

# *Asian Immigration*

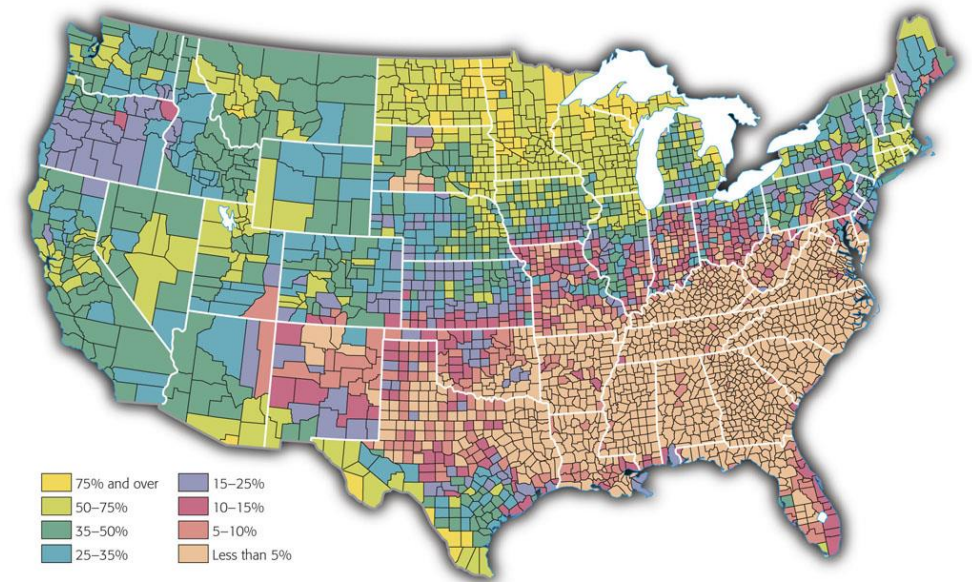
US HISTORY HONORS  
CHAPTER 4 SECTION 1

# Settlement of Immigrants:

## Where would immigrants settle once in America?

- In cities in the northeastern and north-central states.
- Rarely would immigrants settle in the South!

**By 1890, 4 out of 5 people living in New York City had been born abroad or were children of foreign-born parents.**



# Asian Immigration

## Why did Chinese Immigrants want to move to America?

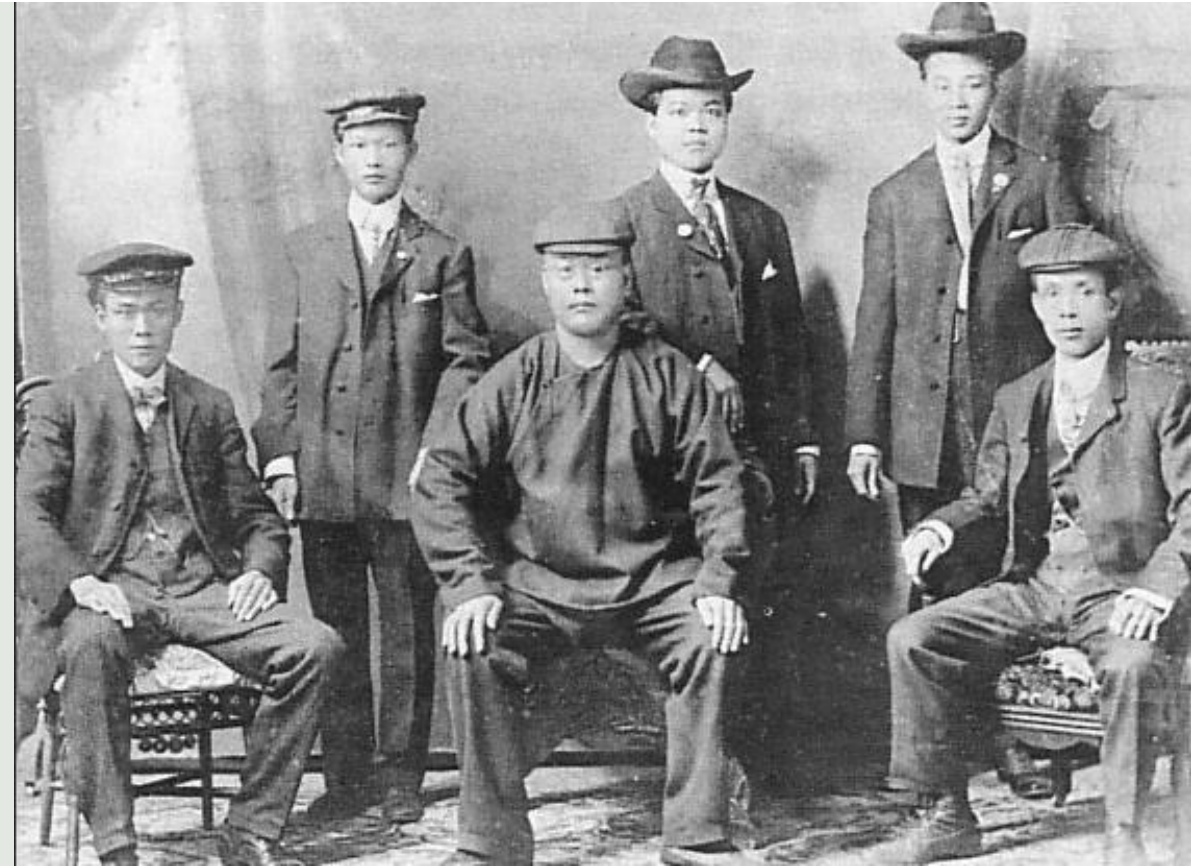
- China was in a civil war (the Taiping Rebellion)
- The country suffered from unemployment, famine, and poverty.

