders) responded slowly (or not at all) to new challenges in cities
  – Churches did not have answers for rampant corruption, greed, and economic injustice
  – Cynicism among poor caused by fact that the big industrialists (Rockefeller, Morgan) were religious, while they abused the poor
  – Gospel of wealth and belief that wealth equaled righteousness lead many to reject old churches
1875 – 1925 – liberal Protestant ministers came to dominate American Protestant churches
- Adapted Protestant Christianity to modern culture and problems
- Rejected biblical literalism
- Questioned idea of original sin
- Focused on forgiveness, earthy salvation, personal growth
- Dwight Lyman Moody, revivalist in Chicago, was a good example
Churches Confront the Urban Challenge

• Roman Catholicism and Jewish faiths gained strength from New Immigration
  – 1900 – Roman Catholic became largest single denomination
  – Cardinal James Gibbons, friend to many presidents, used influence for workers
Churches Confront the Urban Challenge

- 2 new faiths emerged in late 1800s
  - Salvation Army
  - Church of Christ, Scientist (Christian Science)
Churches Confront the Urban Challenge

• Salvation Army
  – Came to US in 1879 from England
  – Practical religion that gave much to poor
A Salvation Army Volunteer
Churches Confront the Urban Challenge

- Church of Christ, Scientist (Christian Science)
  - 1879 – founded by Mary Baker Eddy
  - *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*
    - Book in which Eddy (after her own sickness) preached practice of true Christianity would cure illness
Churches Confront the Urban Challenge

- Young Men’s (Women’s) Christian Associations (YMCA / YWCA)
  - Combination of physical education with religious instruction
Darwin Disrupts the Churches

- Late 1800s – many blows to traditional Christianity
  - Books on comparative religion and historical criticism of Bible
  - On the Origin of Species (1859) by Charles Darwin
Darwin Disrupts the Churches

- Darwinism
  - Idea that higher forms of life had evolved from lower forms, through random biological mutation and adaptation
  - “natural selection”
    - Nature selected organisms for survival or death based on inheritable traits
    - Some traits gave advantages in struggle for life, and therefore better chance to pass those traits on to offspring
  - Explicit rejection of “special creations”, design of each fixed species by divine (supernatural) agency
Darwin Disrupts the Churches

• Scientists’ reaction to Darwinism
  – Some scientists continued to believe in special creation (by God)
  – By 1875, most scientists came to believe in evolution, although there was disagreement over Darwinism
    • Some believed in Lamarckian evolution (traits developed during life could influence the development of a species)
  – By the 1920s – most scientists had come to accept Darwinism
Comparison of Skeletons of Vertebrates, Showing Evolutionary Similarities

From specimens in Royal College of Surgeons, London
Great Moments in Evolution
Darwin Disrupts the Churches

• Religion’s reaction to Darwinism
  – At first, many scientists and religionists united in opposing Darwinism
  – After 1875 (when most scientists accepted evolution) churches split into 2 groups
    • Conservative minority firmly behind literal interpretation of Bible (leading to fundamentalism)
    • “Accommodationists” did not want to alienate educated believers; reconciled Darwinism with Christianity; did not accept Bible (in its entirety) as history or science
The Anti-Evolution League
Darwin Disrupts the Churches

- Impact of Darwinism
  - Religious foundations of Americans shaken
  - Efforts of accommodationists kept many Americans in churches
  - Religious teaching kept to personal faith and private conduct
  - Science explained external world instead of religion
The Lust for Learning

• Elementary schools
  – After Civil War, more states made grade school education compulsory
  – Helped also stop some of the worst abuses of child labor, since small children (by law) were to be in school, not factories
  – Kindergartens (borrowed from Germany) became more prevalent
A School in New York, 1886
The Lust for Learning

• High schools
  – Before 1880s – public high schools rare; most were private college-prep schools for upper class
  – 1880s – 1900s – free public high schools established, along with free books
The Lust for Learning

- Teacher-training schools ("normal schools")
  - Large expansion after Civil War in teacher-training schools
  - Made teaching more professional
The Lust for Learning

