

AIM:

# What Factors encouraged the settlement of the “Last West”?(1865-1890s)

Do Now: What thoughts, words, images come to mind when you think of the West?





(Last West - 1865 - 1890)

- What are the characteristics of the Cowboy?
- What values do they represent?

### Cowboys:

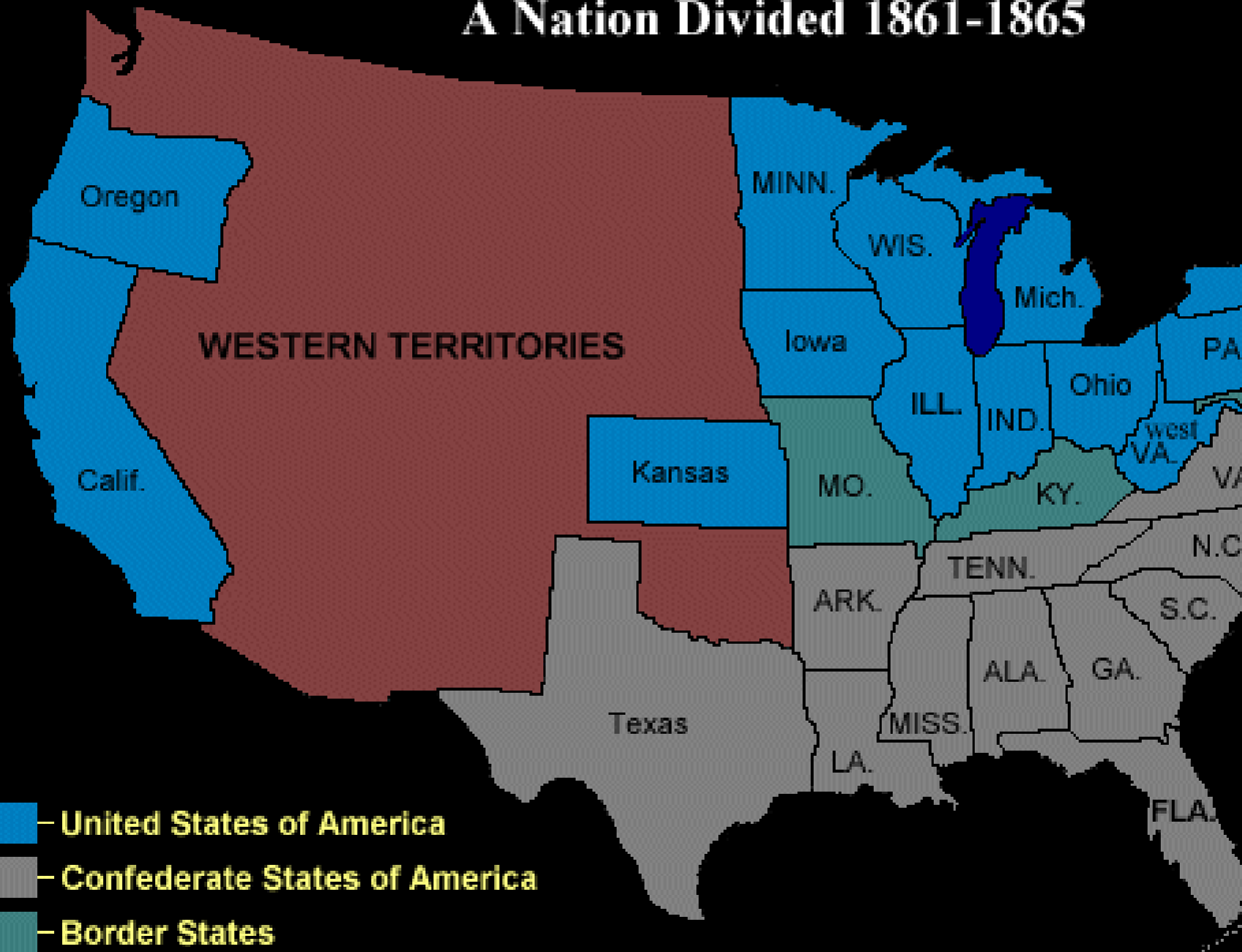
- Individualism, Self Reliant
- Adventure
- Opportunity







# A Nation Divided 1861-1865



# What is the frontier?



# Frontier

- The furthestmost region of settlement
- An imaginary line dividing civilization and wilderness