## What other factors drew immigrants from Asia?

- The Gold Rush - tens of thousands of Chinese immigrants came to America after this event began.
- Japanese immigrants also arrived - the people were struggling because the government was trying to industrialize.

## Where did Asian immigrants mainly settle?

- Mainly on the West Coast - especially San Francisco
- Most did NOT make money in the Gold Rush and took jobs as laborers and servants.





# Arrival in America: Angel Island

**How long was Angel Island open?** 1910 to 1940

**Who arrived at Angel Island immigration station?**

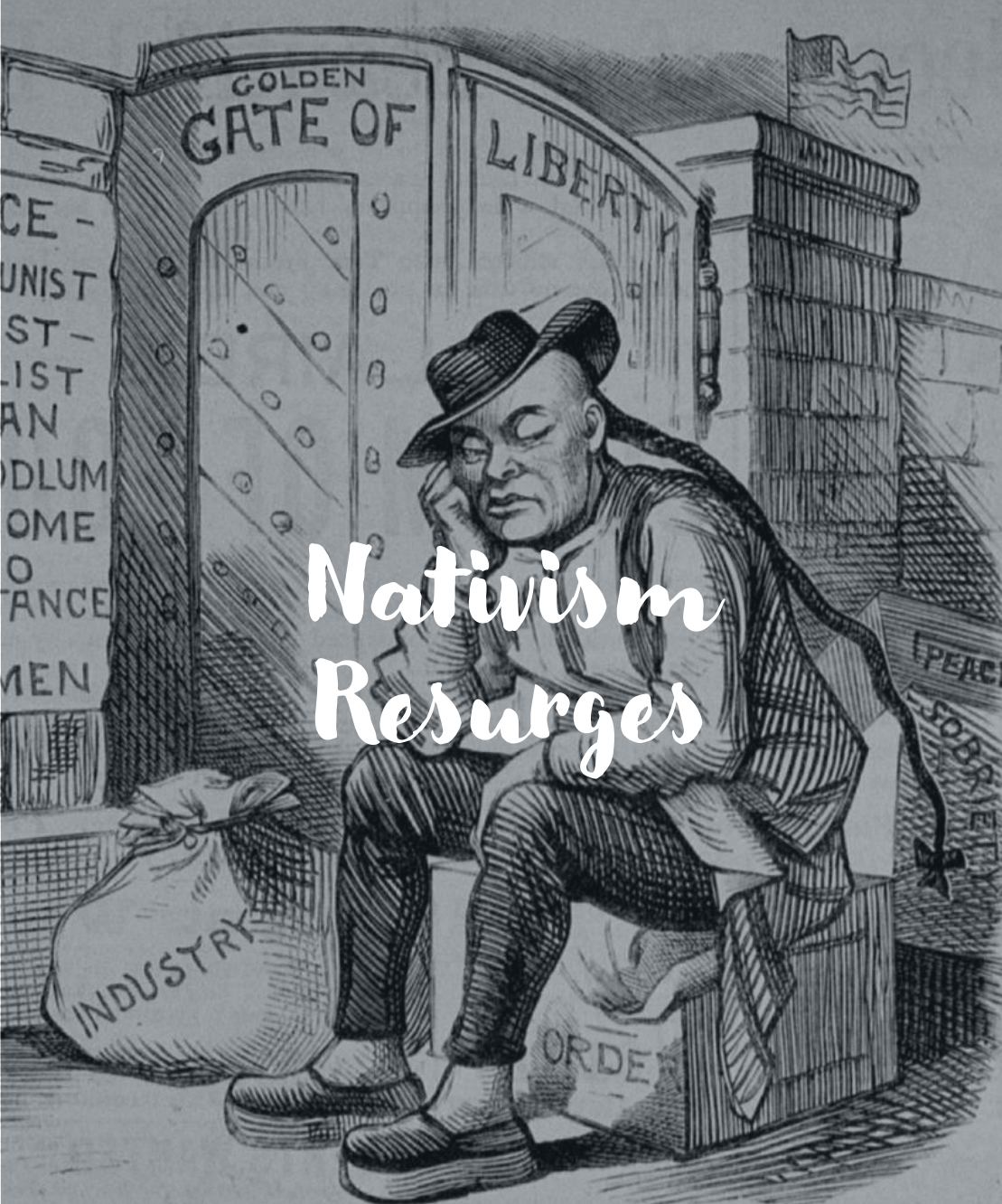
- Immigrants from Australia and New Zealand.
- Immigrants from Canada and Russia.
- Immigrants from Mexico and Central/South America.
- Jewish refugees fleeing Nazi Germany, Austria, Hungary, Poland, and Czechoslovakia.
- Immigrants from Asia.

