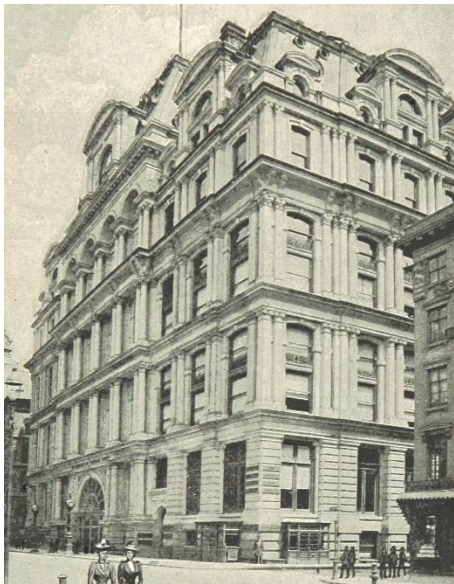


# 1870

The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York is established on April 13, without a single work of art in its collection, without any staff, and without a gallery space. The museum would open to the public two years later, on February 20, 1872. The Equitable Life Assurance Building in New York City, designed by Arthur Gillman and Edward H. Kendall, is completed on May 1 but destroyed by fire in 1912. Henry Kirke Brown dedicates a bronze statue of Abraham Lincoln in Union Square Park in New York on September 15.



*The Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States. Broadway, between Pine and Cedar Streets, 1893*

Extracted from Moses King, *King's Handbook of New York City*, p. 677

The British Library, London

# 1871

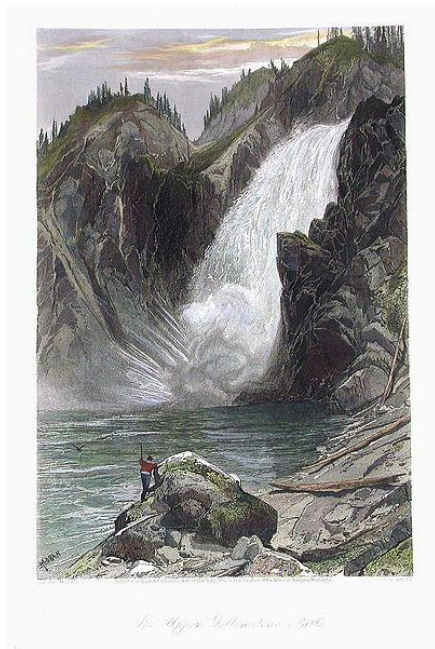
James McNeill Whistler publishes *Sixteen etchings of scenes on the Thames* and paints his first “nocturnes” on the Thames River and his *Arrangement in Grey and Black No. 1*, commonly known as “*Whistler’s Mother*.” Thomas Eakins paints *Max Schmitt in a Single Scull*. Frederic Edwin Church paints *The Parthenon*.



James Abbott McNeill Whistler –  
*Arrangement in Grey and Black No. 1* (“*Whistler’s Mother*”), 1871  
Oil on canvas  
Musée d’Orsay, Paris

# 1872

Whistler paints *Arrangement in Gray: Portrait of the Painter*. The first university course in American literature is held at Princeton University by John Seely Hart. William Cullen Bryant publishes his first volume of *Picturesque America*.



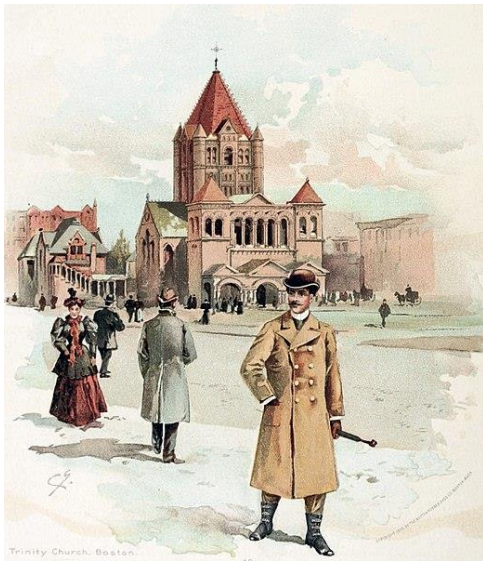
Samuel Valentine Hunt, after Thomas Moran –  
*The Upper Yellowstone Falls*, 1872

Color steel engraving print

Source: William Cullen Bryant, *Picturesque America*, Vol. 1  
(New York: D. Appleton and Company, 1872)

# 1873

Winslow Homer paints *The Boat Builders*. Trinity Church in Boston's Copley Square, designed by Henry Hobson Richardson, is completed. Mark Twain and Charles Dudley Warner publish *The Gilded Age: A Tale of Today*, the original source of the historical term "The Gilded Age."

