

# GREAT BRITAIN: TOWARD DEMOCRACY!

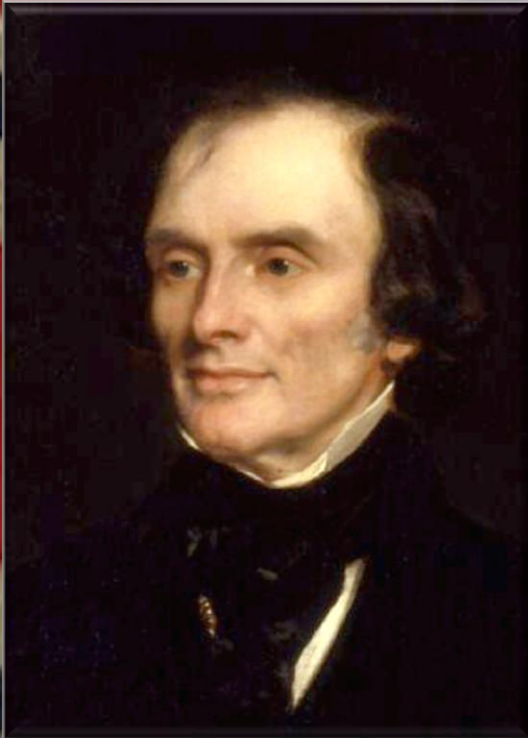


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# GREAT BRITAIN: AN INTRODUCTION

- Britain is the epitome of a liberal state at this point.
- While it has problems, it is able to deal with them using current programs.
- There was a widespread belief in competition and individualism
- Workers already have unions that are accepted and supported. (Other countries are still struggling to create and gain governmental acceptance of unions)
- During this time, a reform occurred to the country by way of a postal service. Rowland Hill proposed this idea in 1837. It was official in 1840.

# The Second Reform Act

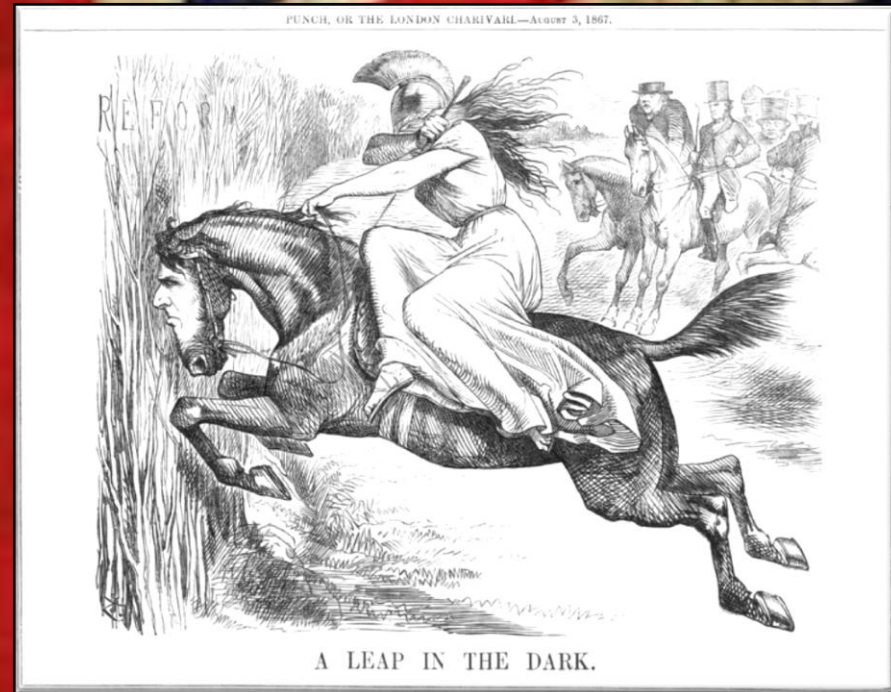


A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'J. Russell'.

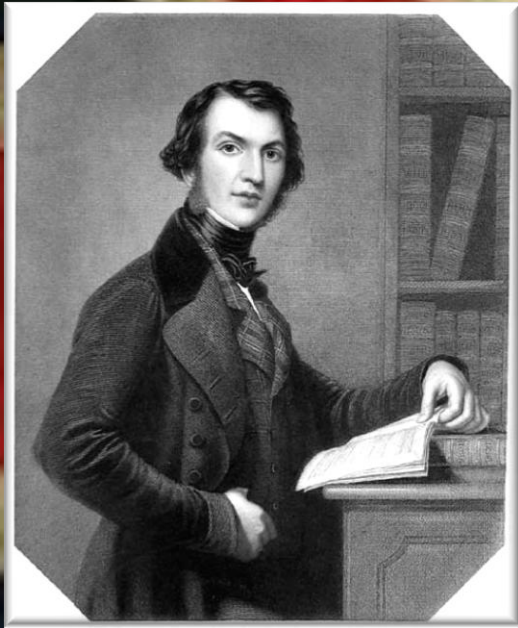
- Workers are now more responsible, and the political order must be expanded once again to include them.
- In 1866, Lord Russel (left) introduces a reform bill that is defeated by a coalition of Liberals and Conservatives.
- Russel is soon replaced by a conservative, Lord Derby.

