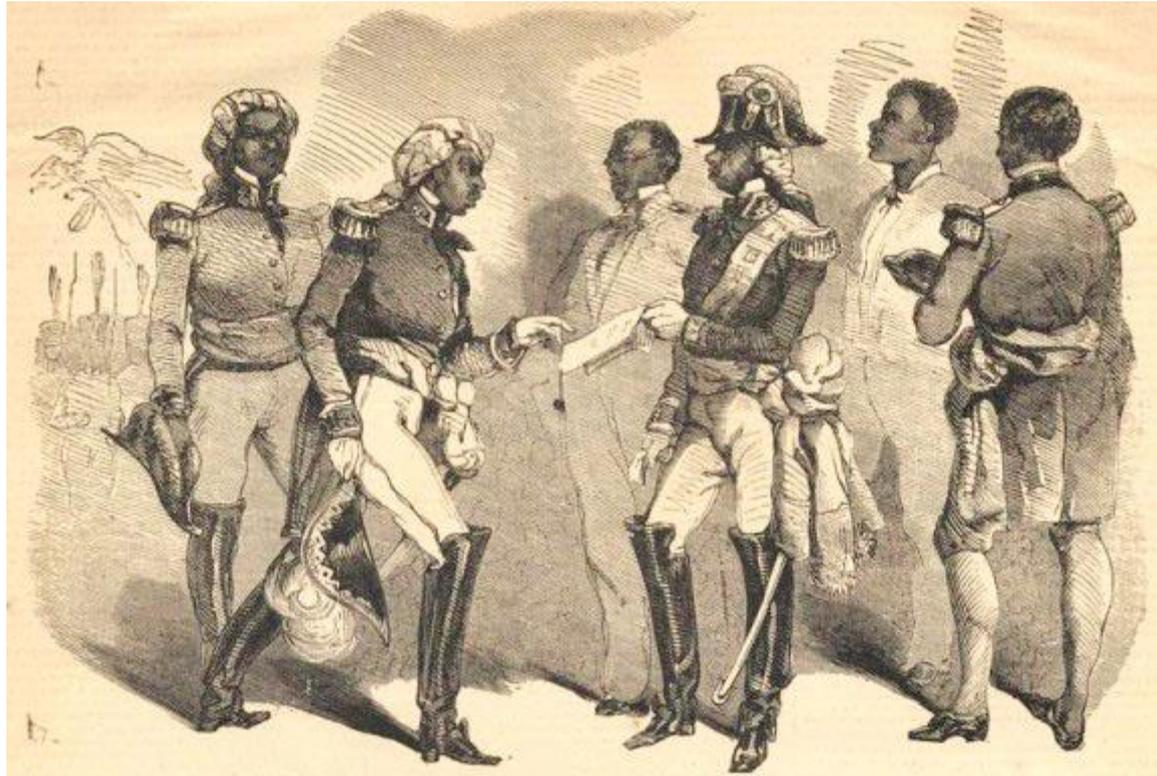


# Contours of the Haitian Past; Glimpses of the Future



**W. FRANK ROBINSON  
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# Struggles of Nationhood 1822-1934



# Jean Pierre Boyer



Autocratic rule: Boyer was the “true creator of the militaristic regime whose wounds, unhealable, still poison our national organism.”

indemnity and bloated military

1838: 30% of total annual budget for debt

50% for army; <1% on education

Code Rural and forced labor

annexation of Spanish Santo Domingo

revisionism: imperialism and Haiti  
victim, perpetrator, or accomplice?



# Independence: Juan Pablo Duarte, Ramón Mella, and Francisco del Rosario Sánchez



# Haiti and the United States



“Haiti and the United States grew up together.”

