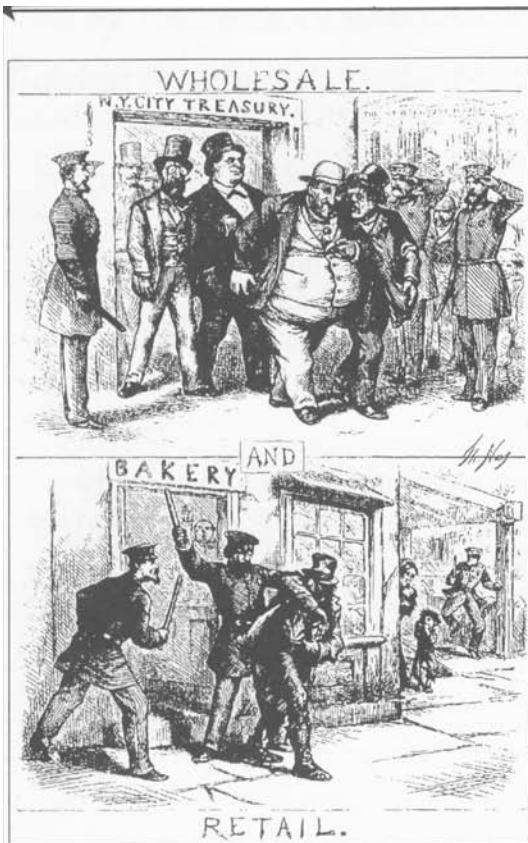


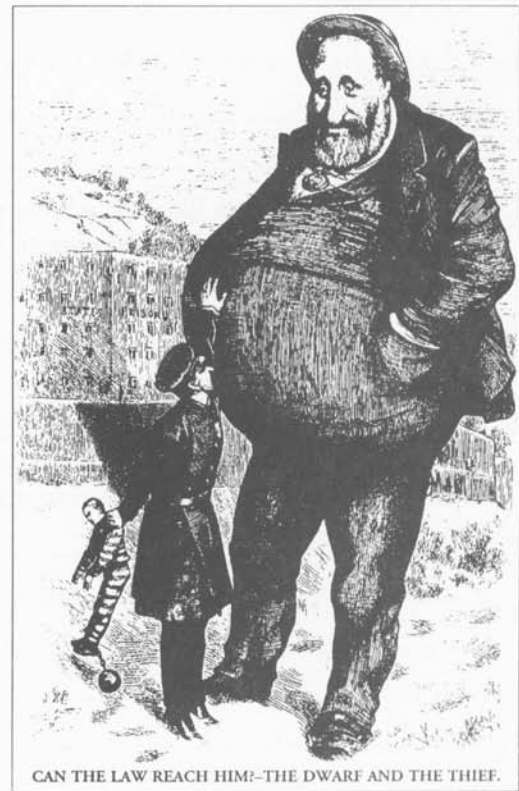
Boss Tweed

Thomas Nast's attacks on the Tweed Ring in the pages of *Harper's Weekly* contributed most to Nast's fame as a political cartoonist. As head of the New York Commission of Public Works, "Boss" Tweed gave contracts to his cronies in return for "kickbacks." An audit of a city account later disclosed that Tweed's gang stole \$200 million from New York's citizens. Among the gang's notorious tactics in draining the city's funds were billing the city \$50,000 a day for a plasterer's wages and charging \$180,000 for three tables and forty chairs. Tweed attempted to "silence" cartoonist Nast, but his tactics were unsuccessful. Tweed and his cronies were ultimately convicted and forced from office. Tweed was sentenced to a one-year jail term, but his unsavory saga did not conclude there. Tweed fled to Spain and attempted to hide out there. However, he was eventually extradited and imprisoned.

Below are two of Nast's cartoons.



Thomas Nast, *Harper's Weekly*, September 16, 1871.



Thomas Nast, *Harper's Weekly*, January 6, 1872.