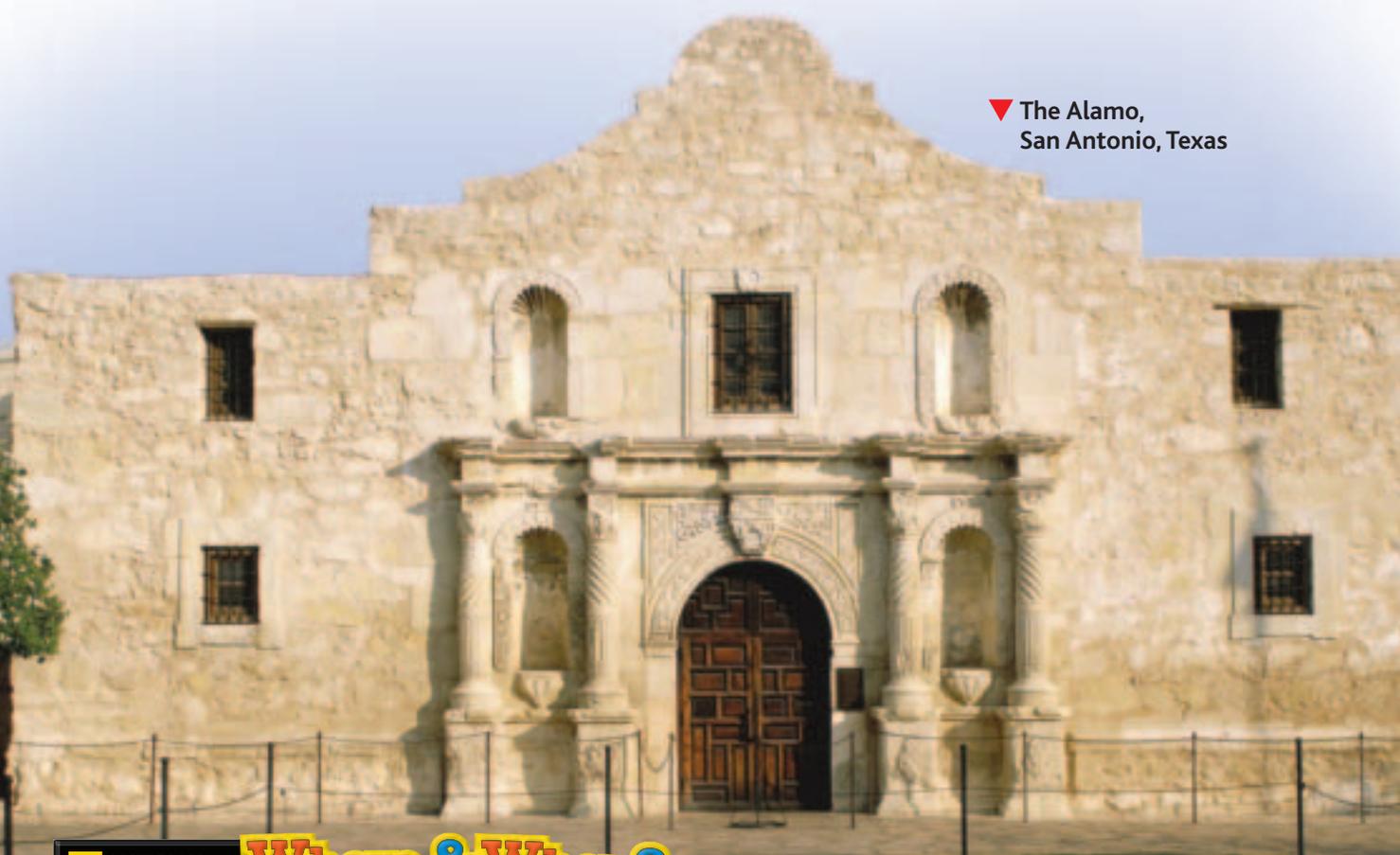


Manifest Destiny

▼ The Alamo, San Antonio, Texas



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Where & When?



1820

1835

1850

1821
California becomes a state of Mexico

1836
Whitmans build mission in Oregon country

1845
The United States annexes Texas

1850
California becomes a state

The Big Ideas

Section**1**

Westward to the Pacific

Geography influences the divergent paths of people resulting in physical, economic, and political challenges and rewards. Manifest Destiny is the idea that it was inevitable that the United States would extend its borders from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean.

Section**2**

Independence for Texas

Immigration influences a nation's or region's economy and society. American settlers began moving into the part of Mexico called Texas in the 1820s. Conflict forced Mexico to grant Texas its independence.

Section**3**

War With Mexico

Conflict often brings about great change. Through war with Mexico and diplomatic negotiations with Great Britain, the United States acquired Texas, Oregon, California, Utah, and the remainder of the Southwest.

Section**4**

New Settlers in California and Utah

Immigration influences a nation's or region's economy and society. By 1850, thousands of American settlers had crossed the Great Plains for new homes.



View the Chapter 11 video in the Glencoe Video Program.

FOLDABLES™ Study Organizer

Organizing Information Make this foldable to organize information from the chapter to help you learn more about how Manifest Destiny led to western expansion.

Step 1 Collect three sheets of paper and place them on top of one another about 1 inch apart.



Keep the edges straight.

Step 2 Fold up the bottom edges of the paper to form 6 tabs.



This makes all tabs the same size.

Step 3 When all the tabs are the same size, fold the paper to hold the tabs in place and staple the sheets together along the fold. Turn the paper and label each tab as shown.

Manifest Destiny
Oregon Country
Texas
New Mexico
California
Utah

Staple together along the fold.

Reading and Writing

As you read, use your foldable to write under each appropriate tab what you learn about Manifest Destiny and how it affected the borders of the United States.

New Vocabulary



1 Learn It!

What should you do if you find a word you don't know or understand? Here are some suggested strategies:

1. Use context clues (from the sentence or paragraph) to help you define it.
2. Look for prefixes, suffixes, or root words that you already know.
3. Write it down and ask for help with the meaning.
4. Guess at its meaning.
5. Look it up in the glossary or a dictionary.

Look at the word **boomtowns** in the following passage. See how context clues can help you understand its meaning:

Context Clue

Boomtowns were new communities.

Context Clue

They were built almost overnight.

As people rushed to a new area to look for gold, they built new communities, called boomtowns, almost overnight. At one site on the Yuba River where only two houses stood in September 1849, a miner arrived the next year to find a town of 1,000 people "with a large number of hotels, stores, groceries, bakeries and . . . gambling houses." The miners gave some of the boomtowns colorful names such as Shinbone Peak and You Bet.

—from page 503

Reading Tip

To use context to help you define a word, read the sentences before and after the word.

Context Clue

They had characteristics similar to other towns.

2 Practice It!

List three things in these paragraphs that help you understand the term *rendezvous* (RAHN•dih•voo). Write a sentence defining the word.

Some mountain men worked for fur-trading companies, but others sold their furs to the highest bidder. Throughout the spring and early summer, they traveled across the mountains, setting traps and then collecting the beaver pelts. In late summer, they gathered for a rendezvous (RAHN • dih • voo), or meeting.

For the mountain men, the annual rendezvous was the high point of the year. They met with trading companies to exchange their beaver skins for traps, guns, coffee, and other goods. They met old friends and exchanged news. They swapped stories about who had been on the most exciting adventures.

—from page 472



◀ Mountain man

Read to Write.....

Write a paragraph about a *rendezvous* you could have with your friends.

