The Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era

Volume 11 • Number 3 • July 2012

Essays

"The Notorious Mrs. Clem": Gender, Class, and Criminality in Gilded Age America *Wendy Gamber*

The Family and Business Life of Harriet Hubbard Ayer, Culminating in Fights over Her Person and Property *Melanie Gustafson*

"Killing the Elephant": Murderous Beasts and the Thrill of Retribution, 1885–1930 Amy Louise Wood

BOOK REVIEWS

Published by the Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era www.jgape.org



Additional sponsors: Illinois State University, Santa Clara University, and Assumption College

Editor: Alan Lessoff, Illinois State University Book Review Editor: Nancy C. Unger, Santa Clara University Online Editor: John McClymer, Assumption College Founding Editor, 2000–2003: Maureen A. Flanagan, Michigan State University

Editorial Board

Jo Ann Argersinger	Kathryn Allamong Jacob
Southern Illinois University	Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe
Manfred Berg	Richard R. John
University of Heidelberg	Columbia University
Jørn Brøndal	Edward P. Kohn
University of Southern Denmark	Bilkent University
Charles W. Calhoun	Jennifer Koslow
East Carolina University	Florida State University
James J. Connolly	Kate Masur
Ball State University	Northwestern University
Lynn Dumenil	Richard Schneirov
Occidental College	Indiana State University
Kristin Hoganson	Elizabeth Hayes Turner
University of Illinois, Urbana–Champaign	University of North Texas
Joseph Horowitz	Robert Wooster
New York, NY	Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi

Articles appearing in this journal are abstracted and indexed in *AMERICA*: *HISTORY AND LIFE and HISTORICAL ABSTRACTS*.

Instructions appear at the end of this issue for accessing the online edition at Cambridge Journals Online, http://journals.cambridge.org/jga. All content is available from Volume 1, Number 1 through the present. The journal is also archived in JSTOR, www.jstor.org, with issues older than five years available to subscribers of JSTOR's Arts & Sciences V Collection.

Change of Address: Contact wgamber@indiana.edu or go to http://journals.cambridge.org/jga The Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era (1537-7814) is a peer-reviewed journal published quarterly in January, April, July, and October by Cambridge University Press, 32 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10013-2473 / Cambridge University Press, The Edinburgh Building, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8RU, England, for the Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era (SHGAPE). It publishes original scholarly essays covering the period 1865 to 1920 and reviews scholarly books on that time period.

Publishing, Advertising, and Subscription Offices: Cambridge University Press, 32 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10013-2473, *U.S.A.* (for U.S.A., Canada, and Mexico); or Cambridge University Press, The Edinburgh Building, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8RU, *U.K.* (for U.K. and elsewhere).

Annual institutional subscription rates for Volume 11, 2012, are \$116.00 in the U.S.A., Mexico, and Canada and £73.00 elsewhere for print and electronic subscriptions. Annual subscription rates for students are \$20.00 in the U.S.A., Mexico, and Canada and £13.00 elsewhere. The rates for regular members of the Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era (SHGAPE) are \$50.00 in the U.S.A., Mexico, and Canada and £31.00 elsewhere for print and electronic subscriptions. The rates for sustaining members of the Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era (SHGAPE) are \$80.00 in the U.S.A., Mexico, and Canada and £31.00 elsewhere for print and electronic subscriptions. The rates for sustaining members of the Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era (SHGAPE) are \$80.00 in the U.S.A., Mexico, and Canada and £50.00 elsewhere for print and electronic subscriptions. Single part: \$32.00 in the U.S.A., Mexico, and Canada and £25.00 elsewhere. Prices include postage and insurance. *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era* and all other Cambridge journals can be found at *http://journals.cambridge.org/*.

Individual subscriptions include a membership in SHGAPE, which in addition to publishing this journal offers book and article prizes, sponsors sessions at the annual meetings of the American Historical Association and Organization of American Historians and edits H-SHGAPE, an H-Net discussion list.

For back issues, please contact Periodicals Service Company, 11 Main Street, Germantown, NY 12526; email: psc@periodicals.com

Manuscripts should be submitted electronically in MS Word or RTF format or sent in triplicate to the editor, Alan Lessoff, Department of History, Illinois State University, Normal, IL 61790-4420. Before submitting any manuscript, please consult the website www.jgape.org for details on correct format and citation style. Information may also be obtained via email at ahlesso@ilstu.edu.

© Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era (SHGAPE) 2012. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form or by any means, photocopying, electronic, or otherwise, without permission in writing from Cambridge University Press. Policies, request forms, and contacts are available at: http://www.cambridge.org/rights/permissions/permission.htm.

Permission to copy (for users in the U.S.A.) is available from the Copyright Clearance Center (CCC), *www.copyright.com*, email: *info@copyright.com*.

Forwarding and return postage guaranteed, address correction requested. *Postmaster:* Send address changes in the U.S.A. and Canada to *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*, Cambridge University Press, Journals Fulfillment Dept., 100 Brook Hill Drive, West Nyack, NY 10994-2133. Send address changes elsewhere to *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*, Cambridge University Press, The Edinburgh Building, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8RU, England.

The Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era

Volume 11 • Number 3 • July 2012

Contents

Contributors	V
Note from the Editor	309
Essays:	
"The Notorious Mrs. Clem": Gender, Class, and Criminality in Gilded Age America Wendy Gamber	313
The Family and Business Life of Harriet Hubbard Ayer, Culminating in Fights over Her Person and Property Melanie Gustafson	345
"Killing the Elephant": Murderous Beasts and the Thrill of Retribution, 1885–1930 Amy Louise Wood	405
Book Reviews:	

Rednecks, Redeemers, and Race: Mississippi after Reconstruction,1877–1917by Stephen Cresswell; Jury Discrimination:The Supreme Court, Public Opinion, and a GrassrootsFight for Racial Equality in Mississippi by Christopher WaldrepReviewed by John David Smith445

Book Reviews:

See reverse.

On the back cover: "The Hanging of Mary," Erwin, TN, 1917. Courtesy of Tennessee State Library and Archives.

The Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era | 11:3 July 2012

<i>Dirty Words: The Rhetoric of Public Sex Education, 1870–1924</i> by Robin E. Jensen Reviewed by Adam Laats	451
Populist Cartoons: An Illustrated History of the Third Party Movement in the 1890s by Worth Robert Miller Reviewed by Samuel J. Thomas	454
The Men and Women and Women We Want: Gender, Race, and the Progressive Era Literacy Test Debate by Jeanne D. Petit Reviewed by Melissa R. Klapper	457
For Labor, Race, and Liberty: George Edwin Taylor, His Historic Run for the White House, and the Making of Independent Black Politics by Bruce L. Mouser Reviewed by Omar H. Ali	460
Amerikas groβe Ernüchterung: Eine Kulturgeschichte der Prohibiti by Thomas Welskopp	ion
Reviewed by Thomas Adam	463