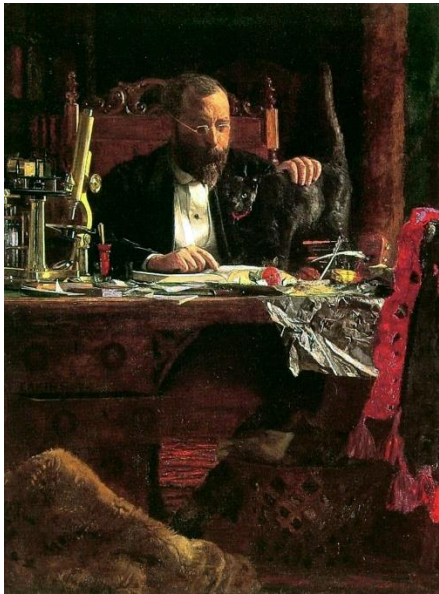


*Idealized illustration of Boston's Copley Square, prominently featuring H. H. Richardson's Trinity Church, 1896*

Source: Boston Rubber Shoe Company, catalogue for 1896-97

# 1874

John Russell Pope, the architect behind the transformation of Henry Clay Frick's New York mansion into what is now The Frick Collection, is born on April 24. Eakins paints his *Portrait of Professor Benjamin H. Rand*. William Cullen Bryant publishes his second volume of *Picturesque America*. Eastern Parkway, laid out by Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux, is completed in Brooklyn, New York.



Thomas Eakins – *Portrait of Professor Benjamin H. Rand*, 1874  
Oil on canvas  
Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, Arkansas

# 1875

Henry James publishes *Transatlantic Sketches* on April 28. The Art Students League of New York is founded. Eakins paints *The Gross Clinic*. The William Watts Sherman house in Newport, Rhode Island, designed by Henry Hobson Richardson, is completed.



*Watts Sherman House, ca. 1875-95*

Albumen print

A.D. White Architectural Photographs, Cornell University Library,  
Ithaca, New York

# 1876

Eakins paints *The Chess Players*. Winslow Homer paints *Breezing Up*. The current location of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts in Philadelphia, designed by Frank Furness and George Hewitt, is completed. Mark Twain first publishes *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, one of the first novels to be written on a typewriter.



True Williams – *Tom Sawyer Fishing*, frontispiece from Mark Twain, *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, 1<sup>st</sup> edition (New York: American Publishing Company, 1876)  
Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division,  
Washington, DC

# 1877

Whistler paints the decorative scheme for *Harmony in Blue and Gold*, known as *The Peacock Room*. John Singer Sargent paints his *Portrait of Frances Sherborne Ridley Watts*, his first Paris Salon submission. Henry James publishes *The American*.



John Singer Sargent – *Portrait of Frances Sherborne Ridley Watts*, 1877

Oil on canvas

Philadelphia Museum of Art



# 1878

Mary Cassatt paints her self-portrait, *Portrait of the Artist*. Henry James publishes *The Europeans*. Sargent visits Southern Italy, painting subjects such as Rosina Ferrara, a young woman from Capri.



Mary Cassatt – *Portrait of the Artist*, 1878  
Gouache on paper  
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

# 1879

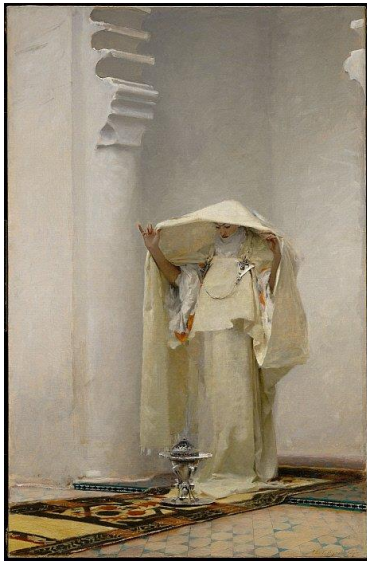
Belle da Costa Greene, the librarian best known as J. Pierpont Morgan's personal librarian who would become the first director of the Pierpont Morgan Library (now the Morgan Library and Museum), is born on November 26. Sargent paints a portrait of his teacher, the artist Carolus-Duran; the painting wins an Honorable Mention at the Paris Salon. Sargent travels to Spain. New York's St. Patrick's Cathedral, designed by James Renwick, Jr., is dedicated.