3 Apply It!

Make a vocabulary bookmark with a 2-inch-wide strip of paper. As you read the chapter, keep track of the words you do not know or want to learn more about.

Westward to the Pacific

Guide to Reading



History Social Science Standards

US.8.8 Students analyze the divergent paths of the American people in the West from 1800 to the mid-1800s and the challenges they faced.

Looking Back, Looking Ahead

Americans had begun moving to Texas in the 1820s. By the 1830s and 1840s, they were making their way to Oregon.

Focusing on the **Main Ideas**

- Many Americans wanted control of the Oregon country to gain access to the Pacific Ocean. (page 471)
- Increased American settlement led the United States and Britain to divide Oregon. (page 473)

Locating Places

Oregon Country
Columbia River
Oregon Trail

Meeting People

John Jacob Astor
Jim Beckwourth
Jedediah Smith
Marcus Whitman
Narcissa Whitman
James K. Polk

Content Vocabulary

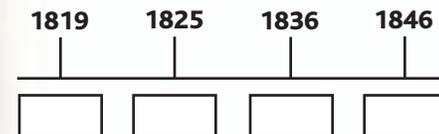
joint occupation
mountain man
rendezvous (RAHN • dih • voo)
emigrant (EH • mih • gruhnt)
Manifest Destiny

Academic Vocabulary

access (AK • SEHS)
annual (AN • yuh • wuhl)
route (ROWT)
sole (SOHL)

Reading Strategy

Sequencing Information As you read Section 1, re-create the diagram below and in the boxes list key events that occurred.



Who & When?

1810

1819
Adams-Onís Treaty is signed



1830

1840s
Great migration to Oregon

1850

1844
James K. Polk elected president



James K. Polk



US8.8.2 Describe the purpose, challenges, and economic incentives associated with westward expansion, including the concept of Manifest Destiny (e.g., the Lewis and Clark expedition, accounts of the removal of Indians, the Cherokees' "Trail of Tears," settlement of the Great Plains) and the territorial acquisitions that spanned numerous decades.

Hulton Archive/Getty Images

Rivalry in the Northwest

Main Idea Many Americans wanted control of the Oregon Country to gain access to the Pacific Ocean.

Reading Connection Have you ever moved to a new city or town? Saying good-bye can be difficult, but the possibilities are exciting. Read to find out about people who moved to new lands.

An American Story

On an April morning in 1851, 13-year-old Martha Gay said good-bye to her friends, her home, and the familiar world of Springfield, Missouri. She and her family were beginning a long, hazardous journey. The townsfolk watched as the family left in four big wagons pulled by teams of oxen. "Farewell sermons were preached and prayers offered for our safety," Martha wrote years later. "All places of business and the school were closed . . . and everybody came to say good-bye to us." This same scene occurred many times in the 1840s and 1850s as thousands of families set out for the Oregon Country.

What Was Oregon Country?

The **Oregon Country** was the huge area that lay between the Pacific Ocean and the Rocky Mountains north of California. It included all of what is now Oregon, Washington, and Idaho plus parts of Montana and Wyoming. The region also contained about half of what is now the Canadian province of British Columbia.

In the early 1800s, four nations claimed the vast, rugged land known as the Oregon Country. The United States based its claim on Robert Gray's exploration of the **Columbia River** in 1792 and on the Lewis and Clark expedition. Great Britain based

its claim on British explorations of the Columbia River. Spain, which controlled California to the south, claimed a share of Oregon. Russia had settlements that stretched south from Alaska into California. Fort Ross in California was the Russians' southernmost settlement.

Adams-Onís Treaty Many Americans wanted control of the Oregon country and its access to the Pacific Ocean to build trade. Secretary of State John Quincy Adams played a key role in promoting this goal. In 1819 he negotiated a treaty with Spanish foreign minister Louis de Onís. In the Adams-Onís Treaty, the Spanish agreed to set the limits of their territory at what is now California's northern border and gave up any claim to Oregon. In 1824 Russia also surrendered its claim. Only Britain remained to challenge American control of Oregon.

In 1818 Adams had worked out an agreement with Britain for **joint occupation** of the area. This meant that people from both the United States and Great Britain could settle in Oregon. When Adams became president in 1825, he proposed that the two nations divide Oregon along the 49°N line of latitude.



"To explore unknown regions . . . was his chief delight."

—Clerk in a fur trade company describing Joseph Walker, an early explorer of Yosemite

Britain refused Adams's proposal, insisting on a larger share of the territory. Unable to resolve their dispute, the two countries agreed to allow both British and Americans to settle there.

Who Were the Mountain Men? The first Americans to reach the Oregon Country were not farmers but fur traders. They had come to trap beaver, whose skins were in great demand in the eastern United States and in Europe. The beaver skins were used to make hats, which were very popular at that time. The British established several trading posts in the region, as did American merchant **John Jacob Astor** of New York. In 1808 Astor organized the American Fur Company. It soon became the largest of the fur companies in America, allowing Astor to build up trade with the East Coast, the Pacific Northwest, and China. Astor and his family later became one of the wealthiest families in America.

Fur companies hired trappers, who over time became known as **mountain men**. Many mountain men had Native American wives and adopted Native American ways. They lived in lodges and dressed in fringed buckskin pants, moccasins, and beads.

Some mountain men worked for fur-trading companies, but others sold their furs to the highest bidder. Throughout the spring and early summer, they traveled across the mountains, setting traps and then collecting the beaver pelts. In late summer, they gathered for a **rendezvous** (RAHN•dih•voo), or meeting.

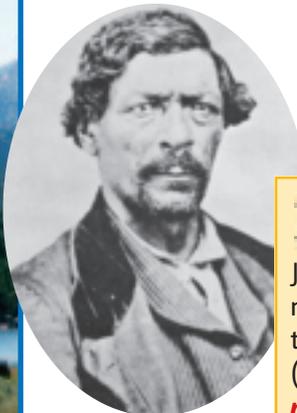
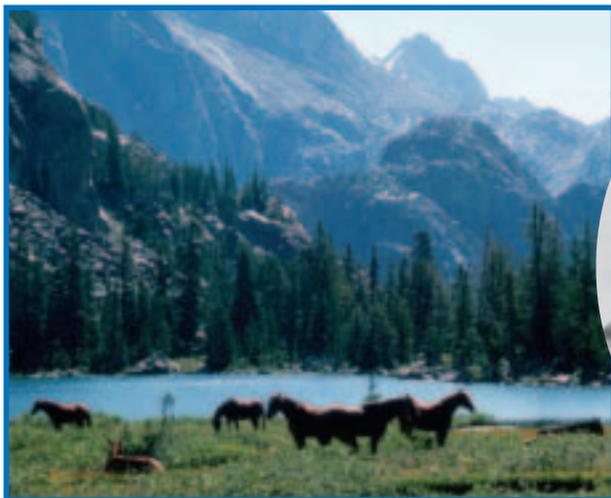
For the mountain men, the **annual** rendezvous was the high point of the year. They met with the trading companies to exchange their beaver skins for traps, guns, coffee, and other goods. They met old friends and exchanged news. They swapped stories about who had been on the most exciting adventures.

As they roamed the region searching for beaver, the mountain men explored the mountains, valleys, and trails of the West. **Jim Beckwourth**, an African American mountain man from Virginia, explored Wyoming's Green River. Robert Stuart and **Jedediah Smith** both found the South Pass, a broad break through the Rockies. South Pass later became the main **route** that settlers took to Oregon.

