

CHAPTER 7 WESTWARD EXPANSION

In consideration of the land features as well as the individuals who settled there, distinct differences existed between the Atlantic coast and the American frontier. By 1670 colonists had settled the costal lowlands of the East as far as the fall line (where waterfalls or rapids impeded navigations). Later, Europeans pushed farther west to the Appalachian foothills, which became the first American West or “the Old West.” These frontier people were often of origins rather than English and were more likely French Huguenots, Jews, Irish Catholics, Scottish Presbyterians, German Mennonites, Dunkers, Moravians, and Lutherans. Most were former indentured servants, political exiles, peasants, and religious refugees who had fled the famine and the persecutions of Europe. Because of maltreatment they themselves had experienced, these frontiersmen were more likely to be *egalitarian*¹ than their forerunners on the East Coast.

Due to their contrasting experiences and backgrounds, two basic, but very different, cultures emerged. The costal culture was primarily English with heavy direct European influence and connection. The inland, or frontier, expression was ethnically and religiously mixed but was basically egalitarian and manifested a heavy local and totally American attitude and outlook. There were certain commonalities in the backgrounds of the two areas, but the two cultures maintained distinct and individual differences.

More so than in the colonies, a certain degree of isolation grew up on the frontier, which also lent itself to the formation of different cultural expression. Because people there had to be self-reliant, they grew to value freedom and the feeling of equality more strongly than did the colonists.

I. THE MOVING FRONTIER (1700-1850)

A. **Trans-Appalachian and Trans-Mississippi Exploration**

By the 1760s there was a long line of frontier settlements parallel to and west of the thirteen costal colonies. Once the French and Indian War had come to a close in 1763, a three-pronged migration movement into the trans-Appalachian area began. The targets of these three prongs were western Pennsylvania and West Virginia, eastern Tennessee, and the Bluegrass Region of Kentucky.

¹ egalitarian – believing in the equality of all peoples

To a very great extent, the War for Independence discouraged any further immediate advance, but not all. The British had stirred up the Indians, making the frontier dangerous, but still some stalwarts continued to move west.

1. Daniel Boone. Frontiersman Daniel Boone made his first trip west in 1767, and two years later he led the first party of white men into Kentucky. Accompanying Boone on this journey was Scotch-Irish trader John Finley. Two other members of the party were Boone's brother, Squire Boone, and his brother-in-law, John Stuart. Although of Quaker upbringing, Daniel Boone proved many times that he was not opposed to using his famous rifle, which he affectionately named "Tick-Licker." His prowess with the weapon is legendary, and by 1775 Boone had gained the reputation of being an outstanding pathfinder and frontiersman. Judge Richard Henderson, founder of the Transylvania Land Company that was organized in 1775, bought territory in the Ohio, Kentucky, and Cumberland River Valleys from the Cherokee Indians. Judge Henderson hired Daniel Boone to establish a trail through the Cumberland Gap for future pioneers to follow. Boone's trail was called the Wilderness Road. On April 6, 1775, Boone led the first group of permanent settlers into Kentucky, and they established the town of Boonesborough, Kentucky.

2. George Rogers Clark. Many more settlers followed the Boone party into Kentucky. Among these new arrivals were some pioneers led by George Rogers Clark, who had explored a great deal of the land west of the Appalachians. During the War for Independence, when further westward expansion was halted due to the Indians, Clark used his own money to finance an expedition against the British and their Indian allies. Clark and his band of frontiersmen captured the important British supply bases of Kaskaskia, Cahokia, and Vincennes. Although these endeavors left Clark personally destitute, they saved the Northwest Territory from British domination. After the War the British agreed to surrender the Northwest Territory to the United States. Sometime later Thomas Jefferson asked Clark to further explore the trans-Mississippi region, but for personal reasons Clark refused. George Rogers Clark's younger brother William accepted Jefferson's offer in 1803, and the result was the famous Lewis and Clark Expedition.

1. The frontier people were often of origins other than _____.

2. List the two basic cultures and why they were different from the other.
 - a. _____

 - b. _____

3. The three-pronged movement into the trans-Appalachian area were in
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
4. Who were the three white men that accompanied Daniel Boone into Kentucky?
_____, _____ & _____
5. Boone had the reputation of being an outstanding _____.
6. Boone led the first group of permanent settlers into Kentucky in _____ and established the town of _____.
7. George Rogers Clark helped capture British supply bases in _____, _____, and _____.

3. Lewis and Clark Expedition. Four months before the United States signed the agreement to purchase the Louisiana Territory; President Jefferson addressed Congress and requested 2,500 dollars to finance an expedition to explore the trans-Mississippi region. Even though the United States did not yet possess the area, Congress allocated the money, and preparation for the expedition began. Meriwether Lewis and William Clark were designated as leaders, and they spent the winter of 1803-1804 training for the expedition. On May 14, 1804, the Lewis and Clark Expedition left St. Louis, Missouri, and traveled northwest along the Missouri River. In November they were joined by a French Canadian trapper, Toussaint Charbonneau, and his Shoshoni Indian wife, Sacajawea, who were to serve as guides and interpreters. After spending the first winter with the Mandan Indians in North Dakota, the Lewis and Clark Expedition once again set out along the Missouri River. It was well into the summer of 1805 before the explorers reached the headwaters of the Missouri River and crossed the Continental Divide. Sacajawea informed them that they were now traveling through Shoshoni country. After discovering that Cameahwait, the Shoshoni Chief, was Sacajawea's brother, they

were befriended by the tribe and given a Shoshoni guide and horses to help them on their arduous journey across the mountains to the Columbia River. Traveling down the Columbia River, the Lewis and Clark Expedition finally reached the Pacific Ocean in November. They made camp for the second winter near the mouth of the Columbia River. In the spring of 1806, the explorers began retracing their stops and arrived back in St. Louis in September of that same year.

4. Pike's Expeditions. In 1805 United States Army General James Wilkinson commissioned Captain Zebulan Montgomery Pike to conduct a second exploration of the Louisiana Territory. Pike's twenty-man party traveled northward from St. Louis along the Mississippi in an attempt to discover the headwaters of that mighty river. The two thousand-mile journey took Pike to northern Minnesota. The next year Pike was sent on a similar mission to the Southwest. This time Pike followed the Arkansas River into present-day Colorado, where he discovered and attempted to climb the mountain that now bears his name. The expedition then turned southward and near the modern site of Pueblo, Colorado, Pike and his men constructed a fort. The explorers proceeded in a southerly direction and crossed into Spanish territory, where they were arrested for illegal entry. The Spanish authorities escorted the Americans to Natchitoches, Louisiana, and allowed them to return to St. Louis.

5. Lisa's Expeditions. Manuel Lisa was born in New Orleans in 1772. Soon after 1790 he established himself in the fur trade in St. Louis, Missouri, with a monopoly on the Osage Indian trade. In 1807 Lisa led an expedition who already made two trips to the headwaters of the Missouri. Lisa persuaded Colter to join his party and be their guide. The Lisa party moved down the Yellowstone River and established a trading post and fort at the mouth of the Big Horn River in present-day Montana. This fort, later known as Fort Manuel, was the first such establishment of its kind on the upper rivers. Lisa's party was perhaps the first white party to view the wonders of Yellowstone National Park.

In 1808 Manuel Lisa, Pierre Chouteau, Andrew Henry, William Clark (of the Lewis and Clark Expedition), Reuben Lewis (brother to Meriwether Lewis), and others formed the Missouri Fur Company. The next year Lisa led the 350 trappers back into the country around the Missouri River headwaters, where they established Fort Lisa near the Big Knife River in North Dakota. By the summer of 1810, Indian attacks had driven the party back down the Missouri River, and the Missouri Fur Company underwent a series of reorganizations. When the War of 1812 disrupted the fur trade, Manuel Lisa became an Indian subagent for the Missouri River tribes and went to

live above the mouth of the Kansas River. He proved to be a shrewd but friendly businessman and conciliator of the Indians.

8. _____ and _____ were the leaders of an expedition to explore the trans-Mississippi region.
9. In 1804 Lewis & Clark left _____, _____ and traveled northwest along the _____.
10. The expedition arrived at the _____ in November 1850.
11. a. Captain Pike and 22 men traveled northward from _____ along the _____ in an attempt to discover the _____ of that mighty river.
b. The 2,000 mile journey took them to northern _____.
12. a. Manuel Lisa and his party established a trading post and fort which later became known as _____.
b. It was the first establishment on the _____.
c. They were perhaps the first white party to view the wonders of _____.

