

The “Contested” West



Settling the west

- The “West” – *where* is it?
- *Who* went west – and *Why* ?
- *What* did they do when they got there ?
- What were the *consequences* of their actions?

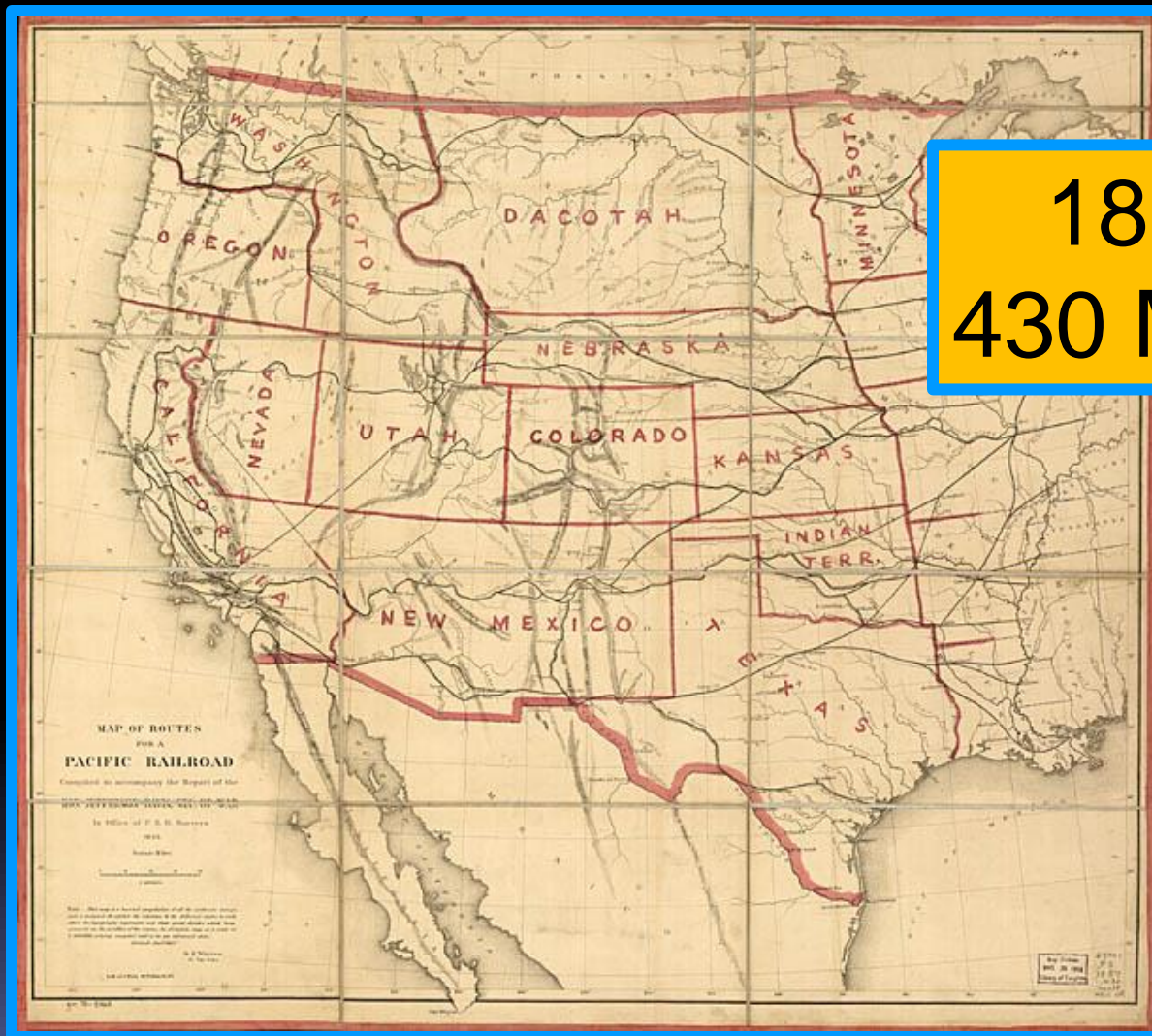
➤ The “West” – *where* is it?



