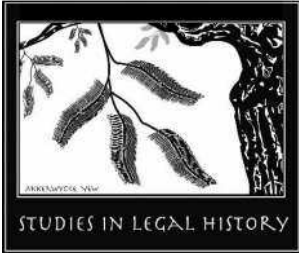


## Almost Citizens

*Almost Citizens* lays out the tragic story of how the United States denied Puerto Ricans full citizenship following annexation of the island in 1898. As America became an overseas empire, a handful of remarkable Puerto Ricans debated with U.S. legislators, presidents, judges, and others over who was a citizen and what citizenship meant. This struggle caused a fundamental shift in constitutional jurisprudence: away from the post-Civil War regime of citizenship, rights, and statehood and toward doctrines that accommodated racist imperial governance. Erman's gripping account shows how, in the wake of the Spanish-American War, administrators, lawmakers, and presidents, together with judges, deployed creativity and ambiguity to transform constitutional law and interpretation over a quarter century of debate and litigation. The result is a history in which the United States and Latin America, Reconstruction and empire, and law and bureaucracy intertwine.

Sam Erman is Associate Professor at the University of Southern California Gould School of Law.

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*Puerto Rico, the U.S. Constitution,  
and Empire*

SAM ERMAN

*University of Southern California*



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## Contents

<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>page</i> viii
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	ix
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	xiii
Introduction	I
1. 1898: “The Constitutional Lion in the Path”	8
2. The Constitution and the New U.S. Expansion: Debating the Status of the Islands	27
3. “We Are Naturally Americans”: Federico Degetau and Santiago Iglesias Pursue Citizenship	47
4. “American Aliens”: Isabel Gonzalez, Domingo Collazo, Federico Degetau, and the Supreme Court, 1902–1905	74
5. Reconstructing Puerto Rico, 1904–1909	97
6. The Jones Act and the Long Path to Collective Naturalization	121
Conclusion	144
<i>Afterword</i>	160
<i>Notes</i>	162
<i>Index</i>	266

## Figures

- |      |  |         |
|------|--|---------|
| 1.1  | The Puerto Rican Commission, photograph from Ángel Rivero, <i>Crónica de la Guerra Hispanoamericana en Puerto Rico</i> (Madrid, 1922), 270. Courtesy of HathiTrust.  | page 26 |
| 2.1  | Louis Dalrymple, “School Begins,” <i>Puck</i> , 25 Jan. 1899. Courtesy of Library of Congress Prints and Photographs.  | 32      |
| 3.1  | Photograph of Federico Degetau y Gonzalez, <i>Harper’s Weekly</i> , 22 Dec. 1900.  | 48      |
| 3.2a | Detail from W. A. Rogers, “Uncle Sam’s New Class in the Art of Self-Government,” <i>Harper’s Weekly</i> , 27 Aug. 1898, cover.   | 57      |
| 3.2b | Detail from Victor Gillam, “The White Man’s Burden (Apologies to Kipling),” <i>Judge</i> , 1899. Courtesy of Billy Ireland Cartoon Library and Museum.   | 58      |
| 3.3  | Passport of Vicente Gonzalez, 19 Dec. 1907. Courtesy of Ancestry.com.  | 62      |
| 3.4  | Detail from “Road and Blockhouse between Aibonito and Coamo,” in William S. Bryan, ed., <i>Our Islands and Their People</i> (New York, 1899), 408.   | 66      |
| 3.5  | “Uncle Sam’s Burden,” <i>New York Times</i> , 5 July 1903, A9.   | 72      |
| 4.1  | Letter from Isabel Gonzalez to Federico Degetau, 10 Apr. 1904, Centro de Investigaciones Históricas, Colección Ángel M. Mergal 5/1/5.  | 90      |
| 4.2  | Detail from R. C. Bowman, “She Can’t Resist Him,” <i>Minneapolis Tribune</i> (third quarter 1898), as reproduced in <i>Cartoons of the War of 1898 with Spain from the Leading Foreign and American Papers</i> (Chicago, 1898), 158. Courtesy of Internet Archive. | 92      |