6. The "Great Migration." The War of 1812, like the War for Independence before it, again stopped further western exploration until 1815, but the most spectacular migration in United States history occurred directly after the War of 1812. From 1815 to 1820, 1,250,000 people moved into the area around the Great Lakes and the area along the Gulf of Mexico. This westward movement was called the "Great Migration" and led to thousands of small farms being established.

7. Long's Expedition. In 1817 Major Stephen H. Long constructed a fort on the Arkansas River, which he named Fort Smith. On June 6, 1820, Major Long and nineteen mounted men began extensive exploration of lands near the Red and Arkansas Rivers. Long deemed this land to be unfit for cultivation, and uninhabitable by people who depend upon agriculture. He called the whole Great Plains area the "Great American Desert."

B. Mountain Men

1. Jim Bridger. The real explorers of the West were not official government agents but were traders and fur trappers. By 1821 Anglo traders had begun the Santa Fe Trail between

New Mexico and Missouri. Throughout the Rocky Mountains, the “mountain men” trapped for beaver and traded with the Indians. One such “mountain man” was the American fur trapper and scout, Jim Bridger. Bridger was orphaned at the age of thirteen and became a blacksmith’s apprentice. In 1822 Bridger joined the fur trapping expedition of William Henry Ashley, whose men attempted to travel up the Missouri River to its source. For the next twenty years, Bridger hunted and explored the area between the Missouri River and Utah and from the Canadian border to New Mexico. He became the first white man to see the Great Salt Lake in Utah.

In 1843 Bridger and his partner, Louis Vasquez, established Fort Bridger along the Oregon Trail in southwestern Wyoming. Fort Bridger greatly aided the many pioneers on their westward migration. From 1849 to 1868, Jim Bridger acted as a scout and guide for many military and scientific expeditions in the West. He probably knew the western mountain region better than any other man of his time. Bridger served as a guide for the Marcus Whitman party and for a United States government expedition to the Yellowstone National Park area, and he helped in the work of a surveying party for the Union Pacific Railroad. The tales brought back by men like Colter and Bridger and others as to the wonders of the great early explorers encountered the geysers and hot springs of the Yellowstone area, they wondered if they had found the very roof of Hell and it had holes in it. As an example of the folklore, note Jim Bridger’s statement “Out thar in the Yellowstone thais a river that flows so fast it gets hot on the bottom.”

2. Jedediah Smith. Another of William H. Ashley’s “mountain men” was Jedediah Smith. Beginning in 1822 Smith, with his ever-present rifle and Bible, traveled extensively in the West. On several occasions Smith barely escaped death and once even fought a barehanded battle with a grizzly bear. In 1824 Smith rediscovered the South Pass – the gateway to the Far West through present-day Wyoming. In August 1826 Smith and his party, the “South West Expedition,” set out to discover usable trade routes to California and the Pacific Northwest. They journeyed around the Great Salt Lake, through the Mojave Desert, and over the High Sierras. It took Smith’s party a grueling two weeks to cross the desert. The “South West Expedition” finally reached San Gabriel Mission in California, making Smith and his men the first Americans to travel to California overland. Smith, however, was ordered out of California by Spanish authorities. In 1828 Smith made a second trip to California and from there traveled north up the coast. He became the first white man to travel nearly the entire length of the Pacific coast overland.

En route to Santa Fe in 1831, thirty-two-year-old Smith was killed by the Comanche Indians somewhere in the Cimarron Desert. Jedediah Smith, sometimes called the “Knight in Buckskin,” was perhaps the greatest of American’s western explorers. He probably saw more unexplored country than any American except Meriwether Lewis and William Clark.

13. a. From 1815 to 1820, 1,250,000 people moved into the area around the _____ and along the _____.
- b. This western movement was called the “_____.”
14. Jim Bridger was a “mountain man” who was the first white man to see the _____ in Utah.
15. a. Bridger and Louis Vasquez established Fort Bridger along the _____ in southwestern _____.
- b. Fort Bridger aided many _____ on their westward migration.
16. Jedediah Smith was the first white man to travel nearly the entire length of the _____ overland.
17. Smith, sometimes called the “_____” was perhaps the greatest of American _____ explorers.

C. Texas and the Far West

1. Texas Independence. In 1820 Moses Austin, a Missouri banker, asked permission of the Spanish authorities to establish an American colony in Texas. The request was granted, but Moses Austin died before he could carry out his plan. Austin’s son, Stephen F. Austin, took three hundred families to Texas and established, in 1821, the first Anglo settlements at Washington-on-the-Brazos and Columbus. In that same year, Mexico gained her independence from Spain, and the province of Texas was transferred from Spanish to Mexican rule. Many Americans obtained Mexican grants to develop communities in Texas. These American colony organizers were called *empresarios*². From 1821 to 1836, the Anglo population in Texas grew to thirty thousand people, and the Americans outnumbered the Mexicans. The Mexican authorities became worried because of this rapid growth, and in 1830 Texas were closed to further American migration. As year followed year, more and more hostility developed between the Texans and Mexican government. The Mexican government declared the Mexican constitution no longer valid for the province of Texas; therefore, Texans were denied all civil rights. The situation grew

² empresarios – an organizer of Anglo colonies in Texas

to be intolerable, and in 1835 the Texas War for Independence began. The Texans' initial defeat of the Mexicans at San Antonio so alarmed the Mexican dictator, General Antonio López de Santa Anna, that he personally led a huge Mexican army to San Antonio in an attempt to quell the revolt.

2. The Alamo. In San Antonio the Texans, under the joint command of Colonels William Travis and James Bowie, fortified themselves in the old Spanish mission known as the Alamo. (Originally christened San Antonio de Valero, the mission was called "alamo" after the Spanish word for cottonwood tree because of the presence of a number of cottonwoods.) The defenders of the Alamo, including a handful of volunteers from Tennessee under the leadership of famous frontiersman Colonel Davy Crockett, numbered around 180 men. Santa Anna's army is said to have been composed of 3,000 to 5,000 trained soldiers.

The siege and artillery bombardment of the mission lasted from February 23 to March 6, 1836. Finally the Mexican army overran the Alamo, and the valiant defenders were killed. Santa Anna previously had flown the red flag of "no quarter" and had his buglers play the "Degüello," which also was an indication of "no quarter." "No quarter" meant there would be no mercy shown in sparing the lives of the defeated Texans. The men inside the Alamo were well aware that Santa Anna intended to take no prisoners, and they valiantly fought to the end. The sacrifice at the Alamo gave General Sam Houston more time to organize the Texas defenses.

18. The first Anglo settlement in Texas was established by Stephen Austin with _____ families.
19. From 1821 to 1836, the Anglo population in _____ grew to _____.
20. The Texas War for Independence began in _____.
21. The Spanish word for cottonwood tree is "_____."
22. "No quarter" meant there would be _____ of the defeated Texans.

3. Goliad and San Jacinto. As more battles were fought, Santa Anna's armies continued to be victorious. Many Texans were taken prisoner and transported to the *presidio*³ of Goliad, where Santa Anna personally ordered their execution. On Palm Sunday, March 28, 1836, 350 unarmed prisoners, including Colonel James W. Fannin, were marched out into the prairie

³ presidio – a Spanish fort or military post during Mexican control in southwestern United States

and shot. "Remember the Alamo!" And "Remember Goliad!" became battle cries of the Texas War for Independence.

Santa Anna seemed to be sweeping all opposition before him. With an army of more than 1,200 men, he forced General Sam Houston's army of about 910 men into a full and long retreat. On April 21, 1836, as they neared the San Jacinto River, Houston suddenly turned his army around and surprised the Mexicans during siesta. In only eighteen minutes, the Battle of San Jacinto was over and the Mexicans were defeated. The entire Mexican army, including Santa Anna, was made prisoners. Finding himself in this unenviable position, Antonio López de Santa Anna was forced to sign a treaty recognizing the independence of Texas.

