

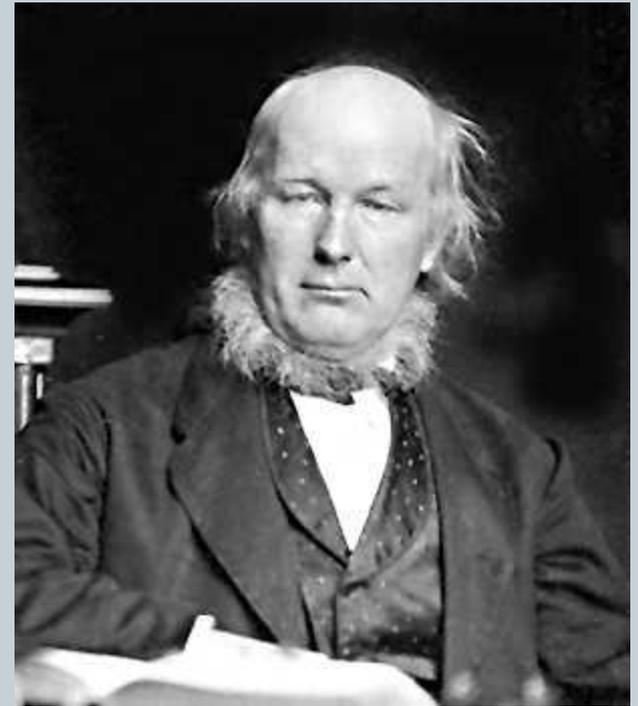
Urbanization



Urbanization



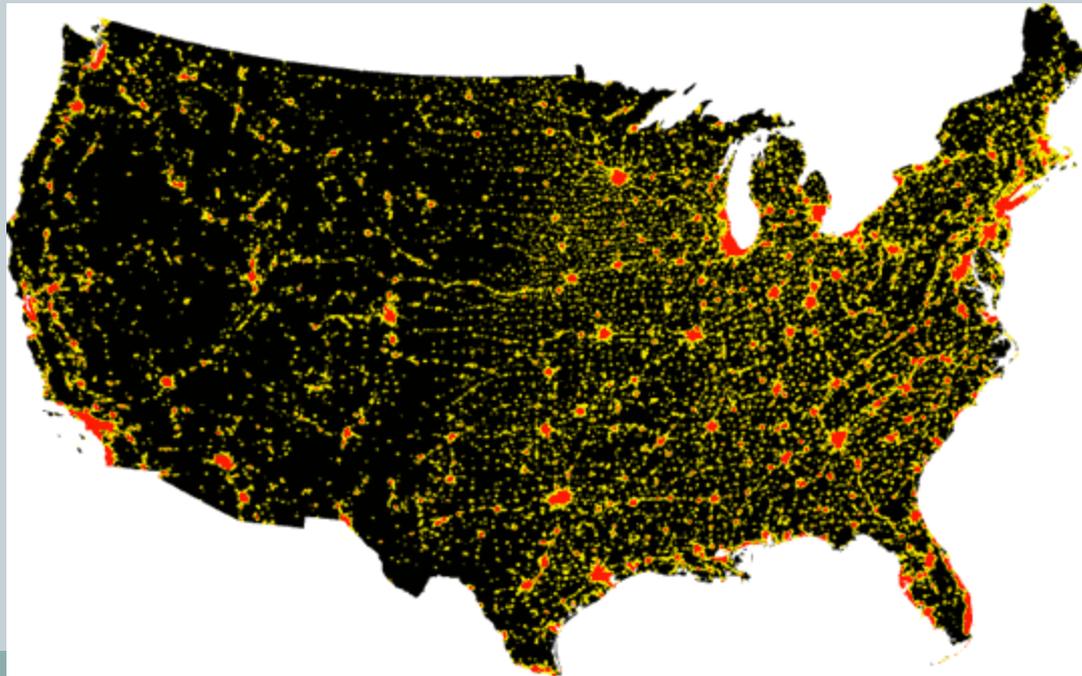
- “We can not all live in cities, yet nearly all seem determined to do so” – Horace Greeley
- By the late 19th century, America was transformed from an agrarian to an urban nation
- Cities grew so rapidly that housing, transportation, sewers, social services, and governments struggled to keep up



