

Brooklyn Bridge for sale

George Parker was a con man. In the 1880s, he 'sold' the Brooklyn Bridge not once, not twice, but over and over again.

His con was simple:

SOLD

He picked out 'marks' who had not been living in America very long and who did not speak English very well.

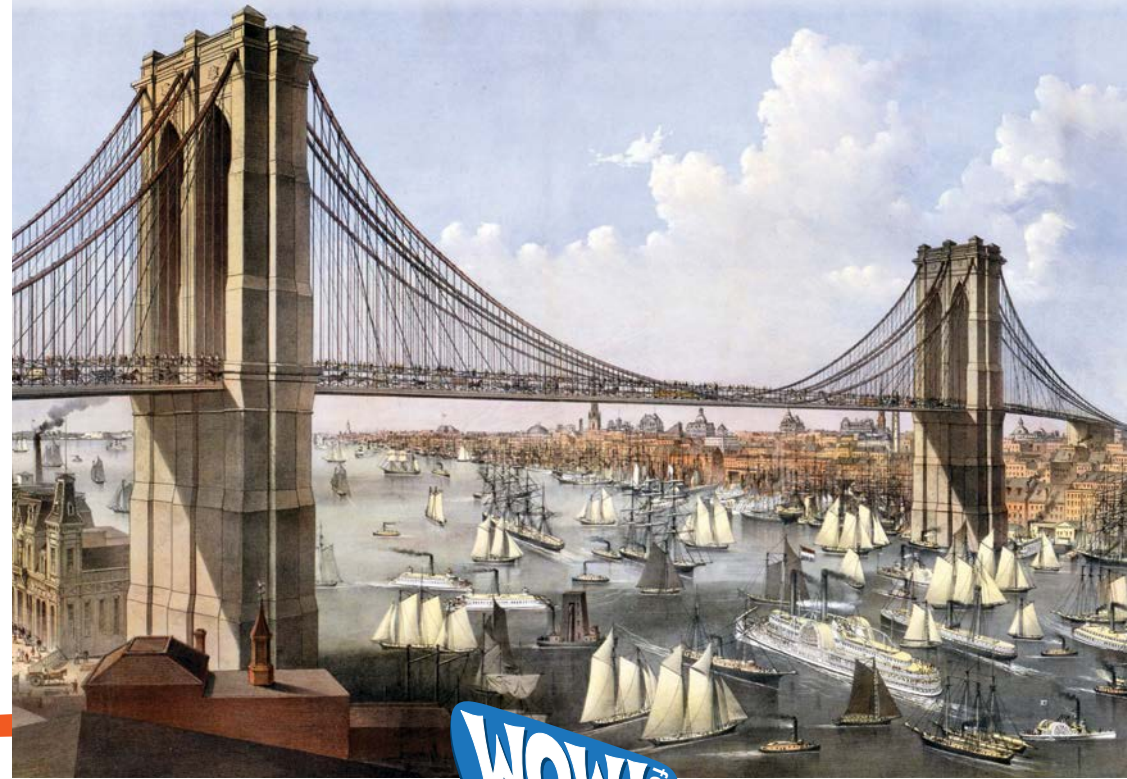
He told them he owned Brooklyn Bridge. He said he needed to make some money quickly so he was selling it for a very low price.

Then he showed them lots of drawings and important-looking papers about the bridge.

He told them that they could make lots of money by setting up tollbooths and charging people to cross the bridge.

A surprising number of people fell for this scam.

The New York police made lots of people take down tollbooths they had set up.



WOW!
facts

George Parker spent the last eight years of his life in prison, where he entertained other prisoners with tales of his con tricks.