

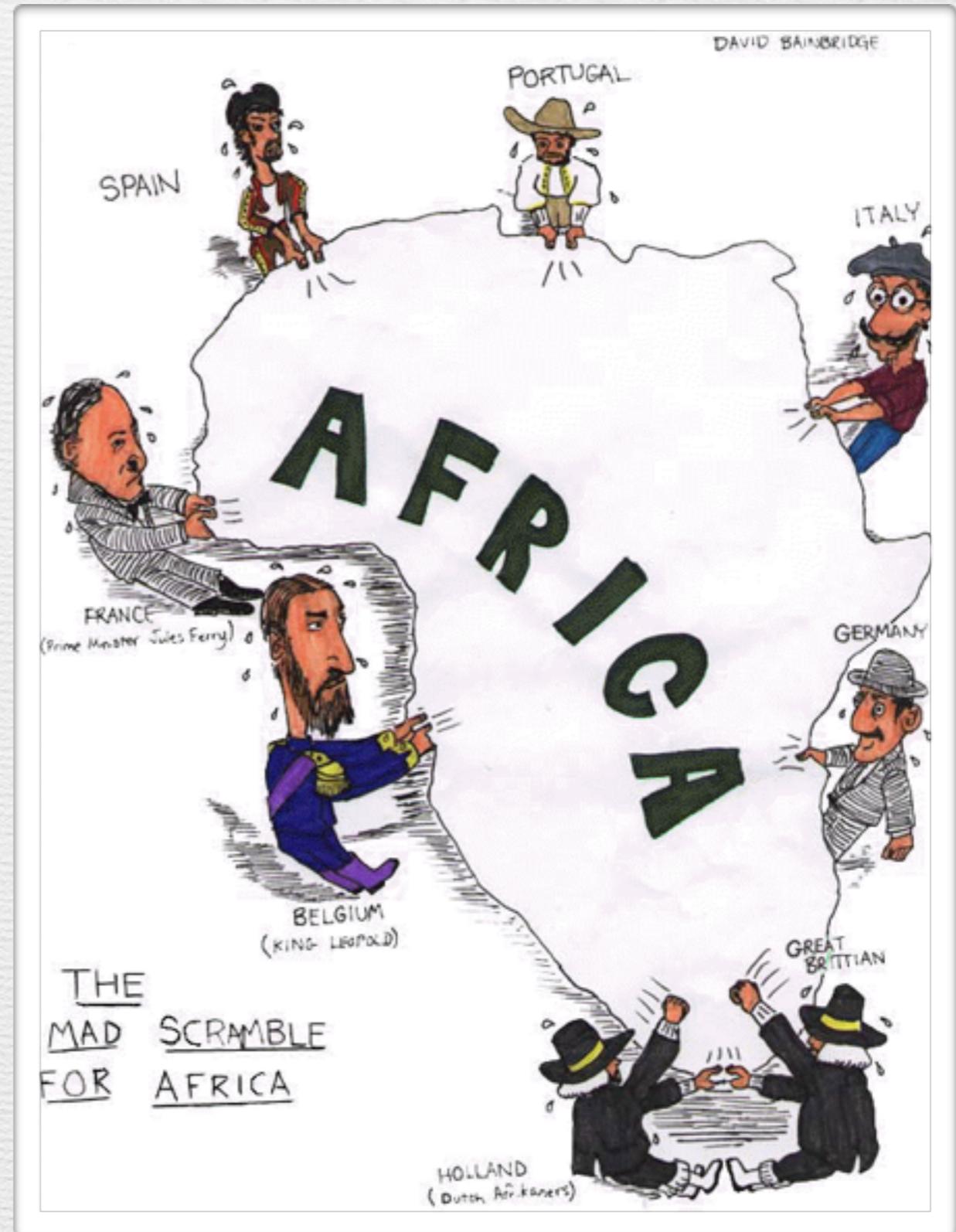
# America Claims an Empire

Imperialism and America

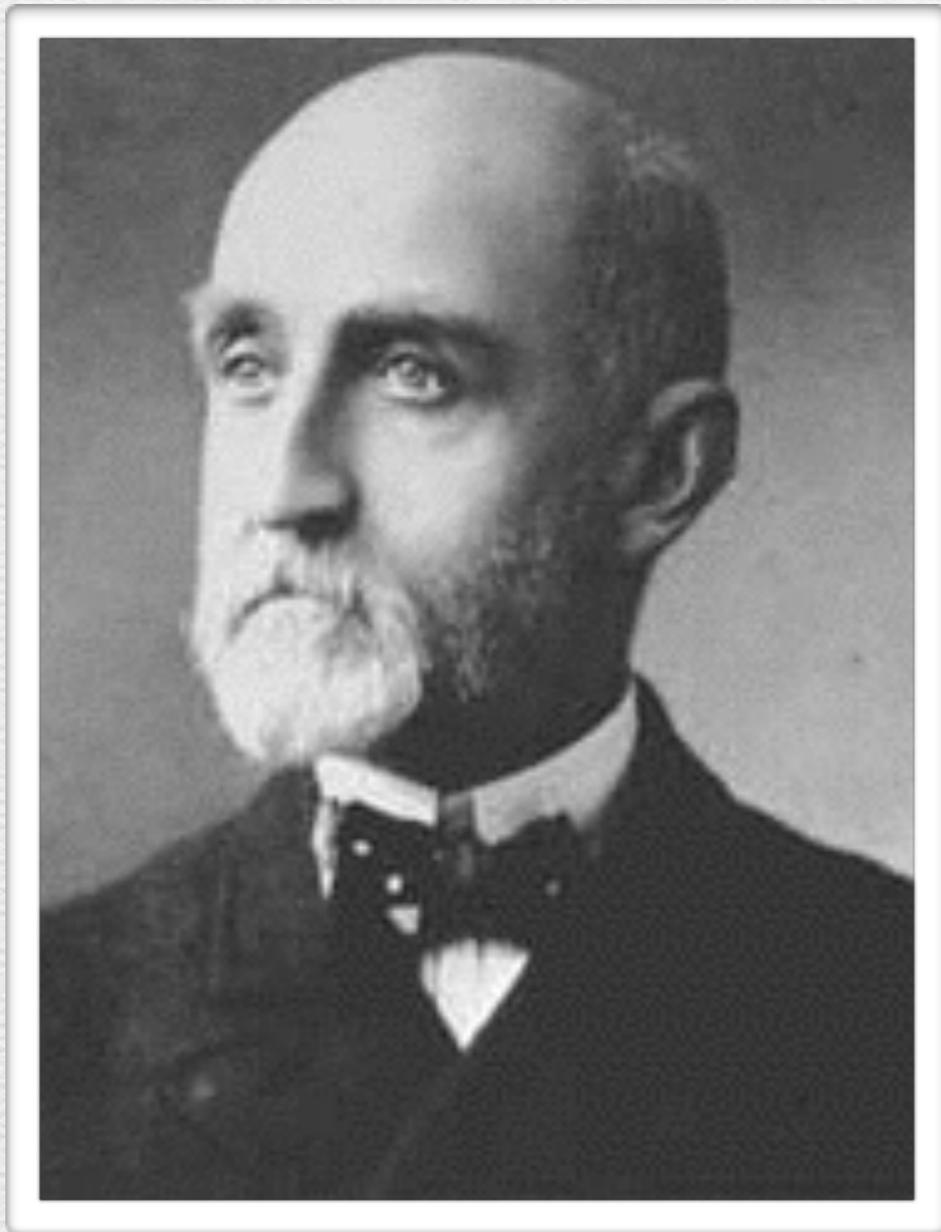
What motivated the United States to begin imperializing?

# Global Competition

- **Imperialism**—policy of extending control over weaker nations.
- In 1800s, Europeans divide up most of Africa, compete for China
- Japan joins race for China; U.S. decides to expand overseas