The Urbanization of America



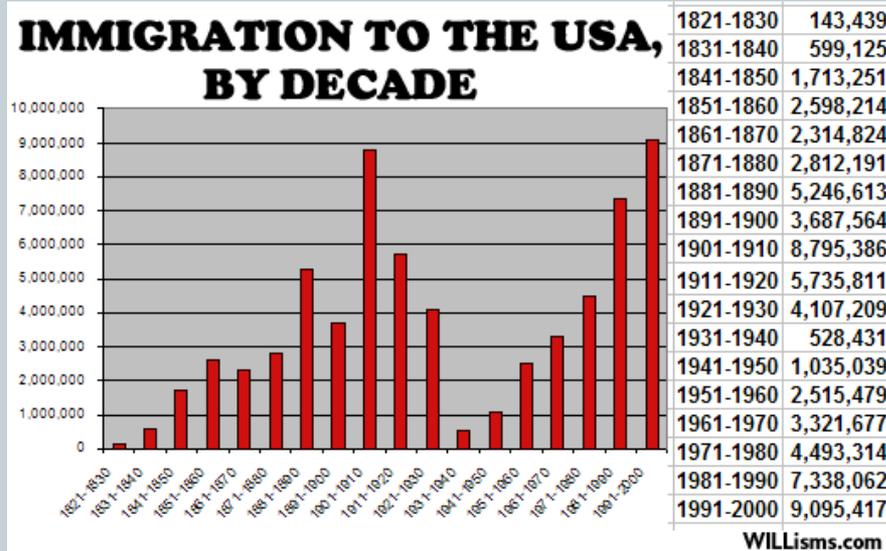
- The population in urban areas increased 7x in the fifty years after the Civil War, and by 1920, for the first time, more Americans lived in urban rather than rural areas



The Urbanization of America



- The most important source of urban population growth was the arrival of New Immigrants



- Immigrants and their children made up over 80% of the population in many major cities (Chicago, New York, Milwaukee, and Detroit)

The Urbanization of America



● The Push and Pull of Immigration

- Overpopulation
- Poverty
- Inadequate Land
- Lack of Political Freedom
- Lack of Religious Freedom

Easier Transportation to cities

Available Jobs

Abundant Land

Greater Freedoms



Puck April 28, 1880 by Keppler

The Urbanization of America



- Immigrants formed close-knit ethnic communities within cities



- European immigrants were able to assimilate more easily into mainstream America (white), while African Americans, Asians, and Mexicans endured strong racial prejudice and discrimination

The Urbanization of America



- There were Nativists Movements against immigration, but they were mostly unsuccessful as most Americans (especially Industrialists) saw the immigrants as a vital and cheap labor force



The Urban Landscape



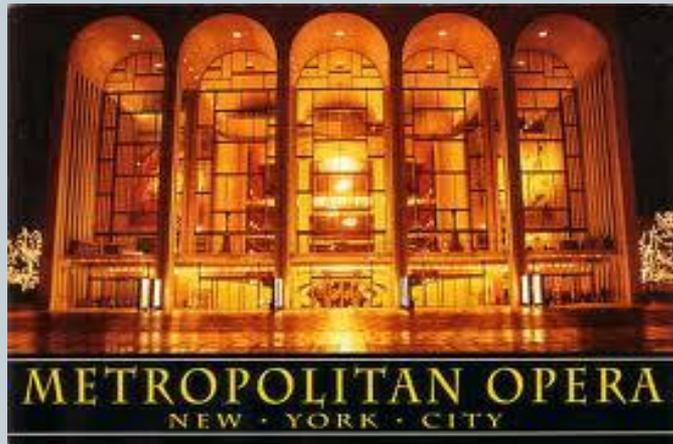
- One of the most important innovations of the mid-19th century was The Great Urban Parks
- Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux designed New York's Central Park as well as parks for Brooklyn, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, and DC



