

APUSH

1865-1896

**CONQUERING THE WEST
& THE AGRICULTURAL REVOLUTION**

REVIEWED!

American Pageant (Kennedy) Chapter 26

American History (Brinkley) Chapter 16

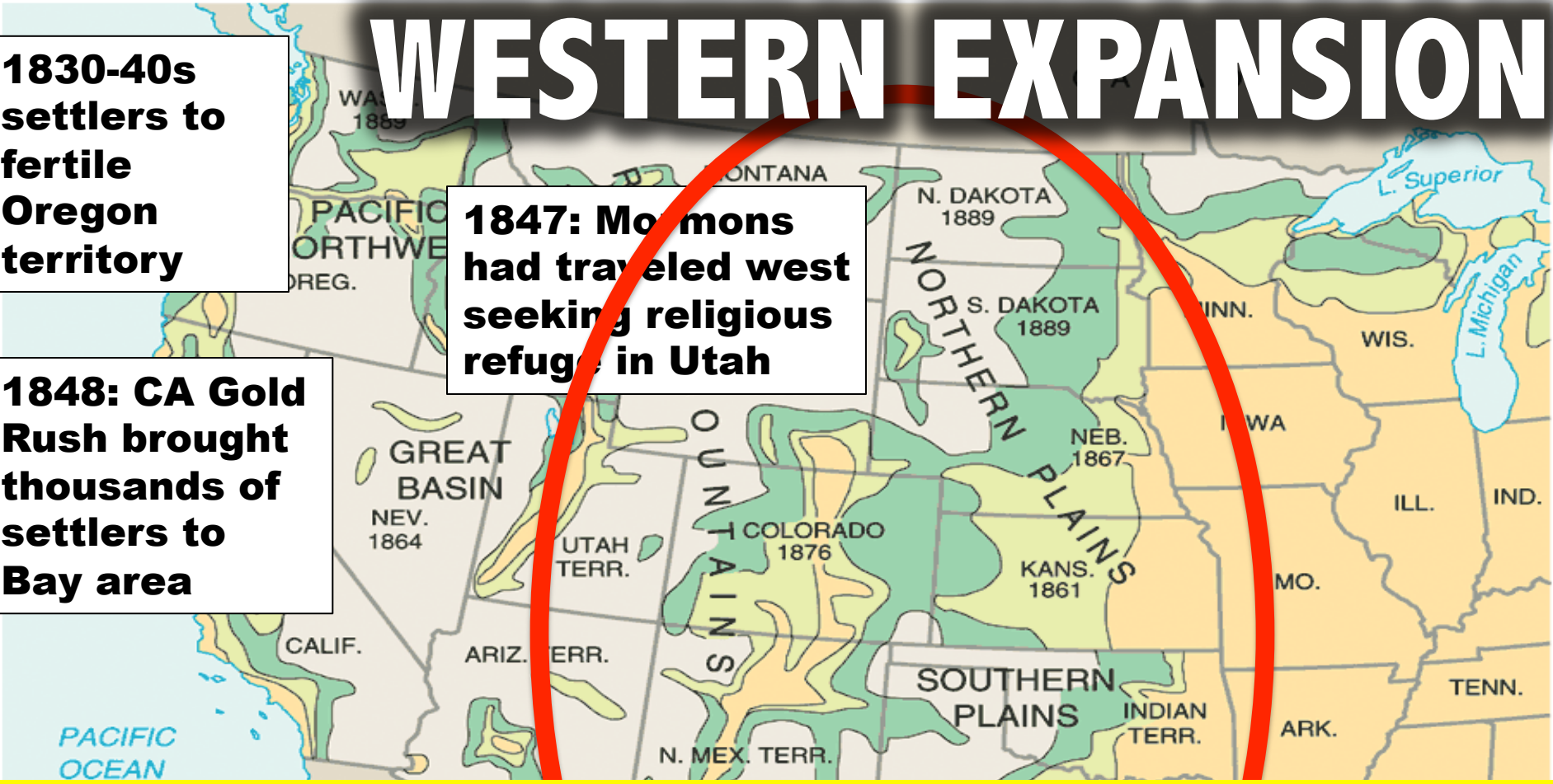
America's History (Henretta) Chapter 16

WESTERN EXPANSION

**1830-40s
settlers to
fertile
Oregon
territory**

**1847: Mormons
had traveled west
seeking religious
refuge in Utah**

**1848: CA Gold
Rush brought
thousands of
settlers to
Bay area**



**The federal government actively
promoted economic development and
the movement west**

WESTERN SETTLEMENT

- **Homestead Act (1862)** offered public land (160 acres) to any person who lived on it & improved it for 5 years.
 - Intended to encourage settlement of western land
 - Difficulties & Limitations
 - 1) quality of land 2) high cost of supplies 3) mother nature 4) fraud 5) fluctuating crop prices
- **Pacific Railroad Act (1862)**- authorized the building of transcontinental railroad along a northern route.
