Mutual Admiration political cartoon, 1903

Depicted as a parrot, Samuel Pennypacker is perched on a large boot. Representative Frederick Taylor Pusey, who tried to pass an anti-cartoon law in Pennsylvania, is depicted as a large cat. He is wearing a large bow and name tag. A scroll with the words "anti-cartoon bill" written on it lays next to the boot. Below the image there is a brief satirical article about the cartoon censorship.

During the gubernatorial election of 1902, Charles Nelan drew a series of unflattering cartoons about candidate Samuel Pennypacker, illustrating him as party boss Matthew Quay's trained parrot. When Pennypacker won the election, he and Pusey tried to pass an anti-cartoon law which would prohibit cartoonists from depicting politicians in any non-human form. Pusey's bill did not pass, but in May 1903 Pennypacker signed a similar bill into legislation. Cartoonists across the nation criticized the law. Because of public outrage, the law was never enforced and was later repealed in 1907.

FORMAT:
Political cartoons; Clippings

DIMENSIONS:
Width: 26.5 cm, Height: 35 cm

PUBLISHER:
Historical Society of Pennsylvania

ARTIST:
Nelan, Charles, 1858-1904; Biunno, Diane; Biunno, Diane; Historical Society of Pennsylvania; Samuel W. Pennypacker, 1843-1916; Frederick Taylor Pusey, 1872-1936; Wanamaker, Thomas B., 1865-1908