4. The West Coast. The decade from 1830 to 1840 saw the climax of one major United States migration and the beginning of another. By 1830 the main thrust of the westward movement had been felt in the area between the Appalachian Mountains and the Mississippi River. By 1840 settlements were being established on the Pacific coast and the west regions in between were being slowly settled. The rich Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys of California and Puget Sound and the Willamette Valley of Oregon Country were the especial sites of United States settlements. By 1840 nearly five thousand Americans lived in Oregon, and another one thousand lived in California. In the Northwest, confusion arose because both the United States and England claimed Oregon Country. The two nations' conflicting claims to this area grew out of earlier explorations by men from both countries. The northern boundary of Oregon Country of Oregon Country was the line of north latitude, 54 degrees and 40 minutes. One particular plank in President Polk's campaign platform had been "54° 40' or fight." The Mexican War, however, kept the United States too busy to press American claims in Oregon. In 1846 Polk was willing to compromise with Britain. The two nations agreed to accept the 49th parallel as the boundary. The United States received all of present-day Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and parts of Wyoming and Montana.

5. Wagon Trains West. The 1840s saw the beginnings of major caravans of covered wagons crossing the western plains to Oregon and California. The typical wagon train could travel fifteen to twenty miles per day but only if the train halted just at noon and nightfall.

The trip took from three to six months, and almost every hardship was experienced on the journey. Wild animals, hostile Indians, swollen rivers, rain, snow, bitter cold, intense heat, choking dust, thirst, and hunger were among the hardships met on the trail. Usually the wagon

trains left early in the spring of the year so that autumn snows would not block their passage in the western mountains.

Covered wagons carried settlers to the West. Constructed of hickory, maple, or oak wood with a waterproof canvas cover arching above, they could carry up to 2,000 pounds of goods. From a distance they seemed to sail across the green prairie reminiscent of a schooner sailing ship, and thus the nickname "prairie schooner."

6. Donner Party. In 1846 George and Jacob Donner led a party of migrants from Illinois bound for the West. Because of difficulties along the way, the Donner party arrived in the mountains late in the year. When they became snowbound for two months, the migrants built crude shelters of logs, rocks, and hides. All too soon their food supply was exhausted, and they were reduced to eating field mice, livestock, twigs, and animal bones and hides. Before the horrible experience was over, the Donner party also resorted to cannibalism. As members of the group died, those still alive ate the corpses of their dead companions in order to survive. Fifteen volunteers attempted to make it out of the mountains to get help. Eight of those volunteers died along the way of starvation and exposure, but the other seven secured the needed outside help. When finally rescued, only forty-seven of the eighty-two original members of the ill-fated Donner party had survived.

7. Mormon Migration. In 1846 another group of migrants left Illinois for the West. These were the Mormons who suffered persecution because of their singular religious beliefs and practices. They were seeking a place to settle that would be free from persecution. Other pioneers going to Oregon and California had bypassed the barren deserts of Utah, but this emptiness made Utah attractive to the Mormons. Maybe in the western deserts, they could live and practice their religion freely. Brigham Young, the spiritual leader of the group, led the party to the eastern shores of the Great Salt Lake in 1847. They did not reach their so-called "promised land" without suffering extreme hardships and even the women and children often had to pull carts through the snowy mountain passes. Upon arrival in Utah, the Mormons showed themselves industrious and began to build new lives for themselves, and in a very short time, a thriving Mormon settlement existed in the Utah desert.

23. In 1863 General Houston surprised the _____ during _____, in 18 minutes the _____ was over and Mexico was defeated.

24. By 1830 the main thrust of the westward movement was in the area between the _____ and the _____.
25. By 1840 nearly _____ Americans lived in Oregon and another _____ lived in California.
26. A typical wagon train could travel _____ to _____ miles per day.
27. a. George & Jacob Donner led a party of migrants from _____ bound for the west.
b. The party became snowbound and only _____ of the 82 survived.
28. _____, spiritual leader of the Mormons led a party to the eastern shores of the _____ in 1847.

8. California Gold Rush. The year 1848 was pivotal for westward expansion. That year, James W. Marshall, a carpenter working at John Sutter's sawmill on the American River near Sacramento, California, discovered a nugget of gold. When the news reached the rest of the country, fortune seekers began to pour into California. By January 1849 "gold fever" was sweeping the nation. Men were going to California by wagon, horse, foot, or boat. More than 100,000 would-be miners arrived in 1849 alone. These participants in the California Gold Rush were appropriately given the name "Forty-Niners," rooms rented for 1,000 dollars a month and eggs sold for 10 dollars a dozen. From 1848 to 1860, California's population grew from 26,000 to 380,000. The United States of America had expanded from "sea to shining sea," but there was still a great deal of filling in to be done.

29. a. A nugget of gold was discovered of _____ sawmill by John Marshall.
b. The sawmill was on the _____ near Sacramento, California.
30. More than _____ would-be miners arrived in 1849 alone.
31. The California Gold Rush participants were given the name "_____."

CALIFORNIA GOLD RUSH 1850-1890

GOLD is the only "yellow" metal and the only metal that can withstand the rigors of time. Unaffected by air, moisture, heat, or cold, this noble metal will not rust, tarnish, or corrode.

GOLD is malleable and ductile. A single ounce can be drawn into a thin wire fifty miles long, making it useful in circuitry and equipment operation.

GOLD can be hammered into sheets so thin that light can pass through. High purity gold reflects heat and radiation and has been used to protect the astronauts.

GOLD is measured in carats. Originally a carat was the weight of a carob seed used by ancient merchants in the Middle East.

GOLD is so rare that all the gold ever mined could fit into a cube measuring just 20 yards each side. Yet, more than 80 percent of the world's mother-lobe gold is still to be discovered.

GOLD is useful in the medical industry for treating arthritis, filling teeth, clearing blocked arteries, and making surgical instruments.

GOLD is edible! Gold dust is sometimes used to decorate candy! An inert metal, it passes through the intestinal system unchanged and without harm to the body.

II. THE FINAL FRONTIER (1850-1890)

A. Gold Fever and Lawlessness

The discovery of gold in California greatly accelerated American westward expansion. From 1850 to 1890, adventurers literally poured into the west; some in search of gold, some to mine for other metals, and some to take advantage of other opportunities that were brought on by the Gold Rush.

Four important mining areas developed from 1858 to 1875.

- (1) Rocky Mountains west of Denver, Colorado
- (2) Virginia City, Nevada
- (3) Idaho, Montana, and Washington
- (4) Black Hills of South Dakota

After the initial Gold Rush to California, fortune seekers began to backtrack into the deserts and mountains of Arizona and Nevada. In these areas tremendous amounts of wealth were taken from the ground, but it was not all gold. Between 1860 and 1880, the Comstock Lode alone, near Virginia City, Nevada, produced more than 300 million dollars' worth of silver ore.

The wealth from this find greatly helped the Union finance their part in the War Between the States.

Although some continued to mine for gold and other metals, most individuals who traveled west between 1850 and 1890 did not “strike it rich” from mining. However, most of these people stayed in the West and found other means of employment.

1. Outlaws. While many were lured by the thought of “striking it rich,” others conceived it might be easier to rob for a living. Western “badmen” became legends in their own time, and all too often became greatly romanticized in paperback novels. The names of Jesse and Frank James, the Daltons and the Youngers, Billy the Kid, Sam Bass, the Apache Kid, and Joaquin Murietta struck terror in the hearts of many in the West, but to people in the East, these names had a peculiar fascination and intrigue. Western towns often enlisted “lawmen” or hired gunmen to rid them of the bandits. In many cases, however, the men on whom badges were pinned were as conniving as, and often the companions of, the very men they were hired to eradicate. Pat Garrett, who shot and killed Billy the Kid, was a close friend of the Kid. Likewise, the notorious Jesse James was shot in the back by Robert Ford, a trusted member of James’ own gang. The famous gunfight at the O.K. Corral was, in reality, a personal grudge fight between two rival factions – both wearing badges. The root of all this trouble and lawlessness was basically greed.

2. Vigilance Committees. On the American western frontier, in mining camps and cattle towns of the early 1800s, law was often far away, nonexistent, or totally corrupt. To protect themselves, their families, and their property, citizens banded together to form vigilance committees. These citizen committees enforced a swift and sometimes harsh brand of justice. If found guilty, lawbreakers were quickly apprehended, tried, and either hanged or driven out of town. Most of these committees were reasonably just, but in some cases the situation degenerated into one of mob rule and numerous lynchings occurred. The vigilance committee was a totally extra-legal institution, but it was simply the daughter of expediency. The committees were examples of democracy in action being carried to its logical extreme.

