2.0 Challenges of the Late 1800's

- 2.1 <u>Indian Policies</u> Policy makers hoped that as the buffalo became extinct, Native Americans would become farmers and assimilate.
- 2.2 Assimilation is when one culture adopts into another culture
- 2.3 **Dawes General Allotment Act (1887)** Directly influenced by the Homestead Act of 1862. Ended the reservation system. Each Native American is given 160 acres.
- 2.4 <u>Political Machines</u> These groups controlled cities for decades. They won the loyalty of large immigrant groups to earn their votes in elections.
- 2.5 **Spoils System** Giving of high paying pollical jobs to political machine organizers after an election was won.
- 2.5 <u>"Bosses"</u> These men ran the Political Machines in big cities.
- 2.6 <u>Civil Service Reform</u> The spoils system corrupted government, or at least made it terribly inefficient. The reform movement wanted to make government jobs earned based on expertise and not party affiliation.
- 2.7 <u>President James Garfield</u> Is assassinated because of the spoils system. He is shot by a person who was not given a job after he won the election. This assassination ends the use of the spoils system.
- 2.8 <u>Populism</u> Is a social and political movement that displayed the dissatisfaction of millions of ordinary Americans - poor farmers, small landholders, and urban workers.
- 2.9 **Farm issues and Populism** Farmers face rising debt from purchasing land and equipment. This causes crops harvest to increase and prices to fall.
- 2.10 <u>Big Business and Populism</u> Railroads used their monopoly power to over charge farmers, while banks charged unfairly high interest rates.
- 2.11 **Populist Goals** Government ownership of railroads and communications. Unlimited coinage of Silver would help to drive up crop prices so farmers could make a profit.
- 2.12 <u>Transcontinental Railroad</u> Makes all the lands of the Great Plains valuable. Mining, Farming, and Ranching now become viable businesses on the frontier.

2.13 <u>Homestead Act (1862)</u> - Gave 160 acres to anyone who would live on it for 5 years. <u>Daily Total Cards: 14</u> <u>Project Total Cards: 62</u>