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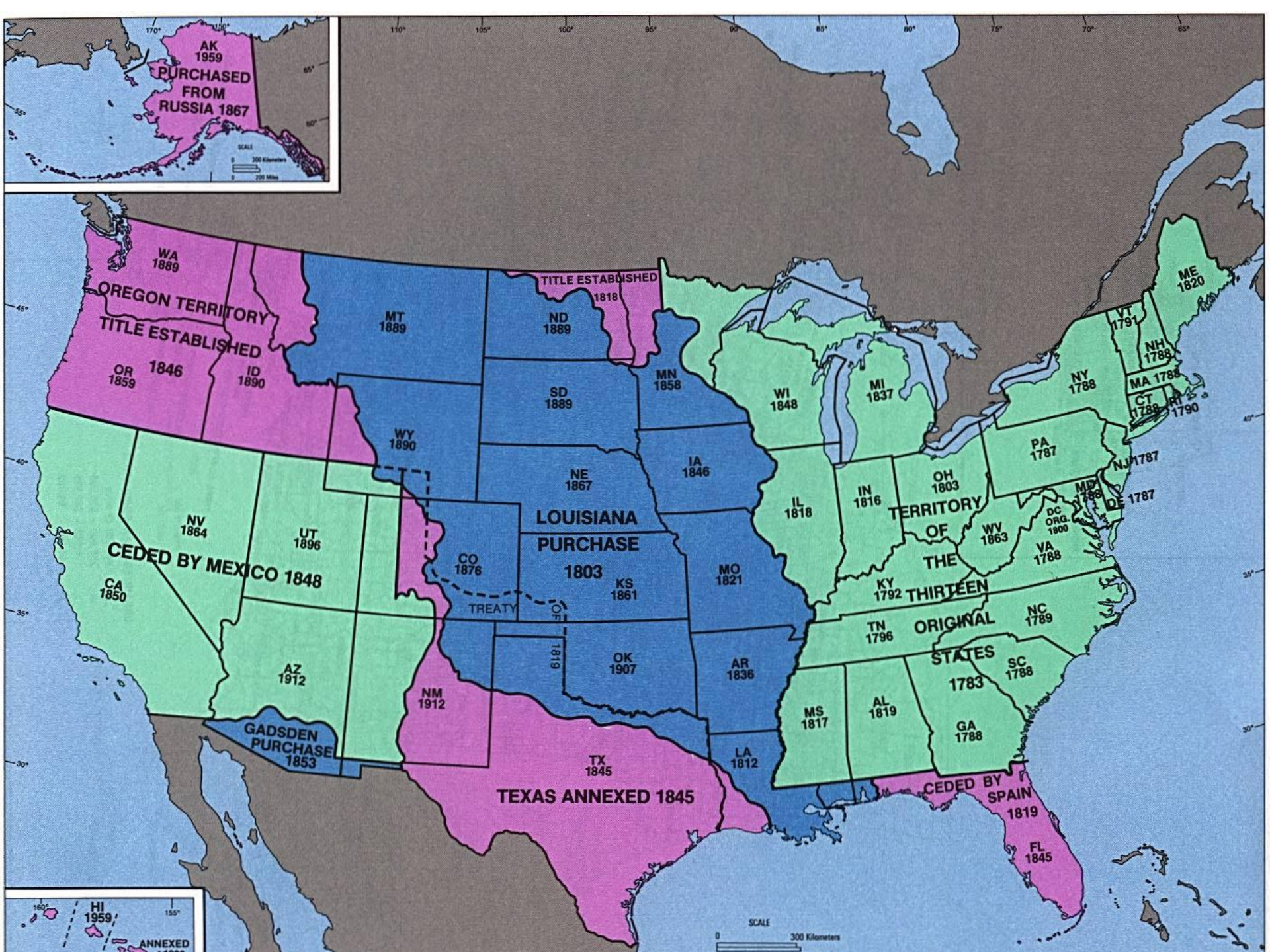
# Frontier

- 1650- along the Atlantic Coast
- 1750 – spread to the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains
- 1840 – reached the Mississippi River
- 1890 – Frontier closed – sufficiently populated





- From the beginning of settlement there has always been a frontier.
- Which areas of the West were settled first? Why?
- Which area of the country was settled last? Why?







# Factors Discouraging Settlement of Great Plains and Rockies and desert South West

- Harsh environment
  - “The Great American Desert” - western part of the Great Plains east of the Rocky Mountains 
- Native-American Resistance to settlement
- Distance from Trade Routes

- How did the Federal government push for settlement of the Last West during this time?