 - Federal government provides money and land (subsidies) to the RR companies to construct.
 - Transcontinental Railroad completed in 1869

HOMESTEAD.
Land Office at *Primmville Neb*
January 20th 1868.

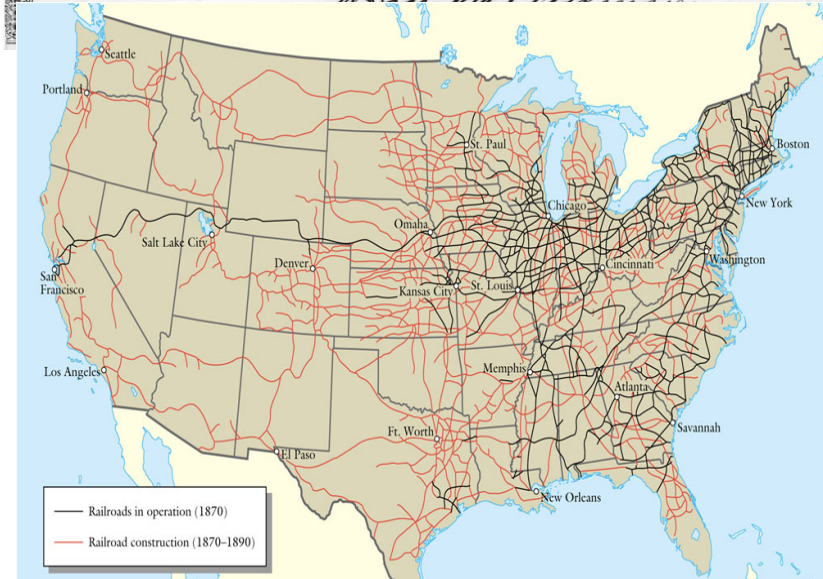
CERTIFICATE, }
No. 1 } APPLICATION,
No. 1 }

It is hereby certified, That pursuant to the provisions of the act of Congress, approved May 20, 1862, entitled "An act to secure homesteads to actual settlers on the public domain,"

Daniel Arman has made payment in full for *8 1/4* of *SW 1/4* of *NW 1/4* of *SW 1/4* of *T 8 N R 14 E* of Section *Twelve (12)* in Township *four (4) N* of Range *five (5) E* containing *160* acres.

You, therefore, be it known, That on presentation of this Certificate to the COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE, the said *Daniel Arman* shall be entitled to a Patent for the Tract of Land above described.