“moving frontier”



Trans-Mississippi region – Far West

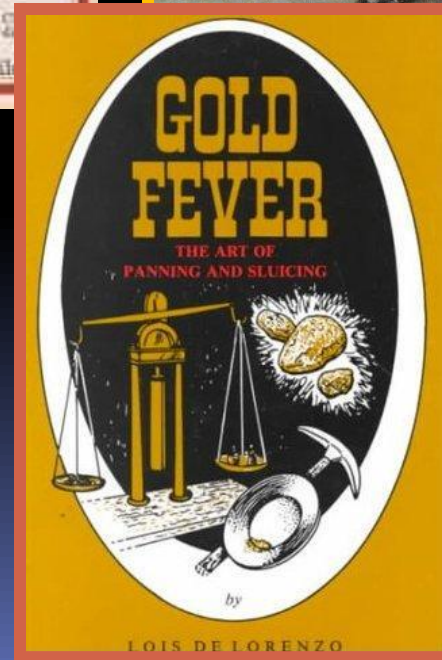
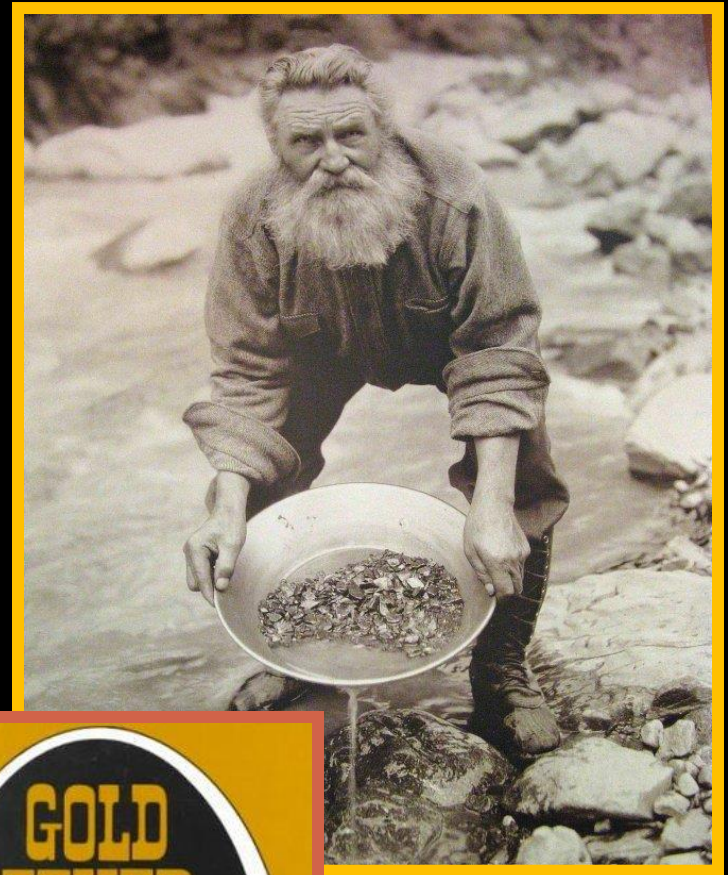


1870 – 1890
430 Million acres

Why go West?