To survive in the wilderness, a mountain man had to be skillful and resourceful. Trapper Joe Meek told how, when faced with starvation, he once held his hands "in an anthill until they were covered with ants, then greedily licked them off." The mountain men took pride in joking about the dangers they faced.

In time, the mountain men killed off most of the beaver and could no longer trap the once plentiful animals. Some went to settle on farms in Oregon. With their knowledge of the western lands, though, some mountain men found new work. Jim Bridger, Kit Carson, and others acted as guides to lead the parties of settlers now streaming west.

Reading Check Explain Why did trading posts develop in the Oregon Country?



Picturing History

Jim Beckwourth (right) explored many parts of the West, including the Green River area of Wyoming (left). **How did mountain men make their living?**



US8.8.2 Describe the purpose, challenges, and economic incentives associated with westward expansion, including the concept of Manifest Destiny (e.g., the Lewis and Clark expedition, accounts of the removal of Indians, the Cherokees' "Trail of Tears," settlement of the Great Plains) and the territorial acquisitions that spanned numerous decades.

Settling Oregon

Main Idea Increased American settlement led the United States and Britain to divide Oregon.

Reading Connection If you could travel across the United States, where would you go? Read on to learn more about the settlement of the Oregon Country.

Americans began settling the Oregon Country in the 1830s. Reports of the fertile land and economic troubles in the East made the West look attractive.

The Whitman Mission Among the first settlers of the Oregon Country were missionaries who wanted to bring Christianity to the Native Americans. **Dr. Marcus Whitman** and his wife **Narcissa** went to Oregon in 1836 and built a mission among the Cayuse people near the present site of Walla Walla, Washington.

New settlers unknowingly brought measles to the mission. An epidemic killed many of the Native American children. Blaming the Whitmans for the sickness, the Cayuse attacked the mission in November 1847.

MORE ABOUT...

The Oregon Trail

The Importance of the Trail The Oregon Trail was much more than just a trail to Oregon. It served as the most practical route to the western United States. The pioneers traveled in large groups, often of related families. Some went all the way to Oregon in search of farmland. Many others split off for California in search of gold.

The Journey The trip west lasted five or six months. The pioneers had to start in the spring and complete the trip before winter snows blocked the mountain passes. The trail crossed difficult terrain. The pioneers walked across seemingly endless plains, forded swift rivers, and labored up high mountains.

Problems Along the Way Although the pioneers feared attacks by Native Americans, such attacks did not often occur. More often Native Americans assisted the pioneers, serving as guides and trading necessary food and supplies. About 1 in 10 of the pioneers died on the trail, perishing from disease, overwork, hunger, or accidents.

When did use of the trail stop? With the building of a transcontinental railroad in 1869, the days of using the Oregon Trail as a corridor to the West were over.



“We are creeping along slowly, one wagon after another, the same old gait, and the same thing over, out of one mud hole into another all day.”

—Amelia Stewart Knight, 1853

“After Laramie we entered the great American desert, which was hard on the teams. Sickness became common. . . .”

—Catherine Sager Pringle, 1844



(t)Mongerson-Wunderlich Gallery, Chicago, (b)Henry Groskinsky/Timepix



Using Geography Skills

Oregon Country included parts of several present-day states, including Oregon, Washington, and Idaho.

- Place** What major city is located between 40°N and 42°N?
- Location** At what line of latitude was the Oregon country divided between the United States and Britain?

The Cayuse killed the Whitmans and 11 others. Despite this tragedy, the flood of new settlers into Oregon continued.

The Oregon Trail In the early 1840s, “Oregon fever”—a desire to follow others to Oregon—began to sweep through the towns of the Mississippi Valley. People formed societies to gather information about Oregon and to plan and make the long journey. The “great migration” had begun. Tens of thousands of Americans made the trip. These pioneers were called **emigrants** (EH•mih•gruhnts) because they left the United States to go to Oregon, which was not yet a state.

Before the difficult 2,000-mile journey, these pioneers stuffed their canvas-covered wagons, called prairie schooners, with supplies. From a distance, these wagons looked like schooners (ships) at sea. Gathering in Independence or other towns in Missouri, they followed the **Oregon Trail** across the Great Plains, along the Platte River, and through the South Pass of the Rocky Mountains. On the other side, they took the trail north and west along the Snake and Columbia Rivers into Oregon Country.

Most American pioneers headed for the fertile Willamette Valley south of the Columbia River. Between 1840 and 1845, the number of American settlers in the area increased from 500 to 5,000, while the British population remained at about 700. The question of ownership of Oregon arose again.

What Is Manifest Destiny? Many Americans thought their nation had a special role to fulfill. In the 1800s, many believed that the United States’s mission was to occupy the entire continent. In 1819 John Quincy Adams expressed what many Americans were thinking when he said expansion to the Pacific was as inevitable “as that the Mississippi should flow to the sea.”

In the 1840s, newspaper editor John O’Sullivan put the idea of a national mission in more specific words. O’Sullivan declared it was America’s “**Manifest Destiny** to overspread and to possess the whole of the continent which Providence has given us.” O’Sullivan meant that the United States was clearly destined—set apart for a special purpose—to extend its boundaries all the way to the Pacific.

“Fifty-four Forty or Fight” The settlers in Oregon insisted that the United States should have **sole** ownership of the area. More and more Americans agreed. In Congress, Tennessee representative Davy Crockett compared joint occupancy—shared ownership—to the time he shared a tree with a panther. “The place [was] big enough for us both,” said Crockett, “but we couldn’t agree to stay there together.” As pressure mounted, Oregon became a major issue in the 1844 presidential election.

In 1844 the Democrats were expected to nominate former president Martin Van Buren for president. Then the unexpected happened. The Democratic Party nominated **James K. Polk**, a former Congressman and governor of Tennessee for president. Polk supported American claims for sole ownership of Oregon. Democrats campaigned using the slogan “Fifty-four Forty or Fight.” The slogan referred to the line of latitude that Democrats believed should be the nation’s northern border in Oregon. Polk’s campaign slogan captured the imagination of the voters.

Henry Clay of the Whig Party, Polk’s principal opponent, did not take a strong position on the Oregon issue. Polk won 50 percent of the popular vote and 170 electoral votes to Clay’s 48 percent and 105 electoral votes.

Reaching a Settlement Filled with the spirit of Manifest Destiny, President Polk was determined to make Oregon part of the United States. Britain would not accept a border at “Fifty-four Forty,” however, because this would have meant giving up its claim entirely. Instead, in June 1846, the two countries compromised, setting the boundary between the American and British portions of Oregon at latitude 49°N. The two nations had finally resolved the Oregon issue.

During the 1830s, Americans sought to fulfill their Manifest Destiny by looking at other regions as well as Oregon. At that time, much attention was also focused on Texas.

Reading Check Explain What did some Americans see as the purpose of Manifest Destiny?

Section 1 Review

History online
Study Central Need help understanding Manifest Destiny? Visit ca.hss.glencoe.com and click on Study Central.

Reading Summary

Review the Main Ideas

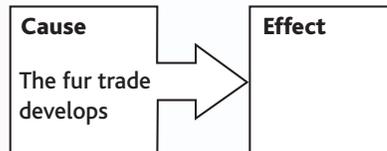
- Oregon Country was the key element to the United States gaining access to the Pacific Ocean, and the government negotiated agreements with other nations toward accomplishing that goal.
- Many Americans made plans to settle in Oregon Territory, while ownership of the land drove political decisions.

