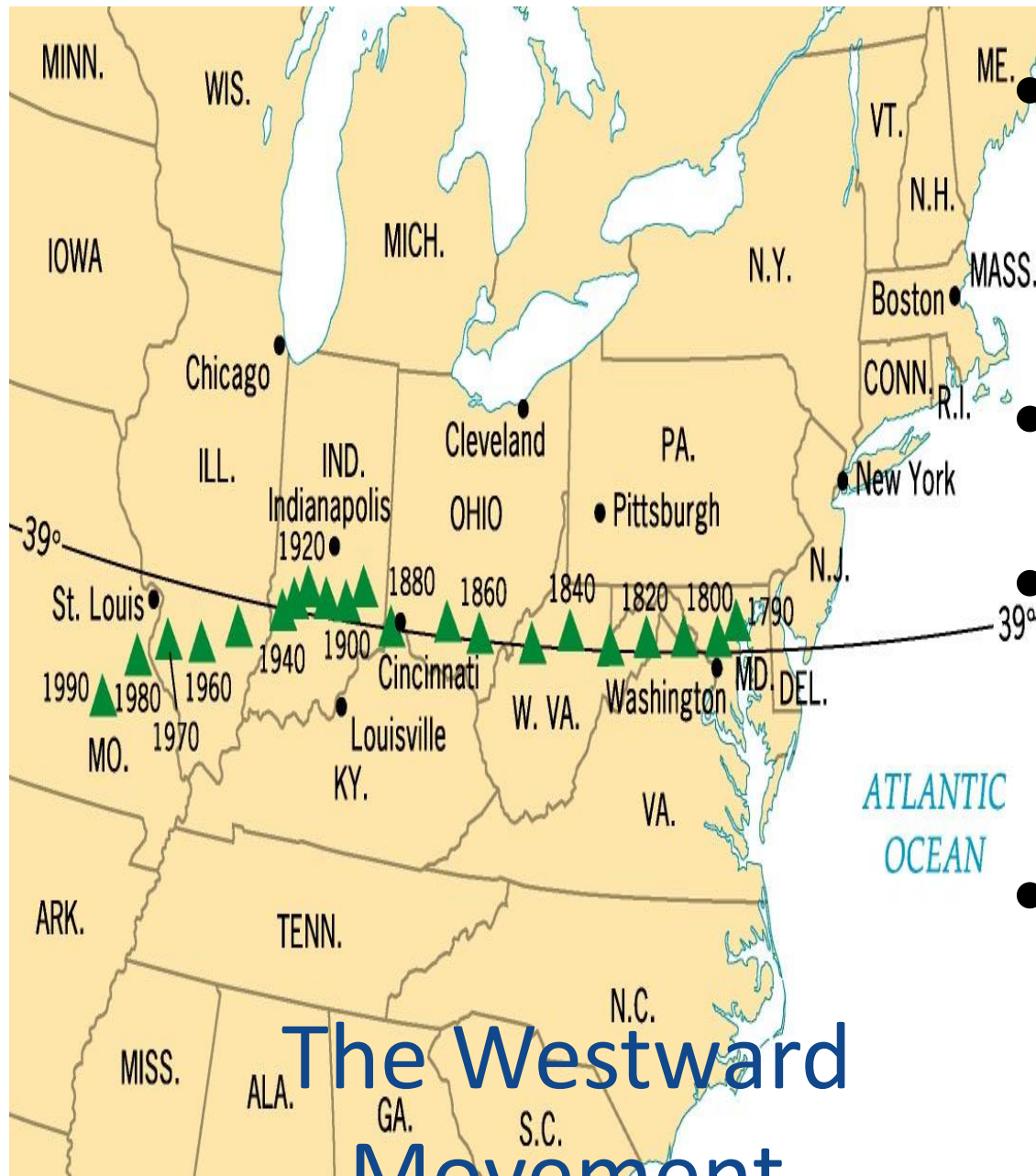


## CONTENT BLOCK

# A Changing America: Peopling and Migration



## ● A Young Republic

- Half under the age of thirty—adventurous and energetic

## ● Pioneer life was difficult

- Rugged individualism yet assistance from neighbors and government

- The “**demographic center**” crossed the Alleghenies by 1840 & Ohio River by Civil War

# Life on the Frontier

- Families
  - Poorly fed, ill-clad and ill-housed
  - Disease, depression, & premature death
  - Loneliness
- Women
  - Loneliness, breakdowns & madness
  - Work alongside husband in fields
  - Short life span
- Men
  - Ill informed, superstitious, provincial & independent











- Painter George Catlin
- Advocates preservation of nature & creation of national parks
- Americans sense of awe at natural wonders

