

Reform Movements of the Nineteenth Century

STATIONS

Guiding Question

- How did reform movements in the early nineteenth century address the social and economic challenges of the era?

Objectives

- ☐ I can analyze the different reform movements from the nineteenth century.
- ☐ I can analyze a historical quote and match it to the reform movement it supports.

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STATION 1 ABOLITION



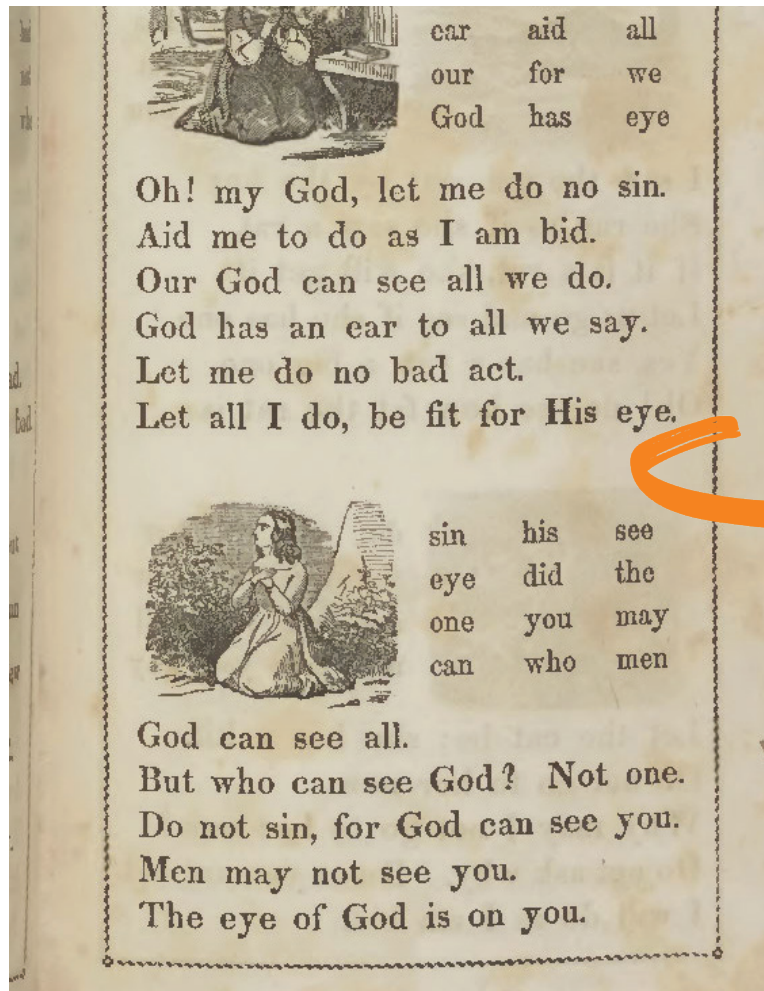
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Art and Artifacts Division,
The New York Public Library. "Am I Not a Man and a Brother" token" New
York Public Library Digital Collections.

<https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/items/4d841130-32e6-013c-93cb-0242ac110003>

1. What do you think the words mean?
2. Based on the image and the words, what arguments did abolitionists use to persuade others to join their cause?
3. Do you find it convincing?

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STATION 2 EDUCATION



McGuffey, William Holmes, Maude Blair, Austin Clark, Publisher W.B. Smith & Co, and McGuffey Reader Collection. McGuffey's *newly revised eclectic primer, with pictorial illustrations*. [Cincinnati: w.b. smith & co. ; new york: clark, austin, maynard & co., between 1860 and 1862, 1860] Pdf.

<https://www.loc.gov/item/2003611963/>.

1. What does this book tell us about what reformers wanted students to learn?

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STATION 3 PRISON REFORM

exist. I repeat it, it is defective legislation which perpetuates and multiplies these abuses.

In illustration of my subject, I offer the following extracts from my Note-Book and Journal :—

Springfield. In the jail, one lunatic woman, furiously mad, a state pauper, improperly situated, both in regard to the prisoners, the keepers, and herself. It is a case of extreme self-forgetfulness and oblivion to all the decencies of life ; to describe which, would be to repeat only the grossest scenes. She is much worse since leaving Worcester. In the almshouse of the same town is a woman apparently only needing judicious care, and some well-chosen employment, to make it unnecessary to confine her in solitude, in a dreary unfurnished room. Her appeals for employment and companionship are most touching, but the mistress replied, 'she had no time to attend to her.'

Northampton. In the jail, quite lately, was a young man violently mad, who had not, as I was informed at the prison, come under medical care, and not been returned from any hospital. In the almshouse, the cases of insanity are now unmarked by abuse, and afford evidence of judicious care by the keepers.

Williamsburg. The almshouse has several insane, not under suitable treatment. No apparent intentional abuse.

Rutland. Appearance and report of the insane in the almshouse not satisfactory.

Sterling. A terrible case ; manageable in a hospital ; at present as well controlled perhaps as circumstances in a case so extreme allow. An almshouse, but wholly wrong in relation to the poor crazy woman, to the paupers generally, and to her keepers.

Burlington. A woman, declared to be very insane ; decent room and bed ; but not allowed to rise oftener, the mistress said, 'than every other day : it is too much trouble.'

