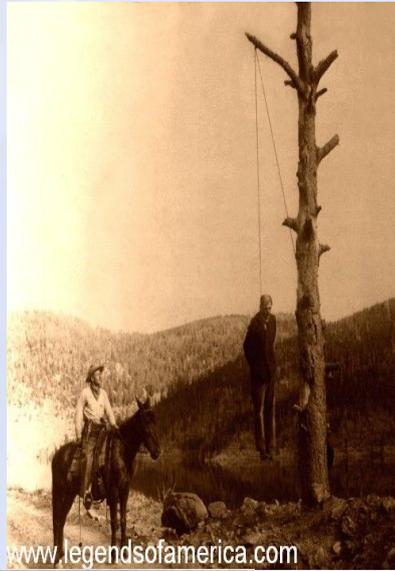


# Western Images



## Question to Consider

### “The Old West”

- Why were the whites so unscrupulous in their treatment of the Indians through most of American history?

# Brinkley Link

Map of Indian Removal

One [infantry] battalion...left Fort Lyon [Colorado] on the night of the 28th of November, 1864; about daybreak on the morning of the 29th of November we came in sight of the camp of friendly [Cheyenne and Arapaho] Indians...and were ordered by Colonel [J.M.] Chivington to attack the same, which was accordingly done....Going over the battle ground the next day I did not see a body of man, woman, or child but was scalped, and in many instances their bodies were mutilated in the most horrible manner--men, women, and children's privates cut out etc.; I heard one man say that he had cut out a woman's private parts and had them for exhibition on a stick; I heard another man say that he had cut fingers off an Indian to get the rings on the hand....

