

Gov 1539: Section 10

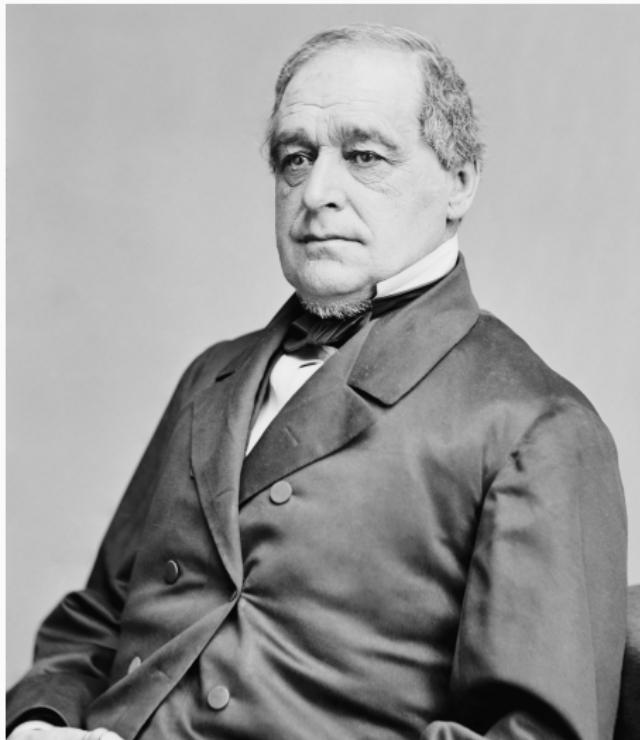
Tyler Simko

April 23rd, 2021

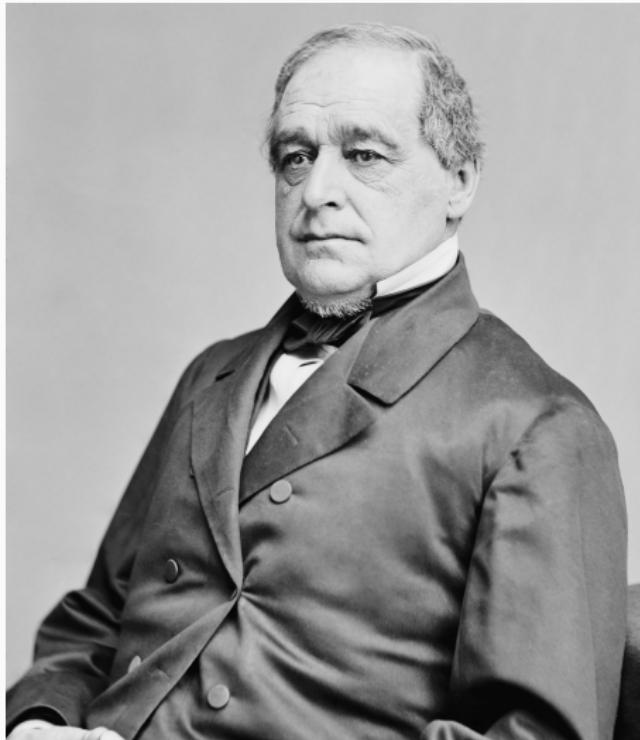
The goals for today

- Finish impeachment
 - Lecture ran short
 - Here we'll cover everything else you need to know.

Story starts with this guy



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Hannibal Hamlin (VP: 1861-1865)

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- Why was Hannibal chosen as VP?
 1. Geographic balance on the ticket (Maine to Lincoln's Illinois).
 2. Former Democrat (very anti-slavery).

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- Several high-profile clashes:
 - Including Johnson's overridden veto of Civil Rights Act of 1866.
 - First veto override of major legislation.

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- Removed Stanton anyway → House quickly impeached Johnson.
 - one interesting wrinkle: Johnson never appointed VP after becoming president, so president pro tempore of Senate would have become president if Johnson removed.

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 - on one hand, sign of congressional **restraint** - some Republican Senators preferred a close vote as a warning.
 - though many congressional leaders took **broad view of impeachment** from this incident – president should “follow and enforce the legislative will,” nothing more.
 - first **veto override** of major legislation was a precedent.
 - strong legislature and weak president characterized Wilson’s phrase of **“congressional government”**.