What Did You Learn?

1. Which four countries claimed parts of the Oregon Country?
2. What mission does Manifest Destiny express?
5. **Picturing History** Study the painting on page 473. Do you think it provides a realistic portrayal of the journey west? Why or why not?
CA H15.

Critical Thinking

3. **Determining Cause and Effect** Re-create the diagram below. In the box, describe how the fur trade led to interest in Oregon.
CA H12.



4. **The Big Ideas** How did the idea of Manifest Destiny help Americans justify their desire to extend the United States to the Pacific Ocean?
CA CS1.

6. **READING New Vocabulary** Write a paragraph using the following vocabulary terms: mountain man, rendezvous, and Manifest Destiny. Provide context clues, assuming that your readers will not know the meaning of these words.
CA 8RW1.0

You Decide . . .

Manifest Destiny: Justified or Not?

Did Manifest Destiny contradict the spirit of equality important to so many Americans?

Not Justified

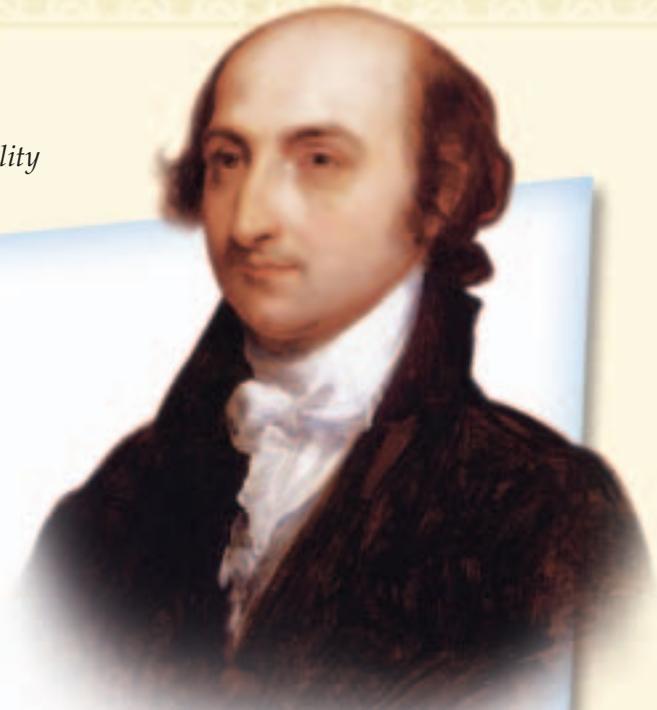
Albert Gallatin was one of many Americans who opposed Manifest Destiny. At the age of 86, after a distinguished career in public service, Gallatin became president of the New York Historical Society. The war against Mexico revived his interest in politics:

"It is said that the people of the United States have a hereditary superiority of race over the Mexicans, which gives them the right to subjugate and keep in bondage the inferior nation. . . . Is it compatible with the principle of democracy, which rejects every hereditary claim of individuals, to admit a hereditary superiority of races? . . . Can you for a moment suppose that a very doubtful descent from men who lived 1,000 years ago has transmitted to you a superiority over your fellow men?"

. . . At this time the claim is but a pretext for covering and justifying unjust usurpation and unbounded ambition.

. . . Among ourselves the most ignorant, the most inferior, either in physical or mental faculties, is recognized as having equal rights, and he has an equal vote with anyone, however superior to him in all those respects. This is founded on the immutable principle that no one man is born with the right of governing another man."

—quoted in *The Annals of America*



▲ Albert Gallatin

Justified

John L. O'Sullivan first used the phrase Manifest Destiny in a July 1845 edition of the *United States Magazine and Democratic Review*. In the following article, he promotes the spread of democracy: O'Sullivan supported Manifest Destiny.

"Texas is now ours. Already, before these words are written, her Convention has undoubtedly ratified the acceptance by her Congress, of our proffered invitation into the Union. . . . Her star and her stripe may already be said to have taken their place in the glorious blazon of our common nationality. . . .

. . . The next session of Congress will see the representatives of the new young state in their places in both our halls of national legislation, side by side with those of the old Thirteen.

Why . . . [have] other nations . . . undertaken to intrude themselves into [the question of Texas?] between us and the proper parties to the case, in a spirit of hostile interference against us, for the avowed object of thwarting our policy and hampering our power, limiting our greatness and checking the fulfillment of our manifest destiny to overspread the continent allotted by Providence for the free development of our yearly multiplying millions."

—quoted in *Annexation*



US8.8.2 Describe the purpose, challenges, and economic incentives associated with westward expansion, including the concept of Manifest Destiny (e.g., the Lewis and Clark expedition, accounts of the removal of Indians, the Cherokees' "Trail of Tears," settlement of the Great Plains) and the territorial acquisitions that spanned numerous decades.



▲ *Spirit of the Frontier* by John Gast

You Be The Historian

DBQ Document-Based Questions

1. What does Albert Gallatin think is the real motivation underlying the idea of Manifest Destiny? **CA HR3.**
2. Imagine you could interview Gallatin and O'Sullivan. Write a list of three questions you could ask each man about his views on Manifest Destiny. **CA HR3.**

CA 8RC2.3

What were people's lives like in the past?

What—and who—were people talking about? What did they eat? What did they do for fun? These two pages will give you some clues to everyday life in the U.S. as you step back in time with TIME Notebook.

Profile

It's 1853, and **AMELIA STEWART** is heading west to Oregon with her husband and seven children in a covered wagon. How hard can the five-month trip be? Here are two entries from her diary:

MONDAY, AUGUST 8 We have to make a drive of 22 miles without water today. Have our cans filled to drink. Here we left, unknowingly, our [daughter] Lucy behind, not a soul had missed her until we had gone some miles, when we stopped a while to rest the cattle; just then another train drove up behind us, with Lucy. She was terribly frightened and said she was sitting under the bank of the river when we started, busy watching some wagons cross, and did not know that we were ready. . . . It was a lesson for all of us.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12 Lost one of our oxen. We were traveling slowly along, when he dropped dead in the yoke. . . . I could hardly help shedding tears, when we drove round this poor ox who had helped us along thus far, and had given us his very last step.

MILESTONES

EVENTS OF THE TIME

CLOTHED. Hundreds of miners in 1850 by **LEVI STRAUSS**. Using canvas he originally intended to make into tents, Levi made sturdy, tough pants with lots of pockets—perfect clothing for the rough work of mining. Can you imagine anyone in the city ever wearing them?



BETTMAN/CORBIS



BROWN BROTHERS

MARCHED. Just under 100 camels in 1857, from San Antonio to Los Angeles, led by hired Turkish, Greek, and Armenian camel drivers. It is hoped the desert beasts will help the U.S. Army open the West.

MAILED. Thousands of letters carried by **PONY EXPRESS** in 1860 from Missouri to California in an extremely short time—only 10 days! Riders switch to fresh horses every 10 or 15 miles and continue through the night, blizzards, and attacks by outlaws.



FRONTIER FOOD

Trail Mix

Hard Tack for a Hard Trip

- **INGREDIENTS:** 3 cups flour • 3 tsp. salt • 1 cup water
- Mix all ingredients and stir until it becomes too difficult.
- Knead the dough; add more flour until mixture is very dry.
- Roll to 1/2-inch thickness and cut into 3" squares, poke with
- a skewer [pin] to make several holes in each piece (for easy
- breaking). Bake 30 minutes in a hot oven until hard. Store
- for up to 10 years.