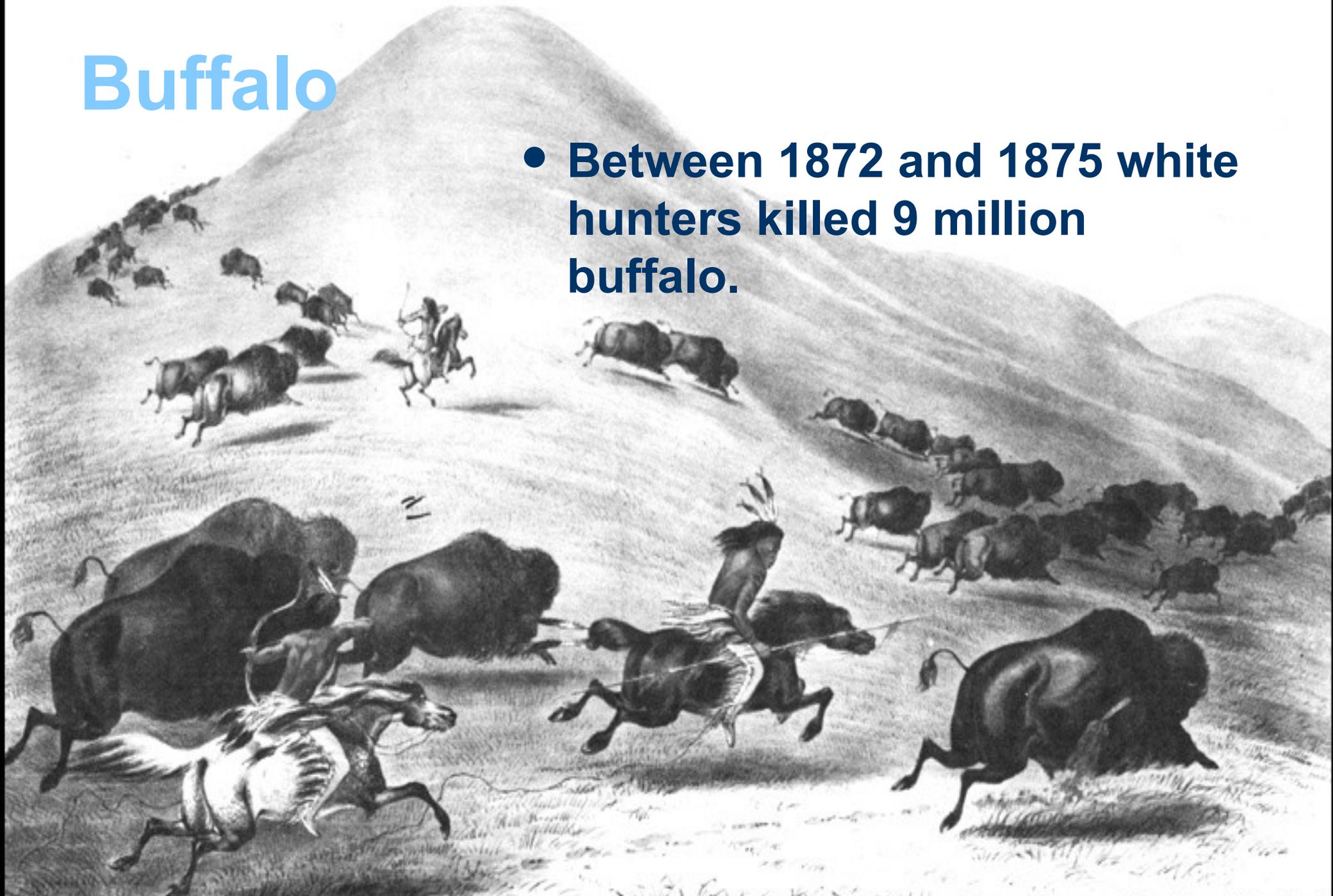
Sand Creek massacre, 1864

1. What role did the bison/American buffalo play in Plains Indian cultures?
2. What impact did the depletion of the bison depletion have on the Indians?



# Buffalo

- Between 1872 and 1875 white hunters killed 9 million buffalo.



1. What was Custer's mistake here?  
Is it understandable?

2. Chief Joseph's  
1000  
Mile  
campaign

3. How was this  
a symbolic end to  
The Indian Wars?





**Chief Big Foot,  
leader of the Lakota  
band massacred at  
Wounded Knee,  
photographed  
several days after  
his death when  
troops came to bury  
the frozen bodies.**



**Soldiers pose with three of the four Hotchkiss Guns used against the Lakota at Wounded Knee. The caption on the photograph reads:  
Famous Battery "K" of the 1st Artillery  
These brave men and the Hotchkiss guns that  
Big Foot's Indians thought were toys,  
Together with the fighting 7th what's  
Left of Gen. Custer's boys,  
Sent 200 Indians to that  
Heaven which the ghost dancer enjoys.  
This checked the Indian noise,  
And Gen. Miles with staff  
Returned to Illinois.  
Photo by Grabill, Deadwood, South Dakota.**



The President of the United States be...authorized...to allot; the lands in said reservation in severalty to any Indian located thereon in quantities as follows:

To each head of a family, one-quarter of a section;

To each single person over eighteen years of age, one-eighth of a section;

To each orphan child under eighteen years of age, one-eighth of a section....

Sec. 6. That upon the completion of said allotments and the patenting of the lands to said allottees, each and every member of the respective band or tribes of Indians...shall...be subject to the laws, both civil and criminal, of the State or Territory in which they may reside.

**Dawes Severalty Act of 1887**

What would be the cumulative effect of this act?



