The Golden Door: An “Open and Shut” History of Immigration to America
The Journalist from Blato and the Radical from Thetford
Their Observations on America

- O receive the fugitive, and prepare in time an asylum for mankind
  - Thomas Paine, Common Sense
Some of the Myths of American Immigration

- “A Nation of Immigrants”
- “Land of Opportunity”
- “Freedom”
Why Does Immigration Occur?

- **Push Factors**
  - War
  - Persecution
  - Economics

- **Pull Factors**
  - Freedom
  - Economics
  - Access/Transport
  - Communication
  - Transport

- **Policy**
WHO AND WHEN?

- To 1820
  - England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland
  - Africa
  - German states
  - Sweden
  - Holland
WHO AND WHEN?

- 1820-1880S
  - German States
  - Scandinavia
  - Ireland
  - China
WHO AND WHEN?

- 1880s-1921
  - Southern and Eastern Europe
  - Mexico
  - West Indies
WHO AND WHEN?

- 1921-1965
  - Mexico
  - Puerto Rico
  - Philippines
  - Refugees
    - Europe
    - Cuba
    - Middle East
WHO AND WHEN?

- 1965-Present
  - Mexico
  - South America
  - “Asia”
  - Middle East
  - Africa
  - Former Soviet Union
BY THE NUMBERS

IMMIGRANT ARRIVALS

- 1790-1815 – 250,000
- 1820-1860 – 5,000,000
- 1860-1924 – 32,000,000
- 1925-1965 – 7,100,000
- 1965-1998 – 23,200,000
- 1998-2008 – 11,000,000 (est.)
BY THE NUMBERS
PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION

- 1850    23,191,876    9.7%
- 1880    50,155,783    13.3%
- 1900    75,994,575    13.6%
- 1920    105,710,620    13.2%
- 1940    131,669,275    8.8%
- 1960    178,464,236    5.5%
- 1980    226,504,825    6.2%
- 2000    281,421,906    10.4%
- 2010    308,745,538    12.9%
### Post 1850 -- Foreign-Born as a Percentage of Total Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>United States</th>
<th>Cleveland</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1860</td>
<td>13.2% of 31,443,321</td>
<td>44% of 43,417</td>
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<tr>
<td>1870</td>
<td>14% of 39,818,449</td>
<td>41.8% of 92,829</td>
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<tr>
<td>1880</td>
<td>13.3% of 50,155,783</td>
<td>37% of 160,146</td>
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<tr>
<td>1890</td>
<td>14.7% of 62,947,714</td>
<td>37.1% of 261,353</td>
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<tr>
<td>1900</td>
<td>13.6% of 75,994,575</td>
<td>32.5% of 381,768</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1920</td>
<td>13.2% of 105,710,620</td>
<td>30% of 796,841</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>6.9% of 150,216,110</td>
<td>25.5% of 900,429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>10.4% of 281,421,906</td>
<td>4.5% of 478,403</td>
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Changing Symbols and Memories
Shrine to the Pilgrims
The Rock that Moved

1620
Multiple Meanings
The Author
The Sonnet 1883

The New Goliath
Not like the Dragon Grant of Greek fame,
WithGregarious limbs abate; with grand to hand
Were on her head; her hair, like steel, had stood
To mighty woman, with a touch, whose flame
Was the unswerved lightning, and her name
Mother of Goliaths. From her venom hand
Terror would well be reckoned; her soul a storm.
The air bristled here, that fear entire frame:

"She, from an inland, if your storied yomp, thus the
With what, what life. Give me your hand; your poor,
Your huddled masses framed, to breathe the fire,
The watchful refuge of your wheat are men. Seed these, the homely, transact that to me,
I left my lamp beside the fallen gore."

1883,
(Written in aid of Bartholdi pedestal fund.)
Lazarus and the New Colossus

Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame,
With conquering limbs astride from land to land;
Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand
A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame
Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name
Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand
Glows world-wide welcome; her mild eyes command
The air-bridged harbor that twin cities frame.
"Keep ancient lands, your storied pomp!" 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-tost to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"
Emerson on Immigration

For Emerson the United States was the "asylum of all nations," and he predicted that "the energy of Irish, Swedes, Poles, and Cossacks, and all the European tribes--of the Africans, and of the Polynesians, will construct a new race, a new religion, a new state, a new literature, which will be as vigorous as the new Europe which came out of the smelting-pot of the Dark Ages, or that which earlier emerged from Pelasgic and Etruscan barbarism."
Realities

- Know Nothing (American) Party 1845-1860
- American Protective Association 1887
- Immigration Restriction League 1894
- Dillingham Commission 1913
- *Passing of the Great Race* 1916
Wide open and unguarded stand our gates
And through them presses a wild motley throng
Men from the Volga and the Tartar steppes
Featureless figures of the Hoang-HoMalayan, Scythian,
Teuton, Kelt, and Slav
Flying the Old World's poverty and scorn
These bringing with them unknown gods and rites
Those, tiger passions, here to stretch their claws
In street and alley what strange tongues are loud
Accents of menace alien to our air
Voices that once the Tower of Babel knew!
O Liberty, white Goddess!
Is it well to leave the gates unguarded?
REALITIES OF IMMIGRATION
The First Factory They May Have Encountered
Creating an Image, Creating a National Memory
System
The Value of an Immigrant

- Value of an Immigrant to Industry 1880s
- $1500 – A. Carnegie
- $800 U. S. Treasury Dept.
The Plantation as System
Organization & Chinese Labor
Soft Work For Women
Women’s Work & War
Immigration Policy – Controlling the Flow

- **1882** Chinese Exclusion Act
- **1882** Federal Control of Immigration
- **1891** Polygamists, Loathsome or dangerous contagious diseases
- **1892** Ellis Island
- **1903** Anarchists, Saboteurs, Epileptics, and Professional Beggars
- **1906** Immigration and Naturalization Service
- **1907** Gentlemen’s Agreement-Male Japanese Workers
- **1917** Literacy Act and the Pacific Barred Zone
Immigration Policy – Part 2
Quotas and Limits

- **1921 Emergency Quota Act**
  355,000 per year; not more than 3% of any nationality as represented in the 1910 census

- **1924 Quota Act**
  165,000 total, 2% of the nationality as reflected in the 1890 census (141,000 from northern and western Europe).

- **1929 (National Origins)**
  154,000 total
Immigration Policy – Part 3
Exceptions and Changes

- 1942-1964 Bracero Program
- 1947, 1952 Refugee, Displaced Person laws.
  - 202,000 and 205,000 respectively
- 1952 Walter-McCarren Act
  - 120,000 west, 170,000 east
- 1980 Refugee Act. 50,000
- 1986 Immigration and Control Act
  - Amnesty
- 1990 Immigration Act – Diversity Lottery
  - 700,000 limit
CODA

THINKING OF THE PRESENT AND THE FUTURE
“One World’s Enough for All of Us”

Gordon Matthew Sumner
A New Monument?
What Will We Build at the Border?
“Good Fences Make Good Neighbors”  Sandburg
Jobs No American Will Do
Made to Measure Continues
The USB and the Green Card
Standard Sizes and Global Connections
IMPACT

- Labor – The American System
- Freedom – Political Participation (i.e. Aliens Ineligible for Citizenship)
- Environment
- Culture
  - Food
  - Clothing
  - Shelter
  - Language
- Defining American and America
  - Assimilation and Acculturation
End of Voyage-- A Sentimental Journey and an Inescapable Tie