Perhaps the most famous of these citizen committees were those of San Francisco, California. The city of San Francisco was incorporated on April 15, 1850. From the very beginning, the city government had great difficulty keeping law and order. The Barbary Coast area, a district around Pacific and Kearny Streets, became a center of vice and crime that

flourished unpunished. Fires constantly broke out all over the city, and many believed that these fires were set deliberately to create diversions while houses were being robbed.

In 1851 the first San Francisco Committee of Vigilance was organized by concerned citizens. The Committee's members wore numbered badges of identification. These badges sported a large radiating eye, which was the symbol of the Committee's constant watchfulness for lawbreakers. In 1856 it was necessary for the Vigilance Committee to be reorganized once again. In each case, however, as soon as law and order were restored to San Francisco, the vigilantes turned the control of the city back over to the legal authorities. These were turbulent times, and the times were met with drastic measures. Times of lawlessness are always times of turbulence and confusion.

32. The four important mining areas developed from 1858 to 1875 are:
- _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
33. Many "bad-men" in the West struck terror in the hearts of the people. Some of them were: _____, _____, _____, _____, _____ & _____.
34. a. Western towns often hired _____ to rid them of the bandits and in some the men hired were often as _____ as the bandits.
- b. The hired gunmen were often _____ of the men they were hired to get rid of.
35. a. Billy the Kid was shot and killed by his close friend _____.
- b. A trusted member of Jesse James' gang, _____, was hired to kill him.
36. a. In the early 1800s mining _____ and cattle _____ had problems with corrupt, nonexistent laws.
- b. Citizens banded together to form _____ committees.
37. The first _____ Committee of Vigilance was organized to help with the great difficulty of keeping law and order in their city.

B. Cattlemen and Farmers

1. “Cattle Kingdom.” Texas Longhorn cattle were the offspring of wild Spanish cattle that had interbred with certain types of domestic bovines. The resulting crossbreed was a hardy and distinctive cattle that ranged freely on the open prairie. By 1860 there were six times as many cattle in Texas as there were people.

Before the War Between the States, beef from Texas Longhorns was consumed almost entirely locally, but during the War this beef became an important food source for the Confederate soldiers. After the War cattlemen began to drive large herds of Texas Longhorns north to various towns where they could be loaded onto railroad cars and shipped east for slaughter. Several well-defined trails developed for these “cattle drives,” and in the years following the War Between the States, Texas “cowboys” drove approximately six million cattle north on these drives.

In the mid 1860s, the Great Plains were the only region of the United States that was still almost totally unsettled. This allowed Texas cattlemen to convert the Great Plains into virtually one huge unfenced pasture land, thus beginning the era of the great “Cattle Kingdom.” However, this era was short lived.

2. Homesteaders. Because of the passage of the Homestead Act of 1862, poor farmers began to invade the cattleman’s domain. The Homestead Act gave 160 acres of free land to any family head who planted crops and tended the land for five years. As in earlier American history, thousands of Europeans – victims of revolutions, famines, overpopulation, and pogroms – came to America and availed themselves of the free western lands. The American West soon became peopled with an ethnic *amalgamation*⁴ that included Mexicans, Indians, Basques from France and Spain, Scandinavians, English, Welsh, Chinese, and Irish.

When the settlers reached the prairie, they found no available wood for building material, so they resorted to building houses out of sod. The walls and even the roofs were constructed of sod bricks. Sometimes strong matted sod was not plentiful; those homesteaders built dugout houses. During the rainy season, the sod roofs leaked so badly that one pioneer told how he had to hold an umbrella over his wife while she fried the breakfast pancakes. The thick sod walls proved to be a blessing during the winter, however. Homesteaders living in sod houses survived the prairie blizzards with less deaths than did many of those living in wooden frame houses. God

⁴ amalgamation – mixture, blend

provided them with the building materials best suited for those first few years of adjustment to prairie life

38. Texas Longhorn cattle were the offspring of wild _____ cattle that had interbred with certain types of domestic bovines.
39. Before the War Between the States, Longhorn beef was consumed almost entirely _____, but during the War it was an important food source for _____ soldiers.
40. Texas “_____” drove approximately 6 million cattle north to be loaded on railroad cars.
41. The Homestead Act of 1862 gave _____ acres of free land to any family head who planted crops and tended the land for _____ years.
42. On the prairie with no available wood, buildings were made from _____ bricks.
43. The thick sod walls of the homes proved to be a _____ during the winter.

3. Barbed Wire. The plains and prairies of the United States were devoid of trees and rocks, which were traditionally used as fencing materials. To keep the semi-wild cattle away from the crops, homesteaders had to seek other kinds of fencing materials. Because plain wire fences presented no obstacle to these cattle, something different and unique had to be developed; that ‘something’ was barbed wire.

Barbed wire in this country was first patented in 1867, but it was not until 1874 that Joseph Farwell Glidden of DeKalb, Illinois, invented the first practical machine for manufacturing barbed wire. This machine was a homemade operation, and more refinements needed to be made. Better machines were made, and barbed wire was soon being produced in quantities. Between 1873 and the end of the nineteenth century, approximately four hundred types of barbed wire were devised. Barbed wire seemed the perfect solution to the farmers’ problems – it was widely available, was relatively cheap, could be shipped easily, and would keep the wild cattle out. While barbed wire solved problems for the farmers, cattlemen greatly disliked fences – barbed wire or otherwise. They felt that since they had arrived on the plains first, the water holes belonged to them, but the fences kept their cattle from getting to the water. “Fence wars” broke out between the farmers and the cattlemen. Much blood was shed over the “bob wire” or “devil’s rope,” as the cowboys called the barbed wire. Meanwhile, in the East, barbed wire was the center of yet other battles. Eastern manufacturers became involved in stormy

litigation for control of various barbed wire patents. Barbed wire helped tame the West but not without a great deal of furor.

4. Range Wars. In Lincoln County of eastern New Mexico, tensions mounted between two rival cattle companies, which resulted in the Lincoln County Cattle War. On February 18, 1878, a young Englishman, John H. Tunstall of J.H. Tunstall and Company, was murdered. Tunstall's death precipitated open warfare between his organization and the rival L.G. Murphy and Company. Each side employed an army of hired gunmen, one of whom was the infamous twenty-one-year old William Bonney, better known as Billy the Kid. New Mexico Territorial Governor, former General Lew Wallace, attempted to stop the hostilities by meeting secretly with Billy the Kid and offering him full pardon if he would "hang up his guns." When Bonney refused, Governor Wallace was forced to declare a state of martial law and bring in Federal troops to restore peace.

From 1887 to 1892, Arizona Territory became the scene of another range war – The Pleasant Valley War, which was also known as the Graham-Tewksbury Feud. This hostility was not a war between opposing cattle companies but was a conflict between cattlemen and shearers. A personal feud developed between the cattleherding Grahams and the shepherding Tewsburies, which led to murder and bloodshed on both sides. So many lives were lost that by 1892 only one adult male from each family remained alive – Tom Graham and Edwin Tewksbury. Later, when Graham was ambushed and killed near the town of Tempe, Arizona, Ed Tewksbury was tried for his murder. Although Tewksbury was found guilty, he was later released on a legal technicality.

Yet another range war broke out in Johnson County, Wyoming, in 1892. This conflict, known as the Johnson County War, arose over ownership of cattle. When small ranchers confiscated calves that had not yet been branded, but which the cattlemen felt were theirs, the cattlemen considered it cattle rustling. Thinking to put an end to the issue, the cattlemen hired professional gunmen and attacked the KC Ranch, which was considered to be a trouble spot. However, the ranchers were able to get help from a sheriff and a two-hundred man posse. The two groups met to fight it out on the TA Ranch, but Federal troops intervened, preventing further bloodshed.

44. a. Barbed wire was first patented in _____.
- b. The first practical machine for manufactured barbed wire was in 1874 in DeKalb, Illinois by _____.
45. The Lincoln County Cattle War was due to tensions between 2 rival cattle companies. Name the 2 companies. a. _____ b. _____
46. a. The Pleasant Valley War was also known as the _____.
- b. This conflict was between _____ and _____, not opposing cattle companies.
47. The Johnson County War arose over ownership of _____.

C. Transportation and Communication.

Until the advent of the railroad, travel in the West was slow, uncomfortable, and dangerous. People traveled by stagecoach, but the schedules were irregular and the roads were extremely bad. The main stagecoach line was the Butterfield Overland Express Company, which ran four coaches weekly from St. Louis to San Francisco. The coaches bumped along day and night and traveled one hundred miles in a twenty-four-hour period. The passengers inside would become grimy with dust in the summer and would shiver with cold in the winter. Every ten miles there was a crude adobe or wooden station, but these offered the passengers very little in the way of comfort.