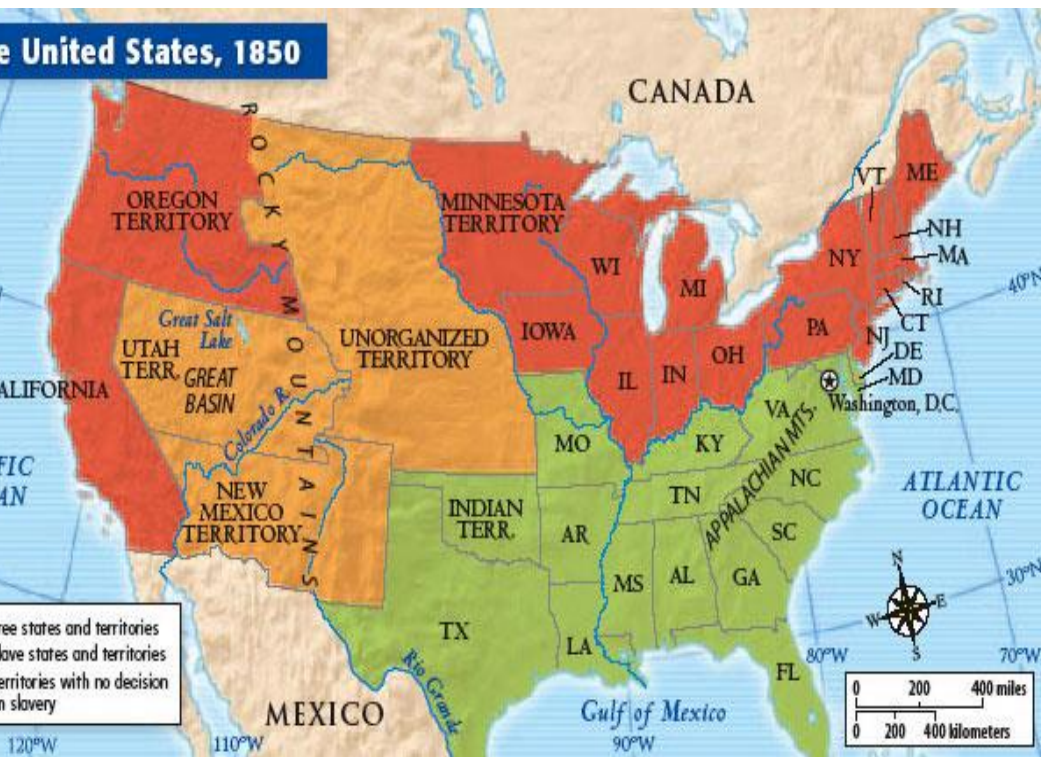
# Federal Policies Encouraging Migration to the Plains and Rockies

- Homestead Act (1862)  
– free federal land to settlers (160 acres developed in 5 years)
- Railroad Land Grants and Subsidies. – *Financial Aid*  
(First Transcontinental railroad completed in 1869)



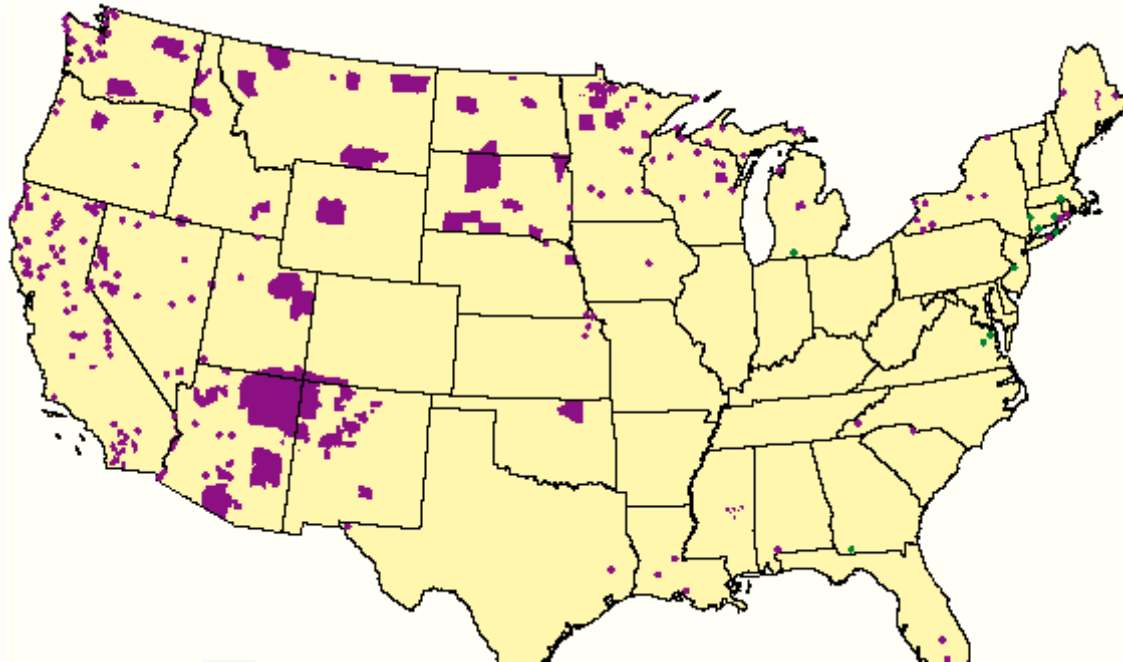
# Oklahoma Land Rushes (1889, 1893)

- [Far and Away - Land Rush Scene - YouTube](#)





## Indian Reservations today







Territorial Growth to 1853

PRODUCTS WILL PAY FOR LAND AND IMPROVEMENTS!

# MILLIONS OF ACRES

View on the Big Blue, between Camden and Crete, representing Valley and Rolling Prairie Land in Nebraska.



## IOWA AND NEBRASKA

# LANDS

FOR SALE ON 10 YEARS CREDIT

BY THE  
**Burlington & Missouri River R.R. Co.**

### AT 6 PER CT. INTEREST AND LOW PRICES.

Only One-Seventh of Principal Due Annually, beginning Four Years after purchase.

20 PER CENT. DEDUCTED FROM 10 YEARS PRICE, FOR CASH.

#### LAND EXPLORING TICKETS SOLD

and Cost allowed in First Interest paid, on Land bought in 30 days from date of ticket.

Thus our Land Buyers ~~can~~ GET A FREE PASS in the State where the Land bought is located.

