

From National Association to National League: Evolution or Coup?

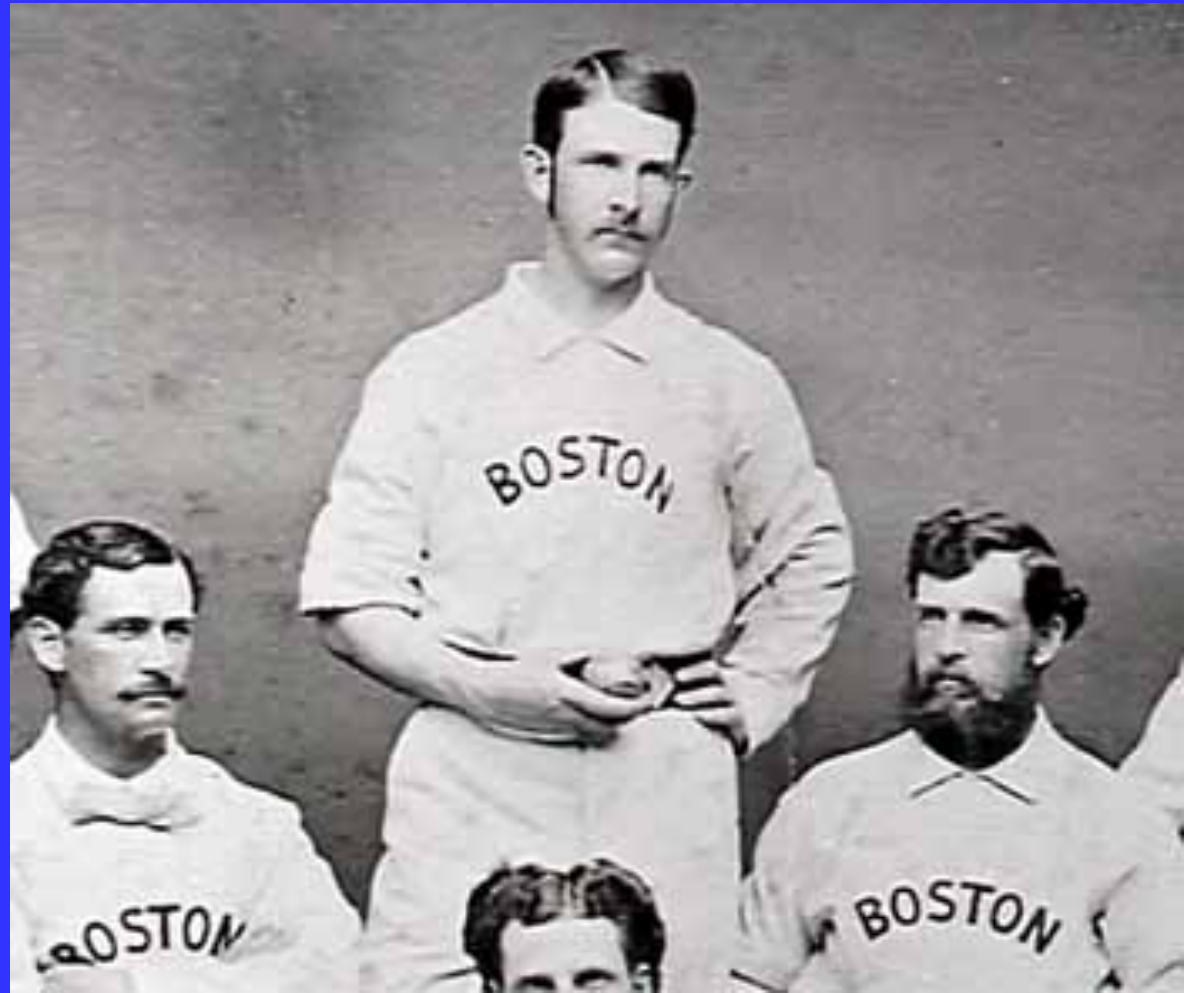


The National Association of Base Ball Players lasted from 1858 to 1870 when the National Association of **Professional Baseball Players** took over. Pictured here are the Philadelphia Athletics and the Boston Red Sox

