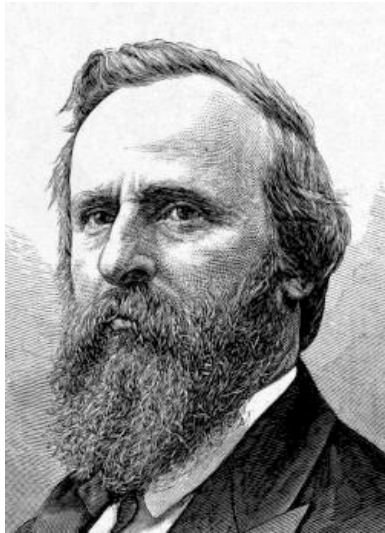


# ELECTION OF 1876



## CONTEXT:

- Election followed presidency of Ulysses S. Grant
- Grant's administration was corrupt
- There was a general atmosphere of distrust and corruption.
- Both parties used dirty campaign tactics.
- Colorado became the 38<sup>th</sup> state in August, 1876.

## Rutherford B. Hayes (R)

Running Mate: William Wheeler

- Lawyer from Ohio
- Major General for the Union
- Served as Representative and Governor of Ohio
- James Blaine was the expected nominee, but his questionable integrity put Hayes on top.

## Samuel J. Tilden (D)

Running Mate: Thomas Hendricks

- Corporate lawyer
- Broke up the Tammany Hall machine
- Governor of New York
- Many hopeful nominees looking for the first Democratic win in 20 years
- Tilden's nomination was the most popular since Andrew Jackson's.

## Other Candidates

### Peter Cooper

- Philanthropist from New York
- Greenback Party
- Agricultural voter base

### Green Smith

- Prohibition Party

### James Walker

- American National Party



## PLATFORMS:

### REPUBLICANS

(Hayes)

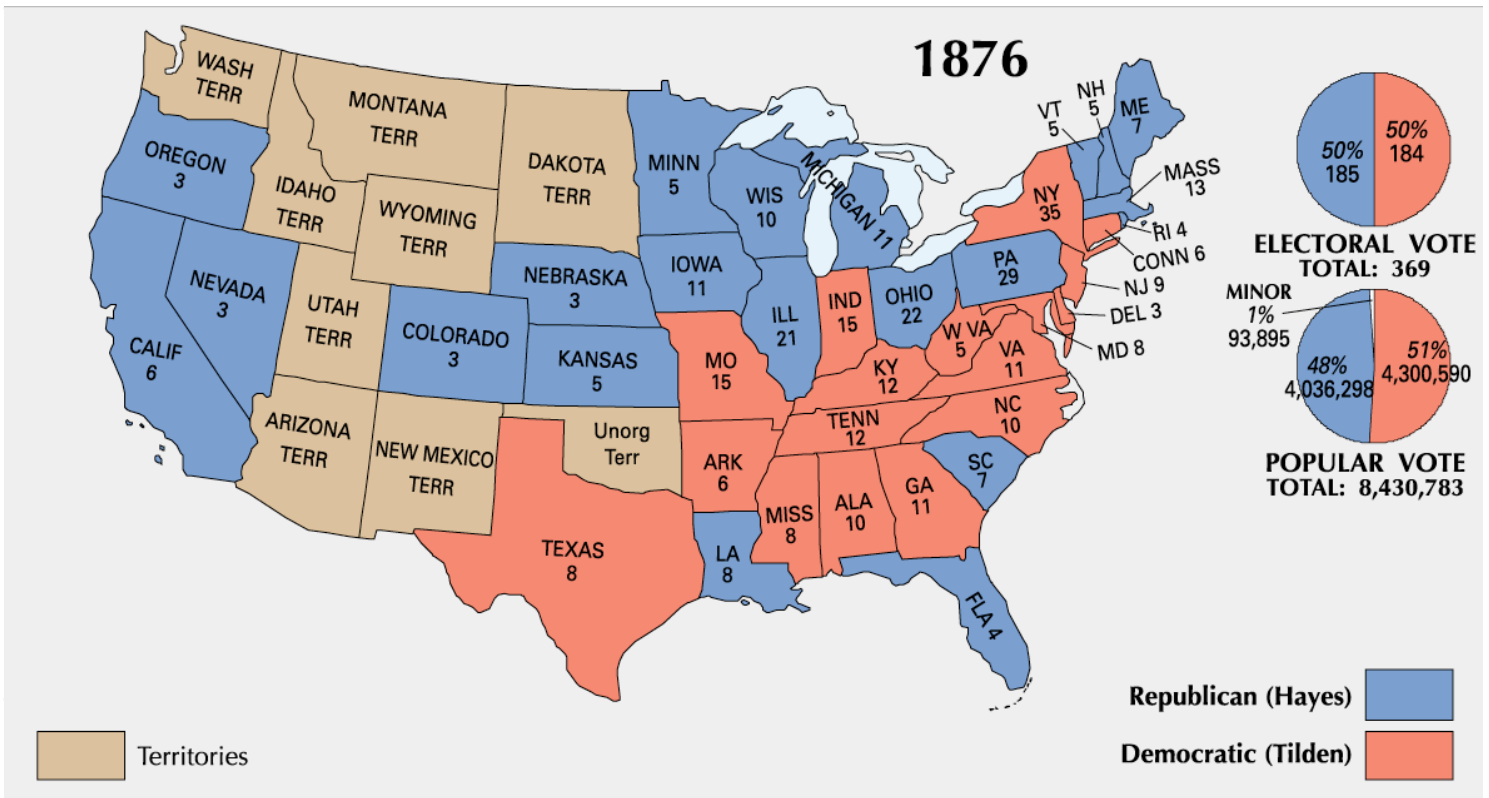
- Promised to serve only one term
- Supported equal rights
- For the separation of church and state in schools
- Promised pensions for Union veterans
- Emphasized Democrats' connection to the Confederacy