These TERMS are BETTER at \$5, than to pre-empt United States Land at \$2.50 per Acre.

EXTRAORDINARY INDUCEMENTS on FREIGHT and PASSAGE are AFFORDED TO PURCHASERS and THEIR FAMILIES.

Address **GEO. S. HARRIS, LAND COMMISSIONER,**  
or **T. H. LEAVITT, Ass't Land Comm'r, Burlington, Iowa.**

Or apply to

FREE ROOMS for buyers to board themselves are provided at Burlington and Lincoln.

CIRCULARS are supplied GRATIS for distribution in ORGANIZING COLONIES and to induce individuals to emigrate WEST.

A SECTIONAL MAP, showing exact location of our IOWA LANDS is sold for 30 Cents, and of NEBRASKA LANDS for 30 Cents.



# Exodusters

- African Americans who migrated from states along the Mississippi River to Kansas in the late nineteenth century
- First general migration of blacks following the Civil War.

RSC

PROOF REQUIRED UNDER HOMESTEAD ACTS MAY 20, 1862, AND JUNE 21, 1866.

WE, *Joseph Gruffy & Samuel Kilpatrick* do solemnly swear  
that we have known *Daniel Freeman* for *over five* years last past; that he  
is *the head of a family* consisting of *wife* and *two*  
*children* and is — a citizen of the United States; that he is an inhabitant  
of the *8<sup>th</sup> of NW 1/4 & NE of NW 1/4 and SW 1/4 of NE 1/4* of section No. *26* in  
Township No. *4 N* of Range No. *5 E* and that no other person resided upon the  
said land entitled to the right of Homestead or Pre-emption.

That the said *Daniel Freeman* — entered upon and made settlement  
on said land on the *1<sup>st</sup>* day of *January*, 1868, and has built a house  
thereon *part log & part pane 14 by 20 feet one story with two doors*  
*100 windows. Shingle roof board floor and is a comfortable home*  
*to live in*

and has lived in the said house and made it his exclusive home from the *1<sup>st</sup>* day of  
*January*, 1868, to the present time, and that he has since said settlement ploughed,  
fenced, and cultivated about *35* — acres of said land, and has made the following improvements  
thereon, to wit: *built a stable, a sheep shed 100 feet long*  
*corn crib, and has 40 apple and about 400*  
*peach trees set out.* *Eight graft*

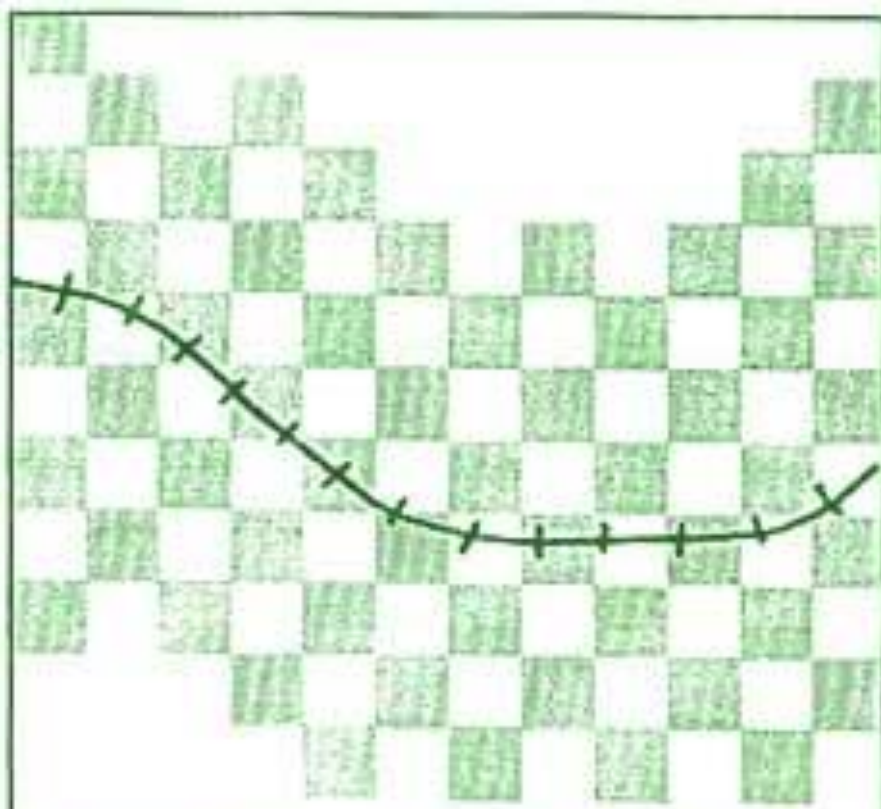
*Samuel Kilpatrick.*

I, *Henry M. Atkinson*, Register do hereby certify that the above affidavit was  
taken and subscribed before me this *20<sup>th</sup>* day of *January*, 1868

*Henry M. Atkinson*  
Register

WE CERTIFY that *Joseph Gruffy & Samuel Kilpatrick* whose names  
are subscribed to the foregoing affidavit, are persons of respectability.