Freight was hauled in wagons. These freight wagon trains were usually made up of approximately twenty-five heavy, high-wheeled wagons, each of which was pulled by a team of six to twenty oxen or mules. The wagons traveled at a speed of only one to two miles per hour, or about one hundred miles to a seven-day week. Sadly, it was said that “there were no Sundays west of Omaha.” Two famous western freight lines were the Central Overland California and Pike’s Peak Express Company, purchased by Ben Holladay in 1862, and the Wells Fargo and Company.

1. Concord Coach. In the era of westward expansion, the horse-drawn stagecoach was the main means of transportation. The most famous and most common of these stagecoaches were the ones manufactured in Concord, New Hampshire, by the Abbot-Downing Company and became known far and wide as the “Concord Coaches.”

In May 1813, twenty-year-old Lewis Downing arrived in Concord, New Hampshire (about seventy-five miles north of Boston), from Lexington, Massachusetts, with sixty dollars in

his pocket and a set of tools worth less than a hundred dollars. Young Downing immediately set up a wagon-making shop. By November he had built his first “Concord Wagon,” which he sold to Benjamin Kimball, Jr., for the sum of sixty dollars. Downing continued to build Concord Wagons and heavier freight wagons; then some time later he added a two-wheel chaise that acquired a certain degree of acclaim. “Every part of the work of the manufacture of these vehicles was ‘done by hand labor’ unaided by any ‘power machinery,’ ” read Downing advertising of the period.

In 1826 Downing was joined by a twenty-two-year old artisan, J. Stephen Abbot of Salem, Massachusetts. Together they built the vehicle that was to make them and their town famous the world over – the “Concord Stagecoach.” Their first stagecoach was sold in July 1827 to John Shepard, a well-known stage driver of the era. This was the first vehicle of its kind made north of Salem, Massachusetts. In 1828 the two men formed a full partnership called “Downing and Abbot” that survived twenty years, during which time their products were known for skillful and honest workmanship. During the War Between the States, the company made ambulances, baggage wagons, quartermaster wagons, and gun carriages for the Union forces, in addition to stagecoaches and mail carts. Although the partners mutually dissolved their partnership, their heirs carried on the wagon business under various names. On January 1, 1865, seventy-two-year old Lewis Downing, Sr., retired, and the firm of Abbot, Downing, and Company was formed. This company existed until 1873 when it became known as the Abbot-Downing Company. In 1897 it was estimated that the company’s total payrolls for a half century equaled eight million dollars.

The Concord Coach built by the Abbot-Downing Company had seats for nine passengers inside and six outside, including the driver, and was considered roomy and rather grand for its day. Furthermore, the coaches were said to have a distinctive rhythm in the roll and play of their wheels. Being made of special slowly grown wood and tough forged iron, these conveyances could withstand all the stress and strain of rough travel. As a result the famous Concord Coach enjoyed a good reputation in every part of the world and was used almost exclusively in all the American West, Australia, Peru, and South Africa.

Then the Butterfield Overland Express Company began their transcontinental stage line on September 15, 1858, Concord Coaches were employed. Some gold seekers traveled west to the mining camps in Concord Coaches. When famous “badmen” of the West held up a stage, it was a Concord Coach. The famous Deadwood Stage (Deadwood, South Dakota) had in service several Concord Coaches.

Progress eventually replaced the horse with the automobile, but the Abbot-Downing Company refused to believe in those new-fangled automobiles. They considered the automobile to be a silly fad that would die out and believed nothing would ever replace the dependable horse and wagon. While Studebaker and Fischer converted to auto manufacture, Abbot-Downing continued to build wagons and coaches. Finally, when it was too late to compete successfully, they built a few trucks, but this venture failed; and the Abbot-Downing Company closed its doors for the last time in 1899.

48. The main stagecoach line was the _____ which ran 4 coaches weekly from _____ to _____.
49. List the famous western freight lines: a. _____
b. _____
50. The most famous and common stagecoach was the “_____.”
51. During the War Between the States, Downing & Abbott made _____, _____ wagons, quartermaster _____ and _____ carriages for the Union.
52. The concord Coach has seats for _____ passengers inside and _____ outside including the driver.

2. Horses and Camels. In April 1860 the Pony Express was organized to carry the United States mail. The Pony Express operated between St. Joseph, Missouri, and Sacramento, California, a distance of 2,000 miles. Eighty riders were in the saddle at all times day and night – forty going west and forty going east. The riders changed horses every ten to fifteen miles, and the riders themselves changed every seventy-five miles. Pony Express riders covered 250 miles per day, and it took eight or nine days to make the entire trip from St. Joseph to Sacramento. The cost of sending the mail by Pony Express was five dollars for each half ounce. This prohibitive cost was one factor that caused the Pony express to last only eighteen months, but two greater factors were that no government contract was forthcoming and the telegraph reached California in October 1861. At that time the Pony Express halted operation, but in its short existence, it captured hearts and imaginations around the world and made communication with California possible when the War Between the States began.

During the 1850s the United States Army brought about eighty camels from Africa and Asia to the American West. These camels were to carry cargo across the deserts of the Southwest

from Texas to California. The railroad soon proved to be faster and cheaper than the camels so the army sold them to circuses and zoos.

3. The Railroad. Horse-drawn wagons, pulled along crude plank “tracks,” were in use in England by the sixteenth century. These “tramways” were family employed in the English mining industry. A similar device was used in Boston in 1795 to transport brick. The first United States line that could truly merit the name “railroad” was built in Massachusetts in 1826 to haul granite for the erection of the Bunker Hill Monument. The Granite Line, as it was called, rode on raised tracks and was pulled along by a team of horses. At one particularly steep grade, a stationary engine with a continuous chain pulled the train up the hill. Eleven years earlier, in 1815, the state of New Jersey had granted the first United States railroad charter to John Stevens. Stevens organized the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, but due to the lack of sufficient finances, he never built the line.

Construction on this nation’s first actual rail network was not begun until 1828. On July 4 of that year, Charles Carroll, the last surviving signee of the Declaration of Independence, turned over the first spadeful of earth on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. The thirteen-mile B&O line was put into full operation in the year 1830. By the end of that same year, the United States had twenty-three miles of operational rail lines. There were 1,098 miles of railroad tracks in the United States by 1835; 2,818 miles by 1840; 5,996 miles by 1848; 9,021 miles by 1850; and 30,635 miles by 1860. Even though the next decade, between 1860 and 1870, encompassed the devastating War Between the States, the total trackage for that period was nearly double that of 1860. In 1871 alone, some 7,670 miles of new railroad tracks were laid.

The tracks upon which these early trains rode evolved from a crude plank beginning. In time, the planks became actual wooden rails. These wooden rails were later covered with iron. Iron rails replaced the iron-covered wooden rails, and eventually steel rails replaced the iron ones. Steel rails were first manufactured in England and were not made in the United States until 1865. Each railroad company built its own kind of track, and there existed a great diversity in track width, ranging from three feet to six feet. Finally, all railroads adopted the English standard of four feet and one-half inches.

The trains themselves also underwent many changes. The first railroad cars looked amazingly like stagecoaches, but slowly the cars began to resemble railroad cars. The means of locomotion also varied a good deal before steam engines became standard equipment with all

trains. Some trains were horse-drawn; others were pedaled like bicycles. Between the years 1829 and 1830, the South Carolina Railroad had one trail that was propelled by sail.

The idea of building a transcontinental railroad was being promoted in the early 1860s, but actual construction did not begin until after the War Between the States. Two railroad companies were chartered to complete the transcontinental railroad: the Union Pacific Railroad was to lay track westward from Omaha, Nebraska, and the Central Pacific Railroad was to lay track eastward from Sacramento, California. In 1869 the two tracks met near Ogden, Utah, at Promontory Point. On May 10 of that year, elaborate ceremonies were held at Promontory Point, and a golden spike was driven in the last tie that connected the two railroads. Railroad tracks now spanned the United States of America from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Other lines were soon laid also, such as the Southern Pacific and the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe. The coming of the railroads to the American West soon brought far-reaching changes. The great buffalo herds were destroyed, the Indians' way of life was threatened, thousands of immigrants poured into the area, and the way was paved for the ending of the frontier.