WESTERN WORD PLAY

Word Watch

Can you talk “Western”? Match the words below to their meaning.

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| 1 maverick | a. gold rush favorite, made of eggs, bacon, and oysters |
| 2 Hangtown fry | b. inexperienced '49er; eastern type not used to wearing boots |
| 3 grubstake | c. a lucky discovery of gold; a source of sudden wealth |
| 4 bonanza | d. a style of hat worn by gold rush miners |
| 5 palo alto | e. an individual who takes an independent stand, from the name of a Texas cattleman who left his herd unbranded |
| 6 pard or rawwheel | f. food provided by an investor to a gold prospector in exchange for a share of whatever gold the prospector finds |



ANSWERS: 1. e; 2. a; 3. f; 4. c; 5. d; 6. b

The Price of a Life

This notice appeared in 1852.



**CREDIT SALE OF A CHOICE
SLAVES!**
COMPRISING MECHANICS, LABORERS, ETC.
FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF A CO-PARTNERSHIP OF RAILROAD CONTRACTORS
BY J. A. BEARD & MAY, J. A. BEARD, AUCTIONEER.
WILL BE SOLD AT AUCTION, AT BAKER ARCADE, MAGAZINE STREET.

SALE OF SLAVES AND STOCK

The Negroes and Stock listed below are a Prime Lot, and belong to the ESTATE OF THE LATE LUTHER MCGOWAN, and will be sold on Monday, Sept. 22nd, 1852, at the Fair Grounds, in Savannah, Georgia, at 1:00 P.M. The Negroes will be taken to the grounds two days previous to the Sale, so that they may be inspected by prospective buyers.

On account of the low prices listed below, they will be sold for cash only, and must be taken into custody within two hours after sale.

No.	Name	Age	Remarks	Price
1	Lunesta	27	Prime Rice Planter	\$1,275.00
2	Violet	16	Housework and Nursemaid	900.00
3	Lizzie	30	Rice, Unsound	300.00
4	Minda	27	Cotton, Prime Woman	1,200.00
5	Adam	28	Cotton, Prime Young Man	1,100.00
6	Abel	41	Rice Hand, Eyesight Poor	675.00
7	Tanney	22	Prime Cotton Hand	950.00
8	Flementina	39	Good Cook	

CHICAGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY/PHOTO RESEARCHERS, INC.

NUMBERS

U.S. AT THE TIME

\$81,249,700

Estimated value of gold mined in 1852



89 Days it takes the American clipper ship, the *Flying Cloud*, to go from Boston around Cape Horn to San Francisco in 1851—a trip that normally takes eight or nine months

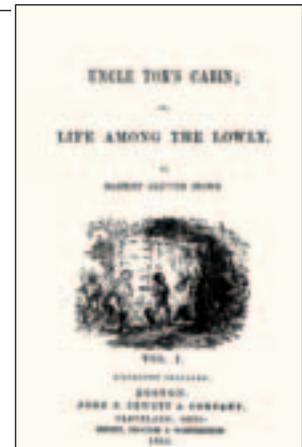
BROWN BROTHERS

12 Poems included in Walt Whitman's new collection, called *Leaves of Grass* (1855)

33 Number of states in 1859 after Oregon enters the union

100 Seats in Congress won by the Republicans in 1854, the year the party was created

300,000 Copies of Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, sold in 1852



NORTH WIND PICTURE ARCHIVES

Independence for Texas

Guide to Reading



History Social Science Standards

US.8.8 Students analyze the divergent paths of the American people in the West from 1800 to the mid-1800s and the challenges they faced.

Looking Back, Looking Ahead

In the last section, you read about new settlements in Oregon country and the annexation of that land to the United States. In this section, you will learn about settlement in Texas.

Focusing on the **Main Ideas**

- Texas was settled by people from Mexico and the United States, creating cultural tension. (page 481)
- Texans wanted to be a nation separate from Mexico. (page 483)

Locating Places

Texas
Mexico
Alamo

Meeting People

Davy Crockett
Stephen F. Austin
General Antonio López de Santa Anna

Content Vocabulary

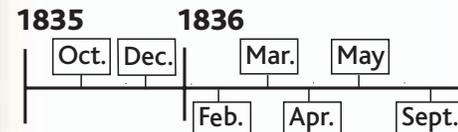
Tejano (teh • HAH • noh)
empresario (ehm • pray • SAR • ih • oh)
decree (dih • KREE)
annex (A • nehks)

Academic Vocabulary

status
similar

Reading Strategy

Sequencing Information As you read Section 2, re-create the diagram below. In the boxes, list key events that occurred in Texas.



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Who & When?

1830

1830
Mexico halts U.S. immigration into Texas

1835

1833
Santa Anna becomes president of Mexico

March 1836
The Alamo falls



1840

September 1836
Sam Houston is elected president of Texas





A Clash of Cultures

Main Idea Texas was settled by people from Mexico and the United States, creating cultural tension.

Reading Connection Did you know that Texas was not always part of the United States? Read to find out how this important region was the scene of international conflict.

An American Story

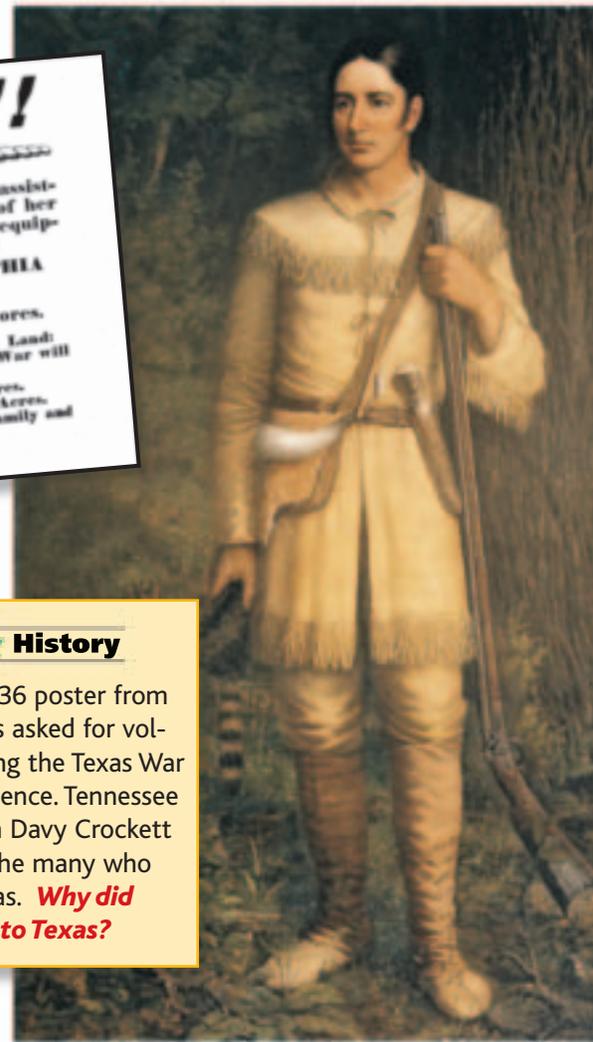
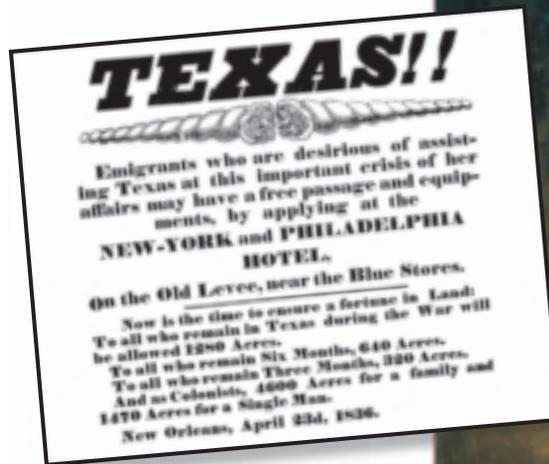
Davy Crockett's skill as a hunter and storyteller helped get him elected to three terms in Congress representing Tennessee. But when he started his first political campaign, Crockett was doubtful about his chances of winning. "The thought of having to make a speech made my knees feel mighty weak and set my heart to fluttering." Fortunately for Crockett, the other candidates spoke all day and tired out the audience. "When they were all done," Crockett boasted, "I got up and told some laughable story, and quit. . . . I went home, and didn't go back again till after the election was over." In the end, Crockett won the election by a wide margin.