- Adventure
- Escape
- Work/Jobs
- Opportunity



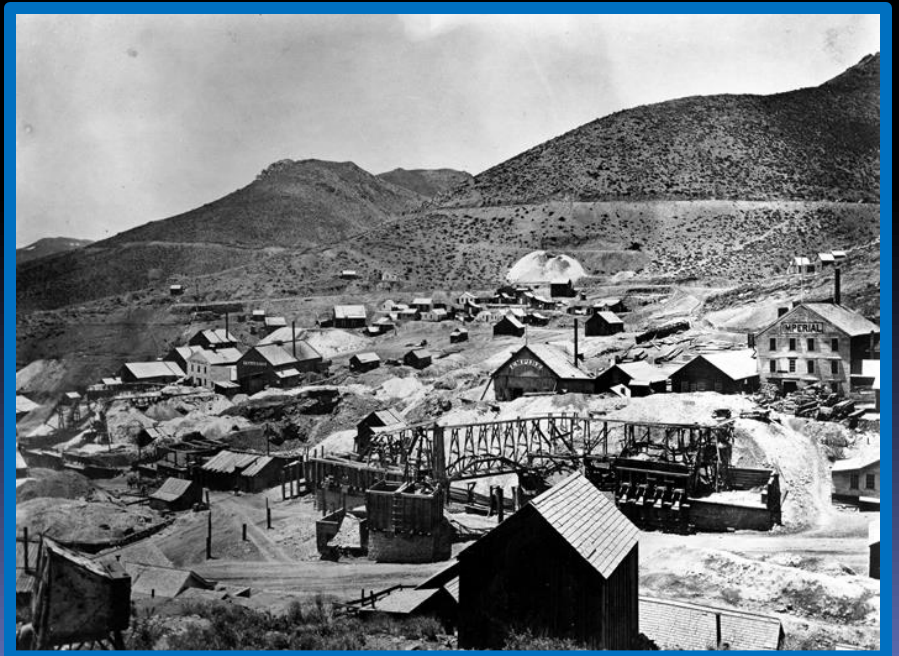


1849
Sutter's Mill, CA

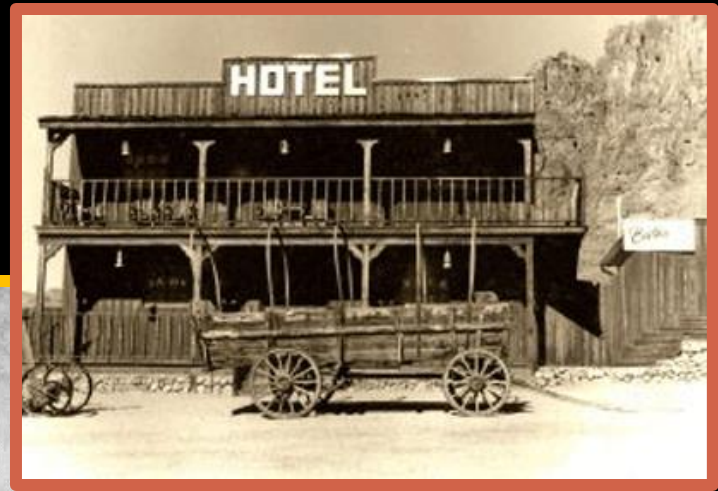


4357. "We have it Rich," Washing and
panning gold, Rockerville, Dak.
Old timers, Spriggs, Lamb and Dillon at work.
Photo and copyright by Crabill, 1889.