Concord. A woman from the hospital in a cage in the almshouse. In the jail several, decently cared for in general, but not properly placed in a prison. Violent, noisy, unmanageable most of the time.

Lincoln. A woman in a cage.

Medford. One idiotic subject chained, and one in a close stall for 17 years.

Pepperell. One often doubly chained, hand and foot ; another violent ; several peaceable now.

Brookfield. One man caged, comfortable.

Granville. One often closely confined ; now losing the use of his limbs from want of exercise.

Dix, Dorothea Lynde. Memorial. *To the Legislature of Massachusetts protesting against the confinement of insane persons and idiots in almshouses and prisons.* [Boston, Printed by Munroe & Francis, 1843] Pdf.

<https://www.loc.gov/item/2003611963/>.

1. What were prison reformers trying to achieve by writing this document to the Massachusetts legislature?
2. How did they use evidence and appeals to persuade lawmakers to change how individuals were treated in prisons and almshouses (small homes or shelters built to help poor, sick, or elderly people who had no one to take care of them)?

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STATION 4 RELIGIOUS REFORM- SECOND GREAT AWAKENING



Dubourg, M., Engraver, and Jacques Gérard Milbert. American methodists proceeding to their camp meeting / J. Milbert del.; M. Dubourg sculp., ca. 1819. Photograph.

<https://www.loc.gov/item/95504484/>.

1. What does this image tell you about how religion was spreading in early nineteenth-century America?

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STATION 5 TEMPERANCE



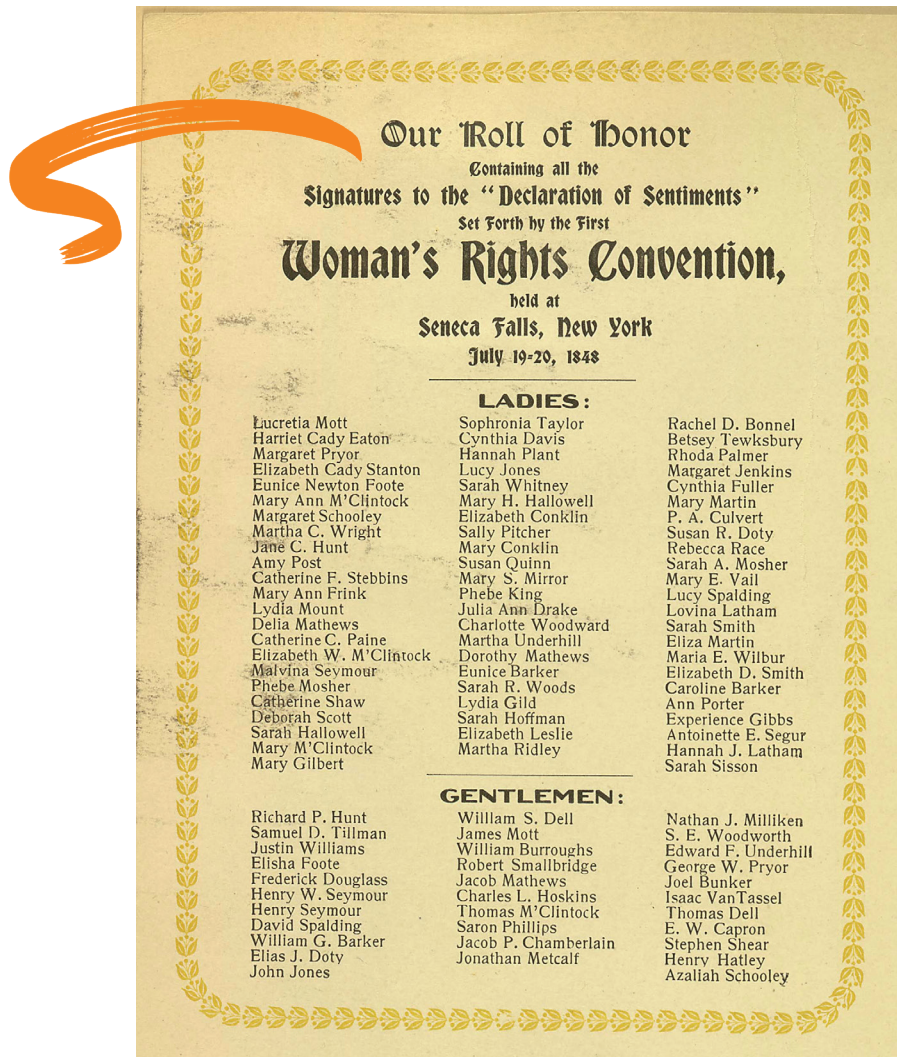
Macbrair, Archibald, Lithographer. *Tree of Temperance*. ca. 1855.
[Cincinnati: published by A.D. Fillmore] Photograph.

<https://www.loc.gov/item/2003689278/>

1. How does this image try to persuade people?
2. Who do you think it was meant to convince?
3. What fruit might the opposite tree, “The Tree of Intemperance” bear?

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STATION 6 WOMEN'S



Our Roll of Honor. Listing women and men who signed the Declaration of Sentiments at first Woman's Rights Convention, July 19-20. Seneca Falls, New York, May, 1908. Manuscript/Mixed Material.

<https://www.loc.gov/item/rbcmiller001182/>.

1. What does the act of signing this document represent?
2. Why might it have taken courage to add your name?