**Three Lakota boys on their arrival at the Carlisle Indian School.**

**The same three  
Lakota boys  
begin the  
process of  
deculturization  
at the Carlisle  
Indian School.**



# Questions to Consider

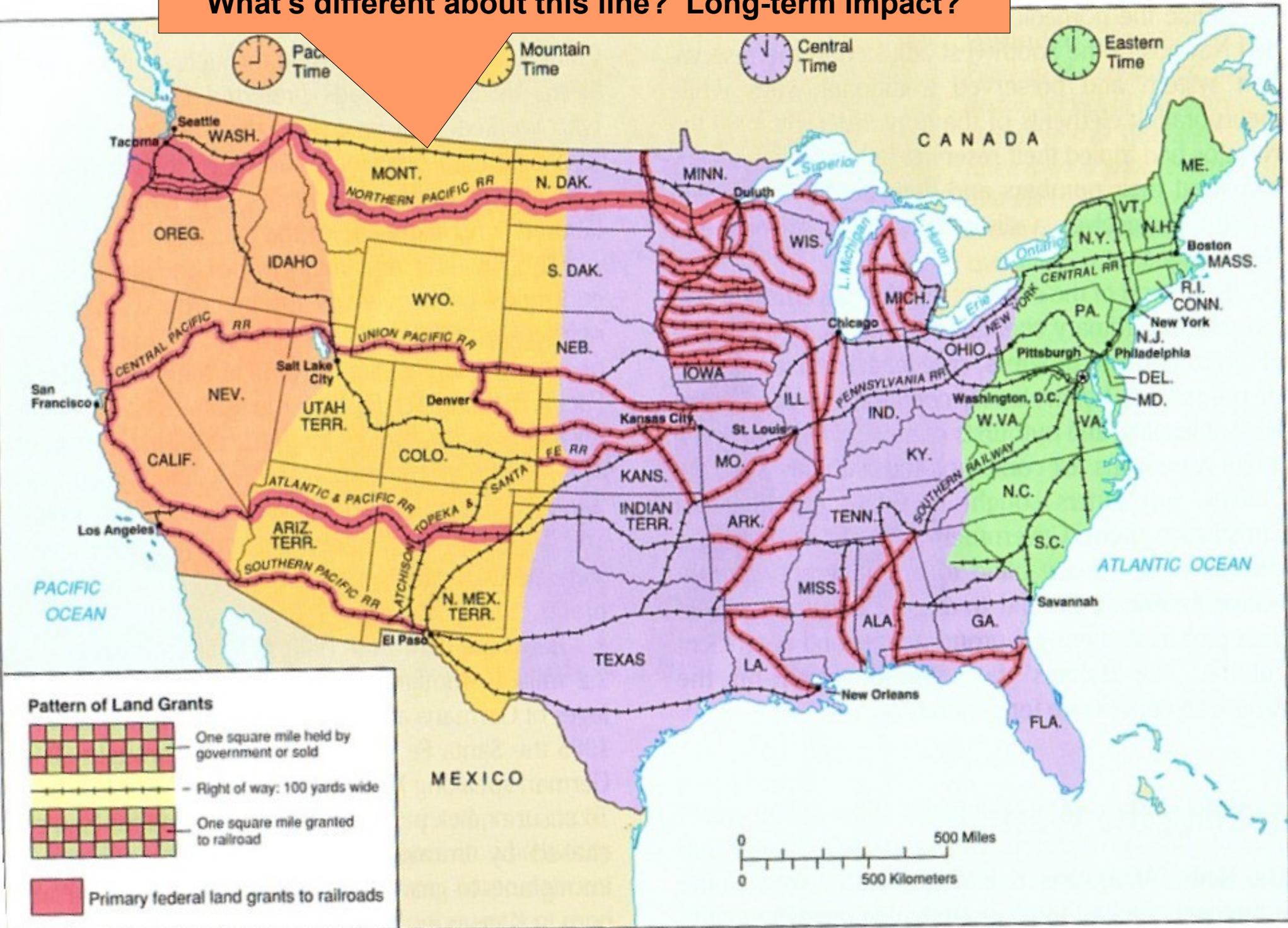
- What role did railroads play in settling the West?
- What types of economic activity helped facilitate Western settlement?
- How has the ‘Old West’ been romanticized?
- What impact did the Turner Thesis have on America?

# Railroads

**DON'T MISS THE TRAIN!**



# What's different about this line? Long-term impact?



**Transcontinental Railroads and Federal Land Grants, 1850-1900**

# How did the Federal Government assist in rail construction?

- Land Grants
- Indian Removal
- Immigration Policies



**Chinese railroad construction workers**

1. What was the first Transcontinental RR?
2. When and where was it completed?
3. Who provided the labor from the West?
4. Who provided the labor from the East?