Wm M. Ott



ECONOMY OF THE WEST

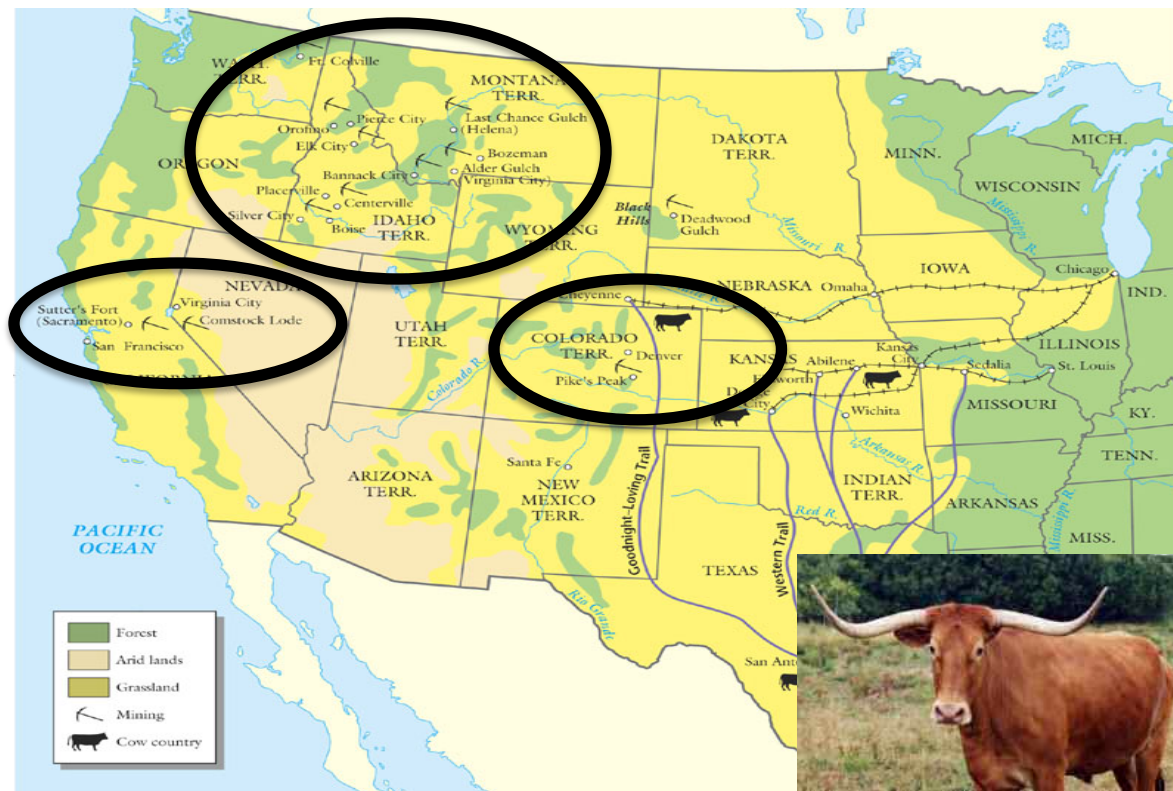
- **Boom and bust cycle** of the economy

Mining Industry

- Examples: 1) 1858 gold in Pike's Peak, Colorado 2) 1859 Comstock Lode in Nevada (Nevada enters Union)
- Conditions: Extremely dangerous, nearly half population foreign born
- Impact: 1) Environmental destruction (hydraulic mining) 2) Loss of Native land

Cattle Industry

- Mexican cowboys (vaqueros) had been running the cattle business in Texas
- Vast open grasslands
- Railroads open new markets
- Bust- bad winter, prices drop, overgrazing, farmers put up barbed wire