Conflict Over Texas In 1835 Davy Crockett lost his seat in Congress. He then left Tennessee and headed southwest to Texas. Crockett thought he could make a new start there. Little did he know his deeds in Texas would bring him greater fame than his adventures on the frontier or his years in Congress.

In 1803 the United States laid claim to Texas as part of the Louisiana Purchase. Spain protested, and in 1819 the United States agreed to drop its claim. At that time, most of Texas's 3,000 residents were Tejanos (teh•HAH•nohs), or Mexicans who claimed Texas as their home.

Native Americans, such as the Comanches, Apaches, and Kiowas, also lived in the area.

Wanting to promote Texas's growth, the Spanish offered vast tracts of land to people who agreed to bring families to settle on the land. The people who obtained these grants and recruited settlers were called **empresarios** (ehm•pray•SAR•ih•ohs). Moses Austin of Missouri received the first land grant in 1821. Before Austin set up his colony, Mexico declared its independence from Spain. Austin died soon afterward, and the land passed to his son, **Stephen F. Austin**. The younger Austin recruited 300 American families to settle the fertile land along the Brazos and Colorado Rivers of Texas. Austin's success made him a leader among the American settlers in Texas.



Picturing History
This April 1836 poster from New Orleans asked for volunteers during the Texas War for Independence. Tennessee frontiersman Davy Crockett was one of the many who came to Texas. **Why did Crockett go to Texas?**



Why Did Tension Grow? By 1830 Americans in Texas far outnumbered Mexicans and the American settlers had not adopted Mexican ways. In 1830 Mexico issued a **decree** (dih•KREE), or official order, that stopped all immigration from the United States. A tax was also placed on American goods entering Texas. These new policies angered the Texans. Many depended on trade with the United States and hoped for more Americans to settle in Texas. Those colonists who held slaves also feared that Mexico would try to end slavery in the territory.

Why Did Hopes for Reconciliation Fade? Some of the American settlers called for independence. Others hoped to stay within Mexico, but on better terms. In 1833 the Mexican president, **General Antonio López de Santa Anna**,

agreed to remove the ban on American settlers. However, he refused to change Texas's political status. When Austin began making plans for independence, the Mexican government arrested him. Meanwhile, Santa Anna became a dictator and overthrew Mexico's constitution. Without a constitution to protect their rights, Texans felt betrayed. Austin believed the time had come to act. He urged the people to unite:

“War is our only recourse. There is no other remedy. We must defend our rights . . . by the force of arms.”

—quoted in *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*

Reading Check Explain Why was colonization of Americans into Texas failing?

What If...

The Defenders Had Not Stayed at the Alamo?

William Travis and almost 200 other defenders were determined to hold the Alamo. Travis wrote several messages to the people of Texas and the United States asking them for assistance. Travis's appeal was unsuccessful. Texas military forces were not yet well organized and were badly scattered. Travis's letter of February 24, 1836, is one of the finest statements of courage in American history.

The defenders—mostly volunteers—were free to leave whenever they chose. But they decided to defend the Alamo for a cause in which they believed.

Santa Anna hoped the fall of the Alamo would convince other Texans that it was useless to resist his armies. Instead, the heroism of those in the Alamo inspired other Texans to carry on the struggle. “Remember the Alamo!” became the battle cry of Texas's army.

Travis's Appeal for Aid at the Alamo,
February 24, 1836

To the People of Texas
and All Americans in the World—
Fellow Citizens and Compatriots:

I am besieged by a thousand or more of the Mexicans under Santa Anna. I have sustained a continual Bombardment & cannonade for 24 hours & have not lost a man. The enemy has demanded a surrender at discretion, otherwise the garrison are to be put to the sword if the fort is taken. I have answered the demand with a cannon shot, and our flag still waves proudly from the walls. I shall never surrender or retreat.

Then, I call on you in the name of Liberty, of patriotism, & of everything dear to the American character, to come to our aid with all dispatch. The enemy is receiving reinforcements daily & will no doubt increase to three or four thousand in four or five days. If this call is neglected I am determined to sustain myself as long as possible & die like a soldier who never forgets what is due to his honor & that of his country.

Victory or Death
William Barret Travis
Lt. Col. Comdt.



The Struggle for Independence

Main Idea Texans wanted to be a nation separate from Mexico.

Reading Connection Would you have the courage to stand up to a huge army for something you believed in? Read on to see how the soldiers at the Alamo defended their beliefs.

During 1835 unrest grew among Texans and occasionally resulted in open conflict. Santa Anna sent an army into Texas late that year to punish the rebels. In October some Mexican troops tried to seize a cannon held by Texans at the town of Gonzales. During the battle, the Texans taunted the Mexican troops, decorating the front of the cannon with a white flag that bore the words “Come and Take It.” After a brief

struggle, the Texans drove back the Mexican troops. Texans considered this to be the first fight of the Texan Revolution.

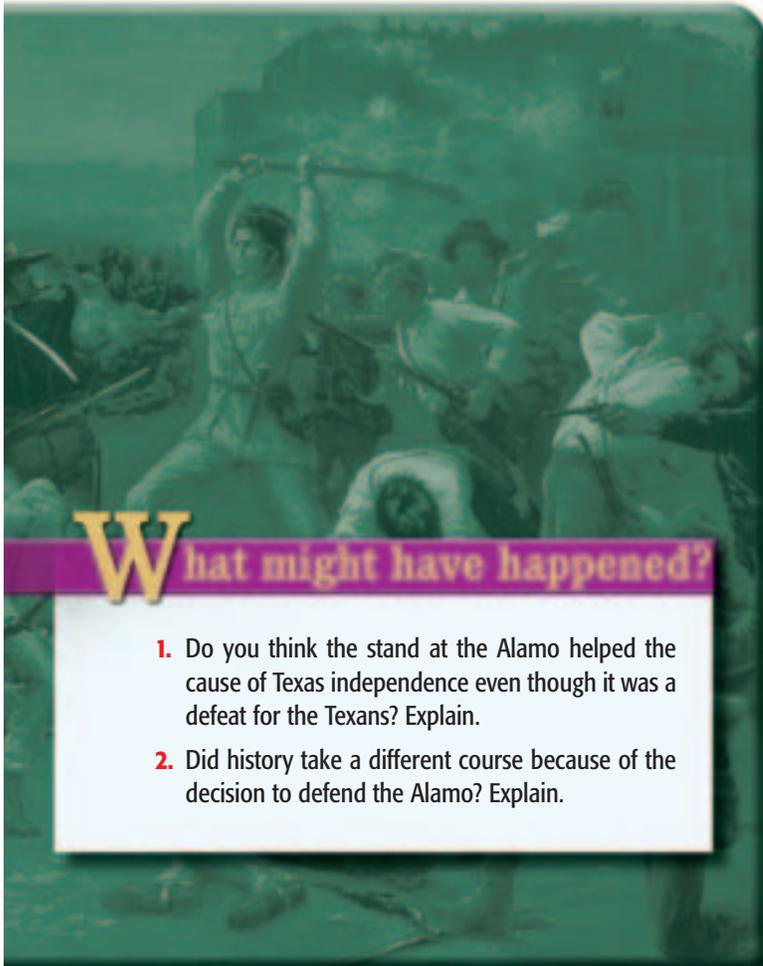
The Texans called on volunteers to join their fight. They offered free land to anyone who would help. Davy Crockett and many others—including a number of African Americans and Tejanos—answered that call.