Paul César Helleu – *Belle da Costa Greene*, 1913  
Black and white chalk on paper  
The Morgan Library and Museum, New York

# 1880

Sargent paints *Fumée d'ambre gris*, a result of his travels to Morocco. Henry James begins serial publication of his novel *The Portrait of a Lady*. Mark Twain publishes *A Tramp Abroad*.



John Singer Sargent – *Fumée d'ambre gris* (*Smoke of Ambergris*),  
1880  
Oil on canvas  
Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute,  
Williamstown, Massachusetts

# 1881

Sargent paints a portrait of the Parisian gynecologist Dr. Samuel Jean Pozzi, *Dr. Samuel Jean Pozzi at Home*. Whistler paints *Harmony in Pink and Grey* and *Arrangement in Black, No. 5*, both portraits of Valerie Susan Meux. Eakins paints *Singing a Pathetic Song*.



James Abbott McNeill Whistler – *Arrangement in Black, No. 5*  
(*Portrait of Lady Meux*), 1881  
Oil on canvas  
Honolulu Museum of Art

# 1882

Sargent paints *The Daughters of Edward Darley Boit*, which he originally titles *Portraits d'enfants (Portraits of children)*; the painting is a success at the Paris Salon. Eakins paints *The Writing Master*, a portrait of his father, the calligraphist Benjamin Eakins. Oscar Wilde embarks on an extended lecture tour of the United States. Mark Twain publishes *The Prince and the Pauper*.



John Singer Sargent – *The Daughters of Edward Darley Boit*, 1882  
Oil on canvas  
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

# 1883

The first Metropolitan Opera House in New York City opens on October 22. William Merritt Chase completes his portrait *Miss Dora Wheeler*. Mark Twain's memoirs *Life on the Mississippi* are published as the first major book to be submitted in typescript. Emma Lazarus writes "The New Colossus," an ode to the Statue of Liberty in New York Harbor.



William Merritt Chase – *Miss Dora Wheeler*, 1882-83  
Oil on canvas  
The Cleveland Museum of Art

# 1884

Sargent exhibits his controversial work *Portrait of Mme \*\*\* (Madame Pierre Gautreau)* at the Paris Salon and is scandalously met with poor public and critical reception; the painting is now known as *Madame X*. Abbott Handerson Thayer paints *The Sisters*. The Dakota apartment building in New York, designed by Henry Janeway Hardenbergh, is completed. Mark Twain first publishes *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* in London on December 10.



Abbott Handerson Thayer – *The Sisters*, 1884  
Oil on canvas  
The Brooklyn Museum

# 1885

Eakins paints *The Swimming Hole*. Homer paints *The Fog Warning*. Sargent paints *Robert Louis Stevenson and his Wife*. The Home Insurance Building in Chicago, designed by William Le Baron Jenney and regarded as the first skyscraper (demolished 1931), is completed. The Tin Pan Alley group of popular songwriters forms in New York.



Exterior of the Home Insurance Building by William Le Baron Jenney in Chicago, 1885  
Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division,  
Washington, DC



# 1886

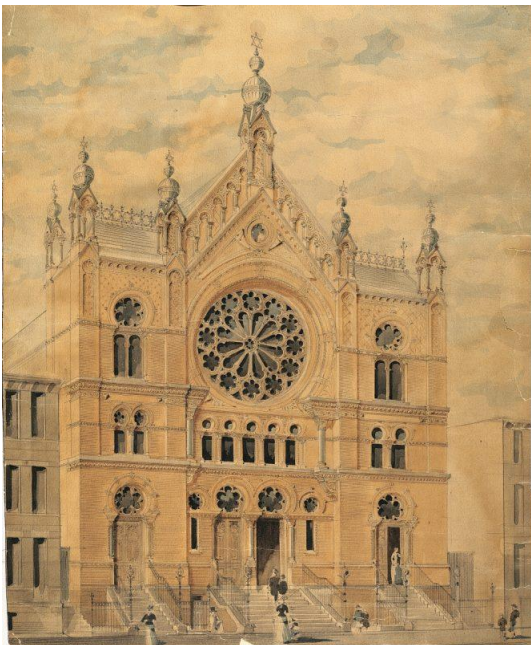
Sargent paints *Carnation, Lily, Lily, Rose*. Henry James publishes *The Bostonians*. Emily Dickinson dies at the age of 55 on May 15, with fewer than a dozen of her 1,800 poems published. Washington-based collector and philanthropist Duncan Phillips is born on June 26.