The “Bostons” dominated the NA and NAPBBP through the mid-1870s, thanks to Albert Spalding (back row second from left) and George and Harry Wright (seated, third and fourth from the left)



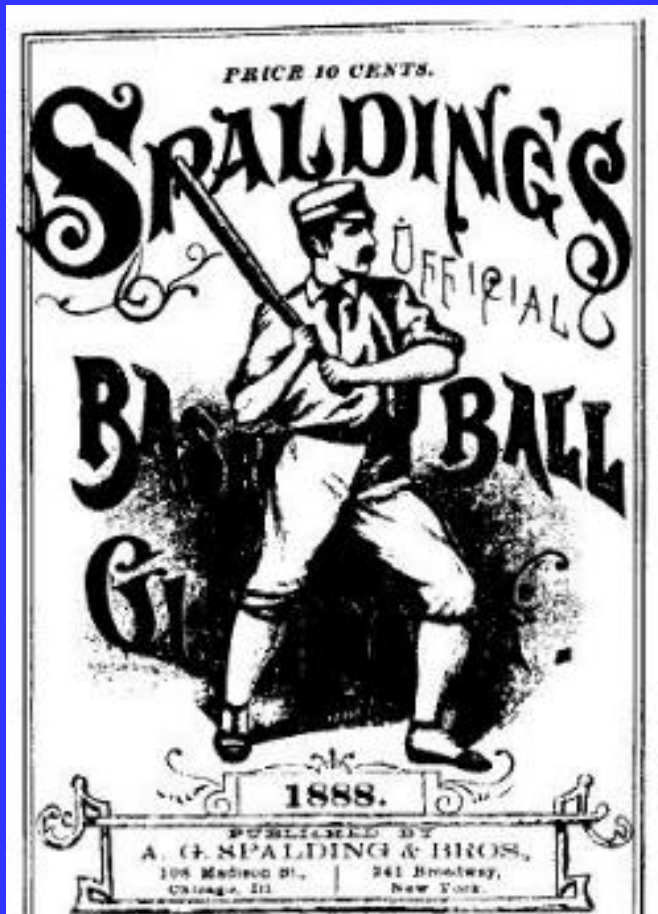
The successful tours of the Brooklyn Excelsiors, crisscrossing upper New York state and on to Philadelphia and Baltimore, inspired Albert Spalding - and countless other young men - with the hope “that they might win for their cities a glory akin to that which had been achieved for [Brooklyn].” Rader, 11



Spalding seen here as a member of the Boston team of the National Association of Professional Base Ball Players (NAPBBP) - known simply as “the Bostons”

In early February in the centennial year of 1876, Chicago coal dealer William Hulbert organized the National League of Professional Baseball Clubs - today's National League. An active Republican and civic booster, Hulbert insisted that he would "rather be a lamp-post in Chicago than a millionaire in any other city."





Having been enticed away from Boston, Spalding quickly began his transformation from star player to baseball magnate and sporting goods entrepreneur.

SPALDING'S TRADE-MARKED CATCHER'S GLOVES.

After considerable expense and many experiments we have finally perfected a Catcher's Glove that meets with general favor from professional catchers.

The old style of open backed gloves introduced by us several years ago is still adhered to, but the quality of material and workmanship has been materially improved, until now we are justified in claiming the best line of catcher's gloves in the market. These gloves do not interfere with throwing, can be easily put on and taken off, and no player subject to sore hands should be without a pair. Our new patent seamless palm glove is admittedly the finest glove ever made, and is used by all professional catchers. We make them in ten different grades, as follows:



No. 4-O. SPALDING'S SPECIAL LEAGUE CATCHER'S GLOVE. Patented, full left hand.