53. a. The _____ was organized to carry the United States mail and operated between St. Joseph, Missouri and Sacramento, California.
- b. The riders changed _____ every 10 to 15 miles and changed riders every _____ miles.
54. It took _____ or _____ days to make the entire trip for the Pony Express.
55. The first actual rail network began in _____.
56. By 1835 there was _____ miles of railroad tracks by 1860 there was _____ miles done.
57. Two railroad companies were chartered to complete the transcontinental railroad. List them, where they started and direction going.
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
58. The two companies' railroad tracks met near _____, _____ at _____.
59. A _____ was driven in the last tie that connected the two railroads.

Life is like a mountain railroad,
With an engineer that's brave;
We must make the run successful,
From the cradle to the grave;
Watch the curves, the fills, the tunnels;
Never falter, never quail;
Keep your hand upon the throttle,
And your eye upon the rail.

You will roll up grades of trial;
You will cross the bridge of strife;
See that Christ is your Conductor
On this lightning train of life;
Always mindful of obstruction,
Do your duty, never fail;
Keep your hand upon the throttle,
And your eye upon the rail.

M.E. Abbey

D. Indians and White Men

When American people have sought the will of God, this nation has been blessed and been a blessing. Over the years there have been Americans who embraced and followed Biblical principles. However, because man is woefully human and possesses a sinful, fallen nature, there also have been those who have ignored or rejected God's mandates. It is a sad, but true, fact that wicked people have had an impact on the events of the United States history.

The United States of America has not always been Biblical in its dealings with people. Three such events that stand out as strains on the otherwise praiseworthy pages of American history are the degrading institution of slavery, the vindictive policy of Reconstruction in the South after the War Between the States, and the cruel and bloody conflicts with the American Indians. Nevertheless, we must always remember that many good, conscience-stricken men in this country have cried out loudly against these evils.

The conflicting cultures of the white man and the Indian were like two express trains rushing toward one another at breakneck speed. The result was inevitable, and the superior technology of the white man sealed the doom for the Indians' way of life. In this disparity of technological attainment is no inherent question of morality. The immorality lies in the murders, tortures, and broken agreements on both sides and in the fallacious concept that "the only good Indian is a dead Indian." Cowardice and courage were found in red man and white man alike. Each fought to the best of his ability for what he believed to be right, and great men and women of both races deserve to be enshrined as heroes in the annals of American history

1. Sand Creek Massacre. The Plains Indian Wars began in Minnesota in 1862 and moved across the high plains of the Dakotas westward to Montana and Colorado. Battles, skirmishes, and massacres raged back and forth over the plains for nearly thirty years. These wars cost the United States government over thirty million dollars, and no one can total the loss in human life. Three of these encounters are rightly recorded in history as terrible massacres – senseless sacrifices on the altars of hate.

Before the War Between the States ended, two years of warfare between the Cheyenne Indians and the white men had understandably inflamed emotions on both sides. In November 1864 Black Kettle and his band of Southern Cheyenne were tired of the bloodshed. They sued for peace and were allowed to settle at Sand Creek, Colorado, ostensibly under army protection, in return for giving up most of their firearms. In further proof that the Cheyenne had truly given up the warpath, it can be noted that a number of white men were living at Black Kettle's camp.

All of this meant nothing to Colonel J.M. Chivington of the 2nd Colorado Cavalry. Chivington was an egomaniac and a fanatic of the worst sort. He was incensed that he had been transferred from the conflict between the North and South to the western frontier where he was tasked to fight Indians. At daybreak on November 29, 1864, Chivington ordered an unprovoked attack on the defenseless Cheyenne village at Sand Creek. When the bewildered Black Kettle saw the attacking troops, he raised an American flag and a white flag of truce over his tepee, but the soldiers ignored the flags and rode into the village and brutally murdered the helpless Indians – men, women, and children. In all, over three hundred Indians were slaughtered; of whom over two hundred were women and children. Colonel Chivington, wickedly acting out of anger and pride, destroyed many innocent lives. He was later court-martialed and censured, and the government paid a heavy indemnity to the remnant of Black Kettle's people, but no amount of money could replace three hundred innocent lives.

2. Battle of the Little Big Horn. The merciless Sand Creek Massacre enraged the Plains tribes and unleashed an even bloodier era of savage warfare. It has been said that the massacre at the Little Big Horn had its roots in Sand Creek. The principle actor in the Little Big Horn tragedy was George Armstrong Custer, another egomaniac and fanatical Indian hater like Chivington. Always a nonconformist, Custer's shoulder-length blond curls earned him the epithet, "Yellow Hair."

If the War Between the States had not broken out when it did, Custer, because of his bad conduct and insubordination, would have been expelled from the United States Military Academy

at West Point. But because the Union army needed every available trained officer, Custer received a commission instead of being expelled.

His career in the War was far from exemplary. Although he did win battles, Custer often disobeyed orders. On one occasion he was ordered to hold a bridge to cover a Union retreat, and he was not to attack. In direct insubordination he immediately ordered an attack, which cost heavy Union losses. Although the attack broke the confederate advance, Custer deserved to be court-martialed for his disobedience; instead he was decorated as a hero. He rose rapidly in rank from second lieutenant to brigadier general, but this was due to the high mortality rate of officers ranking above him and was not due to his military genius.

After the War, General Custer was sent west to fight the Indians. In the winter of 1868, a detachment of the 7th Cavalry under Custer attacked Black Kettle and Cheyenne where they were camped on the Washita River. One hundred three Indian men, women, and children were killed, and one of the dead this time was Black Kettle himself.

In 1876 Custer was in great disfavor with the army and had even been demoted from general to colonel. That spring three columns of troops set out to do battle with the Sioux (the Dakota) and the Cheyenne somewhere south of the Yellowstone River in Montana. Colonel Custer did not command any of the three columns but was instead in a subordinate position of command under General Alfred H. Terry. Custer and his men were to act merely as scouts and were given two explicit orders. Under no circumstances was Custer to split his command, and he was not to engage the enemy. Custer immediately split his command three ways and ordered an attack on the combined Sioux-Cheyenne village. Major Reno and Captain Benteen, each in command of three troops of the 7th Cavalry, proceeded separately along the left bank of the Little Big Horn River. Custer with five troops launched his ill-fated attack.

The size of the Sioux-Cheyenne camp has never been determined, but Custer and his 264 men were hopelessly outnumbered. In "Custer's Last Stand," all 265 men were killed. The Indians felt they had finally wiped out the stain of Sand Creek by defeating the white men at the Little Big Horn. Colonel Custer should have and would have received a *posthumous*⁵ court-martial for his flagrant disregard of orders, but the army had more use for a dead hero than a dead villain. The blame was shifted to subordinates, and Major Reno was court-martialed and dishonorably discharged from the army on trumped-up charges. It was not until ninety-one years later, and seventy-eight years after his death, that Major Marcus A. Reno was finally exonerated and given a posthumous honorable discharge.

⁵ posthumous – happening after death

Colonel Custer was not obedient to his commanding officers. The Word of God is clear about obedience to authority. Keep in mind the following words of wisdom:

The end does not justify the means.

Right is always right, and wrong is always wrong.

There is never a right time to do a wrong thing.

60. a. The conflicting cultures of the Indian were like two _____ rushing toward one another.
- b. The result was inevitable and the superior technology of the white men sealed the _____ for the Indians' way of life.
61. a. The Plains Indian Wars began in _____ and moved across the high plains of the Dakotas westward to _____ and _____.
- b. Battles, skirmishes, and massacres raged back and forth for nearly _____ years and cost the government over _____ million dollars.
62. a. Colonel Chivington was incensed that he was transferred from the conflict between the North and the South to the task of fighting _____.
- b. He ordered an _____ attack on the _____ Cheyenne village.
- c. The soldiers ignored the _____ flag and a white flag of truce and murdered over _____ Indians.
63. The merciless Sand Creek Massacre enraged the _____ tribes and unleashed an even _____ era of savage warfare.
64. George Armstrong Custer was the principle _____ in the Little _____ tragedy.
65. If not for the War Between the States, Custer would have been expelled from the United States _____ at West Point.
66. a. Custer and his 264 men attacked the _____ camp and were outnumbered.
- b. All 265 men were killed at “_____.”