In December 1835, the Texans scored an important victory. They liberated the city of San Antonio from the control of a larger Mexican force. The Texas army at San Antonio included more than 100 Tejanos. Many of them served in a scouting company commanded by Captain Juan Seguín. Born in San Antonio, Seguín was an outspoken champion of the Texans’ demand for independence.

Despite these victories, the Texans encountered problems. With the Mexican withdrawal, some Texans left San Antonio, thinking the war was won. Various groups argued over what course of action to follow. In early 1836, when Texas should have been making preparations to face Santa Anna, little was being done.

What Happened at the Alamo? Santa Anna marched north, furious about the loss of San Antonio. When his army reached San Antonio in late February 1836, it found a small Texan force barricaded inside a nearby mission called the **Alamo**.

Although the Texans had cannons, they lacked gunpowder. Worse, they had only about 160 soldiers to face Santa Anna’s army of several thousand. The Texans did have brave leaders, though, including Davy Crockett, who had arrived with a band of sharpshooters from Tennessee, and a tough Texan named Jim Bowie. The American commander, William B. Travis, was only 26 years old, but he was determined to hold the mission. Travis managed to send messengers through the Mexican lines. He wrote several messages asking others to come to the aid of his soldiers. In his last message, Travis described the fighting that had already taken place and repeated his request for assistance.



What might have happened?

1. Do you think the stand at the Alamo helped the cause of Texas independence even though it was a defeat for the Texans? Explain.
2. Did history take a different course because of the decision to defend the Alamo? Explain.

Picturing History

Susanna Dickinson was allowed by Santa Anna to leave the Alamo. She helped spread news of the Alamo defeat to the other Texas forces. **What is the significance of the Battle of the Alamo?**

Travis warned that “the power of Santa Anna is to be met here, or in the colonies; we had better meet them here than to suffer a war of devastation to rage in our settlements.”

Travis concluded with the statement that he and his troops were determined to hold the Alamo. For 13 long days, the defenders of the Alamo kept Santa Anna’s army at bay with rifle fire. During the siege, 32 volunteers from Gonzales slipped through the Mexican lines to join the Alamo’s defenders.

On March 6, 1836, Mexican cannon fire smashed the Alamo’s walls, and the Mexicans launched an all-out attack. The Alamo defenders killed many Mexican soldiers, but the Mexicans were too numerous to hold back. They finally entered the fortress, killing William Travis, Davy Crockett, Jim Bowie, and all the other defenders. Only a few women and children and some servants survived to tell of the battle.

In the words of Santa Anna’s aide, “The Texans fought more like devils than like men.” The defenders of the Alamo had killed hundreds of Mexican soldiers. But more important, they had bought Texans some much needed time.



Texas Declares Its Independence During the siege of the Alamo, Texan leaders were meeting at Washington-on-the-Brazos, where they were drawing up a new constitution. There, on March 2, 1836—four days before the fall of the Alamo—American settlers and Tejanos firmly declared independence from Mexico and established the Republic of Texas. Thus, Texas became a country and a neighbor to the United States.

The Texas Declaration of Independence was in some ways **similar** to the Declaration of the United States, which had been written 60 years earlier. The Texas Declaration stated that the government of Santa Anna had violated the liberties guaranteed under the Mexican Constitution. The Texas Declaration also charged that Texans had been deprived of freedom of religion, the right to trial by jury, the right to bear arms, and the right to petition.

History  **Online**
Student Web Activity Visit ca.hss.glencoe.com
and click on *Chapter 11*—*Student Web Activities*
for an activity on the fight for Texas independence.

The Declaration stated that the Texans' protests against these policies were met with force. The Mexican government had sent a large army to drive Texans from their homes. Because of these grievances, the declaration proclaimed the following:

“The people of Texas. . . do now constitute a free, sovereign, and independent republic. . . ”

—from the Texas Declaration of Independence

With Mexican troops in Texas, it was not possible to hold elections to ratify the constitution and vote for leaders of the new republic. Texas leaders set up a temporary government. They selected officers to serve until regular elections could be held.

David G. Burnet, an early pioneer in Texas, was chosen president and Lorenzo de Zavala, vice president. De Zavala had worked to establish a democratic government in Mexico. He moved to Texas when it became clear that Santa Anna would not make reforms.

The government named Sam Houston as commander in chief of the Texas forces. Houston had come to Texas in 1833. Raised among the Cherokee people, he became a soldier, fighting with Andrew Jackson against the Creek people in the Creek Wars (1813–1814). A politician

as well, Houston had served in Congress and as governor of Tennessee.

Houston wanted to prevent areas from being overrun by the Mexican troops. He ordered the troops at the city of Goliad to abandon their position. As they retreated, however, they came face to face with Mexican troops. After a fierce fight, several hundred Texans surrendered. On Santa Anna's orders, the Texans were executed a few days later.

The Battle of San Jacinto Houston moved his small army eastward about 100 miles, watching the movements of Santa Anna and waiting for a chance to strike. Six weeks after the Alamo, he found the opportunity.



Using Geography Skills

In 1836 General Santa Anna led Mexico's main forces across the Rio Grande into Texas.

- 1. Location** At which battles did Texans win victories?
- 2. Analyze** What battle immediately followed the Alamo?



Picturing History

The painting (above) and the monument (left) commemorate the Battle of San Jacinto. **Why was the battle a pivotal battle?**

After adding some new troops, Houston gathered an army of about 900 at San Jacinto (SAN huh•SIHN•toh), near the site of present-day Houston. Santa Anna was camped nearby with an army of more than 1,300. On April 21, the Texans launched a surprise attack on the Mexican camp, shouting, “Remember the Alamo! Remember Goliad!”

They killed more than 600 soldiers and captured about 700 more—including Santa Anna. On May 14, 1836, Santa Anna signed a treaty that recognized the independence of Texas.

The Lone Star Republic Texans elected Sam Houston as their president, in September 1836. Houston sent a delegation to Washington, D.C., asking the United States to **annex** (A•nehks)—take control of—Texas. However, the nation’s president, Andrew Jackson, refused because the addition of another slave state would upset the balance of slave and free states in Congress. For the moment, Texas would remain an independent country.

The Question of Annexation Despite rapid population growth, the new republic faced political and financial difficulties. The Mexican government refused to honor Santa Anna’s recognition of independence, and fighting continued between Texas and Mexico.