The Urban Landscape



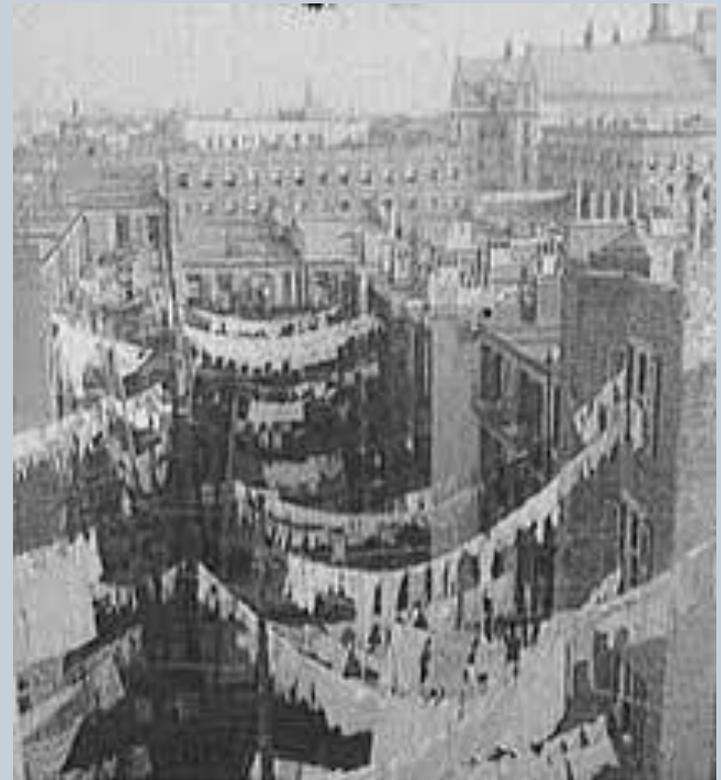
- Many cities built great Libraries, Art and History Museums, Theaters, and Concert/Opera Halls
- Many of the wealthy built mansions in the center of cities, but many took advantage of new transportation systems and the “well-to-do” moved to the suburbs



The Urban Landscape



- The working class poor stayed in the city and rented
- Cities were Crowded
 - New York = 143 people per acre (1894)
 - Lower East Side = 700 people per acre (Most crowded in the world)
- Tenements = slum dwellings for numerous families of workers that were often windowless; no plumbing or heating



The Urban Landscape



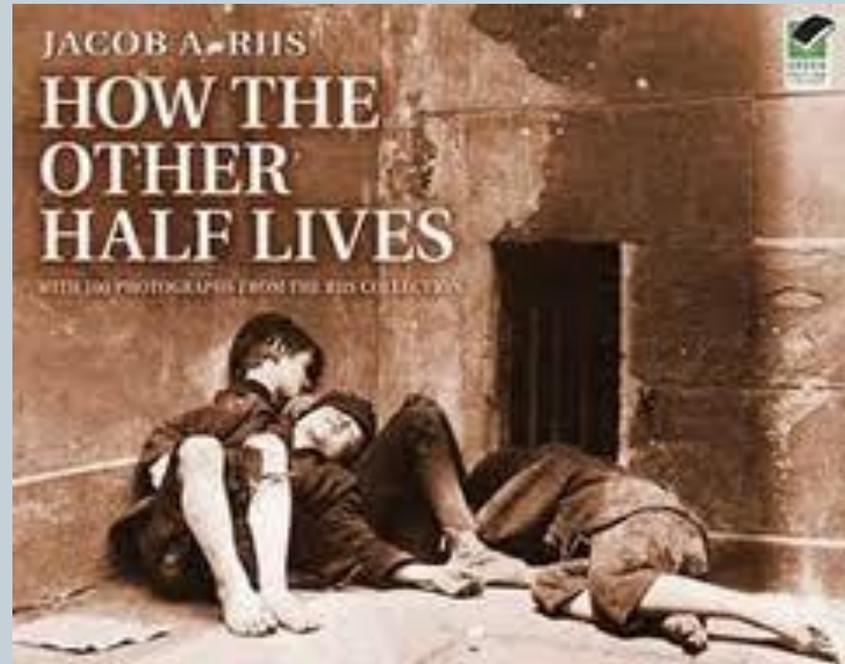
- Tenement Living



The Urban Landscape



- Jacob Riis published How the Other Half Lives in 1890 to show through pictures and words how horrible the slum dwellings were



The Urban Landscape



- Innovations in Urban Transportation
 1. 1870 New York = Elevated Rail Car
 2. Cable Cars (New York, Chicago, San Francisco)
 3. 1888 Electric Trolley (Richmond)
 4. 1897 – First subway in Boston
 5. 1880's Brooklyn Bridge designed by John Roebling



Problems in Urban Life



- Innovations in Urban Transportation
 - 6. Otis invents the elevator (Skyscraper was then possible)
 - 7. Cities could now expand up not just out



Problems of Urban Life



- **Fires**

- Chicago and Boston (1871) actually led to improved building methods and modern high-rise downtowns with fire departments