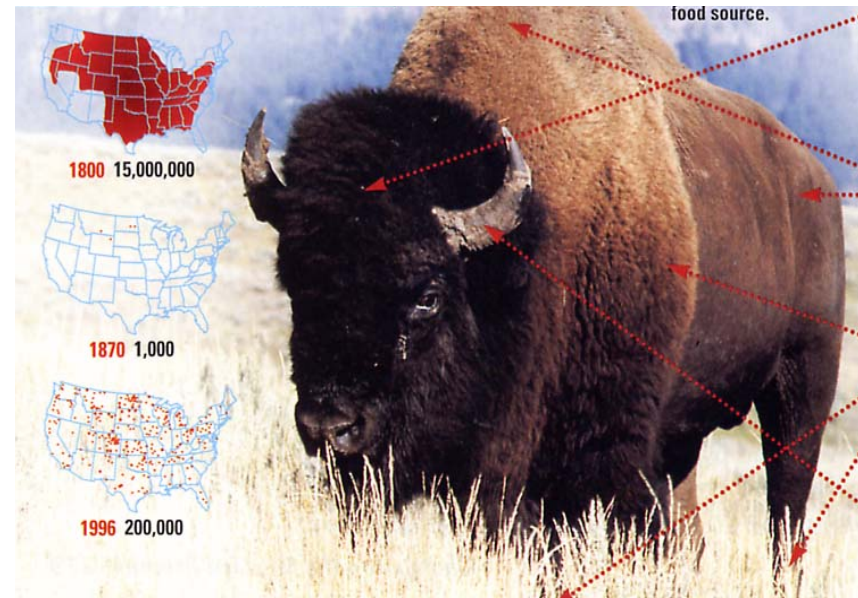
Myth vs. Reality of the West

- **Romanticized view** of the American west in literature, paintings, and dime novels.
 - Land of cowboys roaming the unexplored frontier
 - Oftentimes ignored the complexities of Native American life, reality of western life.
- **Melting Pot nature of the American West**
 - **Chinese** immigration
 - CA Gold Rush
 - Work for the railroads
 - **African American & Mexican** cowboys
 - **Utah** enters union in 1896 (after they drop **polygamy**)
- **Women's suffrage** was more common in the west
 - Wyoming is first to grant women the right to vote



Life in the Trans-Mississippi West

- Life for the plains Indians had dramatically changed
 - Heavily reliant on hunting bison
 - European introduction of horse, firearms, alcohol, & disease
- Increasing pressure on Native life
- Severe decline in the population of **bison**.
 - Undermine Native American resistance
 - Demand for buffalo hides
 - Impact of railroad expansion
- The biggest impact of western expansion will take place upon the lives of **Native Americans** in the **trans-Mississippi west**.