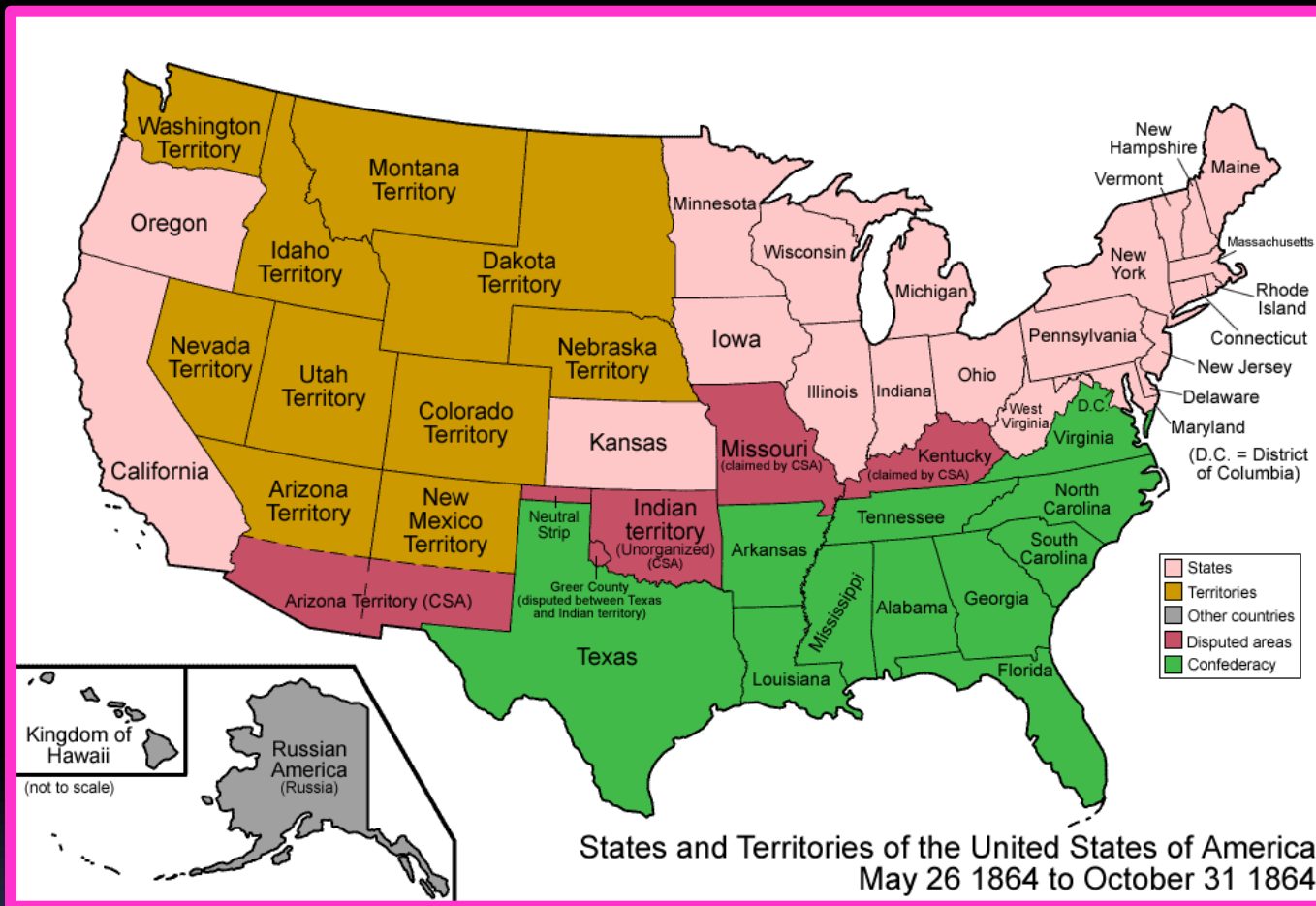
Comstock Lode Nevada



Urbanization



Governing the West?



“benign neglect”

Railroads – transforming the West

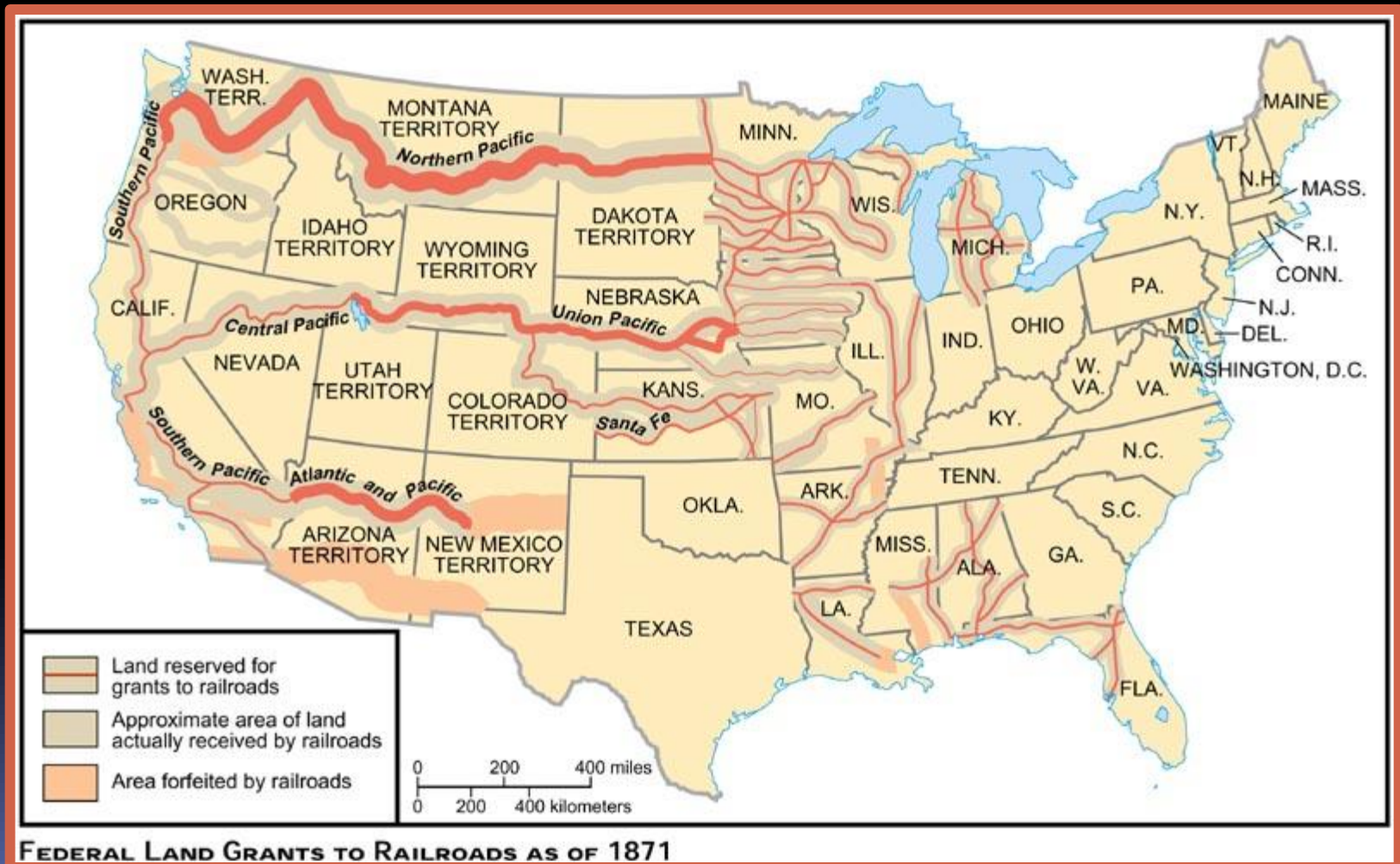


Railroad expansion



Land grants

Rights of way



Farmers – transforming the West

Homestead Act
1862





“Dry farming”