Problems of Urban Life



- **Disease and Air Pollution**
 - Inadequate systems to dispose of human waste led to flush toilets and modern sewer systems
 - Air Pollution in cities prompted the federal government to create the Public Health Service in 1912, which had little impact until the creation of OSHA in 1970 which gave the government power to require employers to provide safe and healthy work places
 - OSHA = Occupational Safety and Health Administration



Problems of Urban Life



- **Widespread and Desperate Poverty**
 - Salvation Army (1879) was established to help the poor



- Reformers were concerned with poor begging children in the cities who were known as “Street Arabs”



Problems of Urban Life



- **Crime and Violence**

- Natural result of poverty and over crowding
- Crime rates (murder) went up 4x in 20 years (1880-1900)
- Police Departments grew but so did corruption and different treatment for people based on race, ethnicity, and socio-economic status



Problems of Urban Life



- **Political Corruption in Cities**
 - Political bosses ruled cities due to a power vacuum created by rapidly growing cities
 - Boss was to win votes and then hand out jobs through patronage
 - Graft and corruption ran rampant
 - William “Boss” Tweed of New York City’s Tammany Hall was the most famous boss who landed in jail in 1872
 - Some see boss rule as responsible for modernizing city infrastructures, expanding the role of government, and bringing stability to cities.



The Rise of Mass Consumption



- Rising incomes meant increased consumer spending
- 1. Chain stores (A&P for food and FW Woolworth for dry goods/5 cent and 10 cent store)
- 2. Mail Order Houses for rural customers (Montgomery Ward and Sears Roebuck)
- 3. Department Stores made shopping more alluring (Marshall Field, Macy's, etc.)
- Women became the primary consumers within families
- National Consumers League (1890) established by women



Leisure Time in Consumer Society



- Working hours decreased from 70 hours a week in 1860 to under 60 by 1900



Leisure Time in Consumer Society



- Increased time and money produced new forms of recreation and entertainment
 1. Amusement Parks = Most Famous was Coney Island
 2. Dance Halls
 3. Concert Halls
 4. Vaudeville Houses
 5. Movie Theaters

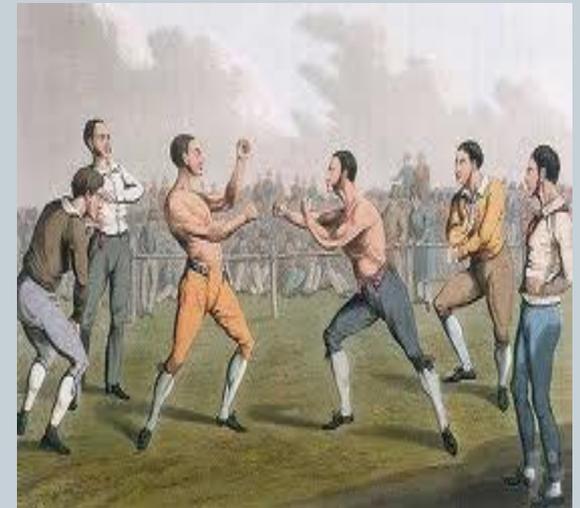


Leisure Time in Consumer Society



- **Sporting Events**

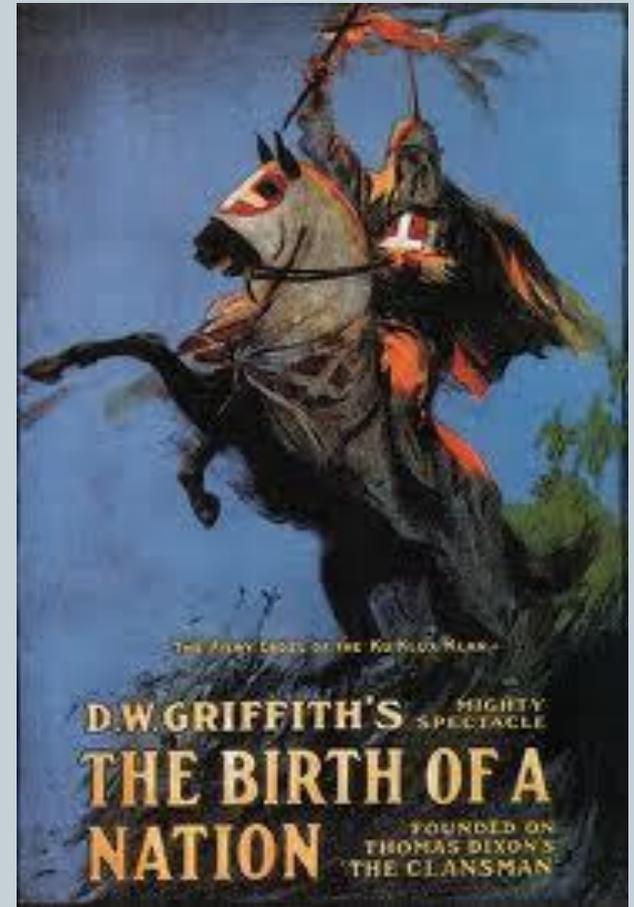
- Baseball becomes the National Pastime
- Football – first game Princeton v. Rutgers (1869)
- Basketball
- Boxing
- Horse Racing