• Catholic and parochial (religious) schools
  – Supported by New Immigrants who did not want their children indoctrinated by Protestantism and wanted to preserve their native culture and language
The Lust for Learning

• Adult education
  – Chautauqua movement
    • 1874 – launched on Lake Chautauqua, New York
    • Public lectures and home courses of study for adults
The Lust for Learning

• Success of education
  – Public education in cities much higher quality than 1-room schoolhouse in rural areas
  – Literacy rates fell by 1/2 (20% to 10%)
Booker T. Washington and Education for Black People

• The problem of education in the South
  – South was far behind rest of US in education
  – Blacks were worst off of all in education
    • 44% illiterate (1900)
Booker T. Washington and Education for Black People

- Booker T. Washington
  - 1881 – took lead at industrial and normal school in Tuskegee, Alabama
  - Taught blacks useful trades so that they could gain economic security and self-respect
  - “accommodationist” because he did not challenge white supremacy or racism; accepted lack of social equality with whites
  - Believed social equality (with political and civil rights) would come after achieving economic security
Booker T. Washington
Students Learning Trades at Tuskegee Institute
Booker T. Washington and Education for Black People

• George Washington Carver
  – Important teacher and researcher at Tuskegee Institute
  – Important agricultural chemist who discovered new uses for peanut (shampoo, axle grease), sweet potato (vinegar), and soybean (paint)
George Washington Carver at Work
Booker T. Washington and Education for Black People

• W. E. B. DuBois
  – Northern black who earned Ph.D. from Harvard (first black to do so)
  – Helped found NAACP in 1910
  – Demanded complete equality for blacks (social and economic), rejecting Washington’s gradualism
  – Called for “talented tenth” of blacks to lead
W. E. B. DuBois
Differences between DuBois and Washington can be found in different experiences as Northerner and Southerner

- Washington saw firsthand the depths and violence of Southern racism
- DuBois, as Northerner, had experience with racism, but not the bitter hatred and violence of South
The Hallowed Halls of Ivy

• Numbers of colleges and college education increased after Civil War
• Women’s education
  – Women’s colleges built
  – Some colleges open to both genders, especially in Midwest
  – By 1880, every 3rd graduate was a woman
• Black education
  – Black colleges built, especially in South
  – Barred from most white schools until 1960s
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Bachelor’s</th>
<th>Master’s</th>
<th>Doctorate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1890</td>
<td>2,682</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900</td>
<td>5,237</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td>8,437</td>
<td>558</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1920</td>
<td>16,642</td>
<td>1,294</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Hallowed Halls of Ivy

• Morrill Act of 1862
  – Gave large grants of public land to states for public education
  – Land-grant colleges committed to provide some services to federal government, including military training

• Hatch Act of 1887
  – Extended Morrill Act to provide federal funds for agricultural experiment stations at land-grant colleges

• Morrill and Hatch Acts helped create over 100 colleges and universities in US
The Hallowed Halls of Ivy

- Private philanthropy (charity) helped build many colleges
  - Many new industrial millionaires gave money to build colleges
    - Cornell, Stanford, University of Chicago
The Hallowed Halls of Ivy

- New professional and technical schools built
  - Modern laboratories replaced experiments by solitary scientists
  - Important was Johns Hopkins University (1876) with first high-quality graduate school
  - New graduate schools meant that US scholars did not have to travel to Europe for quality education
The March of the Mind

• Before the Civil War, colleges stressed unity between rational knowledge and (religious) morality

• After the challenge of Darwinism, colleges were forced to separate rational truth ("facts") from morality ("values")
  – Colleges only taught knowledge; left morality to religions
The March of the Mind

- Needs of industrialism changed college education
  - Brought out need for practical education
  - Elective system allowed students to choose courses they took
The March of the Mind

• Medical education
  – Scientific improvements made public health better and increased life expectancy
The March of the Mind

• William James
  – Important intellectual; served as professor at Harvard
  – *Principles of Psychology* (1890)
    • Established field of behavioral psychology
  – *The Will to Believe* (1897); *Varieties of Religious Experience* (1902)
    • Explored philosophy and psychology of religion
  – *Pragmatism* (1907)
    • Described American philosophy of pragmatism
    • Truth was to be tested by its practical consequences
The Appeal of the Press

