Westward Movement

• Americans marched quickly toward west
  – very hard w/ disease & loneliness
• Frontier people were individualistic, superstitious & ill-informed
• Westward movement molded environment
  – tobacco exhausted land
  – “Kentucky blue grass” thrived
Population Growth from 1620 to 1860

- 1620: 5,000
- 1650: 50
- 1680: 150
- 1710: 350
- 1740: 900
- 1770: 2,150
- 1800: 12,900
- 1830: 5.3 million
- 1860: 31,500

Population (in thousands)
II. The Market Revolution

B. The Growth of Cities and Towns

1. West and Midwest
   - Population grows
   - Factories sprout towns and cities
   - Chicago and St. Louis = manufacturing
   - Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, New Orleans = transit

2. Atlantic coastal cities = Boston, NY, Philly, Baltimore
   - Imports/Exports/financial
   - NY = Immigration hub
III. New Social Classes and Cultures

A. The Business Elite

1. Before industrialization
   - Rank and order; rural people share culture

2. The urban wealthy = Industrial Revolution causes social change!
   - Divides classes and culture even more
   - 1860 = Top 10% own 70% of wealth (no taxes)
   - Cities divided by class, race, ethnicity
III. New Social Classes and Cultures

B. The Middle Class

1. Who they were
   = farmers, mechanics, manufacturers, traders, lawyers, business owners mostly in the Northeast
   = income rising; supply family with help of wife

2. The self-made man = One’s work ethic could lead to the big time
   - Industrious can go from rags to riches
   - Now that’s AMERIGU = Identity
III. New Social Classes and Cultures

C. Urban Workers and the Poor

1. Laborers = 1840 - \( \frac{1}{2} \) the pop works for someone else
   - Lower class jobs are dangerous with low wages
   - Children work, housing is crowded and dirty

2. Alcohol = solace from your problems?
   - Consumption increases with wage increase
   - Fights, robberies, fights
III. New Social Classes and Cultures

D. The Benevolent Empire

1. Conservative social reform
   =Benevolence- an act of kindness towards others
   -Organizations to help with alcohol, adultery, prostitution, crime
   -Actually went into community to organize help

2. Discipline= Ban drinking at public events, protected the Sabbath
   -Sabbatarian values opposed by many
III. New Social Classes and Cultures

E. Charles Grandison Finney: Revivalism and Reform

1. Evangelical Beliefs
   - 2nd Great Awakening = Moral Free Agent to choose salvation; FREE WILL

2. Temperance = Most successful reform
   - American Temperance Society (200,000 members)
   - Annual consumption declines
TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT

• Anti-Alcohol movement
• American Temperance Society formed at Boston-----1826
  • sign pledges, pamphlets, anti-alcohol tract
    10 nights in a Barroom and What I Saw There
  • Demon Drink adopt 2 major line attack
    • stressed temperance and individual will to resist

• Lyman Beecher
• Neal Dow
• Lucretia Mott
The Temperance Movement

- During the next decade approximately 5000 local temperance societies were founded.

- As the movement gained momentum, annual per capita consumption of alcohol dropped sharply.
III. New Social Classes and Cultures

F. Immigration and Cultural Conflict
   1. Irish Poverty
      -- Poorest immigrants come from Ireland (potato famine)
      -- Move to urban areas due to lack of $; squalor
      -- Build/form numerous institutions (Catholic)
Irish Immigration

• PUSH = Irish Potato Famine 1845-1849
• Main ports of entry – New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Boston
• Irish were too poor to move inland and farm so they stayed in the cities
  – Boston did not particularly like the Irish – catholic, illiterate, poor
  – “No Irish need apply!”
• Ancient Order of Hibernians
  – Benevolent society to help Irish
  – Spawned “Molly Maguires” (miners union)
• Gradually improved and became active politically
  – NY’s Tammany Hall, Irish political machine
III. New Social Classes and Cultures

F. Immigration and Cultural Conflict

2. Nativism = Unfortunately another American tradition

- Anti-Catholic sentiment rises with more immigrants
- Morse’s = *Foreign Conspiracy Against Liberties in America*
  - Catholics would obey Pope, not our government
- When times got bad = NATIVISM worsens (jobs)
- Arguments towards immigration restrictions
Early Nativism

- American “nativists” feared 1840s & 1850s invasion of immigrants
  - Took jobs, grew Roman Catholicism
  - Catholics built their own schools, were #1 denomination by 1850
- 1849: Nativists form Order of the Star-Spangled Banner, developed into “Know-Nothing” party
  - Wanted immigration restrictions
  - Nativists occasionally violent, burned Boston convent (1834)
  - Philadelphia Irish fought back, 13 killed in several days of fighting (1844)