trade: lumber and food (meat and flour) for sugar and coffee

refusal of US to recognize Haiti: two-faced policy

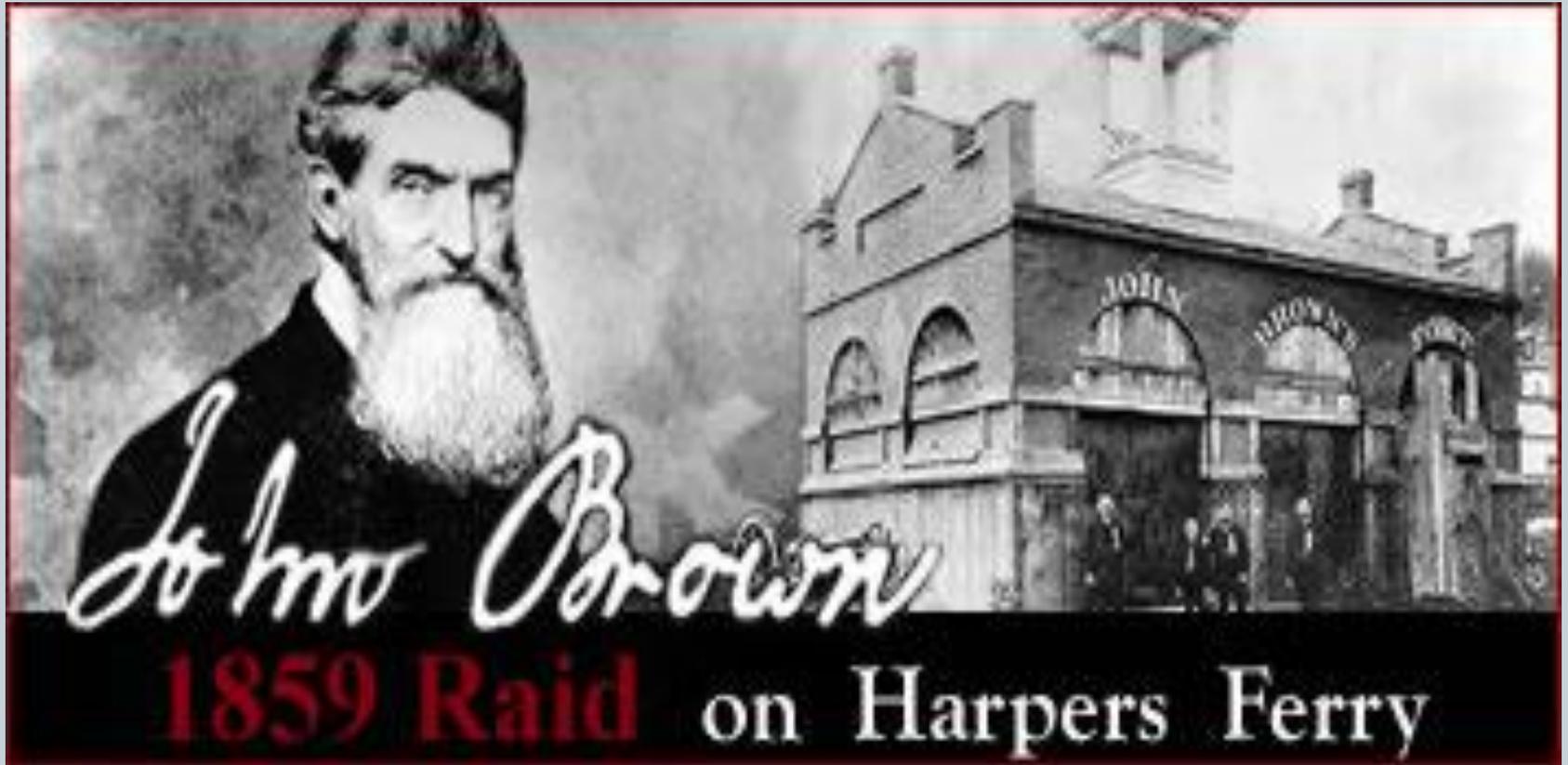
“Our policy with regard to Hayti, is plain. We can never acknowledge her independence.”

abolitionists vs. slaveholders – symbol of Haiti

funeral for abolitionist John Brown held in cathedral in Port-au-Prince

President Grant and threat of annexation

# John Brown



# Decades of Instability: 1843-1915



James Graham Leyburn summarizes this chaotic era in Haitian history. “Of the twenty-two heads of state between 1843 and 1915, only one served out his prescribed term of office, three died while serving, one was blown up with his palace, one presumably poisoned, one hacked to pieces by a mob, one resigned. The other fourteen were deposed by revolution after incumbencies ranging in length from three months to twelve years.”



ex-slave – military officer  
ambitious and savvy  
nobility = governing coalition  
dismissed by foreign critics  
wary of annexation by US  
failed invasion of Dominican  
Republic 1855  
elaborate court ceremonies  
moved against mulatto elites  
overthrown by his own  
generals