Steel plow



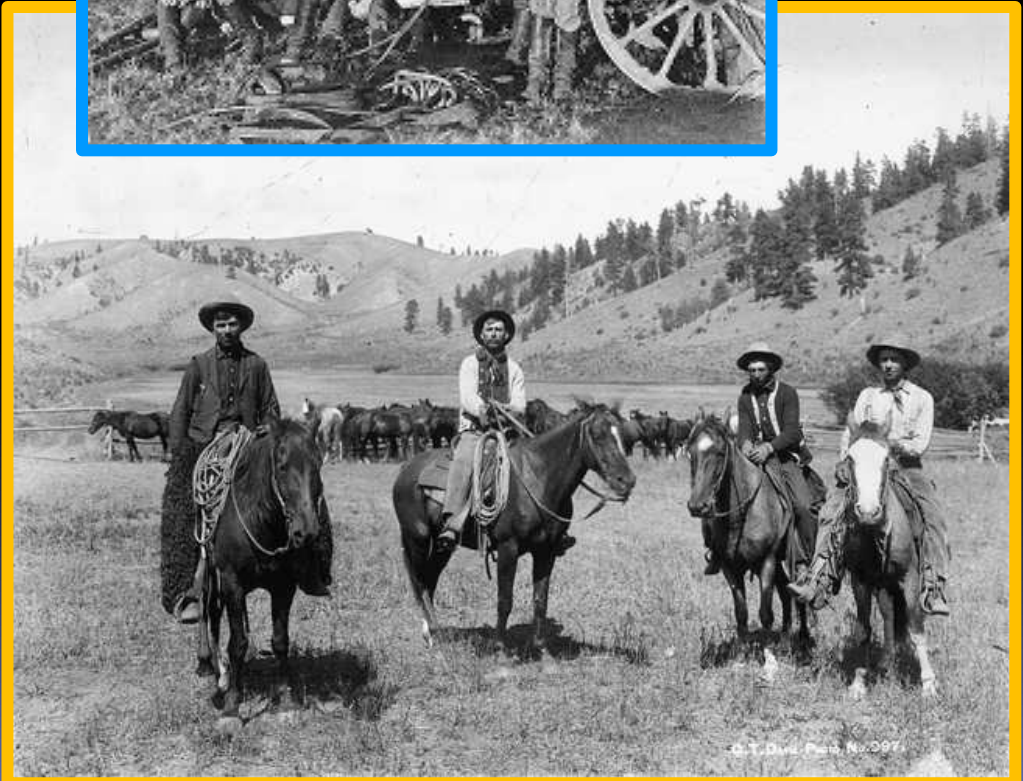
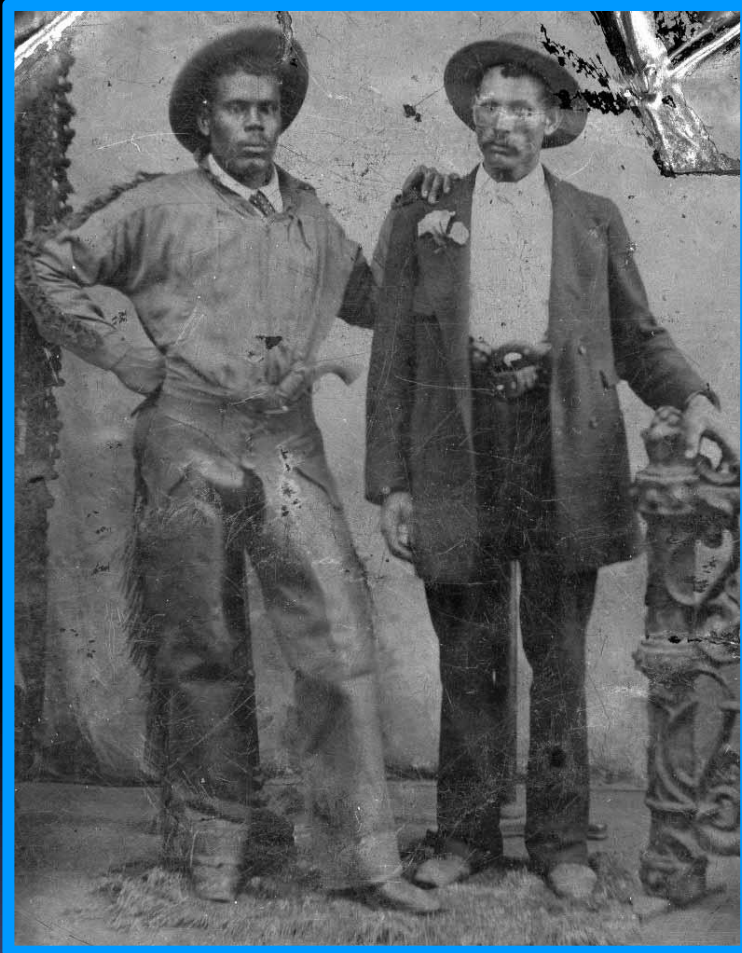
Combine