- Libraries
  - Public libraries provided poor with entertainment and education
  - Most popular books were classics
  - Space and books increased by donations of Andrew Carnegie and construction of Library of Congress
The Appeal of the Press

• Changes in journalism
  – Linotype (invented 1885)
    • Machine that replaced labor-intensive typesetting by hand
    • Led to more newspapers being printed, but at higher costs (to buy the Linotype machines)
    • Newspapers have to rely on advertising, making them write tamer articles to not offend advertisers
  – Appeal to immigrants and masses (both semiliterate, less educated)
    • Stories about sex, scandal to catch and keep their attention
The Appeal of the Press

• 2 news tycoons compete to provide sensationalistic news to gain more subscribers to their chains of papers
  – Joseph Pulitzer
    • Used “Yellow Kid” comics in newspaper, giving the name “yellow journalism” to his sensationalistic reporting
  – William Randolph Hearst
A Yellow Kid Comic

THE YELLOW KID AND HIS NEW PHONOGRAPH.

A Farce, a Comedy and a Tragedy. All In One. Showing How, in Every Case, Murder Will Out, and Virtue Is Its Own Reward.

LISTEN TO THE WORST OF WISDOM WHT' DE PHONOGRAPH WILL GIVE ER.

SAY DATS DEAD STRAIGHT NOW DE LEVEL ON I RIN STANDER IT - SEE!

WHY IS DE COLORED SUPPLEMENT OF DE SUNDAY JOURNAL LIKE DE STILL MUS' BEER? IT'S A PEACH - AN DAT GOES SEE.

ST PHONOGRAPH IS A GREAT INVENTION. WAT I DON'T TAK - MATT TILL I GIT DAT FRESHIN ROAD HOME I GON'T FINGER IT (HE WAYS"

THATS AWFULLY.

DE YELLOW KID IS A WONDER SAW EVER. DON'T MAKE EM FAINT.

IT WAS ENOUGH TO KILL HER.

TEH HUNGRY LAD COULDN'T WAIT TO GET OUT HIS WINTER UNDERWEAR. HER MOUTH WAS CALM AND UNDISTURBED. SHE DROPPED HER LOOKING IN THE LOOK, CREATING A GROWING SHOCK.

THAT MAY HAVE BEEN THE EFFECT OF THE COMING BLOW. BUT ALL UNWITTINGLY, WITH A CIRCULAR GOOSE, SHE LIFTED THE SHOCK. AND THEN A STRANGE THING HAPPENED. WITH A SOUL CRY, THE MAN'S LEGS WENT UP AND DE SONG HUNG ON THE AIR.

THE SHOCK HAD BEEN TOO MUCH FOR HER. THE THINGS SHE SAW WERE ALL AT THE TOP, WITH SLOWLY RISING FROM ITS OWN
Apostles of Reform

• Important magazines read by public
  – Atlantic Monthly, Scibner’s Monthly, Harper’s
  – Most influential was the Nation
    • Liberal magazine began in New York in 1865 by Edwin L. Godkin
    • Only reached 10,000 readers, but was influential with some opinion-makers and US leaders
Apostles of Reform

- Henry George, Progress and Poverty (1879)
  - Inequality caused because there was a fixed amount of land, but an increasing population
  - Called for single tax of 100% on profits from land sales to eliminate inequality
  - Rejected by elites, but had following among landless poor (although his ideas were never tried)
Apostles of Reform

• Edward Bellamy, Looking Backward (1888)
  – About a man who falls asleep in 1887, wakes up in 2000
  – Finds that social and economic injustices have been ended by government nationalizing big business to operate in public’s interest
  – Influenced future reform movements, although his ideas were not put into practice
Postwar Writing

• “dime novels”
  – Cheap books read by millions of Americans
  – Stories about cowboys (“Deadwood Dick”) fighting Indians
Postwar Writing