# Desire for *Military Strength*



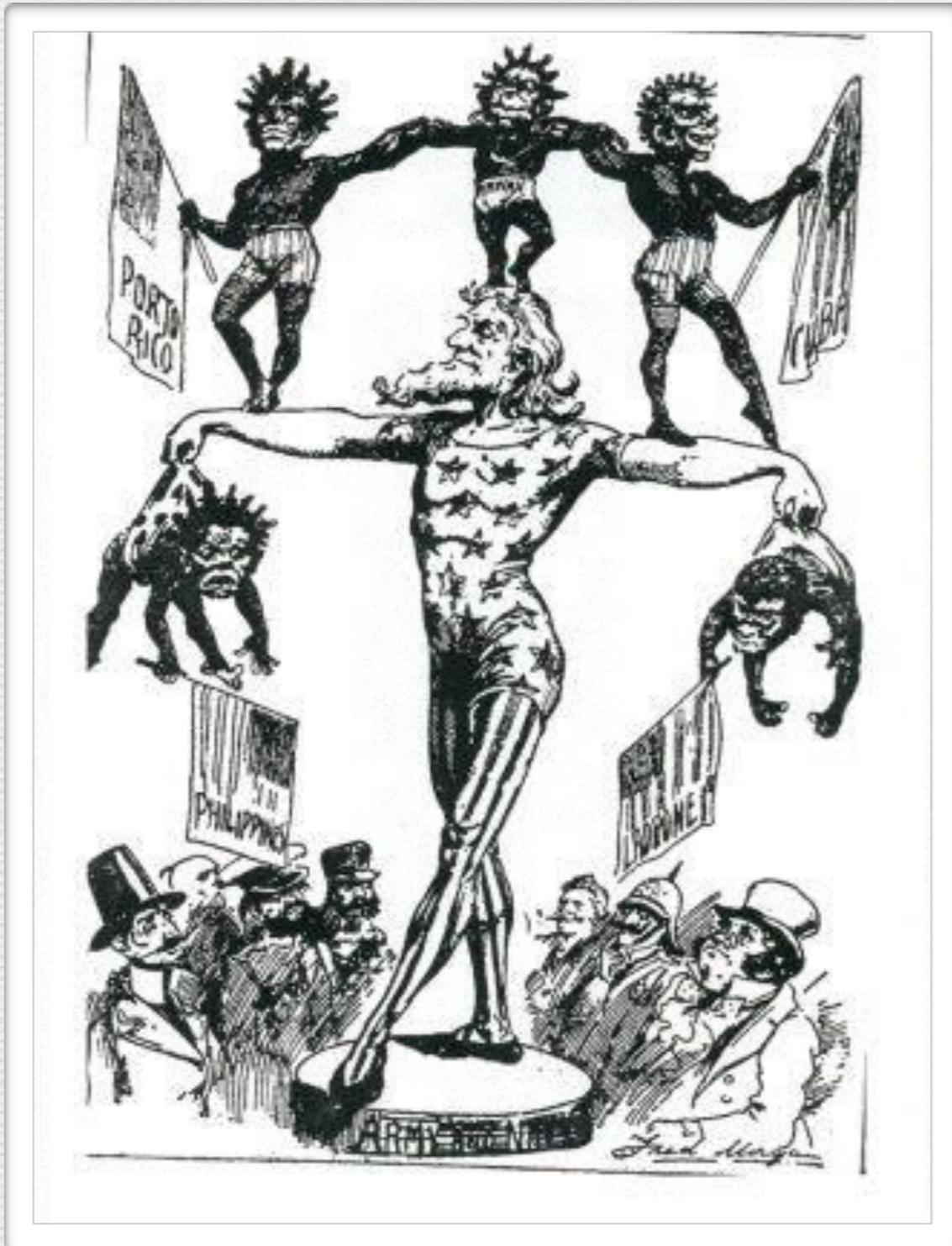
- Admiral Alfred T. Mahan urges U.S. to build up navy to compete
- U.S. builds modern battleships, becomes third largest naval power

# Thirst for New Markets

- U.S. farms, factories produce more than Americans can consume
- U.S. needs raw materials, new markets for goods
- Foreign trade: solution to overproduction, unemployment, depression



# Belief in Cultural Superiority



- Some combine Social Darwinism, belief in superiority of Anglo-Saxons
- Argue U.S. has duty to Christianize, civilize “inferior people”