**Faustin Soulouque (r. 1847-1859)**

# Crown of Emperor Faustin I

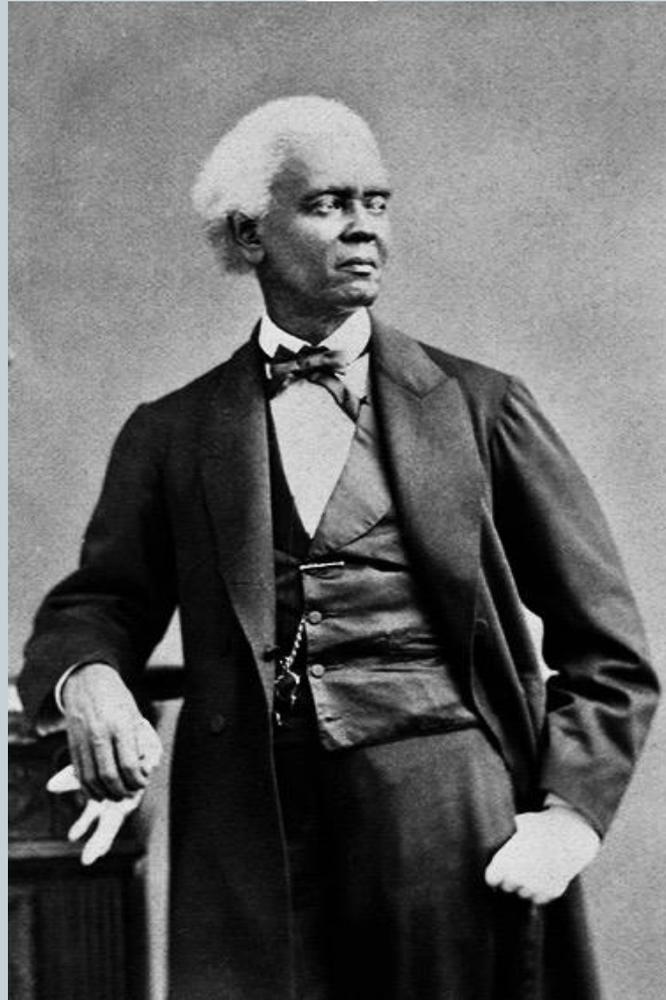


# Six Centimes



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# Fabre Geffrard



# Geffrard



President from 1858-1867

reestablished Haiti as a republic

decreased size of army

returned power to traditional elites

encouraged African Americans to settle in Haiti

new era of Catholic activism

expand access to education

anti-Vodou campaign – concern about image abroad

German merchants and French bankers

exiled in 1867 – continuing cycle of uprisings

# Residence of Geffrard



The ruins of the residence of President Fabre Nicolas Geffrard  
Anse -a -Veau, Haiti

# Lysius Salomon



PORTRAIT OF SALOMON, PRESIDENT OF HAÏTI.

# Salomon



Soulouque's Minister of Finance

“I like coups d'état. You can't govern without them.”

strategy: “take as much advantage as possible” of a crisis to  
justify autocratic rule