Leisure Time in Consumer Society



- The most important form of mass entertainment prior to the inventions of radio and television was the movies
- D.W. Griffith's Birth of a Nation (1915) was a silent film famous for its celebration of the Ku Klux Klan and demeaning depiction of blacks.
- Obvious racist messages aimed at an overwhelmingly white audience



Leisure Time in Consumer Society



- The Fourth of July was celebrated with great gusto as it was one of the only days off during the year. (Sunday's were a day off, but strictly regulated due to the Sabbath)



Leisure Time in Consumer Society



- Dime Novels became popular
- Newspaper circulation increased from 3 million to 24 million from 1870-1910
 1. William Randolph Hearst
 2. Joseph Pulitzer

} YELLOW
JOURNALISM

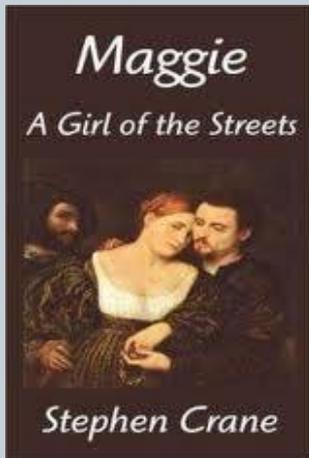


High Culture in the Age of the City

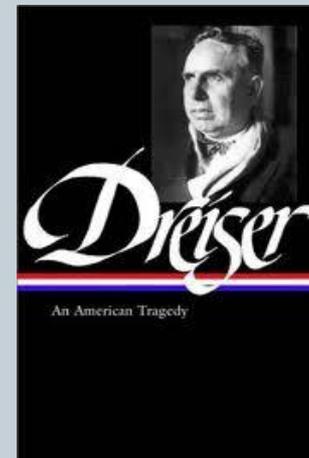


- Literature

1. Mark Twain – Huckleberry Finn and Tom Sawyer
2. Stephen Crane – Maggie: A Girl of the Streets
3. Theodore Dreiser – Sister Carrie and An American Tragedy