John Singer Sargent – *Carnation, Lily, Lily, Rose*, 1885-86  
Oil on canvas  
Tate, London

# 1887

The Eldridge Street Synagogue in New York (now the Museum at Eldridge Street), designed by Peter and Francis William Herter, is completed. Oscar Wilde publishes his first short story, “The Canterville Ghost,” in *The Court and Society Review*.



Watercolor rendering depicting the planned design for the Eldridge Street Synagogue  
Museum of the City of New York

# 1888

Chase paints *The Blue Kimono*. Lloyd Stephens Bryce publishes his first book, *Paradise: A Novel*. Louisa May Alcott dies of a stroke on March 6. Irving Berlin is born on May 11.



William Merritt Chase – *The Blue Kimono*, 1888  
Oil on canvas  
Private collection

# 1889

Eakins paints *The Agnew Clinic*. Sargent paints *Ellen Terry as Lady Macbeth*. John Quincy Adams Ward dedicates his bust of Alexander Lyman Holley in New York's Washington Square Park. The Corbin Building in New York, designed by Francis H. Kimball, is completed. Mark Twain publishes *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*. John Philip Sousa composes his march "The Washington Post."



John Singer Sargent – *Ellen Terry as Lady Macbeth*, 1889  
Oil on canvas  
Tate, London

# 1890

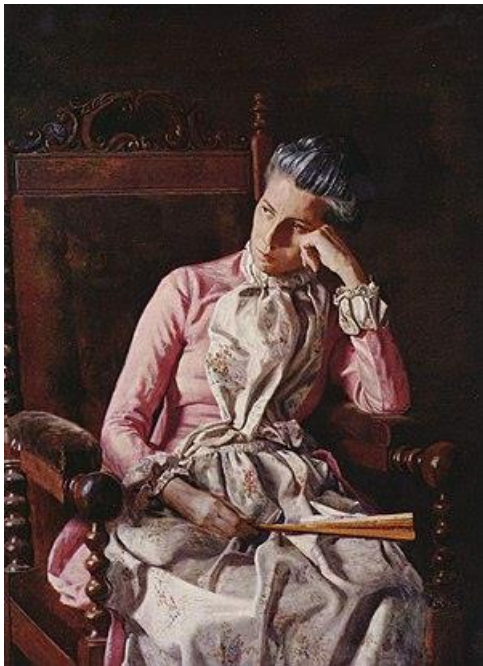
Thomas Wilmer Dewing paints *Summer*. The Second Madison Square Garden (demolished 1926), designed by Stanford White, is completed in New York. Oscar Wilde first publishes *The Picture of Dorian Gray* in *Lippincott's Monthly Magazine*. Whistler publishes *The Gentle Art of Making Enemies*.



Thomas Wilmer Dewing – *Summer*, ca. 1890  
Oil on canvas  
Smithsonian American Art Museum

# 1891

Eakins paints *Miss Amelia van Buren*. The University of Pennsylvania Library, designed by Frank Furness, and the Uris Library at Cornell University, designed by William Henry Miller, both open. The Francis P. Garvan estate in Old Westbury, New York (demolished in the 1970s) is completed.



Thomas Eakins – *Miss Amelia van Buren*, 1891  
Oil on canvas  
The Phillips Collection, Washington, DC

# 1892

Eakins completes *The Concert Singer*. Sargent paints *Mrs. Hugh Hammersley* and *Lady Agnew of Lochnaw*. The Chicago Masonic Temple, designed by Daniel Hudson Burnham and John Welborn Root, is completed. Walt Whitman dies on March 26.



John Singer Sargent – *Mrs. Hugh Hammersley*, 1892  
Oil on canvas  
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

# 1893

Bryce publishes *Friends in Exile*. Homer paints *The Fox Hunt*. Augustus Saint-Gaudens completes his bronze cast of *Diana*. The Bradbury Building in Los Angeles, designed by Sumner Hunt and George Wyman, is completed. Antonín Dvořák premieres his Symphony No. 9 (“From the New World”) at New York’s Carnegie Hall on December 16.



Augustus Saint-Gaudens – *Diana*, 1892-93  
Gilded bronze  
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York



# 1894

Bernard Berenson publishes *The Venetian Painters of the Renaissance, with an Index to their Works*. Frederick William MacMonnies completes *Bacchante and Infant Faun*. Mark Twain publishes *Pudd'nhead Wilson*. "The Sidewalks of New York," written by Charles B. Lawlor and James W. Blake, is published.