restart public education

fix Haiti's financial woes

restore agriculture productivity

improve public administration

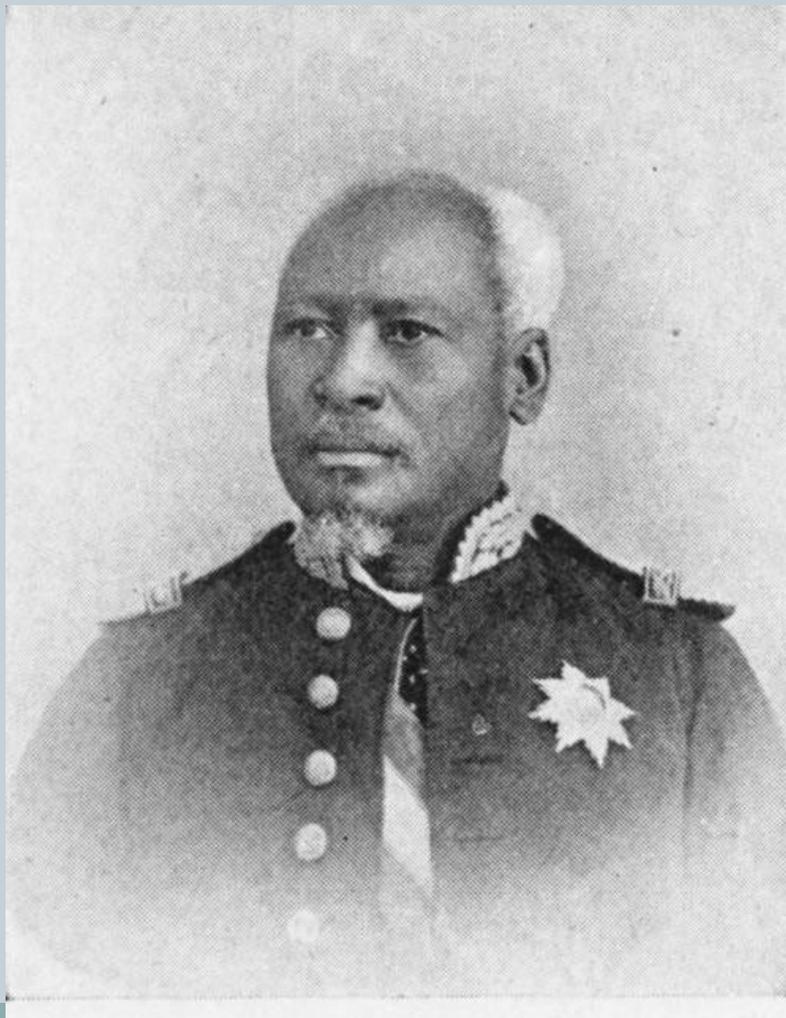
modernize Haiti

controversy over reelection – forced into exile

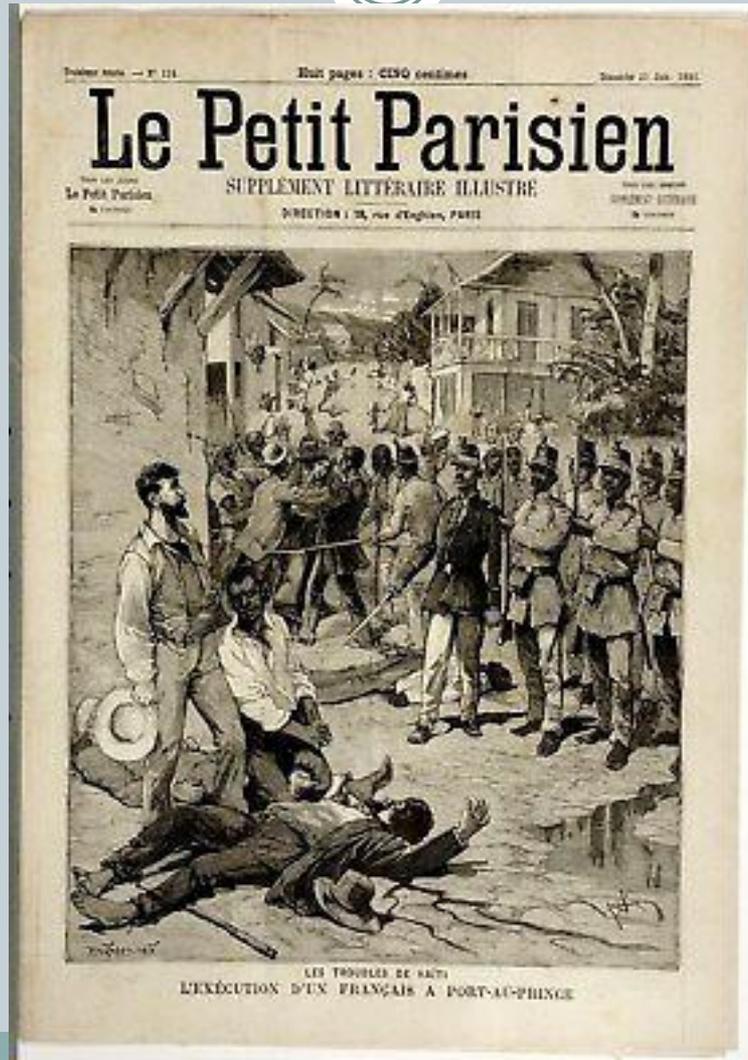
# National Bank of Haiti - 1881



# Florvil Hyppolite



# Troubles in