



This engraving commemorates Henry Clay's farewell speech to the Senate on March 31, 1842, and is often considered the finest depiction of the United States Senate. Senator Clay of Kentucky appears in the left background, standing. The scene includes more than 100 likenesses that are based on individual daguerreotypes produced between 1843 and 1844 by the photographic studio of Edward Anthony. While the composite provides accurate portraits of scores of senators and distinguished Americans, the individuals depicted never appeared in the chamber at the same time. Despite such artistic license, the engraving was well received. One contemporary writer remarked, "there are persons introduced who were not there, and this is not only done with perfect propriety, but it gives the picture more the air of a historical composition, and renders it far more valuable than it would have been had the artists confined themselves to a merely slavish and mechanical accuracy."¹ The print was widely circulated and fed the public's growing appetite for inexpensive and faithful images of the country's most prominent citizens. 🌀

¹"The United States Senate Chamber," *The American Review: A Whig Journal of Politics, Literature, Art and Science* 4, no. 4 (October 1846): 431–432.



United States Senate Chamber.

Thomas Doney after James Whitehorn
Powell & Co., 1846
Mezzotint, black and white
28 x 36 inches (71.1 x 91.4 cm)
Cat. no. 38.00027.001

See appendix p. 478 for key

Senate Chamber



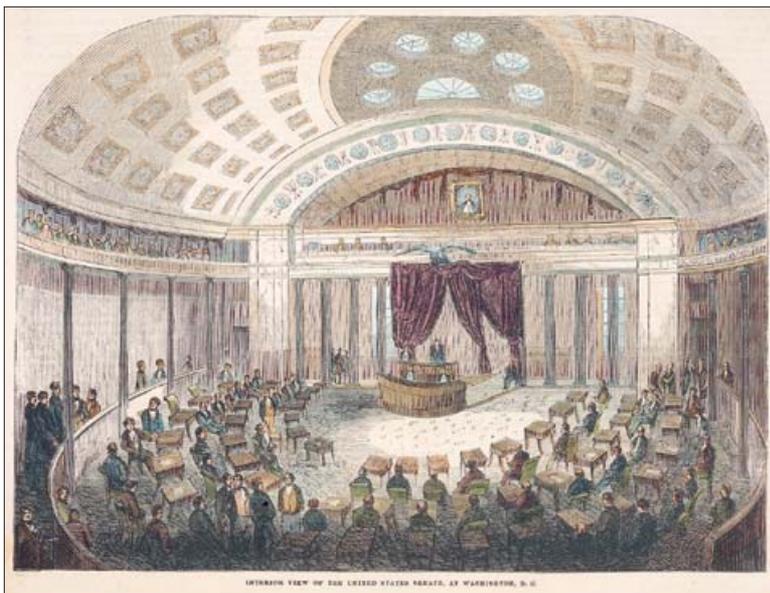
Senate Chamber

Deroy after Augustus Theodore Frederick Adam Köllner
 Goupil, Vibert & Co., 1848
 Lithograph, colored
 7 3/8 x 11 inches (18.7 x 27.9 cm)
 Cat. no. 38.00964.001



"A Message from the President."

Unidentified
 Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper, 01/12/1856
 Wood engraving, black and white
 4 x 3 inches (10.2 x 7.6 cm)
 Cat. no. 38.00334.001b