Frederick William MacMonnies – *Bacchante and Infant Faun*,  
1893-94  
Bronze  
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

# 1895

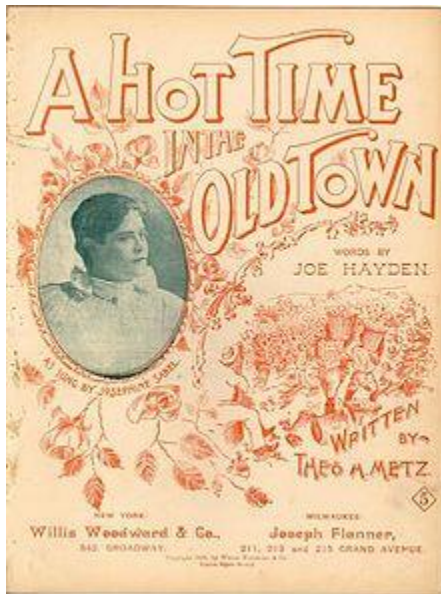
Wilde is arrested on April 6 and is convicted and sentenced to two years of hard labor on May 25 of "unlawfully committing acts of gross indecency with certain male persons." On May 23, representatives of the Astor and Lenox libraries agree to merge and form the New York Public Library, with the backing of Samuel J. Tilden. The M.H. de Young Memorial Museum (now the de Young Museum) opens in San Francisco. Homer paints *Northeaster*. "America the Beautiful," written by Katherine Lee Bates and Samuel A. Ward, is composed; Bates' 1893 visit to Pikes Peak, Colorado had inspired the poem that serves as the song's lyrics.



Winslow Homer – *Northeaster*, 1895; reworked by 1901  
Oil on canvas  
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

# 1896

On October 10, *The New York Times* publishes its first book review section; it eventually becomes *The New York Times Book Review*. Berenson publishes *Florentine Painters of the Renaissance*. William Merritt Chase founds the Chase School of Art (now Parsons School of Design). “A Hot Time in the Old Town,” written by Joseph Hayden and Theodore A. Metz, is published.



Sheet music cover to “A Hot Time in the Old Town,” (New York: Willis Woodward and Co, 1896)

# 1897

On January 2, newspapers in London erroneously report Mark Twain's death, to which the author famously responds, "The report of my death was an exaggeration." The Library of Congress Building, designed by Paul J. Pelz, opens on November 1. John Philip Sousa composes his march "The Stars and Stripes Forever." Berenson publishes *Central Italian Painters of the Renaissance*. Sargent paints *Mr. and Mrs. I.N. Phelps Stokes*.



John Singer Sargent – *Mr. and Mrs. I.N. Phelps Stokes*, 1897  
Oil on canvas  
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

# 1898

George Gershwin is born on September 26. Henry Ossawa Tanner paints *The Annunciation*. Cecilia Beaux paints *Dorothea and Francesca*. Henry James publishes *The Turn of the Screw*.



Cecilia Beaux – *Dorothea and Francesca*, 1898

Oil on canvas

The Art Institute of Chicago

# 1899

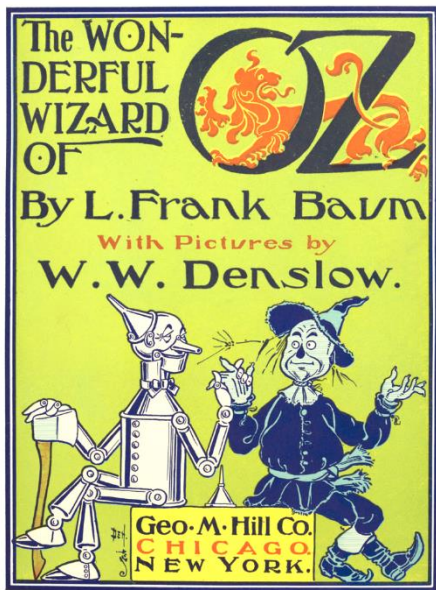
Homer paints *The Gulf Stream*. Sargent paints *The Wyndham Sisters*. The Saitta House in Dyker Heights, Brooklyn, designed by John J. Petit, is completed. Scott Joplin's "Maple Leaf Rag" is published and registered for copyright, as ragtime music increases in mainstream popularity. The University Club of New York, designed by Charles Follen McKim, is completed. Bryce publishes *Lady Blanche's Salon*.



Winslow Homer – *The Gulf Stream*, 1899  
Oil on canvas  
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

# 1900

Eakins paints *The Thinker: Portrait of Louis N. Kenton*. “Lift Ev’ry Voice and Sing,” written by James Weldon Johnson and J. Rosamond Johnson, is published. Frederic Edwin Church dies on April 7. L. Frank Baum publishes *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* in Chicago on May 17. Symphony Hall, home to the Boston Symphony Orchestra is completed on October 15. The newly formed Philadelphia Orchestra gives their first concert on November 16.