Haiti 1891



# Historic Iron Market



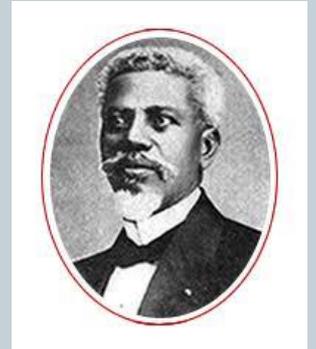
# Revolving Door of Power



1911-1915: seven different presidents

United States solidifies its stranglehold on trade and finance

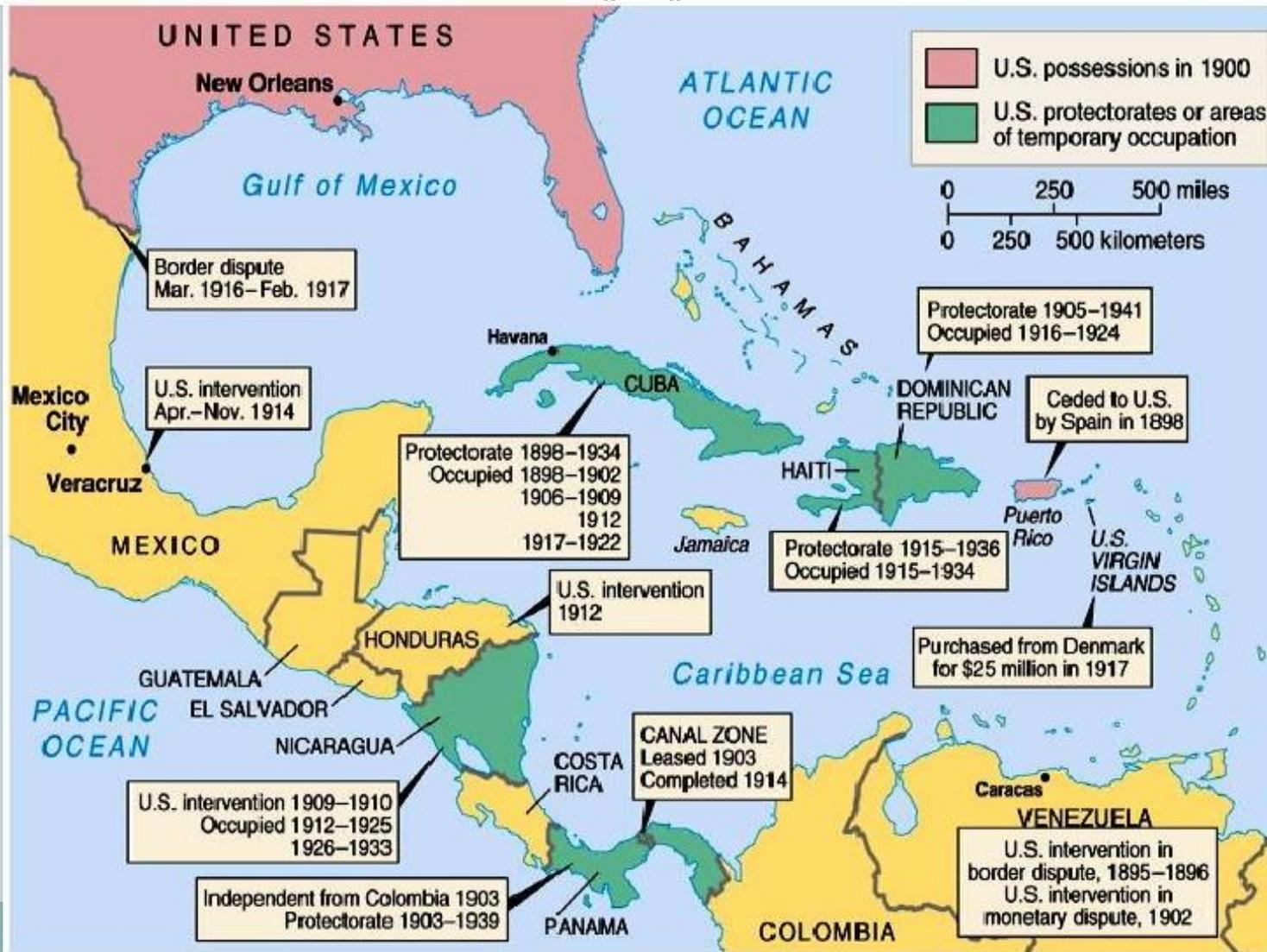
violence: explosion of National Palace and death of  
Cincinnatus Leconte in 1911