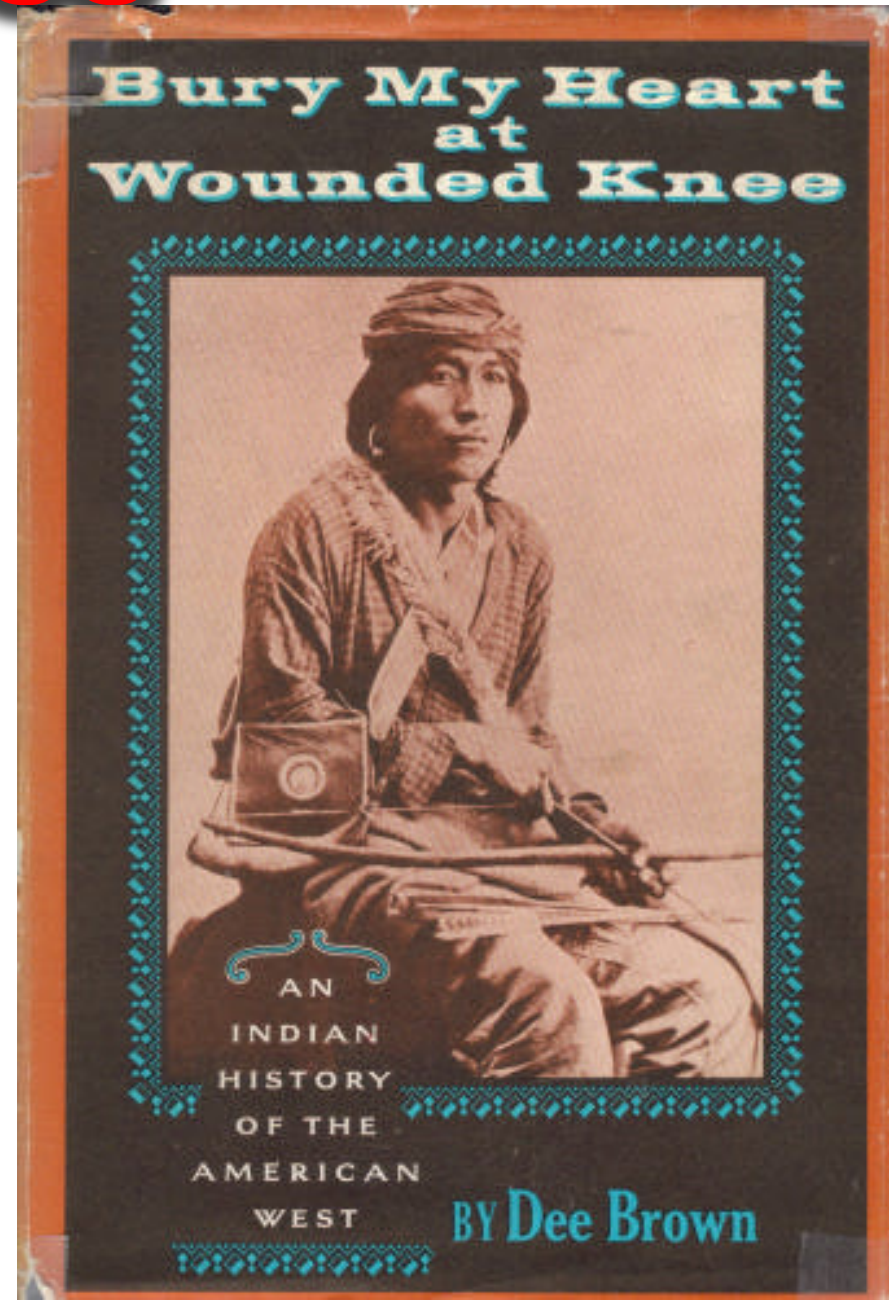
CONFLICT: INDIAN WARS

- Violence occurs as homesteaders, miners, and ranchers move west onto Native land.
- **Sand Creek Massacre** (1864): Colorado Militia attack and kill over 100 Native people
- **Battle of Little Big Horn** (1876): The Sioux tribe (Inspired by **Sitting Bull**) kill Custer and his men in the 7th Cavalry (**Custer's Last Stand**)
- **Chief Joseph** attempted to lead members of the **Nez Percé** tribe into Canada
 - Surrendered in 1877



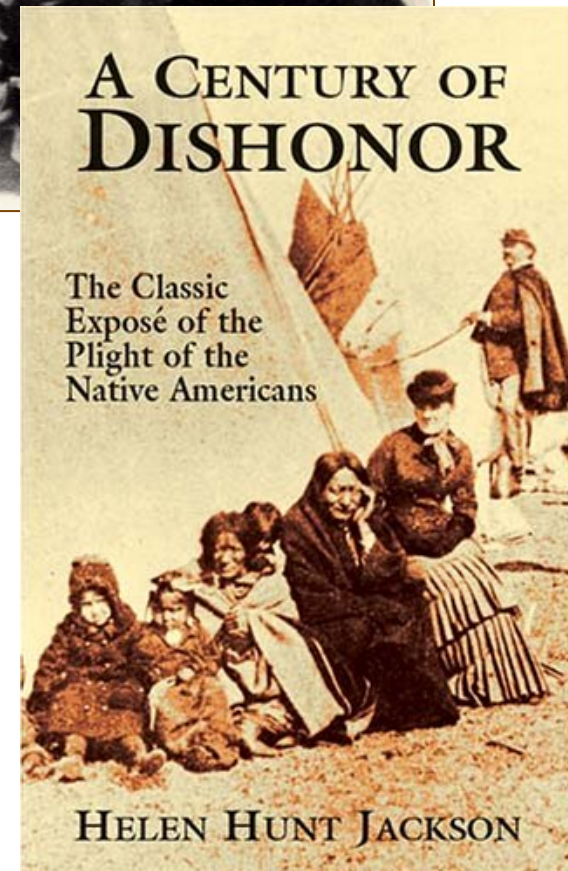
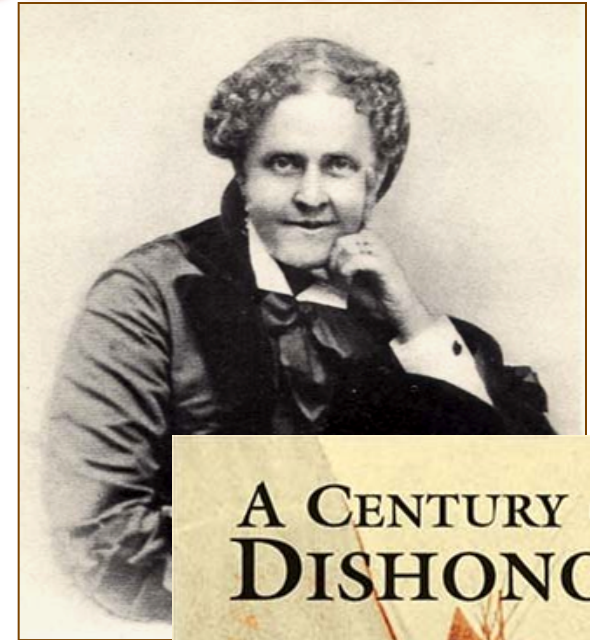
Wounded Knee