Next in line



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 - Watergate Special Prosecutor Archibald Cox subpoenaed the tapes.
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- Supreme Court rules Nixon must release all tapes.

The turning point



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White House Assistant Alexander Butterfield's testimony, 1973.

The tape

Transcript of the “smoking gun” tape, June 23, 1972.

Haldeman: Okay -that's fine. Now, on the investigation, you know, the Democratic break-in thing, we're back to the-in the, the problem area because the FBI is not under control, because Gray doesn't exactly know how to control them, and they have, their investigation is now leading into some productive areas, because they've been able to trace the money, not through the money itself, but through the bank, you know, sources – the banker himself. And, and it goes in some directions we don't want it to go. Ah, also there have been some things, like an informant came in off the street to the FBI in Miami, who was a photographer or has a friend who is a photographer who developed some films through this guy, Barker, and the films had pictures of Democratic National Committee letter head documents and things. So I guess, so it's things like that that are gonna, that are filtering in. Mitchell came up with yesterday, and John Dean analyzed very carefully last night and concludes, concurs now with Mitchell's recommendation that the only way to solve this, and we're set up beautifully to do it, ah, in that and that...the only network that paid any attention to it last night was NBC...they did a massive story on the Cuban...

Nixon: That's right.

The letter



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 9, 1974

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I hereby resign the Office of President of the
United States.

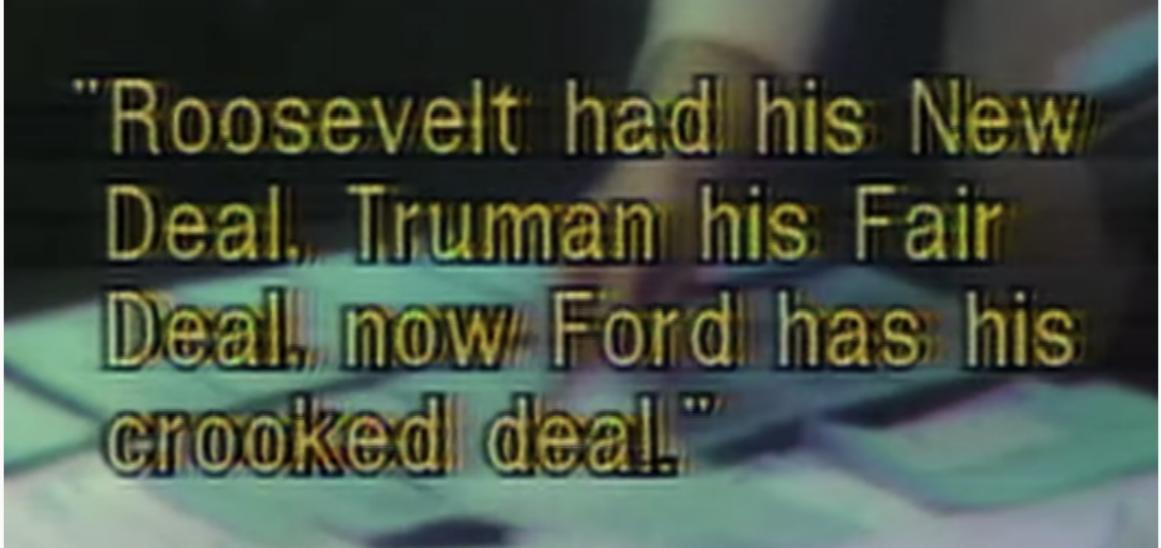
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive ink that reads "Richard Nixon".

11.35 AM

The Honorable Henry A. Kissinger
The Secretary of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

A handwritten mark consisting of a stylized letter "H" with a diagonal line through it.



"Roosevelt had his New Deal, Truman his Fair Deal, now Ford has his crooked deal."

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- Congress decides “high crimes and misdemeanors,” and incentives help determine their vote. What factors do they have to balance?
 - Best interests of the country.
 - Partisan and electoral incentives.
 - Balance of power concerns.
 - Precedent of acquittal or removal.
- **Takeaway:** members have complicated balancing act: long vs. short-term considerations, electoral vs. partisan vs. institutional incentives.

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- **Takeaway**: hopefully these sections have been helpful for you, and I'm here if you need anything until this course ends – and well beyond!