President Vilbrun Guillaume Sam vs. Rosalvo Bobo – July 1915  
execution of political prisoners – public outcry

Sam dragged from French legation - torn to pieces by mob

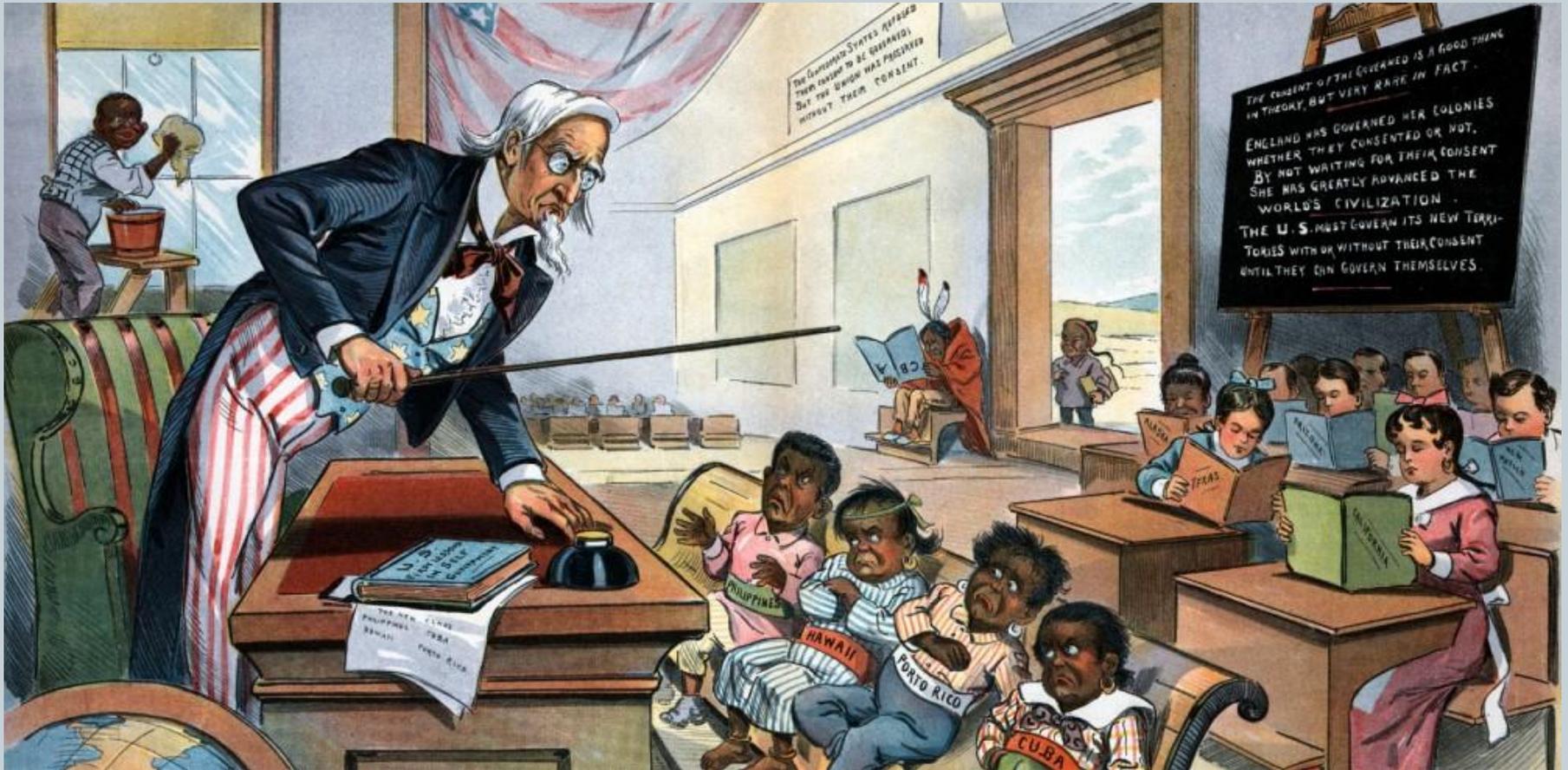
# Rise of United States as a Global Power