- **Ghost Dance** movement begins amongst the Sioux in Dakota territory
 - Cultural / Religious Revival
 - Thought would get rid of the white settlers & return prosperity to the tribe
 - Federal government wants this to stop
- **Battle of Wounded Knee** (1890) U.S. army go into the Dakotas and killed over 200.
- The “battle” was really a **massacre**
- Marks the **end** of the major Native American frontier wars



Attempts at Assimilation

- Helen Hunt Jackson **“A Century of Dishonor”** (1881) documented mistreatment by the federal government of Native people
- Boarding schools such as **Carlisle Indian School** were intended to assimilate Native people
- **Dawes Severalty Act** (1887) End tribal ownership of land
 - Reservations split into 160 acre private farms
 - Natives had the potential to receive citizenship if they lived on land for 25 years and “adopted the habits of civilized life.”
 - Remaining reservation land sold to white settlers (oftentimes the best land)



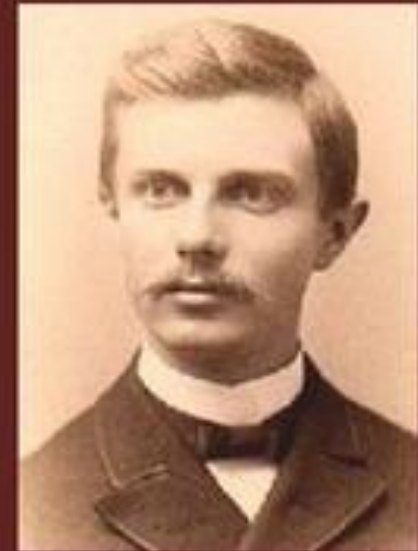
DESTRUCTION OF NATIVE LIFE

- **Tremendous population and territorial decline**
 - **Disease**
 - **Numerous wars in the late 19th century**
 - **decline of bison population**
 - **Failed treaty agreements and forced removal to reservations**

“Closing” of the Frontier

- Oklahoma Territory was opened up to settlement in 1889
 - Great land rush takes place
- **Frederick Jackson Turner** writes **“The Significance of the Frontier In American History”** (1893)
 - argues frontier ended in 1890
 - Emphasizes the importance of the frontier on American identity
 - Safety valve theory: could head west when the times were tough
 - Ignores contributions of people already there, women, fact people by 1890s moving to urban areas
- Connection: Overseas expansion in 1890s

Frederick Jackson
Turner



The Significance of the
Frontier in American History

FARMERS ORGANIZE

- Farming was becoming more commercialized and specialized.
- **Problems for farmers:** 1) Falling prices 2) unfair railroad business practices 3) high cost of machinery 4) tight money supply 5) high tariffs
- The **Grange Movement**: organized social and educational activities. Later demanded collective reforms.
- Want: government regulation and ownership of business
 - Lobbied state legislatures for reforms
- **Munn v. Illinois** (1877) upheld law: states could regulate railroads
- **Wabash Case** (1886) states cannot regulate **interstate commerce**
 - Leads to passage of **Interstate Commerce Act** (1887)
- **Farmers Alliance**: Founded in Texas (1870s)- excluded blacks, ignored tenant farmers
- Significant 3rd Party: **Populist Party**
 - Platform: Government ownership of railroads
 - Free & unlimited coinage of silver (increase \$\$\$ supply)
 - Graduated Income tax (rich pay more)
 - Direct election of Senator, use of initiatives and referendums

Closing out the 19th Century

Growing frustration over the laissez faire capitalist system

- **Farmers are organizing: Grange, Alliance, Populist**
- **Industrial Problems:**
 - **Homestead Strike (1892):** Workers at Carnegie's steel plant are defeated
 - **Panic of 1893:** as a result of overspeculation the stock market crashes.
 - **Grover Cleveland continues laissez faire approach**
 - **Coxey's Army (1894):** unemployed march to D.C. demanding the fed government hire jobless for public works jobs
 - **Pullman Strike (1894):** President Cleveland uses the army and court injunction to defeat the strike.
 - **Election of 1896:** William McKinley (R) vs. William Jennings Bryan (D)- **Cross of Gold Speech**, Populist fade, Republican McKinley wins

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