First edition title page of L. Frank Baum, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, with illustrations by W.W. Denslow (Chicago and New York: George M. Hill Co., 1900)

# 1901

Castle Gould, the Howard Gould estate in Sands Point, New York, is completed. A group of Romantic realist artists known as the “Red Rose Girls” (Violet Oakley, Jessie Wilcox Smith and Elizabeth Shippen Green) begin renting the Red Rose Inn in Villanova, Pennsylvania. Philadelphia City Hall, designed by John McArthur Jr., is completed. Union Station in Washington, DC, designed by Daniel Burnham and W. Pierce Anderson, is completed. Booker T. Washington publishes *Up from Slavery*.

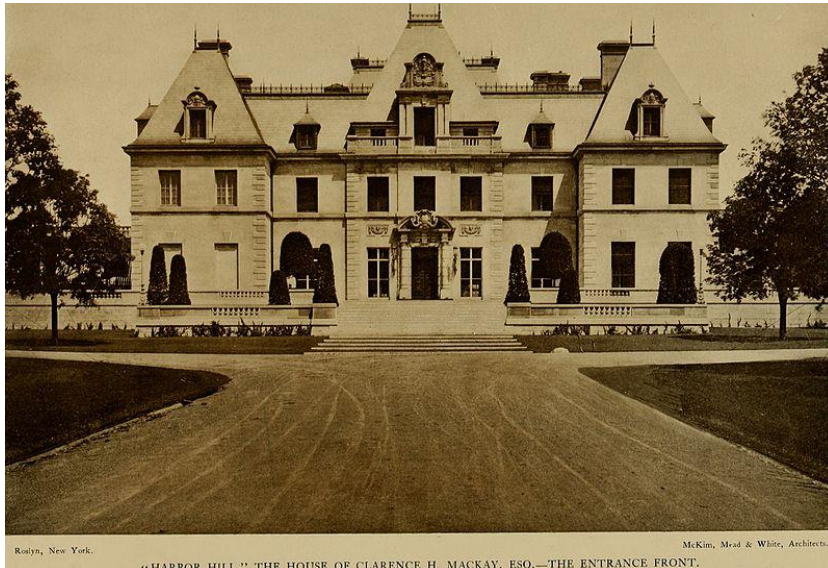


R. Newell & Son - Philadelphia City Hall, ca. 1899  
Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division,  
Washington, DC



# 1902

Harbor Hill, designed by McKim, Mead & White (demolished ca. 1947), is completed. The Flatiron Building in New York, designed by Daniel Burnham and Frederick Dinkelberg, opens. Henry James publishes *The Wings of the Dove*. Scott Joplin composes “The Entertainer” and “The Strenuous Life.” Albert Bierstadt dies on February 18.



Roslyn, New York.

McKim, Mead & White, Architects.

«HARBOR HILL,» THE HOUSE OF CLARENCE H. MACKAY, ESQ.—THE ENTRANCE FRONT.

Unknown Photographer - "Harbor Hill" - *The House of Clarence H. MacKay, Esq. The Entrance Front*, 1904  
Source: Barr Ferree, *American Estates and Gardens* (New York: Munn and Company, 1904)

# 1903

Jack London's novel *The Call of the Wild* begins serial publication in the *Saturday Evening Post* on June 20. Whistler dies on July 14. Victor Herbert's *Babes in Toyland* premieres on October 13. Isadora Duncan develops the free dance technique. Sargent paints *Mrs. Fiske Warren (Gretchen Osgood) and Her Daughter Rachel*.



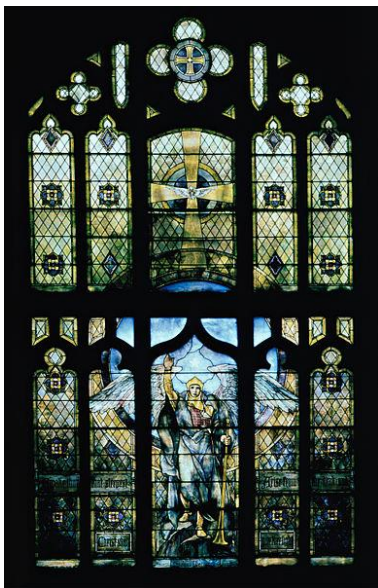
John Singer Sargent – *Mrs. Fiske Warren (Gretchen Osgood) and Her Daughter Rachel*, 1903

