

OLD NEW YORK COUNTY COURTHOUSE

52 Chambers Street, New York

Some buildings are famous; others are infamous. The Old New York County Court-house is one of the latter. It stands as a monument to the machinations of William Marcy (“Boss”) Tweed, who ran one of the most infamous political machines in American history, and who has become *the* symbol of graft and corruption in American annals. Tweed owned the quarry that supplied the marble, and the “Tweed Ring” profited from a 65 percent commission on each shady contract awarded during its construction. When the ring was broken in 1871, \$13 million had been expended on a courthouse that was still unfinished! Notwithstanding, the building is a handsome Renaissance Revival structure that provides a nice architectural complement to nearby City Hall.