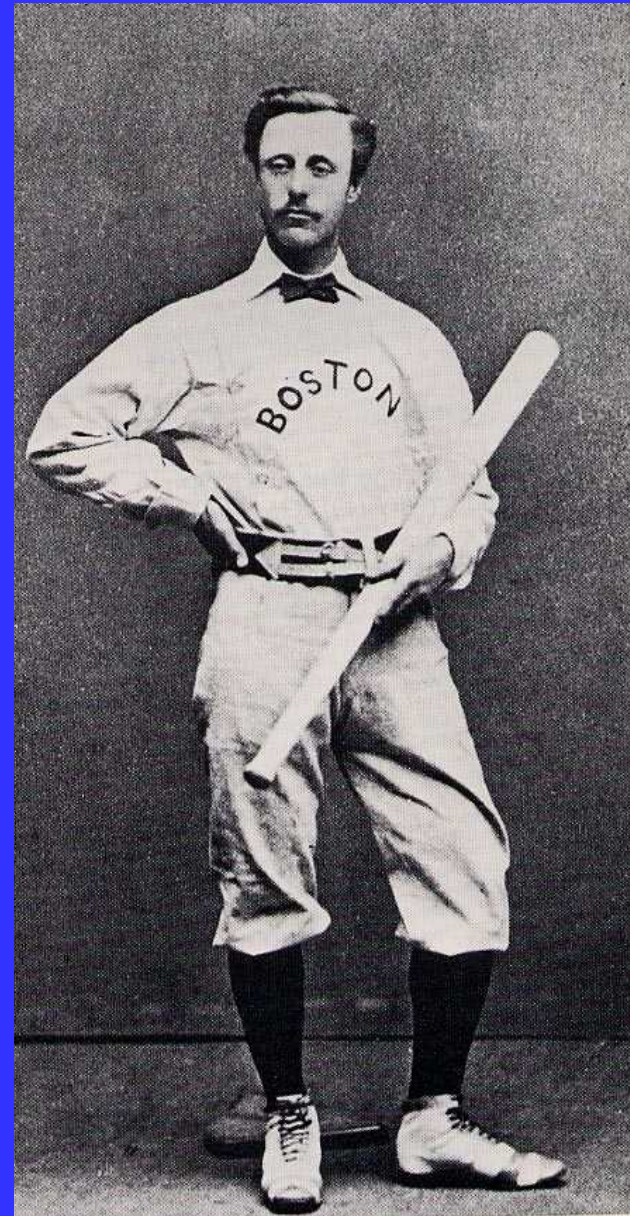
No. 4-O.

Made from choice soft buck-kid, padded and lined with kid. Soft leather tips on fingers of left glove. This is the finest fielder's glove ever produced. Each pair packed in separate box.

Per pair..... \$5 00

CHICAGO. A. G. SPALDING & BROS. NEW YORK.

George Hall - one of the four Louisville Grays banished from baseball by Hulbert in 1877 for throwing baseball games.



The National League's effort "to control the baseball fraternity," charged A. B. Rankin of the International Association of Professional Baseball Players, was "unreasonably absurd." "Are we to submit to the caprice of a clique, or ring?"

In other words, what else what happening in 1876-1877?

“Capital and Labor”

- from a cotton textile, circa 1870, depicting the harmony of capital and labor. This idea of harmony between the producing classes was a central element of the free labor ideology.