3. Massacre at Wounded Knee. The final act of this tragic trilogy was yet to be played out. By 1889 most of the Sioux and Cheyenne had been rounded up, and many of their leaders were dead. In December 1889 the army encountered the last band of Sioux, under the leadership of Big Foot, on Wounded Knee Creek in South Dakota. Colonel J.W. Forsyth and five hundred men of the famous 7th Cavalry surrounded the village. The Sioux agreed to surrender,

but during the negotiations someone fired a shot. That was all the men of the 7th needed. For thirteen years they had been waiting for an excuse to avenge their fallen comrades of the Little Big Horn Massacre. The army opened fire on the Indians, killing men, women, and children. Two hundred Indians were slaughtered that day at Wounded Knee.

4. Chief Joseph. When discussing the conflicts with the Indians, all too often we dwell on the negative to the exclusion of the positive. The Indian wars were also a time of great and heroic deeds. We should not forget the great men of those times – both red men and white men. General O.O Howard, the one-armed, Bible-carrying Christian friend of the Indians, but more than once he risked his own life to prevent tragedies like those of Sand Creek and Wounded Knee. The heroic leadership of Dull Knife of the Cheyenne, Sitting Bull of the Sioux, and Chief Joseph of the Nez Percé is difficult to equal. These men led their people through hardships that would have broken lesser men, and yet they all met defeat or they surrendered. The surrender speech of Chief Joseph to General O.O. Howard is one of passion and sadness.

"Tell General Howard that I know his heart. What he told me before - I have it in my heart. I am tired of fighting. Our chiefs are killed. Looking Glass is dead.
Too-hul-hul-sote is dead. The old men are all dead. It is the young men who say 'yes' and 'no' [that is, vote in council]. He who led the young men [Joseph's brother, Ollicut] is dead. It is cold, and we have no blankets. The little children are freezing to death. My people - some of them - have run away into the hills, and have no blankets, no food. No one knows where they are [his daughter among them]. Perhaps they are freezing to death. I want to have time to look for my children and see how many of them I can find; maybe I shall find them all among the dead. Hear me my chiefs, my heart is sick and sad. From where the sun now stands, I will fight no more, forever!"

[Chief Joseph (Thunder-Comes-Rolling-Over-The-Mountains, Chief of the Nez Percé)]

5. The Navajo. When the United States gained from Mexico the territory that is now New Mexico and Arizona, our country inherited some local problems. One of these problems was the hostile Indian tribes. Of the tribes of the American Southwest, the Apache and their linguistic cousins the Navajo had the greatest impact on American history. Before the War Between the States, relations between the Indians and the Americans in the Southwest were generally amicable. By 1861, however, difficulties arose with both the Apache and the Navajo that resulted in war. The United States Army sent the famous frontier scout Kit Carson to subdue the warring Navajo. In 1863 Carson bottled up the Navajo in Canyon de Chelly. Through the long cold winter, the Indians were in a virtual state of siege. Before spring Carson and his troops

moved into the canyon and destroyed everything they could find. The nearly starved Navajo were forced to surrender or die from lack of food and shelter. They were then made to travel to the barren and hated Bosque Redondo Reservation on the Pecos River. There, because of overcrowding, many Indians died. It was not until 1868 that a tiny remnant of the once-mighty Navajo nation was allowed to return to its ancestral home in northern Arizona.

67. a. When Colonel Forsythe and his troops surrounded the _____ village, the Indians agreed to surrender at Wounded Knee.
b. During the negotiations someone fired a _____ and the troops opened fire and _____ Indians were slaughtered.
68. The heroic _____ of Dull Knife, Sitting Bull, and Chief Joseph led their people through _____ that would have broken lesser men.
69. In the Southwest the _____ and _____ had the greatest impact on American history.
70. a. Difficulties between the Apache and the Navajo resulted in _____.
b. The United States Army sent the frontier scout _____ _____ to subdue the warring Navajo.

6. The Apache Wars. When one hears the word Apache, the names of two men – Cochise and Geronimo – immediately come to mind. As with the Navajo, relations with the Apache were reasonably stable before the War Between the States. The Butterfield Stage Line had been given permission by the Apache to build a road through Indian hunting grounds in the Chiricahua Mountains to southeastern Arizona. The Indians even cut and sold firewood to the Butterfield station at Apache Pass in the very heart of the Chiricahuas. However, in February 1861 the great Apache Chief Cochise was falsely accused of kidnapping a boy. Blood was spilt by both sides, and further reprisals resulted in war with the Apache throughout the Southwest.

In the following year, the Union army “California Column,” under the command of General James Carleton, encountered the combined forces of Cochise and Mangas Coloradas (Red Sleeves) in Apache Pass. The Apache held the heights and denied the army access to a spring that was the only available water source. A standoff occurred until two army field cannons were brought into play. The artillery attack dislodged the Apache from their emplacements, and the United States Army won the Battle of Apache Pass. Hostilities, however, continued for

another ten years in the form of skirmishes and raids, but there were no more pitched battles. In September 1872 Cochise and his people were stunned by the appearance of two lone white men in their camp. Taglito (Red Beard), or Tom Jeffords, was known and trusted by the Apache, but one-armed General O.O. Howard was a stranger. Howard's deep Christian faith, personal courage and open honesty greatly impressed the Apache, and they agreed to end the fighting. Jeffords became their Indian agent, and as long as Cochise lived, there was peace.

In the era of the Indian wars, no name evoked more hatred and fear than that of Geronimo. Geronimo was never a chief, but he held the position of shaman, or medicine man. In all the raids he "led" he was always accompanied by a true hereditary chief. When Geronimo was a boy he was an *indolent*⁶ youth, which earned him the name of Goyathlay ("One-Who-Yawns"). While still a young man, Goyathlay went with the men of his band on a trading trip to Mexico. On their return to camp, the Apache found that their wives and children had been brutally murdered by Mexican scalp hunters. Among the dead and mutilated victims were Goyathlay's mother, wife, and three children. On that day, "One-Who-Yawns" became the dreaded Geronimo, the *implacable*⁷ foe of all white men. When Cochise surrendered to Tom Jeffords and General Howard, Geronimo refused to surrender and took to the hills.

For the next fourteen years, Geronimo slopped in and out of Mexico, raiding ranches and killing settlers. Throughout that time Geronimo's "army" of rarely more than twenty-four warriors (plus women and children) eluded two armies. General Nelson Miles mobilized five thousand regular soldiers, which was one-third of the combat strength of the United States Army at the time, five hundred Chiricahua Apache scouts, and thousands of irregular civilian militia. South of the border, Geronimo was pursued by thousands more soldiers of the Mexican army. Finally three unarmed men brought Geronimo in for the last time. Lieutenant Charles Gatewood and two Apache scouts rode boldly into the Apache Mexican stronghold and persuaded the wily Geronimo to return to the United States and surrender. All the Chiricahua Apache, hostile and friendly alike (including Geronimo and those who had actually helped the army hunt him down), were packed into railroad boxcars and shipped to Florida, and later Alabama. Many of those Apache died in the strange semitropical environment. Eventually, Geronimo and a remnant of the Chiricahua Apache were sent to Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Here Geronimo died in 1909. Some say the old Apache warrior and one-time medicine man had become a Christian before his death.

⁶ indolent – lazy, slothful

⁷ implacable – ruthless; unable to be appeased

71. List the two famous Apache Indians. _____ & _____
72. The Apache gave permission to the _____ to build a road through their hunting ground in the Chiricahua Mountains and southeastern Arizona.
73. a. Apache Chief Cochise was falsely accused of kidnapping a _____.
b. This and further reprisals resulted in _____ with the Apache throughout the Southwest.
74. a. General Carleton and his "California Column" encountered the combine forces of _____ and Red Sleeves in _____.
b. The Apache denied the army access to the only _____ source.
c. Two army field _____ helped in the attack and dislodged the Apache from their emplacements.
d. The United States Army won the _____.
75. _____ was trusted by the Apache and became their Indian agent.
76. Geronimo was never a _____ but a _____ man.
77. For 14 years Geronimo and his "army" slipped in and out of _____ eluding troops from the _____ Army and the _____ Army.
78. Lieutenant _____ and 2 Apache scouts finally persuaded _____ to return to the United States and surrender.