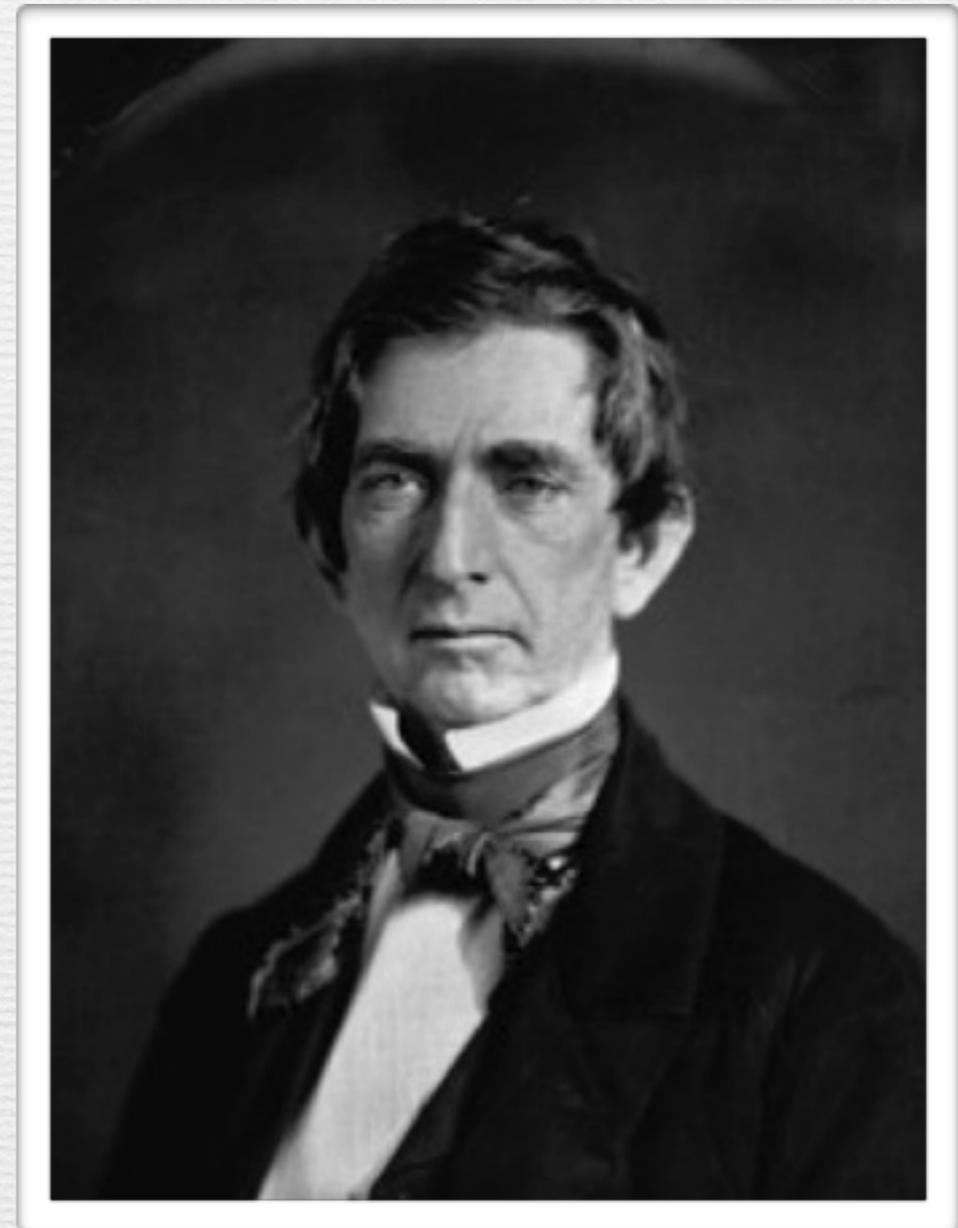
**SCHOOL BEGINS.**

UNCLE SAM (to his new class in Civilization).— Now, children, you've got to learn these lessons whether you want to or not! But just take a look at the class ahead of you, and remember that, in a little while, you will feel as glad to be here as they are!

Why and how did the United States take Alaska and Hawaii?

# Early Expansion

- **William Seward**– Secretary of State under Lincoln, Johnson
- 1867, arranges purchase of Alaska from Russia for \$7.2 million
  - has trouble convincing House to fund purchase
  - Alaska called “Seward’s Icebox,” “Seward’s Folly”
- Alaska rich in timber, minerals, and oil



# The Cry for Annexation

- Since 1790s, U.S. merchants stop in Hawaii on way to China, India
- 1820s, Yankee missionaries found schools, churches on islands
- Mid-1800s, American-owned sugar plantations 75% of islands' wealth
- 1887, U.S. pressures Hawaii to allow naval base at **Pearl Harbor** –becomes refueling station
- 1890 McKinley Tariff eliminates duty-free status of Hawaiian sugar
- Planters call for U.S. to annex islands so will not have to pay duty



# The End of a Monarchy

- 1887, businessmen force King Kalakaua to limit vote to landowners
- Queen Liliuokalani tries to remove landowning requirement
- With help of marines, business groups overthrow queen
- Set up government headed by Sanford B. Dole
- President Cleveland cannot make Dole surrender power to queen – recognizes Republic of Hawaii
- Under President McKinley, Congress proclaims Hawaii U.S. territory