## Growth of Railroads



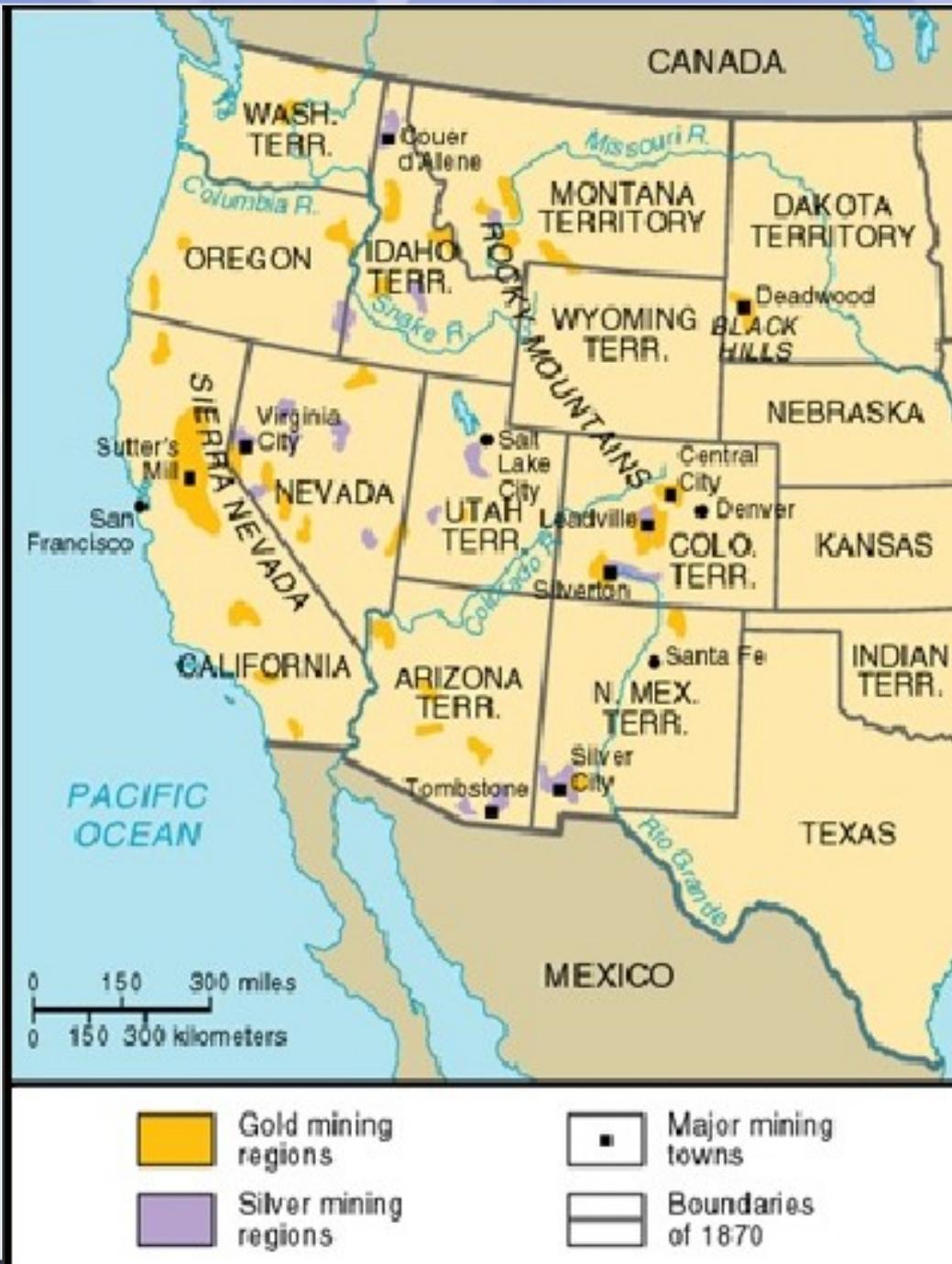
▲ The Union Pacific, the pride of the nation when it was completed in 1869, was the subject of this cartoon depicting it as a bandit and oppressor just a few years later. The thug astride the locomotive is William Vanderbilt, son of Cornelius Vanderbilt.