CAPITAL IS STRONGLY OPPOSED TO LABOR

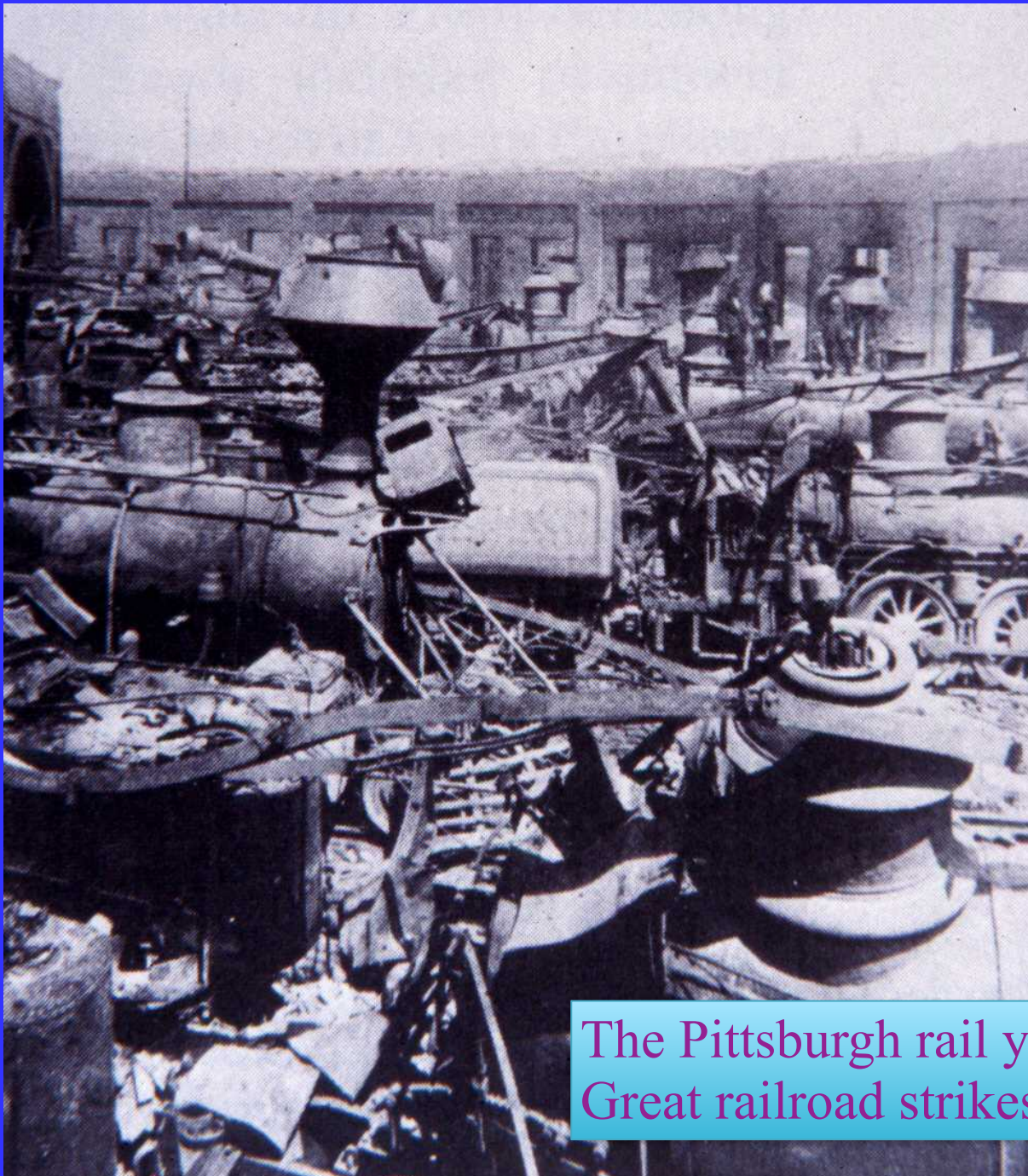
AN INQUIRY INTO THE CONCERN OF THE DEFALSI

DOWN WITH OPPRESSION

BY HONEST MEANS WE OBTAIN OUR RIGHTS.