Oil on canvas

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

# 1904

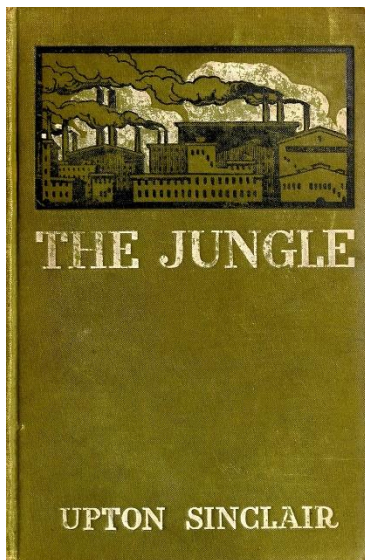
The Hispanic Society of America is founded by Archer Milton Huntington on May 18; the museum's location would later open in 1908. Frederick Wilson and Tiffany Studios produce the *Angel of the Resurrection* window. The St. Regis Hotel in New York, designed by Trowbridge & Livingston with interiors by Arnold Constable, opens. "Give My Regards to Broadway" and "The Yankee Doodle Boy," both written by George M. Cohan, are premiered through his musical *Little Johnny Jones*. Greentree, the Payne Whitney estate in Manhasset, New York, is completed.



Tiffany Studios, designed by Frederick Wilson –  
*The Angel of the Resurrection*, 1904  
Stained glass and lead  
Indianapolis Museum of Art

# 1905

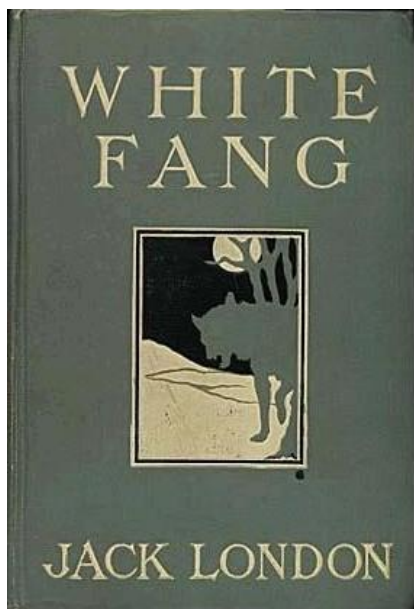
Alfred Stieglitz and Edward J. Steichen open the Little Galleries of the Photo-Secession (later known as Gallery 291) in New York. The Murry Guggenheim House in West Long Branch, New Jersey, designed by Carrère and Hastings, is completed. Upton Sinclair begins serial publication of his novel *The Jungle* in the American socialist newspaper *Appeal to Reason*. Belle da Costa Greene is appointed as J. Pierpont Morgan's librarian. Edith Wharton publishes *The House of Mirth*.



Book cover design for Upton Sinclair, *The Jungle*, 1<sup>st</sup> edition (New York: Doubleday, Page & Co., 1906)

# 1906

In July, the first console gramophone, a horn-enclosed phonograph known as the *Victrola*, is released. Jack London publishes his novel *White Fang*. Welwyn Estate, the property of Harold Irving Pratt designed by Babb, Cook & Willard, is completed; the property is now the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County. Old Westbury Gardens, the John Shaffer Phipps estate designed by George A. Crawley, is completed.



Book cover design for Jack London, *White Fang*, 1<sup>st</sup> edition (New York: Macmillan Company, 1906)

# 1907

Following protests citing its indecency, Richard Strauss's opera *Salome* is removed from the Metropolitan Opera's repertoire on January 27. Berenson publishes *North Italian Painters of the Renaissance*. Stieglitz creates his photograph *The Steerage*. George M. Cohan introduces his song "Harrigan" in his musical *Fifty Miles from Boston*.



Alfred Stieglitz – *The Steerage*, 1907

Photogravure

The Museum of Modern Art, New York

# 1908

Led by Robert Henri, The Eight give their first and only group exhibition, which opens at New York's Macbeth Gallery in February. Lewis Wickes Hine produces his photograph *Girl Worker in a Carolina Cotton Mill*. The Singer Building in New York (demolished in 1968), designed by Ernest Flagg, is completed and is the world's tallest building for a year. "Take Me Out to the Ball Game," written by Jack Norworth and Albert von Tilzer, is published.



Lewis Wickes Hine – *Girl Worker in Carolina Cotton Mill*, 1908  
Gelatin silver print  
The Museum of Modern Art, New York

# 1909

The Boston Opera House (demolished in 1958), designed by Wheelwright and Haven, opens on November 8. The Yale University Whiffenpoofs, the oldest collegiate a cappella group in the United States is founded. Homer paints *Right and Left*.