# The March of Millions

- Population grew
  - **By 1850, population doubled every 25 years**
  - **By 1860, 33 states**
  - US had **fourth most populous nation in 1850**
  - Urban growth expanded
    - By 1860, 5,000+ inhabitants in cities
      - **Slums**
      - **Feeble street lighting**
      - **Inadequate policing**
      - **Impure water and foul sewage**
      - **Rats and improper garbage disposal**
    - NY and Boston pioneered sewer system
  - Birthrate accounted for growth and immigrants

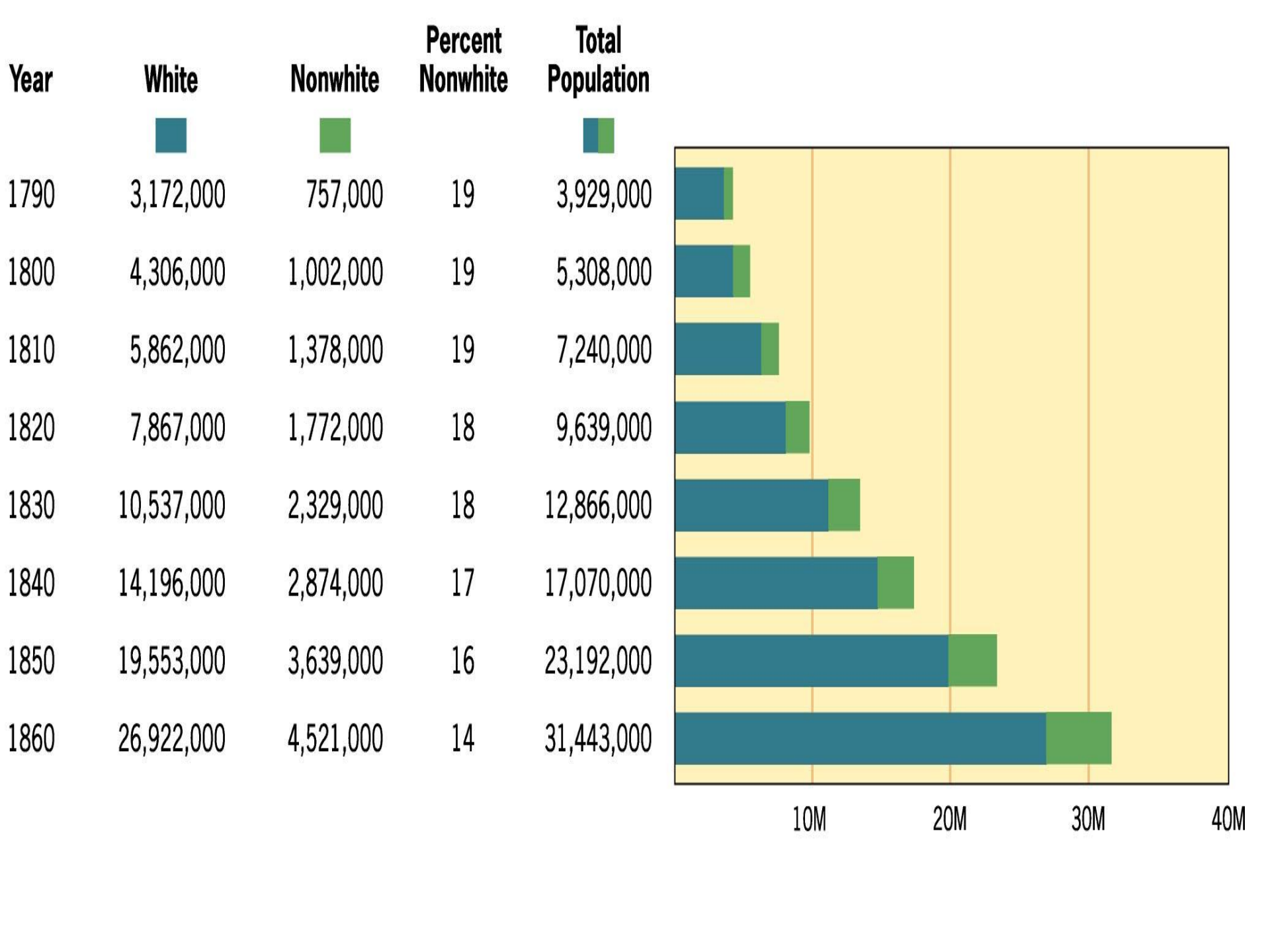






**CHICAGO – Children  
playing near dead  
horse**





# Immigration

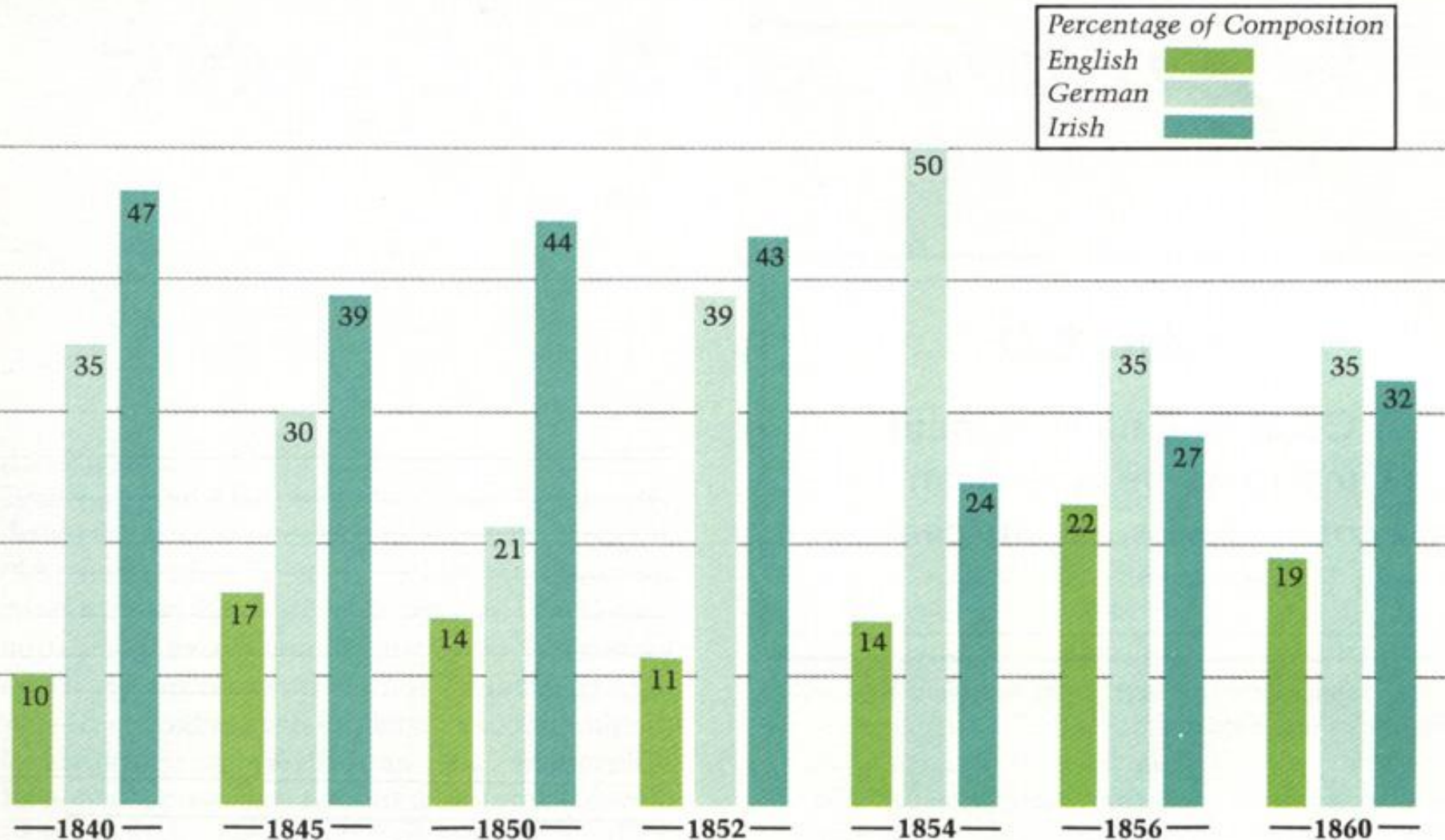
- 1820-8,000 immigrants arrive
- 1832-sudden increase, never falls below 50,000
- 1842-climbs as high as 428,000
- Immigrants settle in cities, the Old Northwest
- Few settled in the South



# Reasons for 1830-1860 Immigration

1. The development of inexpensive and relatively rapid ocean transportation
  2. Famines and revolutions in Europe
  3. The growing reputation of the US as a land of opportunity
- ***Immigrants strengthened the US economy by providing a steady stream of cheap labor and an increased demand for mass-produced consumer goods***

*Composition of Immigration, 1840–1860*



Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Historical Statistics of the United States, Colonial Times to 1970, Bicentennial Edition*, Washington, D.C., 1975.

# The Irish

- Half of all immigrants are Irish—2 million
- Most Irish are tenant farmers driven from land by potato crop failures and famine
- Most have limited interest in farming, possess few skills, and little money
- They face discrimination due to their Roman Catholicism
- Irish compete with African-Americans for same jobs
- Congregate in Northeast cities for mutual support
- Join Democratic Party
- By the 1850s, they had secured jobs and influence and by the 1880s, they controlled the city politics



# CONTRASTED FACES.

“Look on this picture, and then on that.”—SHAKSPEARE.