*Henry M. Atkinson* , Register.  
*Josh. Carson* , Receiver.



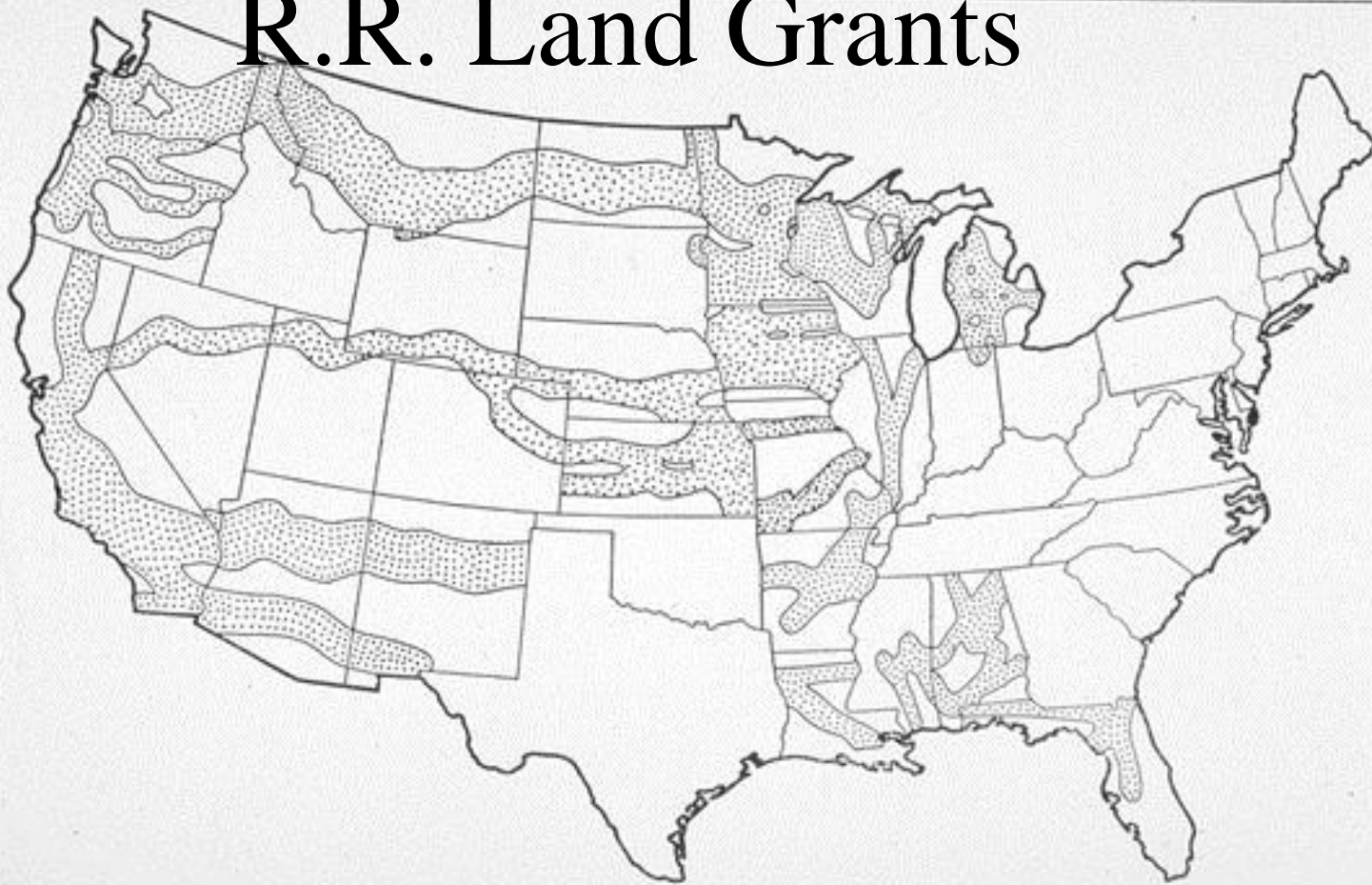
## PATTERN OF LAND GRANTS

—+— railroad track right of way

□ one Square Mile Sold to others or Withheld

■ one Square Mile granted to railroad

# R.R. Land Grants







Pacific Time



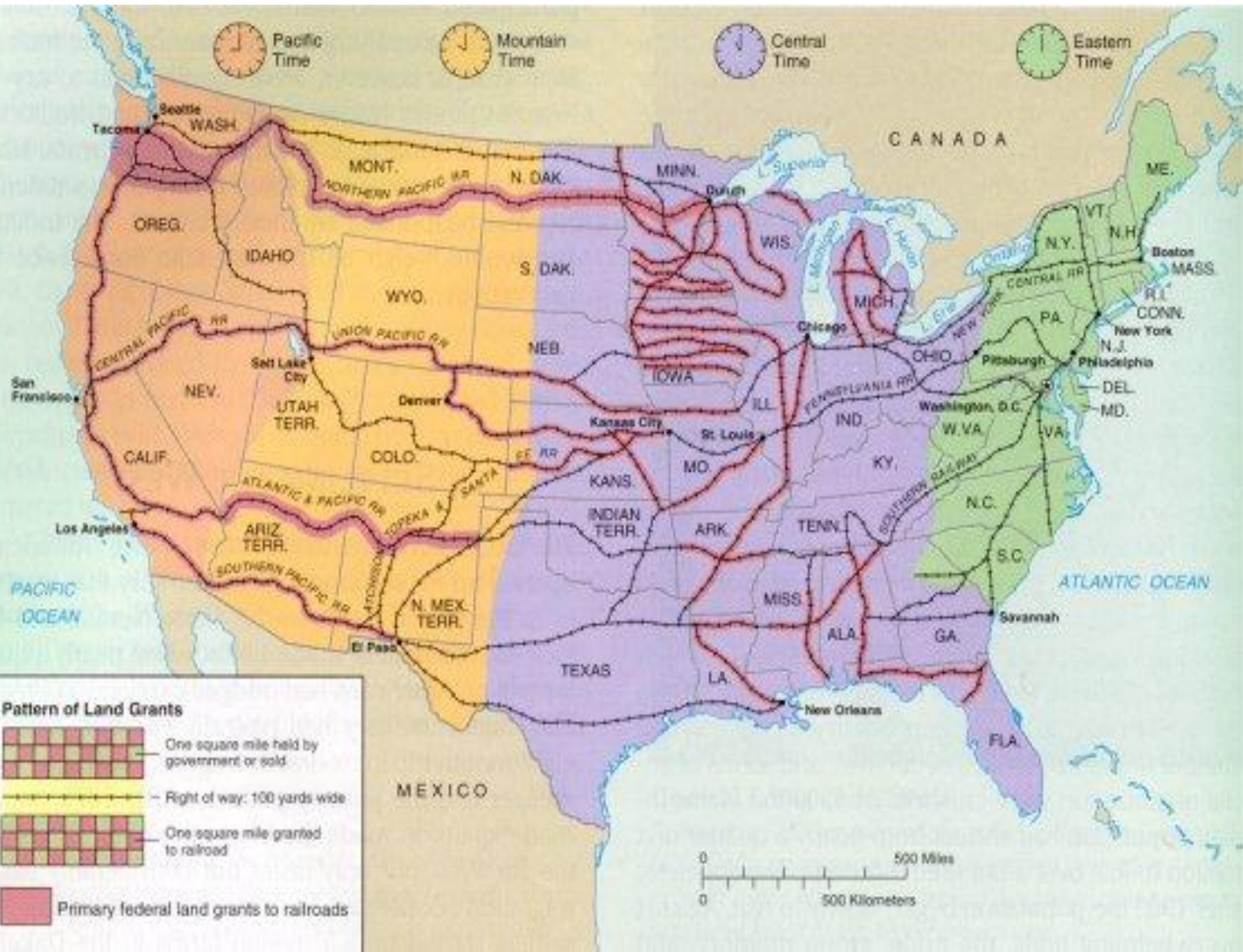
Mountain Time