# The Second Reform Act

- Benjamin Disraeli, a conservative minister, introduces another reform bill (1867).
- Disraeli's bill is amended again and again, making it even more liberal than the original proposed by Russel. It doubled the number of voters.
- This helped the conservative party because they could take credit for it & the increasingly conservative middle class.



# Gladstone's Great Ministry 1868-1874

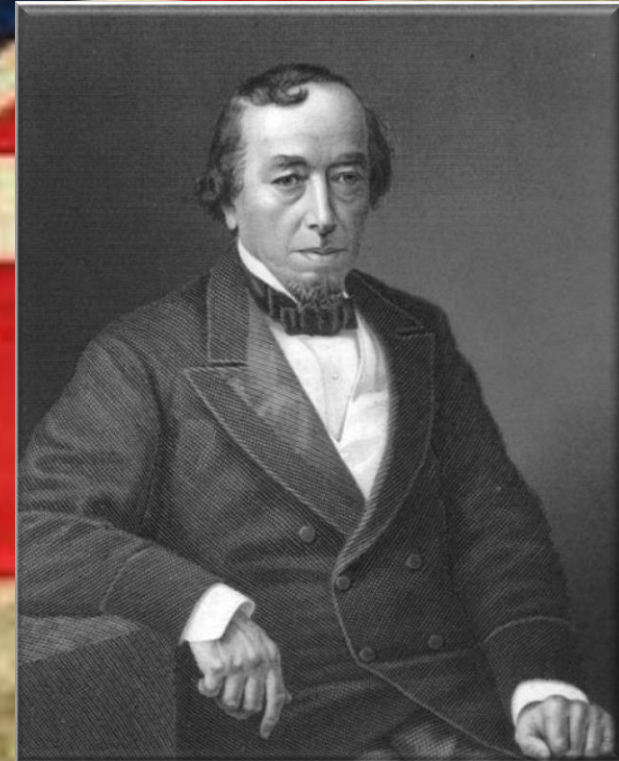


A handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "W. E. Gladstone". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

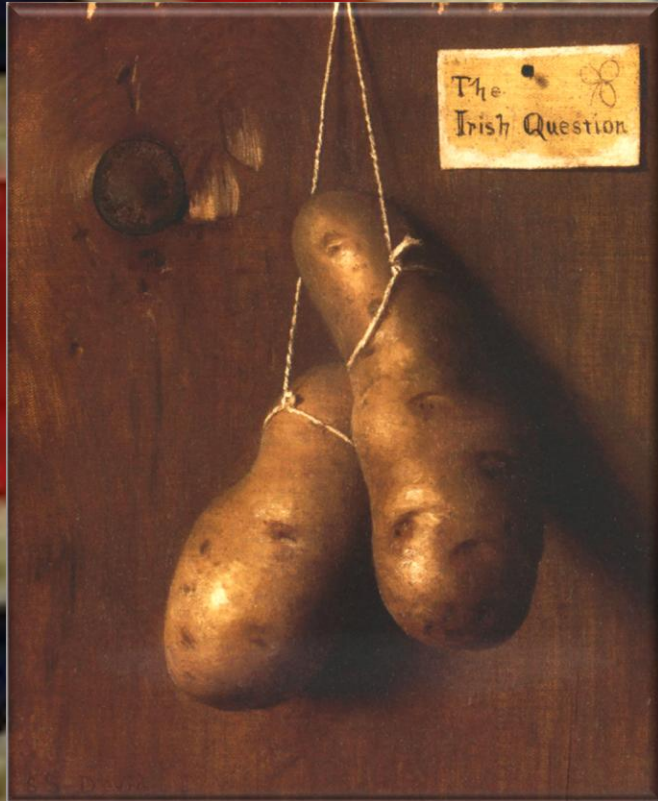
- His reforms were mostly Liberal.
- There were exams for civil service positions, purchase of officer commissions abolished, removal of Anglican religious requirements for the faculties of Oxford and Cambridge University.
- Secret ballot introduced by the Ballot Act of 1872.
- The Education Act of 1870 gave the government responsibility of running elementary schools.
- All reforms beneficial because they improved the state and fixed items that led to discontent.

# Disraeli in Office 1874-1880

- Disraeli (right) succeeded Gladstone in 1874.
- This election had steep differences on the topics of religion, education, and alcohol. This led to a division among the British political system.
- Gladstone political ideals oriented towards individualism and pure capitalism. Disraeli believed in paternalistic values to ease class antagonisms.
- Disraeli was a better talker than practical worker. While he had a few specific ideas on how to reform the system, he did not accomplish very much with them.



# The Irish Question



- Irish nationalists sought to be separate from England and too establish their own rule of Ireland.
- Gladstone had addressed the concern of growing Irish rebellion.
- He had decided to get rid of the tax that the Irishmen had to pay to the Church of England.

# The Irish Question

- Gladstone, also, passed a Coercion Act to maintain order in Ireland as well as the right the House of Commons.
- Gladstone tried to support Irish home rule, with little results. Ireland remained under the control of England.
- Charles Parnell (right) was an important part of Irish nationalism. In 1855, he spoke the “Speech at Wicklow” that outlined the problems that Ireland had with Britain.