Revolution in agriculture



Ranchers - transforming the West

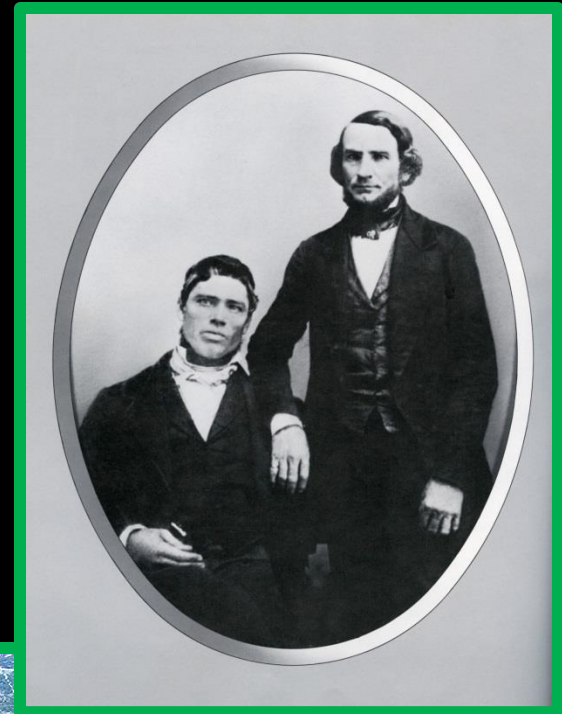


Open Range



“Cattle Kings”

- Mifflin Kenedy
- Richard King



What were the *consequences* of westward expansion?