# **Economic Activities in the “Old West”**

1. Trapping
2. Mining
3. Cattle
4. Farming

# Mining

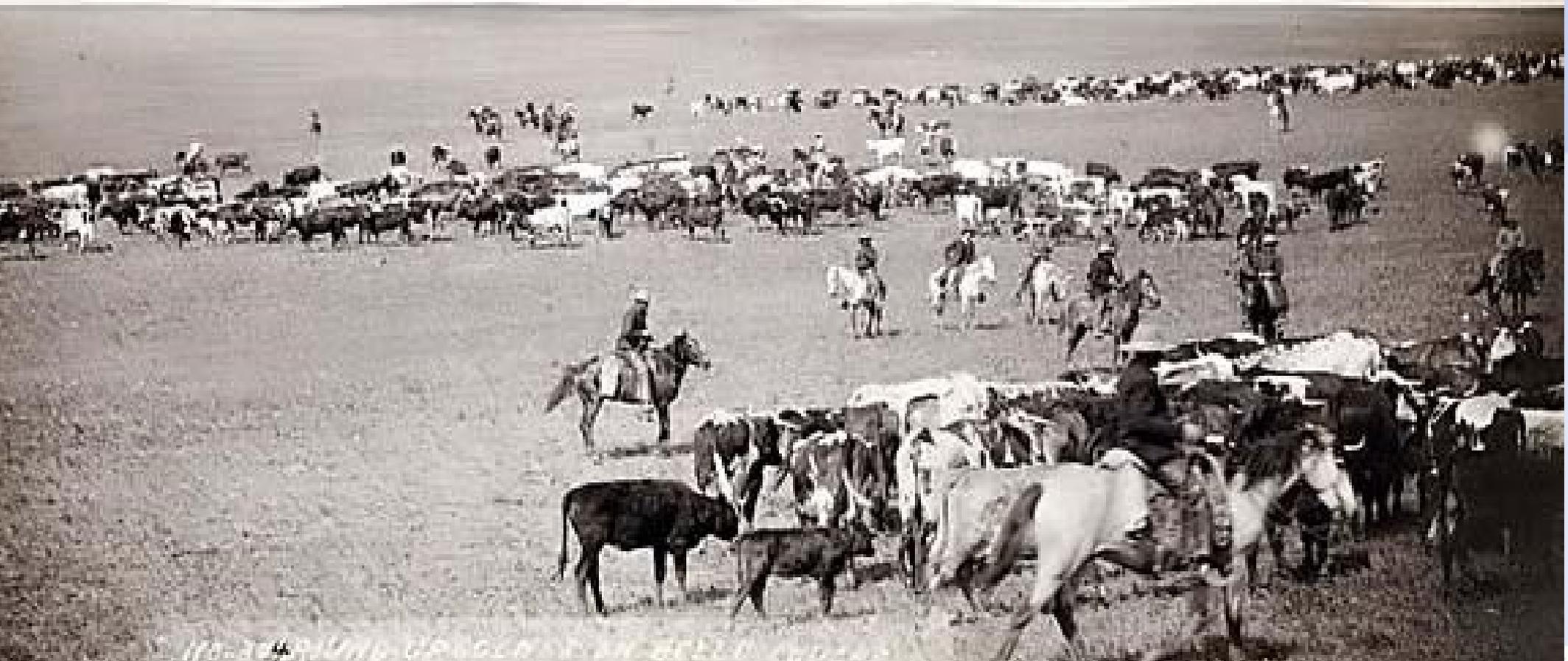
What would be an important result of the gold and silver rushes of the late nineteenth century?



**Describe the cycle of  
“Boom and Bust” as it relates to  
mining towns in the “Old West”**

Mining Towns

# Cattle



# Open-Range Ranching

- What was the main requirement?





# Long Trails

Early cattle trails led north from Texas to railheads in Oklahoma, Wyoming, and Kansas

**CATTLE TRAILS**

- Sedalia and Baxter Springs Trails
- Chisolm Trail
- Western Trail
- Goodnight-Loving Trail
- Railroads
- Open Range

# The Cattle Drive Crew

Wrangler



Remuda



Chuck Wagon



Flank



Swing



Point



Drag



Drag



Drag



Trail Boss



Flank



Swing



Point



# What would bring an end to the cattle boom?



# Boom and Bust

"The expense of caring for cattle in herds of 1,000 or more averages annually about 75 cents a head. Adding in taxes and other items, the cost of producing a steer, worth \$30, and we have a total of \$3.50. The banks loan money to be invested in stock and there is no more sure investment in Montana. One firm that borrowed \$13,500 at two percent a month for six years showed a profit of \$51,073 over total investment and expenses."

## 1883 Cattle Prospectus

"Ranchers, huddled about their stoves, did not dare think of what was happening on the range--of helpless cattle pawing at frozen snow in search of a little food or fighting to strip bark from willows and aspens along streams, "dogies" and unseasoned eastern cattle floundering in drifts, whole herds jammed together in ravines to escape the frosty blast and dying by the thousands."

Ray Allen Billington, 1886

# Final Word?

**I AM SOMEONE, NOT SOMETHING**



**Stop stealing my milk  
and killing my children**

# Homesteaders



**Solomon D. Butcher poses with his first Nebraska home, a prairie dugout where he survived the winter of 1880 after heading west from Virginia. After a two-week career as a farmer and an inconclusive stint as a medical student, Butcher became an itinerant photographer, chronicling the homesteads of Custer County, Nebraska, and selling prints of his portraits to the proud pioneers. *(Nebraska State Historical Society)***



# What problems confronted Homesteaders?

- First of all most landless Americans were too poor to become farmers.
- Loneliness
- Numerous environmental problems
  - Heat and Drought
  - Blizzards
  - Grasshoppers
  - Prairie Fires