Fig. 747. - FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE.



Fig. 748.—BRIDGET McBRUISER.

# The German Forty-Eighters

- Economic hardships and failed political revolutions drive 1 million Germans to US
- Germans had modest means and skills as farmers and artisans
- Move west in search of cheap land
- Tend to isolate themselves
- Political influence initially limited
- Discriminated due to Catholicism and bier
- Strong supporters of public education and staunch opponents of slavery



GERMANS BOARDING SHIP TO AMERICA

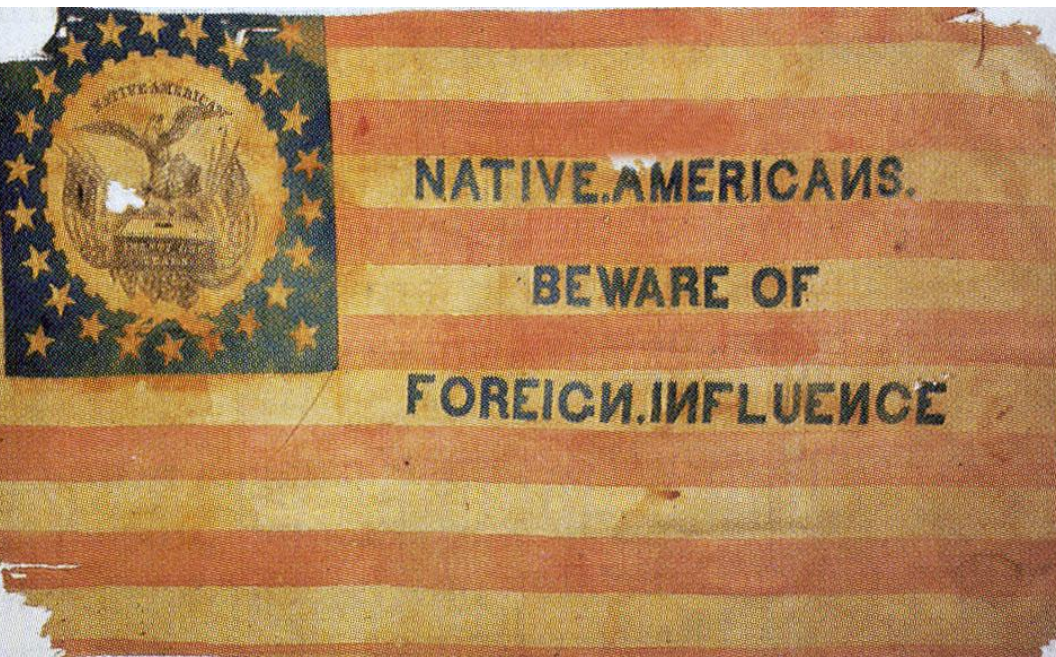


# Irish and German Immigration by Decade, 1830-1900

Years	Irish	Germans
1831-40	207,381	152,454
1841-50	780,719	434,626
1851-60	914,119	951,667
1861-70	435,778	787,468
1871-80	436,871	718,182
1881-90	655,482	1,452,970
1891-1900	388,416	505,152

# Nativism

- **Native-born Americans were alarmed by the influx of immigrants**
  - Fear newcomers would take their jobs & subvert the culture of the Anglo majority
  - Fear Roman Catholicism
- **Order of the Star-Spangled Banner, 1849**
  - **American Party (a.k.a) Know-Nothing Party**
  - Movement fades with onset of Civil War
  - Nativism flares up during a sudden increase in immigration threatens the native-born majority



KNOW NOTHING PARTY FLAG



# NATIVES OF THE SOIL! AROUSE!

Shall American Labor be Protected  
Against Foreign Competition in the Home Labor Market?

## THE WATCH-WORD OF NATIVE AMERICANS:

Repel the Influx of "FOREIGN INFLUENCE," by repelling the Influx of Foreign Immigrants; Protection against foreign Competition in the Home Labor Market; and a Limitation of the Area of Slavery, and of Fugitive Slave Laws.

## FOSTER BRYANT, ESQ.

Of Massachusetts, an original Member of the "OLD AMERICAN GUARD" of 1845, will address the citizens of \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ Evening, \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock, in the \_\_\_\_\_ on the

**RUINOUS INFLUENCE OF FOREIGN IMMIGRATION ON AMERICAN LABOR!**

The dangers to which our Institutions are exposed from the ALARMING INCREASE OF POPERY; and

**AGAINST THE EXTENSION OF SLAVERY.**

Members of all parties in politics, and all persons who love our common country, and desire that our Free Institutions may be permanent and lasting, are invited to attend. After the Lecture an opportunity will be afforded to those who may desire to controvert any of the Lecturer's positions. The Ladies are especially invited to attend.