7. The Modoc. The California Indian tribes were for the most part of peaceful people. One of these tribes, the Modoc, lived along the shores of Tule Lake near the Oregon border. Only a few outbreaks of violence occurred between the Modoc and the California settlers before 1851. The young chief of the Modoc, Kintpuash, could see no reason why all peoples should not live together in peace, and he worked toward that end. Kintpuash was a frequent visitor to the white settlements, where he was known as Captain Jack. Ultimately, the day came when the Modoc were told that they must move to the Klamath Indian Reservation in Oregon. Although they did not want to do so, the Modoc agreed to the move in order to keep the peace. There was, however, little food at the Klamath Reservations, and the Modoc were in danger of starving. The Klamath Indians treated the Modoc as intruders. For these reasons, the Modoc left the reservation and established camps along the California-Oregon border. Army troops entered Captain Jack's camp and ordered the Modoc to return to the Klamath Reservation. The Modoc again reluctantly agreed and tried to surrender their arms, but gunfire broke out between the

soldiers and some of the young braves. To avoid further confrontation, Captain Jack then led his people south of Lake Tule to the California Lava Beds.

Another Modoc leader known as Hooker Jim, hearing of the encounter at Captain Jack's camp, also began moving south. Along the way the Indians engaged in revenge killing of the white settlers. When Hooker Jim's band joined Captain Jack's at the Lava Beds, although outnumbered, the Indians held out against United States troops for nearly a year and could not be dislodged from the Lava Beds even with field guns. Peace talks were eventually set up between General Edward R.S. Canby and the Modoc leaders. The United States government wanted to send the Modoc to reservations in either Arizona or Oklahoma, but the Modoc refused to leave California. General Canby also demanded that Hooker Jim and those who were guilty of killing the whites be handed over for immediate hanging. Captain Jack refused on the grounds that he, as chief of the Modoc, could not betray any of his own people by turning them over to white man's justice. A stalemate occurred that dragged on for days.

Meanwhile, Hooker Jim and those who were the cause of all this trouble made more demands on Captain Jack – they demanded the immediate death of General Canby. Hooker Jim further demanded that Captain Jack, as chief, do the actual killing, implying that if Captain Jack did not do so, he was a woman and not fit to lead the Modoc. A vote was held among all the warriors present, and the majority supported Hooker Jim, leaving Captain Jack no choice. The next day when they met with the peace commission, Captain Jack gave the signal and personally killed General Canby. Fierce fighting followed, and the Modoc were forced to retreat. Although beaten, Captain Jack refused to surrender until Hooker Jim and his cohorts surrendered. He knew they had betrayed him in return for their own immunity. When taken prisoner and tried for murder, Captain Jack told the authorities, "You white people conquered me not; my own people did." On October 3, 1873, Captain Jack – Kintpuash, Chief of the Modoc – and many of his men were hanged as murderers; and hostilities with the California Indians ceased. The Modoc were finally exiled to Oklahoma, Hooker Jim among them, and there he died in 1879.

E. Witness of God.

In this chapter we have seen how the American West was opened, how the transcontinental railroad was built, and how our nation's God-given, earth-bound wealth was tapped and utilized. No other country has ever been so richly blessed with natural resources, and this vast wealth has been used by Godly men to further His work. America has sent more missionaries into the worldwide harvest field than any other nation.

The actions of Americans have not always been praiseworthy, however. In far too many instances, Native Americans and others have been victims of man's greedy, sinful nature. Sadly, the land itself has also suffered. Unwitting men have ravaged the land's natural beauty and rich, hidden resources – all of which have come from the bountiful hand of God

79. The _____ were for the most part peaceful people.
80. The _____ lived along the shores of Tule Lake near the Oregon border.
81. Chief Kintpuash saw no reason why everyone should not live in _____.
82. The United States government wanted to send the Modoc to reservations in either _____ or _____, but they refused to leave California.
83. No other country has even been so richly blessed with natural resources as _____.

1. Giant Trees. The trees of the American Far West are a great natural wonder but none more so than the giant Sequoias of California. The Spaniards first saw these costal redwoods in 1769, but the Sequoias of the Yosemite area were not discovered until 1833 when the Joseph R. Walker Expedition reached California. In 1852 an English botanist named the trees *Wellingtonia* in honor of the Duke of Wellington. Americans, however, preferred a more American *nomenclature*⁸ and called them *Sequoia*, the name of the Cherokee Indian who invented the first workable alphabet for his own people. No one knows for certain how old these California redwoods are, but they are among the oldest living things on Earth.

Of the Sierra Sequoias, which grow in a zone between 4,000 and 8,000 feet of elevation, probably the oldest and certainly the most massive is the General Sherman. This botanical mammoth is as tall as a twenty-five-story building, weighs approximately 2,000 tons, and contains enough wood to build forty five-room houses. Its 272-foot trunk is nearly thirty-seven feet in diameter. Egypt was a world empire when this tree sprouted. The tree was full-grown when Greece was entering the Golden Age; and, on that night when Jesus Christ was born in Bethlehem, the tree was already 1,500 years old.

The General Grant, another great redwood, is second in overall size only to the General Sherman. The General Grant was designed by the United States Congress as a national shrine honoring the American war dead. There are Sequoias taller than the General Sherman and General Grant, but none are so massive. Some of these trees have reached a height of 364 feet. When the American settlers first began to filter over the mountains into California, yet another

⁸ nomenclature – system of names or terms

giant Sequoia existed which dwarfed even the Sherman and Grant Trees. The men of the area began to idly speculate how long it would take them to drop the tree down. This speculation became an obsession, and one day they decided to put action to their thoughts. After days and days of exhaustive labors, they succeeded in cutting down the largest tree in the world for no other reason than *just to see it fall!*

In 1868 a young Scotsman named John Muir arrived in California and spent nearly the remainder of his life roaming the redwood forests. He fell in love with the giant trees and dreaded the day when these colossi might succumb to the woodman's axe. To emphasize how foolish it would be to destroy any of these trees, Muir remarked, "No doubt these trees would make good lumber after passing through a sawmill, just as George Washington after passing through the hands of a French cook would have made good food." Sadly, man has ravaged and destroyed much valuable timberland through greed and wantonness.

The stately California redwoods are living monuments to the glory of God. Trees have always had an important place in God's Plan for the Ages. It was from trees that Noah made the Ark that spared a remnant from the Flood. In the Garden of Eden stood the Tree of Life. And on the hill called Calvary stood the "tree" around which all history hinges. Upon this "tree," God sacrificed his only begotten Son for the sins of the world. Our prayer should always be that of the song writer, "Lest I forget Gethsemane; Lest I forget Thine agony; Lest I forget Thy love for me, Lead me to Calvary."

2. Grand Canyon. In the summer of 1869, the one-armed veteran of the War Between the States, Major John Wesley Powell, a geologist, led the first expedition down the Green and Colorado Rivers to explore the Grand Canyon. Setting out in fragile wooden boats, neither Powell nor any of his men knew if they would ever return. It had been rumored that the mighty river went underground somewhere within two hundred miles of the main gorge of the Grand Canyon. Three months later, after a hazardous journey and the desertion of half of his crew, Powell returned home and immediately began making plans for a second trip to the same area. Powell's observations from these expeditions corrected many false ideas concerning that corner of the Southwest.

Only God could make the Rocky Mountains or the Grand Canyon or a geyser such as Old Faithful. At one time a confirmed young atheist hiked down into the Grand Canyon and camped overnight on the banks of Bright Angel Creek. The massive walls of the canyon awed the young man and stirred his very soul. After darkness fell, the walls could no longer be seen, but their

massive majestic presence could be felt. The young atheist wrote in his diary that night, "If there is a God, surely this is His handiwork!" The atheist knew in his heart that only God could make the Grand Canyon. He never forget that experience on the floor of the Grand Canyon, and a few years later he accepted Jesus Christ as Savior. God speaks to all of us through the things He has created.

84. The giant redwood trees are called _____ after the Cherokee Indian who invented the first workable alphabet for his own people.
85. The _____ are among the oldest living things on Earth.
86. a. The _____ Sherman is probably the oldest and most massive of the Sierra Sequoias.
b. It is as tall as a _____ story building, weighs about _____ tons and contains enough wood to build _____ five-room houses.
87. The General Grant Sequoia was designed as a national shrine honoring the _____ by the United States Congress.
88. Major John Powell led the first expedition down the _____ and _____ Rivers to explore the _____.
89. Three months after starting the expedition, Major Powell returned home and started making plans for a _____ trip to the same area.
90. Only God could make the _____ Mountains, the Grand _____, or the geyser such as _____.