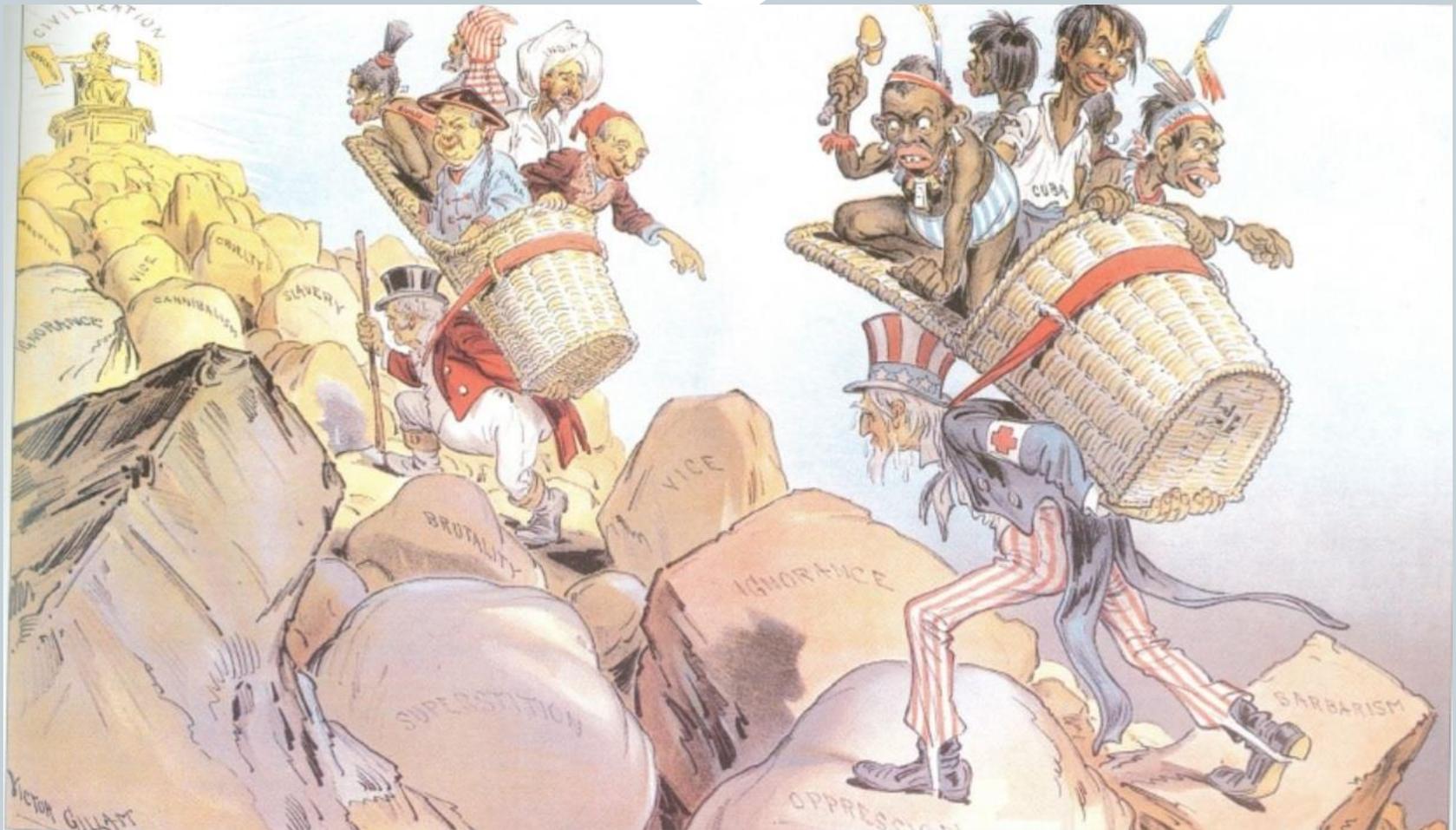
# Roosevelt Corollary



# Uncle Sam – School Begins 1899



# White Man's Burden



# United States Intervention, 1915-1934



## Violent Conditions and Temporary Solutions

1. Haitian Guard (Garde d'Haiti)
2. fruits of U.S. presence
3. issues of sovereignty and favoritism

# United States Marines 1915



# Les Américains Chassent Les Cacos

Nemours Vincent



Charlemagne Péralte (1886-1919)  
Haitian nationalist opposed to the US invasion



# Good Neighbor?

