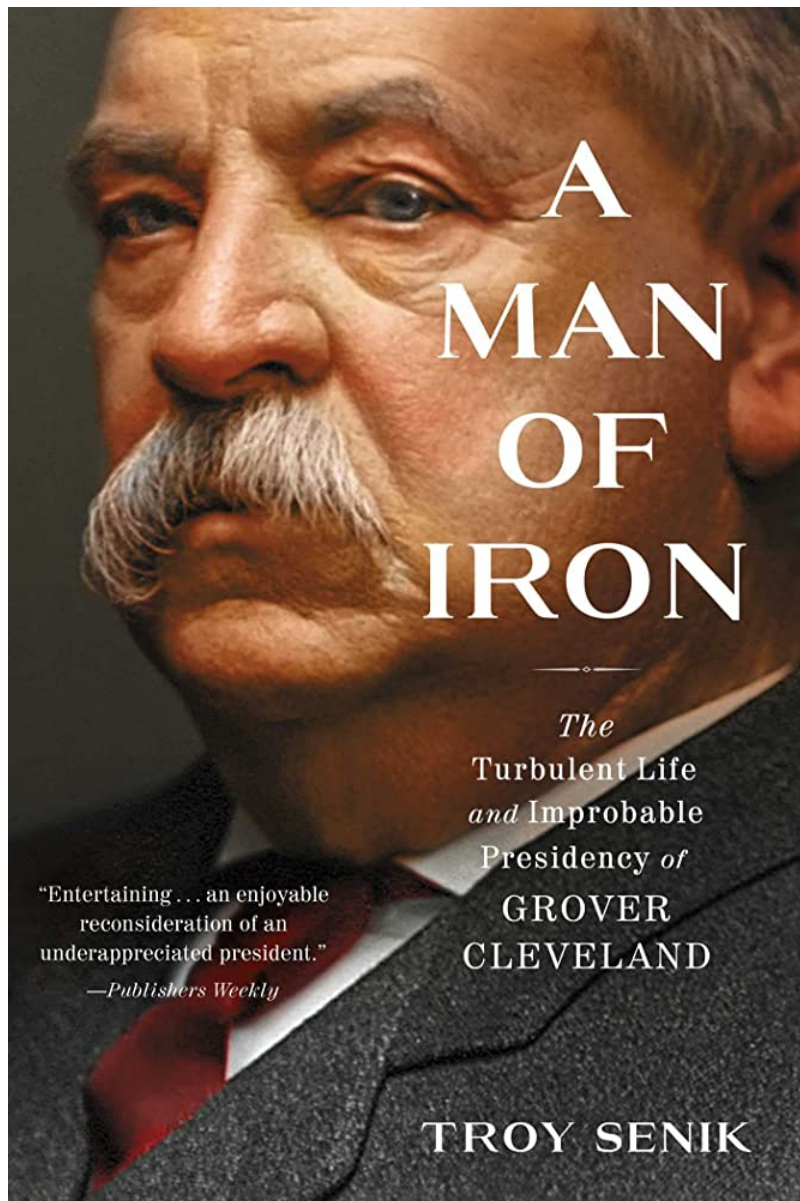


He Was as Constant as the Northern Star



by Armando Simón

Troy Senik begins his biography of President Grover Cleveland (*A Man of Iron*) by quoting the acerbic H. L. Mencken, who despised so many presidents. Mencken praised Cleveland for his unyielding integrity.

Cleveland did not seek the presidency, nor did he campaign for the office, but was pushed by Democrats because of his well-

known honesty. He won the popular vote in three presidential elections, losing the second due to the Electoral College, being the only man to win two nonconsecutive terms of office. In an age where corruption was so rampant that the United States could have been compared to today's Third World countries, he was the Rock of Gibraltar. Compromise was unthinkable.

Grover Cleveland was the consummate workaholic whose view on the government would today have been labeled Libertarian, anathema to today's liberal politicians with their grandiose messianic outlook. Over the course of two terms, he issued 584 vetoes, the most of any president for the same amount of time. Selnik calls Cleveland an "incorrigible legislative serial killer."

That we have gone in presidents from a man like Cleveland to the Clintons and the head of the Biden crime family goes to show that Darwin was wrong.