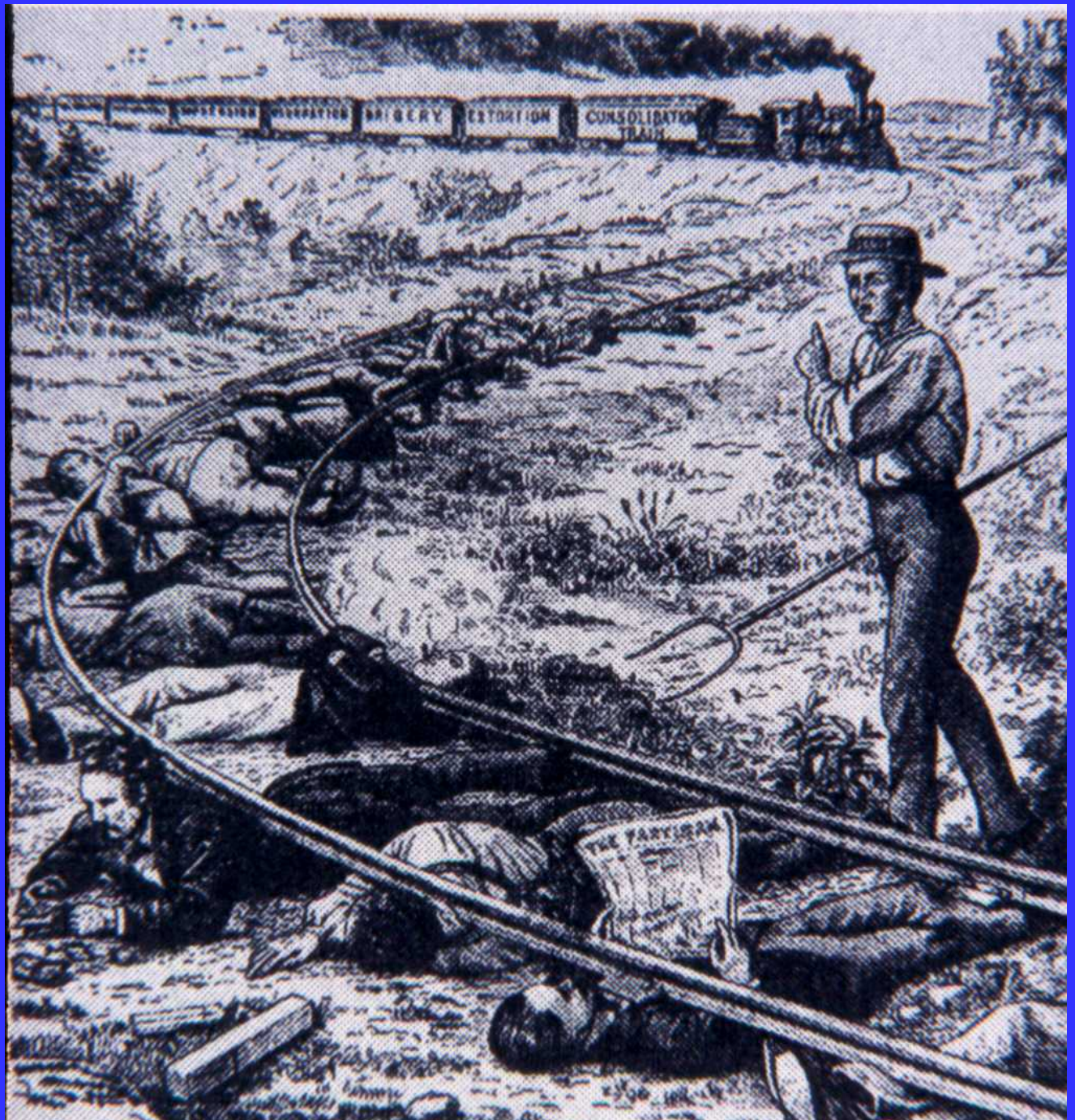
THE PAST SLAY

THE PRESENT



The Pittsburgh rail yard during the Great railroad strikes of 1877

“The Greatest
Monopoly of the
Age” - 1873
editorial





It Is Only a Truce to Regain Power: “Playing Possum”

H.G. “Clasp hands over the bloody chasm”

C. S. “Freely accept the hand that is offered, and reach forth thine own in friendly grasp.” Cartoon on 1872 election



AS PRESENTED BY
CUSTER'S LAST STAND BUFFALO BILL'S
WILD WEST.