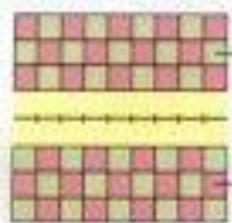
Central Time



Eastern Time

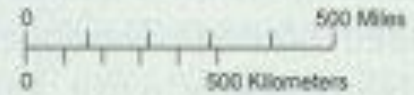


**Pattern of Land Grants**



- One square mile held by government or sold
- Right of way: 100 yards wide
- One square mile granted to railroad

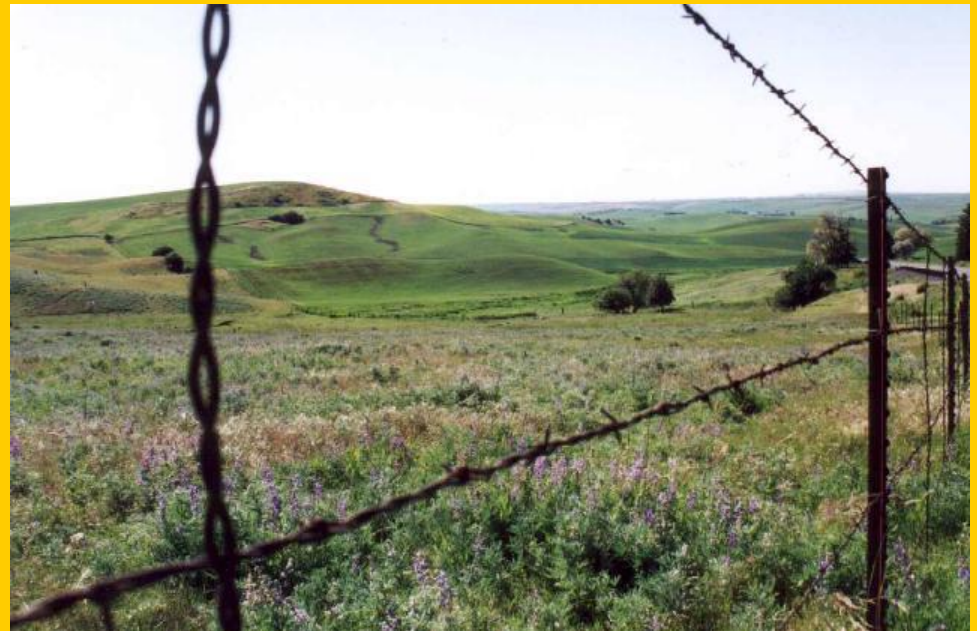
Primary federal land grants to railroads