- Change
- Conflict

Racial and Ethnic Conflict

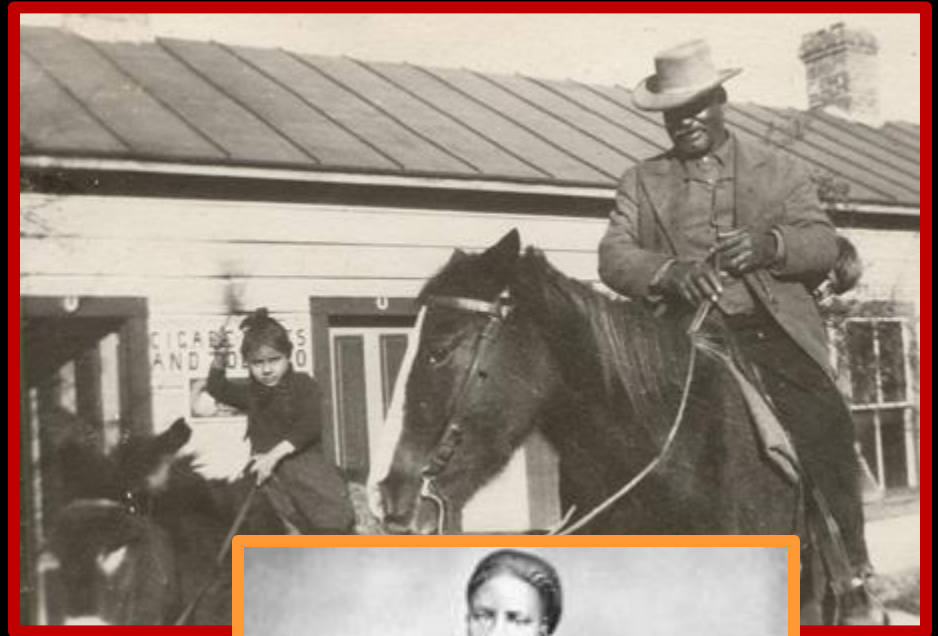


Racial and Ethnic Conflict

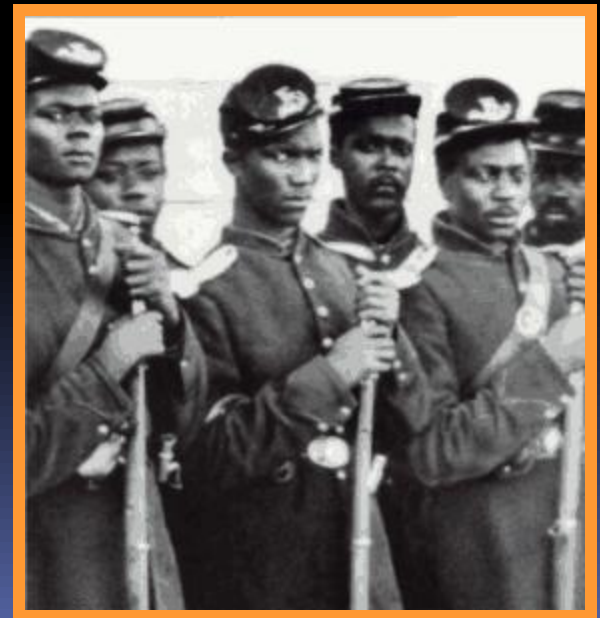
Foreign Miners Tax, 1850



“exodusters”



“Buffalo soldiers”



