

Timeline of Immigration Laws in the Late 19th Century

- 1882: No lunatics, idiots, convicts, or public charges (people who would need gov assistance/welfare) allowed to enter the U.S.
- 1885: No contract laborers* allowed to enter the U.S.
- 1886 Haymarket Riot: after a labor protest turned deadly, 8 foreign born men belonging to an anarchist group were arrested and sentenced to death
- 1888: first law since the 1798 Alien Act that provided for the expulsion/deportation of illegal immigrants
- late 1880s: many politicians, including Supreme Court Justice William Strong, advocated for an amendment to restrict Catholic & Jewish immigration
- 1891: Bureau of Immigration established to federally administer all immigration laws; forbade polygamists & those convicted of crimes
- 1892: Ellis Island opens. Other federal immigration stations set up in Boston, Philadelphia, and Angel Island in San Francisco
- 1892 Geary Act: Extended the Chinese Exclusion Act for 10 more years and required Chinese residents to carry permits at all times or face arrest & deportation

*in the contract labor system, employers sent agents to recruit workers in foreign countries to work in America, usually paying for their ship fare. Upon arrival, the jobs & living conditions often were not what agents promised.

Where the Blame Lies, 1891





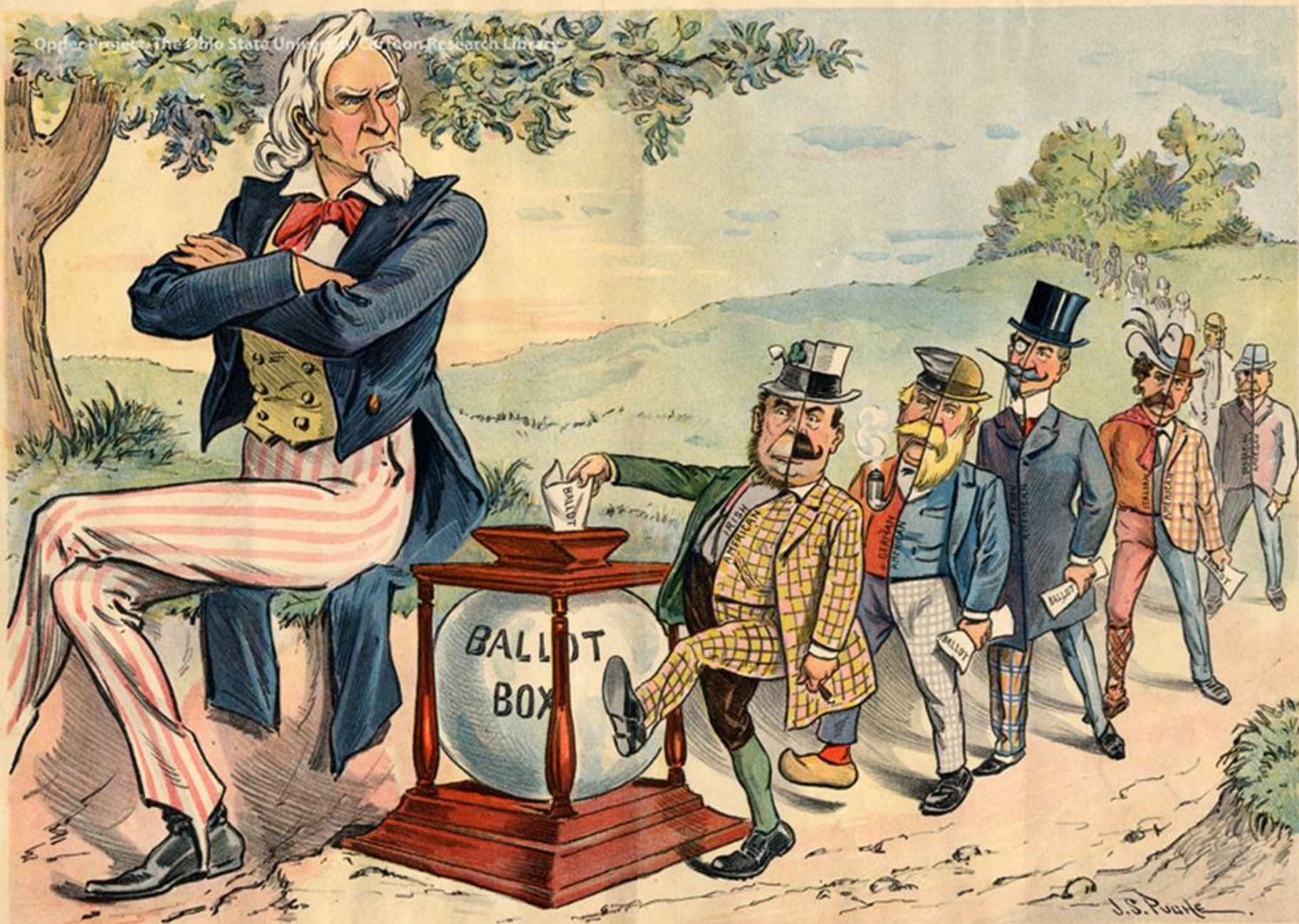
J. Keppler

LOOKING BACKWARD.

THEY WOULD CLOSE TO THE NEW-COMER THE BRIDGE THAT CARRIED THEM AND THEIR FATHERS OVER.

Looking
Backward

1893



The Hyphenated American, 1899

THE HYPHENATED AMERICAN.

UNCLE SAM.— Why should I let these freaks cast whole votes when they are only half Americans ?



THE IMMIGRANT.

Is he an acquisition or a detriment?

The Immigrant

1903



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THE STRANGER AT OUR GATE.

EMIGRANT. -Can I come in? UNCLE SAM.-I 'spose you can; there's no law to keep you out.

“The Stranger at our Gate,” 1890



UNCLE SAM'S LODGING-HOUSE.

Uncle Sam—"Look here, you, everybody who is here and provable, and you're all the time skibbling up a new!"

Uncle Sam's
Lodging House
1882

*a lodging house
was like a
boarding house



Columbia's Unwelcome Guests 1885

F. BEARD

FEBRUARY 7, 1885

COLUMBIA'S UNWELCOME GUESTS