

Module 01: Can Humans Control the Natural World? Urban Landscapes and Perceptions of Nature

Evidence

Urban Growth Literature and Cartoons The Horse and the Automobile

The first section below links to maps illustrating the spread of large cities from 1870 to 1914, during the period of rapid industrialization and urbanization. The four written accounts and four cartoons in the second section describe different perceptions of nature in the context of industrialization. In each case, consider how the author or artist uses nature as a means of depicting the relationship between humans and their environment. Finally, the cartoons in the last section use humor to explore how the coming of mechanized transportation shaped human attitudes toward a favorite animal, the horse. As you examine the cartoons, think about their intended meaning, the range of possible responses, and how they represent the changing relationship between humans and the natural environment.

Urban Growth



1. Urbanization Map, 1870

Relative growth of cities by 1870



2. Urbanization Map, 1914

Relative growth of cities by 1914

Nature in Literature and Cartoons

A

3. Nature as Presence

William Wordsworth, *Lines Composed a Few Miles Above Tintern Abbey*, 1798

A

4. Control of Nature

Charles Dickens, *Dombey and Son*, 1848

A

5. Description of Manchester

Alexis de Tocqueville, *Journey to England*, 1835

A

6. City and Countryside in Fiction

Elizabeth Gaskell, *Mary Barton*, 1849



7. "The Smells"

Punch, November
1, 1890



**8. "The Momentous
Question"**

Punch, September
2, 1871



9. "Back to the Land"

Punch, January 4,
1905



10. "Logical"

Punch, January 6,
1904

The Horse and the Automobile



**11. "Unwilling to
Give up Horses"**

Punch, April 18,
1896



**12. "Old Farmer
Jones"**

Punch, February
5, 1898



**13. "Mems for
Motorists"**

Punch, June 20,
1900



14. "Rival Forces"

Punch, August 22,
1900



**15. "Retort
Courteous"**

Punch, September
14, 1904



**16. "Passing of the
Horse"**

Punch, May 17,
1905



**17. "Breaking It
Gently"**

Punch, December
20, 1905



**18. "Protect the Poor
Motorist"**

Punch, September
13, 1913