# Inventions encouraging settlement

- Important Inventions
  - John Deere – Steel Plow (1830s)
  - McCormick Reaper (1840s)
  - Barbed Wire (1870s)



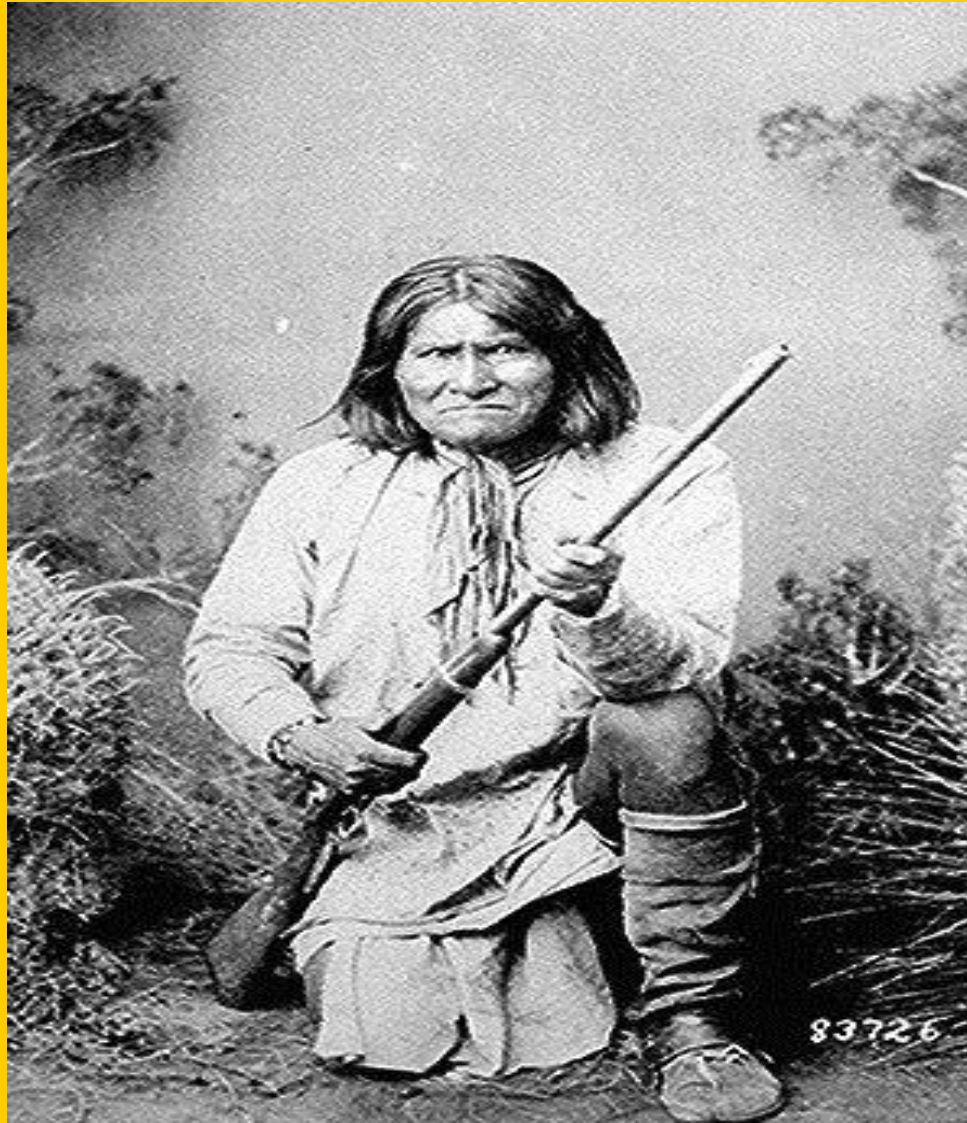








# Federal Indian Policy



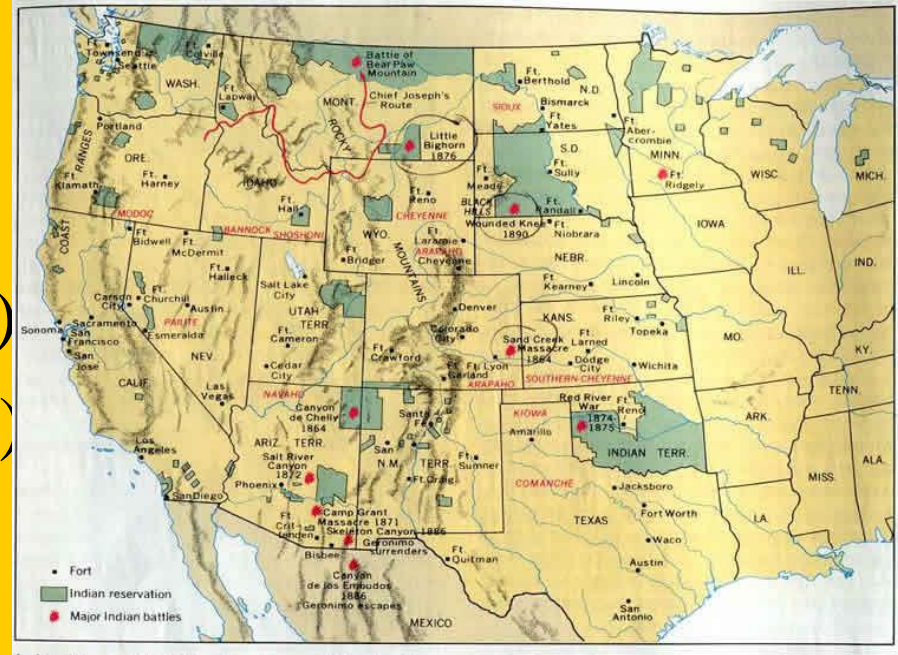






# Indian Policy, 1860-1887

- Indian Wars
  - Sand Creek (1864)
  - Little Big Horn (1876)
  - Wounded Knee (1890)
- Reservation System













RATH & WRIGHT'S BUFFALO HIDE YARD IN 1878, SHOWING 40,000 BUFFALO HIDES. DODGE CITY, KANSAS

FROM A PHOTOGRAPH

- 1800 – 8,000,000 Buffalo      1900 – 600 Buffalo





# Policy Towards Plains Indians (1850s-1880s)

- Reservation system (1851-1887)
- Indian Wars
- Decimation of Buffalo herds
  - 1500 – estimated 30-60 million buffalo (located as far east as Ohio)
  - 1872 – estimated 5,000 buffalo killed per day for hide and bones
