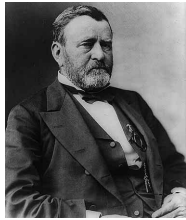


HANDOUT

1872 ELECTION



ULYSSES S. GRANT
and Henry Wilson

POPULAR VOTE: 3,597,132
ELECTORAL VOTE: 286

REPUBLICAN

Grant was the **incumbent President**.

Charges of **corruption** and “**Grantism**” (giving jobs to family and friends) split the party, with Liberal Republicans nominating Greeley.

Civil Service Reform was supported by Grant to counter charges of “Grantism.”

Grant was supported by Northern **businessmen**, **African Americans**, and Union Army veterans.

The **Ku Klux Klan Acts**, which followed the violent 1868 election, allowed the federal government to oversee **voting rights** for African Americans in the South.

Equal rights for all Americans, including women, was included in the Republican Party platform.

DID YOU KNOW? **Susan B. Anthony**, the famed crusader for women’s rights, attended the Republican, Democratic, and Liberal Republican conventions to push for **women’s suffrage**. Only the Republican platform included a statement on the “obligations to the loyal women of America.” This was the first time that any party platform had addressed “the woman question.”



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HORACE GREELEY
and Benjamin Brown

POPULAR VOTE: 2,834,125
ELECTORAL VOTE: 66

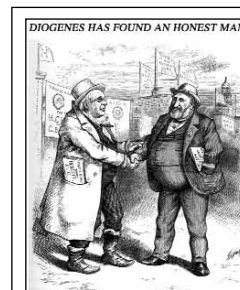
DEMOCRAT

Greeley was the **publisher and editor** of the influential **New York Tribune**.

Democrats joined the **Liberal Republicans** in the “anybody to beat Grant” campaign.

Horace Greeley was a most **unlikely Democratic candidate**. He was a founder of the Republican Party, an **abolitionist**, a vegetarian, and a spiritualist. He also supported **tariffs** (which the Democrats opposed). Even Greeley’s supporters were shocked when he was nominated.

Newspaper editorials charged Greeley with being **pro-South**.



Thomas Nast’s caricature of candidate Horace Greeley in 1872

How did political cartoons like this influence the election of 1872?

Political cartoons attacked both candidates but the most influential were Thomas Nast’s caricatures of Greeley. Some have credited Nast’s relentless attacks with contributing to Greeley’s death shortly after Election Day.

“I have been assailed so bitterly that I hardly knew if I were running for the presidency or the penitentiary.”
-Horace Greeley