

**THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRIAL AMERICA**

**Interpreting Political Cartoons**

The Gilded Age is known today both for its prosperity and for its social and political problems. Farmers in particular faced hardships during this period. ♦ *As you look at the cartoon, think about what the cartoonist suggests about farmers and the government during the Gilded Age. Then, on a separate sheet of paper, answer the questions that follow.*

**The Gilded Age**



The Granger Collection, New York

**The Political Poor Relation—An Unwelcome Guest**

**Questions to Think About**

1. How are members of Congress portrayed in this cartoon?
2. What is the reaction of the members of Congress to the farmer? Why are they reacting in this way?
3. **Interpret Images** Which political party is represented by the farmer? Explain.
4. **Interpret Images** What do you think is the cartoon's purpose? Explain.