Racial and Ethnic Conflict

- Chinese
- Japanese



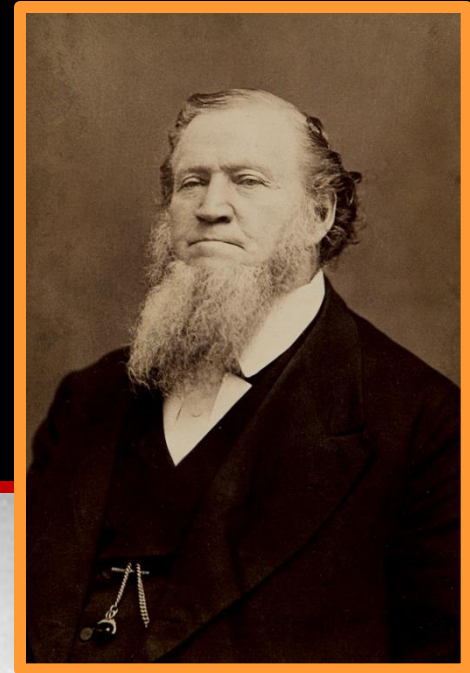
Racial and Ethnic Conflict

- Chinese Exclusion Act - 1882



➤ Religious Conflict

- Mormons



Brigham Young



➤ Native Americans





Buffalo Bill Cody

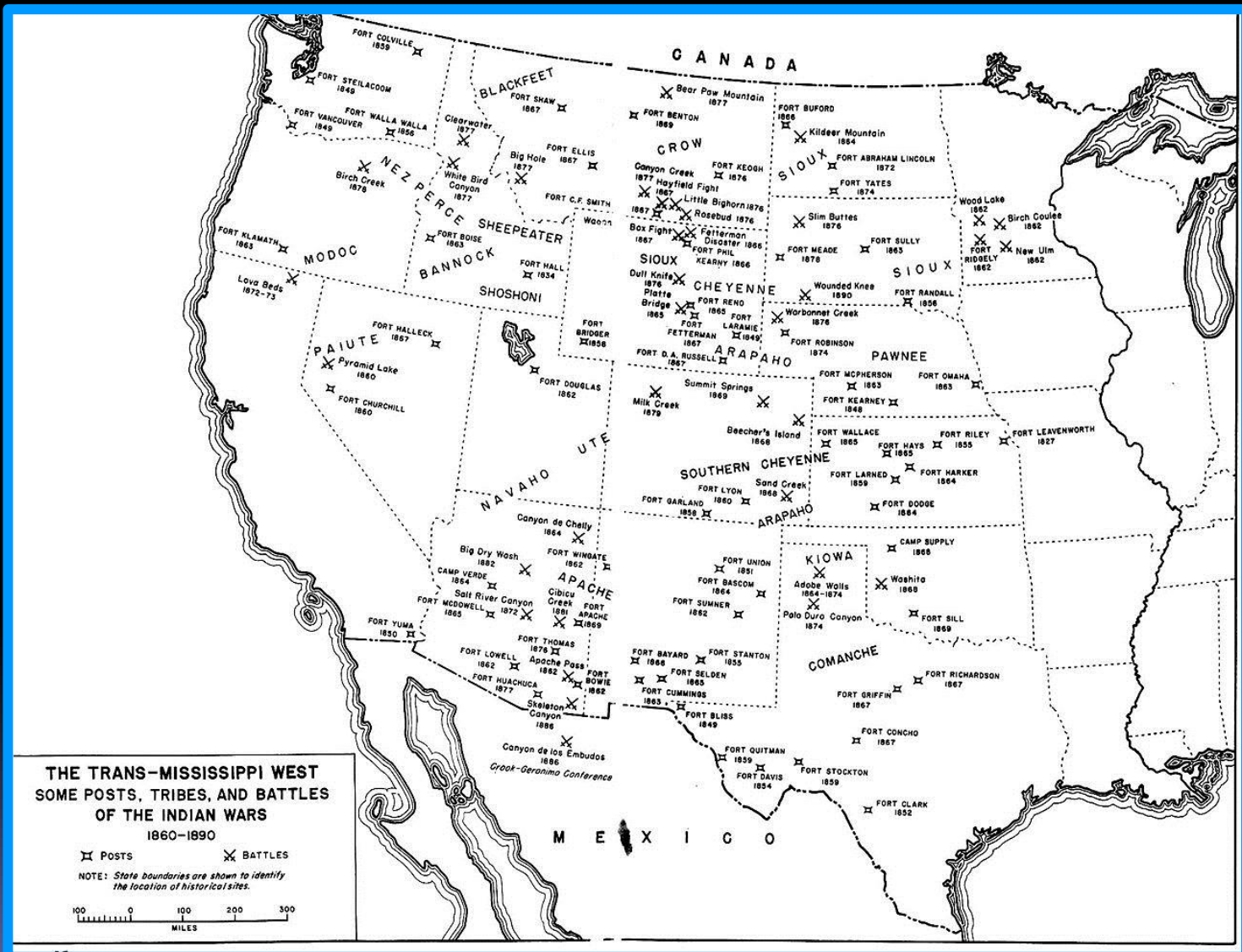


“Concentration” Policy

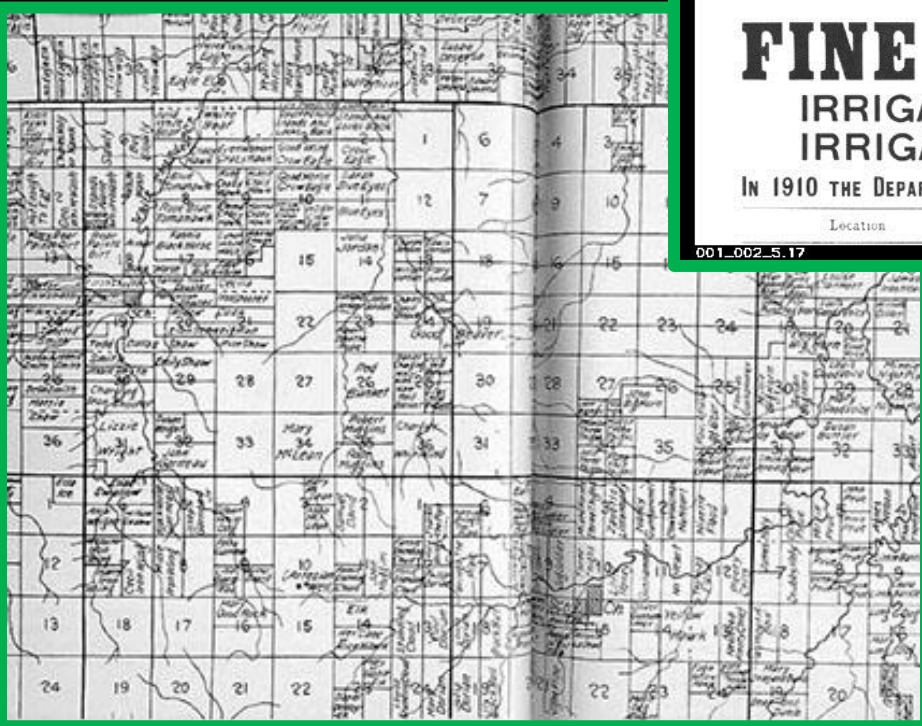
- Tribal “reservations”
- 1867 – Peace Commission



Resistance – Indian Wars



Dawes Act 1887



INDIAN LAND FOR SALE

GET A HOME
OF
YOUR OWN
*
EASY PAYMENTS



PERFECT TITLE
*
POSSESSION
WITHIN
THIRTY DAYS

FINE LANDS IN THE WEST

IRRIGATED
IRRIGABLE

GRAZING

AGRICULTURAL
DRY FARMING

IN 1910 THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR SOLD UNDER SEALED BIDS ALLOTTED INDIAN LAND AS FOLLOWS:

Location	Acres	Average Price per Acre	Location	Acres	Average Price per Acre
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Advertisement. Library of Congress.

Wounded Knee, SD 29 Dec 1890



Ghost Dance



Consequences of Western Expansion

- Change
- Conflict

Consequences of Western Expansion

➤ Change

- Environmental impact
- Economic growth
- Investment opportunities
- Mining fueled industrial development
- Provided jobs
- Outlet for population growth
- Innovation & Invention

➤ Consequences of Western Expansion

➤ Conflict

- Among ranchers
- Between farmers & ranchers
- Racial & Ethnic
- Religious