**Was there any similarity to Ellis Island?** YES!

- Immigrants arriving faced a physical examination – although it was more extensive than Ellis Island.
- 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Class passengers were processed aboard ship and moved quickly to California.

**Was arrival at Angel Island always the same as arriving at Ellis Island?** NO!

- The trip to America took approximately 3 weeks.
- Often ships would stop on the way to America in Honolulu, Manila, Shanghai, Yokohama, and Hong Kong.
- Steerage passage was significantly expensive.
- Immigrants HOPED to make the money back when they arrived.



## Nativism Resurges

**What is nativism?** The policy of protecting the interests of native inhabitants against those of immigrants.

### The Rise of Nativism

- Melting pot - in U.S. people blend by abandoning native culture
- immigrants don't want to give up cultural identity
- Nativism - overt favoritism toward native-born Americans
- Nativists believe Anglo-Saxons superior to other ethnic groups
- Some object to immigrants' religion: many are Catholics, Jews
- 1897, Congress passes literacy bill for immigrants; Cleveland vetoes
- 1917, similar bill passes over Wilson's veto

THE ONLY ONE BARRED OUT.

RENED AMERICAN STATESMAN.—“We must draw the line *somewhere*, you know.”

# Nativist Organizations

- **Nativism in the Gilded Age led to the founding of 2 major anti-immigrant organizations:**
  - **The American Protective Association:**
    - Founded by Henry Bowers, 1887.
    - This was an anti-Catholic organization.
    - Members promised not to hire or elect anyone who was Catholic.
    - Members lobbied to restrict Catholic immigration.
  - **Workingman's Party of California:**
    - Founded by Denis Kearney (an Irish immigrant).
    - Increased racial violence towards Asian immigrants – specifically the Chinese.
    - Won seats in the California legislature.
    - Chinese immigration would become a national issue because of this group.



# Welcome to All

by Joseph Keppler  
Puck Magazine, 1880



# Looking Backward

by Joseph Keppler  
Puck Magazine, 1893



# Congress Passes New Immigration Laws

## What did Congress do when these nativist sentiments?

- Passed laws to limit immigration

## What were these laws?

- Chinese Exclusion Act (1882): barred Chinese immigration for 10 years and prevented anyone of Chinese ancestry already in the U.S. of gaining citizenship.
- Immigration Act (1882): imposed a tax of \$.50 on each immigrant arriving at a U.S. port. Immigration officials could also reject immigrants with a criminal record.

**Which president signed these laws?** Chester A. Arthur



# *Challenges to these new Laws:*

United States v. Wong Kim Ark