Detroit Publishing Co. - The Boston Opera House, ca. 1910  
Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division,  
Washington, DC



# 1910

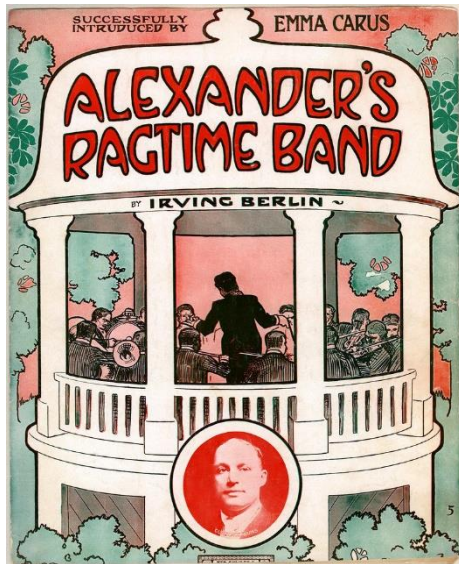
Mark Twain dies on April 21. Homer dies on September 29. The original Pennsylvania Station in New York, designed by McKim, Mead and White (demolished in 1963), opens on November 27. “Come Josephine in My Flying Machine,” written by Alfred Bryan and Fred Fisher, is published. The first iteration of Eagle’s Nest, the William Kissam Vanderbilt II estate in Centerport, New York designed by Warren and Wetmore, is completed.



Bain News Service – Pennsylvania Station from Gimbel’s, 1911  
Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division,  
Washington, DC

# 1911

On February 21, Gustav Mahler conducts his last concert with the New York Philharmonic, of which he had been principal conductor since 1909; Mahler dies three months later. Edith Wharton publishes *Ethan Frome*. “Alexander’s Ragtime Band,” written by Irving Berlin, is published. Scott Joplin composes his opera *Treemonisha*, which would not be staged until 1972.



Sheet music cover to “Alexander’s Ragtime Band,” 1911

# 1912

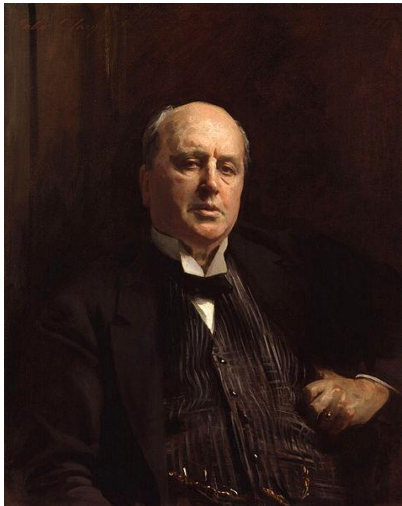
Boston's Copley Plaza Hotel (now the Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel), designed by Henry Janeway Hardenbergh, is completed. "The Memphis Blues," written by W.C. Handy, is published. Coindre Hall, the Huntington, New York property of George McKesson Brown designed by Clarence Sumner Lucer and J.V. Schafer, is completed. Hempstead House in Sands Point, New York is completed.



Detroit Publishing Company –  
The Copley-Plaza, Boston, Mass., after 1898.  
New York Public Library, The Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Division of  
Art, Prints and Photographs: Photography Collection

# 1913

The rebuilt Grand Central Terminal, in New York, opens on February 1. The Armory Show (International Exhibition of Modern Art) opens in New York on February 17 and closes on March 15, exhibiting European avant-garde art to the American public. The Woolworth Building, which would become the tallest building in the world until 1930, opens on April 24. Sargent paints a portrait of Henry James, despite vowing in 1907 to cease painting commissioned portraits. Willa Cather publishes *O Pioneers!* “You Made Me Love You,” written by Joseph McCarthy and James V. Monaco, is published.



John Singer Sargent – *Henry James*, 1913  
Oil on canvas  
National Portrait Gallery, London

# 1914

The Baltimore Museum of Art is founded on November 16. Henry Clay Frick and his wife move into their newly completed residence, designed by Thomas Hastings, on 1 East 70<sup>th</sup> Street in New York on November 17; the home is now the location of The Frick Collection. Edgar Rice Burroughs publishes *Tarzan of the Apes* in book form. “St. Louis Blues,” written by W.C. Handy, is published.



Henry Clay Frick Residence, One East 70<sup>th</sup> Street,  
Fifth Avenue View  
Published in Architecture magazine, November 1914  
The Frick Collection Archives, The Frick Art Reference Library,  
New York