Tramps and Savages

“As we utter the word ‘tramp,’ there arises straightaway before us the spectacle of a lazy, incorrigible, cowardly utterly depraved savage.”
- from a paper on “Tramps,” written by the dean of the Yale Law School, 1877



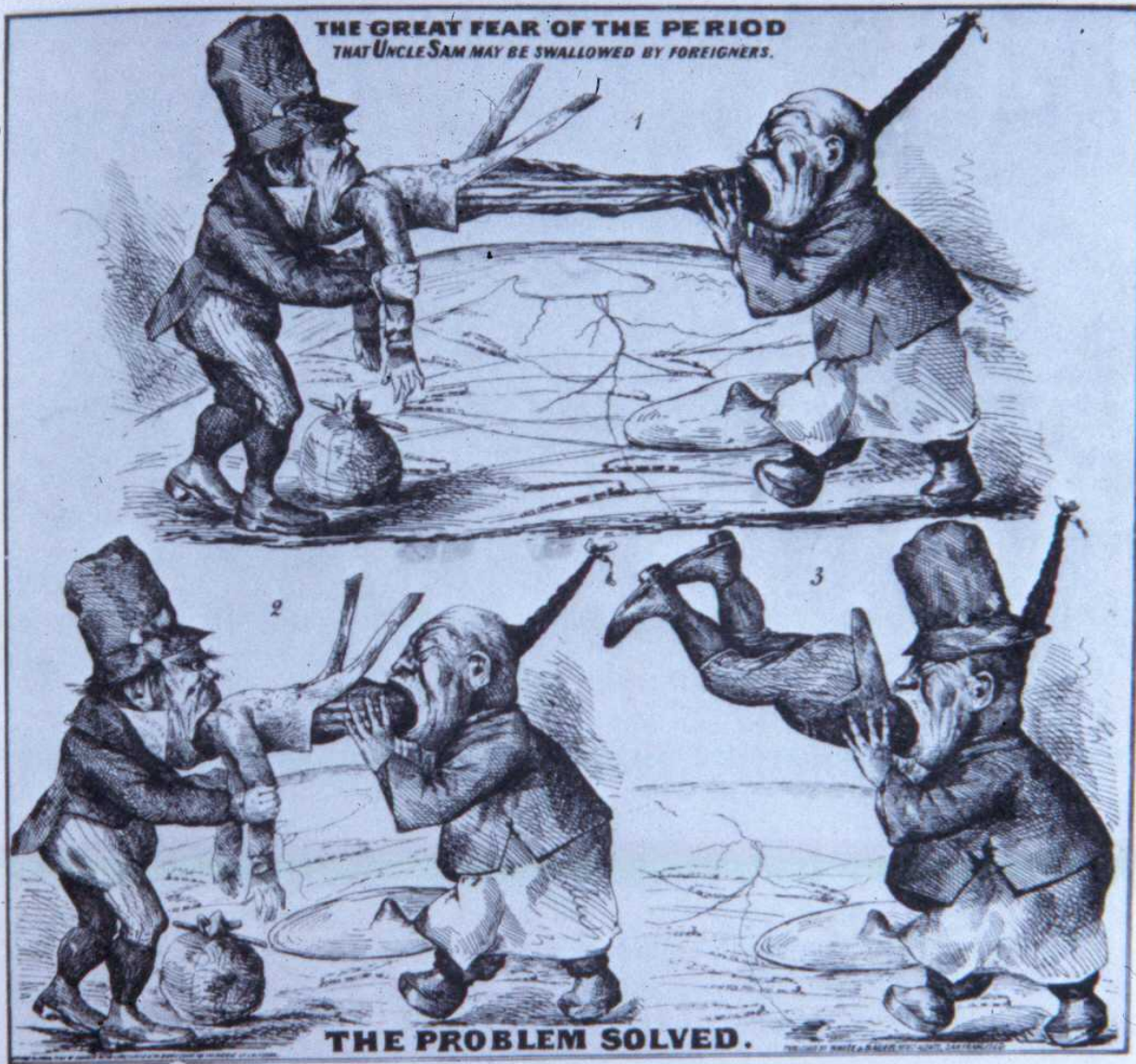
The “Battle” of Wounded Knee, December 1890: A one-sided massacre as U.S. troops turned machine guns on a group of three hundred Sioux Indians. The last engagement of the war against the Plains Indians

The “best men,”
mannered men
who could
control their
appetites, needed
to dominate
American politics,
reformers
argued.



39. Voracious Politics: Greeley and the Democrats swallow one another.

Read two paragraphs from essay, concluding with description of
Atlantics-Excelsiors game



40. "The Great Fear of the Period."