

**MINDING THE MACHINE: LANGUAGES OF CLASS IN
EARLY INDUSTRIAL AMERICA**

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Minding the Machine: Languages of Class in Early Industrial America (review). Angela Lakwete. Technology and Culture, Volume 46, Number 2, April , pp.

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Rice Stephen P.. Minding the Machine: Languages of Class in Early Industrial America. Berkeley: University of California Press, xiii + pp.

Nye, David E. () Minding the machine: Languages of class in early industrial America. JOURNAL OF AMERICAN HISTORY, 92 (3). pp.

Stephen P. Rice. Minding the Machine: Languages of Class in Early Industrial America. Berkeley: University of California Press, xiii +

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This was the period in the nation's early industrial development when travel by steamboat became commonplace, when the railroad altered concepts of space and time, and when Americans experienced the beginnings of factory production. Enslaved and free laborers had long been called "hands" but this was a novel disaggregation that reinforced middle-class authority and undermined working-class aspirations.

Rice's most convincing chapter examines the mechanics' institute movement. Rice then turns to "popular physiology" and the health movement of reformers like Sylvester Graham, in a chapter called, to keep the anatomical connection, "Mind and Body. Beginning in the s, mechanic institutes were organized in city after city as platforms for the spread of scientific and engineering knowledge to artisans.

He also claims that the machine became an important metaphor for the body and

educated students in mental and manual disciplines, expecting the combination to instill respect for the working class. If you would like to authenticate using a different subscribed institution that supports Shibboleth authentication or have your own login and password to Project MUSE, click 'Authenticate'.