• Ben Hur: A Tale of the Christ
  – By General Lewis Wallace, veteran of Civil War
  – Religious reaction against Darwinism and religious skepticism
Postwar Writing

• Horatio Alger
  – Sold millions of books with stock formula of the hero triumphantly overcoming obstacles with honesty, virtue, work
Postwar Writing

• Walt Whitman
  – Had been important before Civil War as poet
  – Served as nurse during Civil War
  – Continued revising Leaves of Grass after Civil War, along with other poetry

• Emily Dickinson
  – Had written poetry before and after Civil War
  – Poetry published after her death (in 1886)
Literary Landmarks

- Novels changing from romanticism to realism
  - Influenced by industrialism and materialism
Literary Landmarks

• Kate Chopin
  – The Awakening (1899)
    • Wrote openly about adultery, suicide, women’s ambitions
• Mark Twain
  – Wrote in rough vernacular; revolt against refined New England school of writing
  – The Gilded Age (1873)
    • Satire of postwar politicians and speculators
  – Top Sawyer (1876); Huckleberry Finn (1884)
    • Two very important books about realities of life and racism in the South
Literary Landmarks

- Bret Harte
  - New Yorker who wrote gold-rush stories

- William Dean Howells
  - A Modern Instance (1882) about divorce
  - The Rise of Silas Lapham (1885) about new rich manufacturer encountering elite social system in Boston
Literary Landmarks

• Stephen Crane
  – Maggie: A Girl of the Streets (1893) about a poor prostitute driven to suicide
  – The Red Badge of Courage (1895) about a young, wounded Civil War recruit
  – Died in 1900 of tuberculosis, at age 29
Henry Adams

- Grandson of John Quincy Adams; became historian, novelist, critic
- Wrote about early US presidents and the Middle Ages
- The Education of Henry Adams (1907), autobiography
Literary Landmarks

• Henry James
  – Dominant theme of novels was encounters of innocent Americans with clever and subtle Europeans
  – Made women central characters; early explorer of feminism
Literary Landmarks

• Jack London
  – The Call of the Wild (1903) about the confrontation between man and nature
  – The Iron Heel (1907) about a possible fascist revolution in US
Literary Landmarks

• Frank Norris
  – The Octopus (1901) about the corrupt control that railroads and politicians held over Western farmers
Literary Landmarks

• Paul Lawrence Dunbar (in poetry) and Charles W. Chesnutt (in short stories)
  – Used black dialect and folklore to show the richness of southern black culture
Literary Landmarks

• Theodore Dreiser
  – *Sister Carrie* (1900), a graphically realistic novel about a poor working girl in Chicago; the girl rejected traditional moral standards
The New Morality

• Late 1800s – culture battle over sexual freedom and role of women in society
  – “new morality” – greater freedom in sexuality (brought about in part by women’s greater economic freedom)
  – Signs of the new morality: divorce, birth control, open discussion of sexual topics
  – Battle exemplified by clashes between Victoria Woodhull and Anthony Comstock
The New Morality

• Victoria Woodhull
  – Proclaimed belief in free love; worked for feminism
  – Published radical weekly magazine, Woodhull and Dlaglin’s Weekly
The New Morality

• Anthony Comstock
  – Campaigned against “immorality”
  – Used 1873 Comstock Law to confiscate and destroy sexuality explicit pictures, books, and magazines, including information about birth control
Families and Women in the City

• New urban environment was hard on families
  – Divorce rate increased
    • Families became only area where members could go for psychological and emotional satisfaction; some families cracked
  – Birth rate decreased
    • Having many children on farms was good (for more helpers); having many children in cities was bad (too many people to feed, not enough space in tenements)
    • Marriage delayed; birth control practiced
    • Also affected rural Americans and all ethnic groups
Families and Women in the City

• Charlotte Perkins Gilman’s call for feminism
  – Women and Economics (1898)
  – Called for women to work, with children put in cooperative nurseries and food made in cooperative kitchens
Families and Women in the City

• Women and the vote
  – Older generation of feminists had stopped calling for vote while working for black rights
    • 1890 – began work for female suffrage with formation of National American Woman Suffrage Association
Families and Women in the City