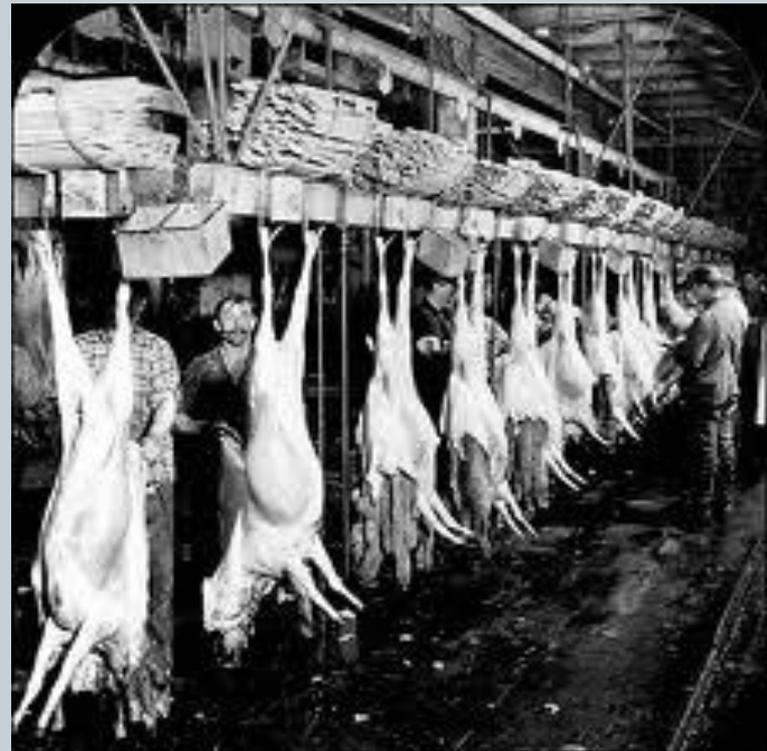
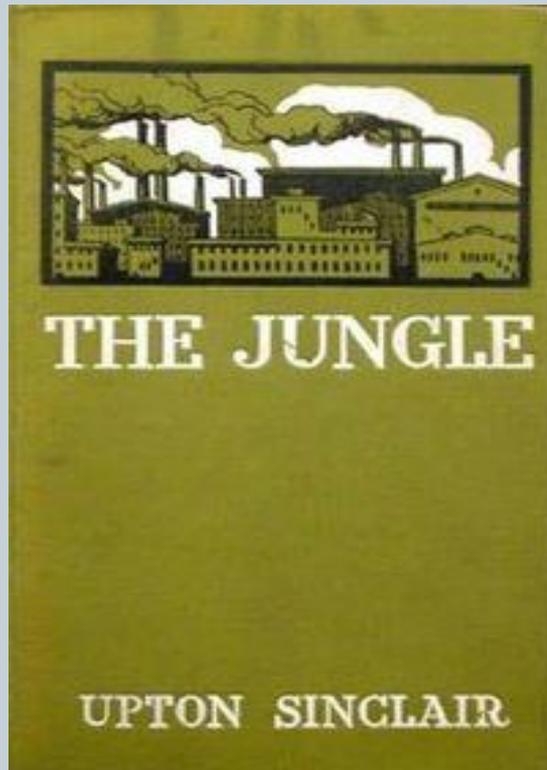
**Social
Realism**



High Culture in the Age of the City



- Upton Sinclair's The Jungle (1906) exposed abuses in the American meat packing industry



High Culture in the Age of the City



- **Art**

1. Winslow Homer and James M. Whistler were two traditional American artists
2. The Ashcan School of Art produced startling naturalism combined with the social realities of the day
 - ✦ Celebrated common, ordinary, and coarse subjects
 - ✦ The birth of modernism in art

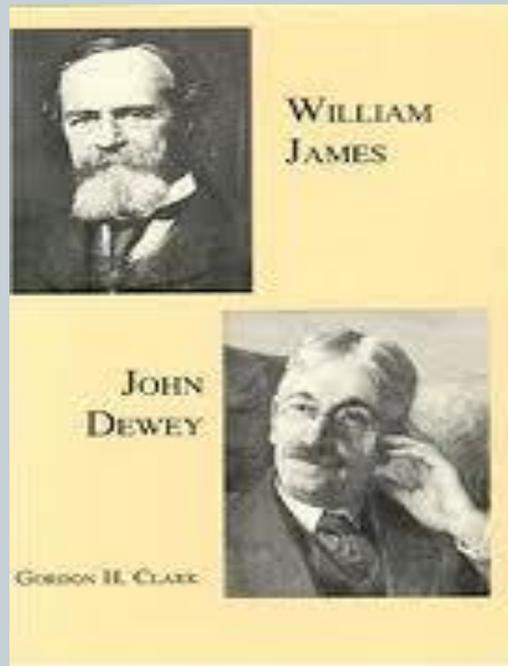


High Culture in the Age of the City



- **Philosophy**

- “Pragmatism” of William James and John Dewey was a very common sense philosophy which rejected inherited ideas and moral principles and relied more on scientific inquiry (reason and logic)



High Culture in the Age of the City



● Education

- Late in the 1800s a rapid expansion of public schools and universities took place

- ✦ 1860 = 100 public high schools
- ✦ 1900 = 6,000 public high schools
- ✦ 1914 = 12,000 public high schools

- Morrill Land Grant Act (1860s)

- ✦ The federal government donated land to the states for the establishment of colleges (Wisconsin, California, Illinois, and Minnesota)

- Philanthropists founded and/or financed schools to perpetuate their name (Vanderbilt, Duke, Johns Hopkins, Cornell, Tulane, and Stanford)



High Culture in the Age of the City



- Education

- Women saw increased educational opportunities

- ✦ Mount Holyoke = First women's college (1836)
- ✦ Followed by Vassar, Wellesley, Smith, Bryn Mawr, Wells, and Goucher
- ✦ Some Major colleges established separate schools for women. Barnard (Columbia) and Radcliffe (Harvard)