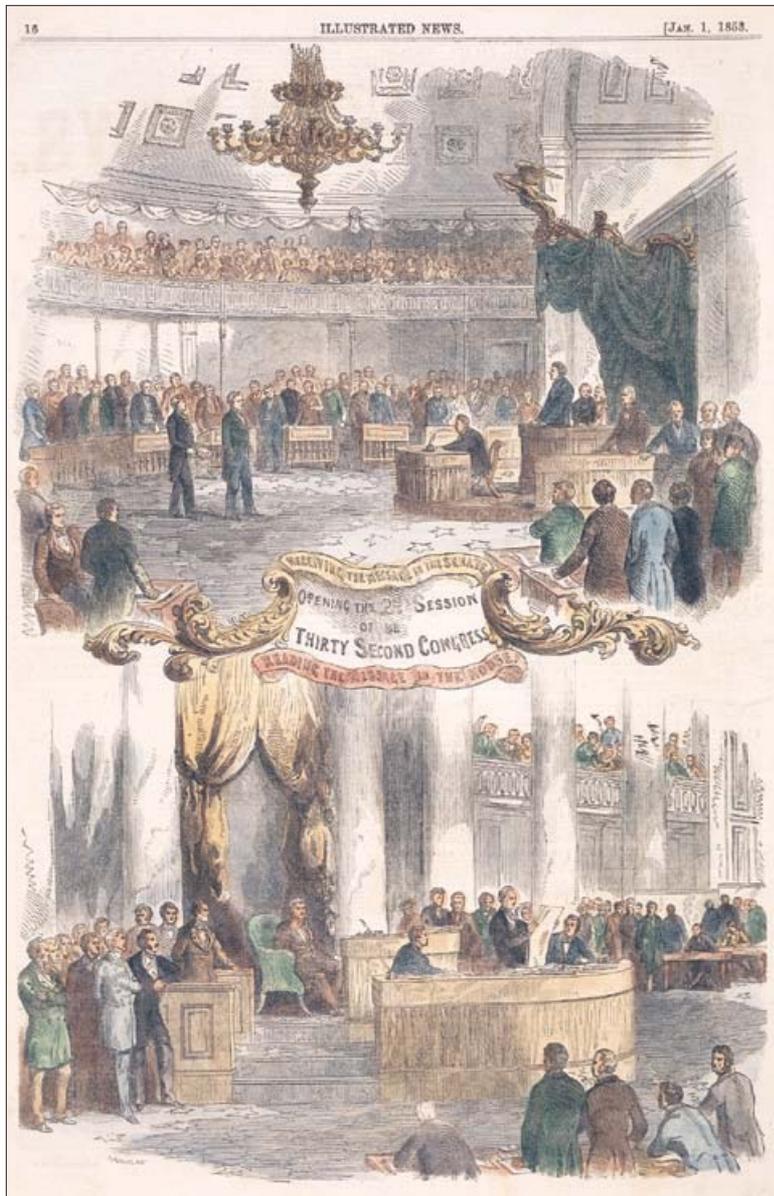
Interior View of the United States Senate, at Washington, D.C.

Unidentified after Augustus Theodore Frederick Adam Köllner
 Gleason's Pictorial Drawing-Room Companion, ca. 1852
 Wood engraving, hand-colored
 7 3/16 x 9 3/8 inches (18.3 x 23.8 cm)
 Cat. no. 38.00051.004



View of the Senate of the United States in Session.

J. Rodgers
 E. Anthony, ca. 1850
 Engraving, hand-colored
 5 1/8 x 6 1/4 inches (13.0 x 15.9 cm)
 Cat. no. 38.00911.001



Opening the 2nd Session of [t]he Thirty Second Congress

Frank Leslie
The [New York] Illustrated News, 01/01/1853
 Wood engraving, hand-colored
 14 ½ x 9 ½ inches (36.8 x 24.1 cm)
 Cat. no. 38.00311.003



Ladies in the Senate Chamber—Reading of the President's Message.

Unidentified
Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper, 01/12/1856
 Wood engraving, black and white
 4 ¼ x 6 ¼ inches (10.8 x 15.9 cm)
 Cat. no. 38.00334.001a



The Assault in the U.S. Senate Chamber on Senator Sumner.

Unidentified
Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper, 06/07/1856
 Wood engraving, black and white
 8 ⅝ x 9 ⅞ inches (21.9 x 23.2 cm)
 Cat. no. 38.00292.003