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xi

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## Abbreviations

1880 Census, ED _	Tenth Census of the United States, 1880, DC NARA, Record Group 29, Microfilm Publication T9, Brooklyn, Kings County, NY, [Enumeration District (ED __)]; available at Ancestry.com
1892 Census, _	New York State Education Department, Office of Cultural Education, 1892 New York State Census, Albany, New York State Library, [district]; available at Ancestry.com
1900 Census, ED _	Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900, DC NARA, Record Group 29, Microfilm Publication T623, Brooklyn, Kings County, NY, [Enumeration District (ED __)]; available at Ancestry.com
1904 Census _/_	New York, State Census, 1904, Population Schedules, New York State Archives, Albany, [Election District], [Enumeration District]; available at Ancestry.com
1910 Census _/_/_/_	Department of Commerce and Labor – Bureau of the Census, Thirteenth Census of the United States: 1910 – Population, FHL microfilm 1375016, DC NARA Record Group 29, Microfilm Publication T624, [Supervisor’s District], [Enumeration District], [Ward or Assembly District of city], [sheet], [place]; available at Ancestry.com
1915 Census _/_/_	New York State Archives, Albany, State Population Census Schedules, 1915, [Election District], [Assembly District], [place], [page]; available at Ancestry.com

1920 Census _/_/_/_	Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920, DC NARA, Record Group 29, [state or territory], [city], [neighborhood], microfilm publication T625, [Enumeration District], [sheet]; available at Ancestry.com
1930 Census _/_/_/_	Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930, DC NARA, Record Group 29, Microfilm Publication T626, [city], [county], [state], [Enumeration District], [sheet]; available at Ancestry.com
AG/DE/SPR/COS	Archivo General de Puerto Rico, Fondo del Departamento de Estado, Sección del Secretario de Puerto Rico, Serie del Correspondencia Oficina del Secretaria
AG/OG/CG/_/_	Archivo General de Puerto Rico, Fondo del Oficina de Gobernador, Serie Correspondencia General, [caja (box)], [cartapacio (folder)]
CDO:_	El Centro de Documentación Obrera Santiago Iglesias Pantín, Microfilm Collection, [roll]
CIHCAM _/_/_	Centro de Investigaciones Históricas, Colección Ángel M. Mergal, [caja (box)], [cartapacio (folder)], [documento (document)]
CIHCAM _/L_	Centro de Investigaciones Históricas, Colección Ángel M. Mergal, [caja (box)], [libro (book) (L _)]
CPMN	Colección Puertorriqueña, Microfilm, Newspapers, Biblioteca de la Universidad de Puerto Rico, Recinto de Río Piedras
DC NARA	District of Columbia Branch, National Archives and Records Administration
46/_/_/_	Record Group 46, [box,] [Senate file number], [folder]
85/_/_~/_/_	Record Group 85, [entry,] [volume number out of total number of volumes], [page], [number]
233/_/_	Record Group 233, [box], [folder]
MD NARA 350/_/_	Maryland Branch, National Archives and Records Administration, Record Group 350, [series], [file]
NYCMA _/_/_	New York City Municipal Archives, [place], [reference ID], [GS film number]
NY NARA	New York Branch, National Archives and Records Administration
21/_/_/_	Record Group 21, [journal for the District Court for the District of _], [city], [volume]
M _/_/_	Microfilm series [M_], [roll], [frame]; available at Ancestry.com

*List of Abbreviations*

xv

- PCLVANY \_/\_ Passenger and Crew Lists of Vessels Arriving at New York, NY, 1897–1957, ARC ID: 3887372, DC NARA, Record Group 85, [microfilm publication], [NARA roll]; available at Ancestry.com
- SGL \_/\_ Samuel Gompers Letterbooks, 1883–1924, Library of Congress, [volume], [page]

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