  - 1884 – estimated 325 wild buffalo remaining in the United States
  - Today – 20,000 – 30,000 on public lands
    - » 250,000 in private herds (for meat)

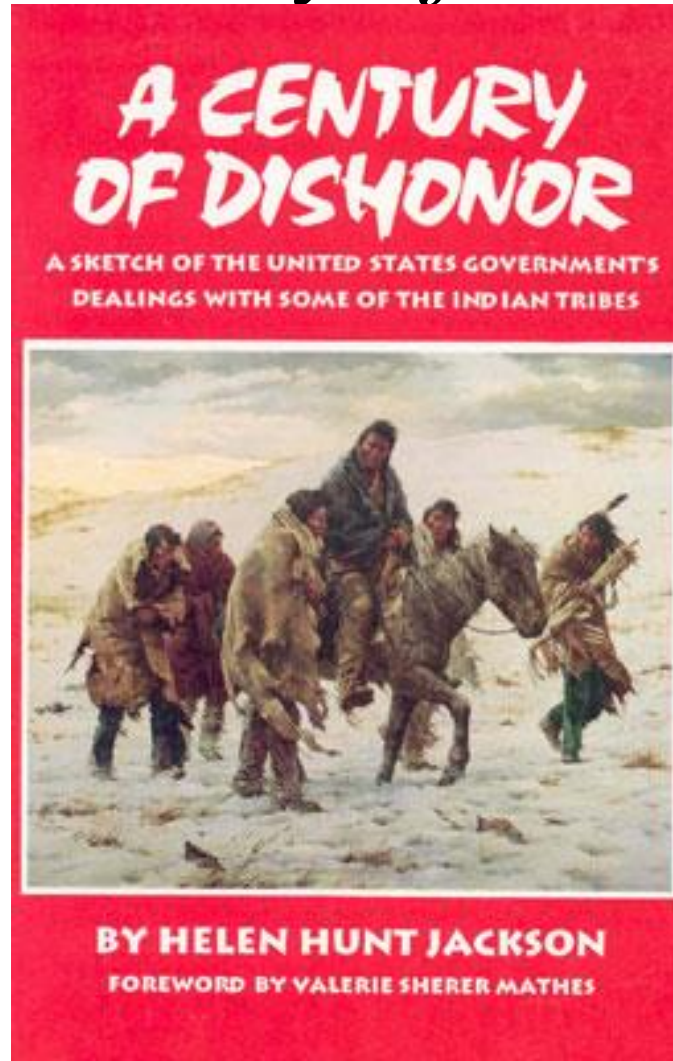
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# Indian Policy, 1860-1890

- Reservation System (1850s-80s)
- Reform Movement – 1880's

# Helen Hunt Jackson – *A Century of Dishonor*



# A New Policy - 1887

- The Dawes Act (1887)
  - Divided reservations into 160 Acre plots.
  - 25 years, receive title to land and American citizenship
  - Purpose – break up tribes
    - encourage assimilation – “Americanize” Native-Americans
    - encourage agricultural work
- Boarding Schools – The Carlisle School, Carlisle Pennsylvania







# 1920s and 30s

- 1924 – granted citizenship
- 1934 – Wheeler -Howard Act – A New Deal for Native Americans. Reversed Dawes Act