• 1900 – new generation of feminists took lead
  – Carrie Chapman Catt
    • De-emphasized argument that women deserved vote as a right
    • Instead, argued that vote was important to allow women to perform duties as mothers and homemakers
    • Women needed public officials in city (police, schools, etc.) for support; only vote could get them that support
Give Mother the Vote – We Need It

GIVE MOTHER THE VOTE
WE NEED IT

VOTES FOR OUR MOTHERS

OUR FOOD  OUR HEALTH  OUR PLAY
OUR HOMES  OUR SCHOOLS  OUR WORK
ARE RULED BY MEN'S VOTES

Isn't it a funny thing
That Father cannot see
Why Mother ought to have a vote
On how these things should be?

THINK IT OVER
Families and Women in the City

- Women’s gains toward suffrage
  - States began allowing women to vote in local and sometimes state elections
  - 1869 – Wyoming granted women first unrestricted suffrage right
  - Other states followed
  - Women also gained right to own property and formed women’s organizations at the same time
Families and Women in the City

- White women restricted black women’s membership in their suffrage and social groups
  - Feared issue of suffrage would get muddled with issue of white-black equality
  - Ida B. Wells
    - Began nationwide anti-lynching campaign
    - Helped black women form their own organizations for suffrage and equality
Prohibition of Alcohol and Social Progress

- Alcohol consumption increased after Civil War
  - Immigrant groups and working class accustomed to drinking
  - Anti-prohibitionists charged that prohibition was attack by middle class on the lifestyle of the working class
- Alcohol caused many social problems
  - Families kept poor as father drank away his paycheck
Prohibition of Alcohol and Social Progress

• 1869 – National Prohibition Party formed
  – Won a few votes in some presidential elections
Prohibition of Alcohol and Social Progress

- 1874 – radical Woman’s Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) formed
  - Led by Frances E. Willard and Carrie A. Nation
    - Nation’s 1st husband had died of alcoholism; used hatchet to smash bottles in saloons
    - Nation’s violent tactics brought prohibition into disrepute
Woman's Holy War
Prohibition of Alcohol and Social Progress

- 1893 – Anti-Saloon League formed
  - Made important gains in states, banning alcohol
- 1919 – 18th Amendment banned alcohol nationally
  - Repealed in 1933 after it proved unenforceable
Prohibition of Alcohol and Social Progress

• Other reform societies
  – 1866 – American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
  – 1881 – American Red Cross
    • Led by Clara Barton, nurse from Civil War
Artistic Triumphs

- Most painters worked in Europe instead of US
- Important portrait painters
  - James Whistler
  - John Singer Sargent
  - Mary Cassatt
Artistic Triumphs

- Important landscape painters
  - Thomas Eakins
  - Winslow Homer
- Important sculptors
  - Augustus Saint-Gaudens
Artistic Triumphs

• American music
  – Symphonies and orchestra houses brought European music to America
  – Black spirituals and “ragged music” evolved into jazz, ragtime, and blues
  – Phonograph (invented by Edison) allowed music to be brought into homes
Artistic Triumphs

• American architects
  – Louis Sullivan (skyscrapers)
  – Henry H. Richardson
    • Richardsonian style: high-vaulted arches
  – 1893 Columbian Exposition
    • Celebrated classical architecture
    • Helped promote city planning in US
The Business of Amusement

• Post Civil War – Americans had more free time with which to pursue recreation
The Business of Amusement

- Amusement in America
  - Stage productions
  - Vaudeville
  - Minstrel shows (now performed by blacks, not whites)
  - Circus (Barnum & Bailey formed in 1881)
  - Wild West shows (headed by “Buffalo Bill” Cody, with Indians, buffalo, cowboys)
The Business of Amusement

• Sports in America
  – Baseball became national pastime, with professional leagues
  – Basketball (invented in 1891 by a YMCA instructor)
  – Football became first big spectator sport
  – Boxing (pugilism) gained some respectability
  – America went through crazes of croquet and the “safety” bicycle in 1890s