### DEMOCRATS

(Tilden)

- Wanted to reform civil service system
- Supported recent Constitutional amendments
- Tilden was pro-hard money; Hendricks was pro-soft money.
- Thought reconstruction was forceful and corrupt
- Focused on the wrong-doings of Grant's administration

# THE ELECTION



## SOUTH CAROLINA, LOUISIANA, AND FLORIDA:

- During his campaign, Hayes said he would remove the Federal government's support of Republicans in South Carolina and Louisiana.
- Tilden won these states and Florida, but the Democrats did not accept these results.

## WHY DISPUTE THE RESULTS?

- Southern Democrats were accused of keeping Republicans and Blacks from the polls.

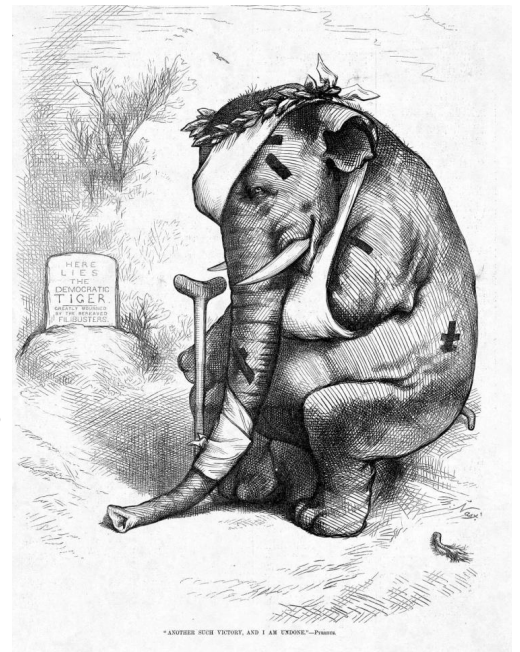
## NEXT STEP:

- Republicans set up returning boards to recount. They gave all the electoral votes to Hayes.
- Democrats did not accept these results.

## SOLUTION:

- 15 member committee:
  - 5 Republicans from Congress
  - 5 Democrats from Congress
  - 5 Supreme Court Justices

## FINAL VOTE: 8 - 7 for Hayes



## LONG-TERM IMPACT:

- Ended Reconstruction in the South
  - Hayes withdrew troops but made Southern leaders promise to protect Blacks.
- Monetary policies strengthened the economy
- Civil service reforms attempted to end patronage
  - Restored faith in the presidency
- Only election in which a candidate won a majority of the popular vote, but lost the election