Many Texans still hoped to join the United States. Southerners favored the annexation of Texas, but Northerners objected that Texas would add another slave state to the Union. President Martin Van Buren, like Jackson, did not want to inflame the slavery issue. He put off the question of annexing Texas.

John Tyler, who became the nation’s president in 1841, was the first vice president to become president upon the death of a chief executive. He succeeded William Henry Harrison, who died in April, just one month after taking office. He became ill after spending his inauguration day outdoors in bad weather.

Once he became president, Tyler supported adding Texas to the Union and persuaded Texas to reapply for annexation. However, the U.S. Senate was divided over slavery and failed to ratify the annexation treaty.

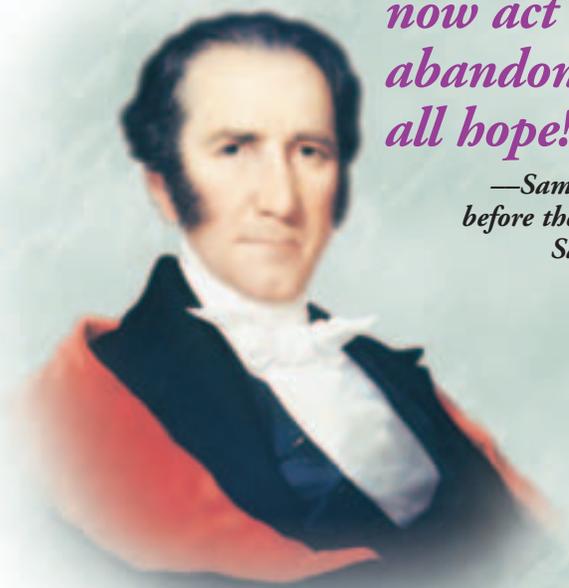
Texas Becomes a State The situation changed with the 1844 presidential campaign. The feeling of Manifest Destiny was growing throughout the country. The South favored annexation of Texas. The North demanded that the United States gain control of the Oregon country from Britain. The Democratic candidate, James K. Polk, supported both actions. The Whig candidate, Henry Clay, initially opposed adding Texas to the Union. When he finally supported annexation, it lost him votes in the North—and the election.

After Polk’s victory, supporters of annexation pressed the issue in Congress. They proposed and passed a resolution to annex Texas. On December 29, 1845, Texas officially became a state of the United States.

Reading Check Analyze How has early Texas history influenced its reputation as a land of rugged individualists?

“We must now act or abandon all hope!”

—Sam Houston, before the Battle of San Jacinto



History online
Study Central Need help understanding Texas’s battle for independence? Visit ca.hss.glencoe.com and click on Study Central.

Section 2 Review

Reading Summary

Review the Main Ideas

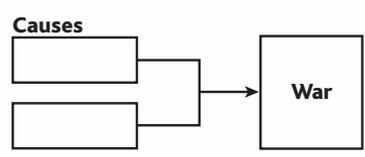
- The majority of settlers in Texas were from the United States. American influence in the territory caused concern among Mexicans in Texas and Mexico.
- Texans struggled to create a state independent from Mexico, eventually achieving that goal in May 1836.

What Did You Learn?

1. What did the Spanish do to promote the growth of Texas?
2. Which leader of Mexico fought against the Texans?
4. **The Big Ideas** Why did Northerners and Southerners disagree on the annexation of Texas? Explain. **CA CS1.**

Critical Thinking

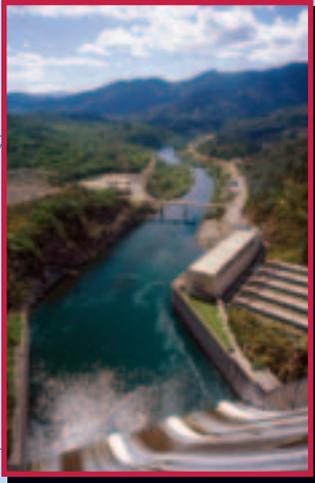
3. **Categorizing Information** Re-create the diagram below. In the boxes, describe two causes of the war between Mexico and Americans in Texas. **CA HI2.**



5. **Analyze** How did the fall of the Alamo help the cause of Texas independence, even though it was a defeat for the Texans? **CA CS1.**

6. **ANALYSIS Sequencing** Study the map on page 485. Place these battles in order on a time line, starting with the earliest: Gonzalez, San Jacinto, the Alamo, Goliad. **CA CS2.**





What is a river? A river is freshwater flowing across the surface of the land, usually to the sea. Rivers are formed when one stream meets another and they come together. These smaller streams are called tributaries.



What do rivers provide? Rivers provide energy, food, transportation, and water for drinking and for irrigation.



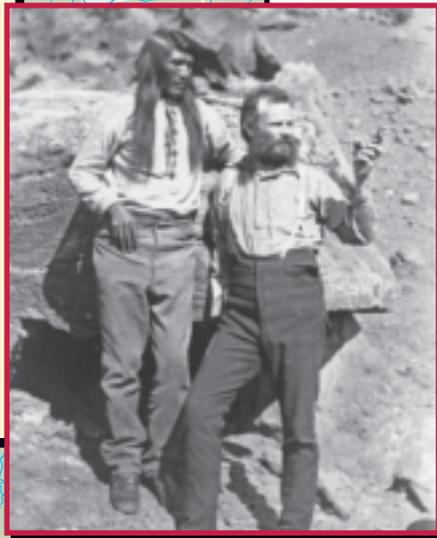
What is the Colorado River Basin? The Colorado River and its tributaries are called the Colorado River Basin. A basin is an area of land drained by a river and its tributaries. The Colorado River and its tributaries drain more than 240,000 square miles in the United States.



C A N A D A

The Law of the River

In 1922 the government began passing a series of contracts, laws, and regulations, known as “The Law of the River.” The law was created to make sure that the states along the Colorado River and its tributaries received an adequate portion of water. The law divides the water equally between the lower basin states of California, Nevada, and Arizona and the upper basin states of Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and New Mexico. Later, laws and regulations allowed for the development of dams and other water projects and settled disputes among the states that arose over water management.



▲ John Wesley Powell (right) and Paiute Chief Tau-gu during an expedition to the Grand Canyon

VITAL RESOURCES

Water—or rather the scarcity of it—defines the western states where precipitation averages just half that of the eastern states. In 1879 explorer John Wesley Powell correctly predicted that the ability to determine water rights and manage rivers was the key to settling this arid land.

COLORADO RIVER The Colorado River plunges 1,450 miles from the Rocky Mountains to the Gulf of California, through several states and two countries. Early settlers complained that its silt-laden waters were “too thick to drink, and too thin to plow.” Today, a complex system of dams and canals controls and disperses the water to thirsty fields and cities from Colorado to Mexico. In the 1920s, the “Law of the River” apportioned the water between the seven Colorado River Basin states.

COLUMBIA RIVER This clear water once flowed unimpeded 1,243 miles from Canada to the Pacific Northwest. Today, 14 dams block the main course but provide cheap electricity, irrigation, drinking water, and flood control for millions of people. The human-caused changes reduced both salmon runs and the traditional jobs tied to them, prompting a new look at how humans use this vital waterway.

SACRAMENTO/SAN JOAQUIN RIVERS Fed by winter snows in the lofty Sierra Nevada and Cascade Mountains, these rivers and a dozen tributaries drain California’s vast interior. Complicated laws and a scheme of dams, reservoirs, and aqueducts channel this precious water to immense farmlands and densely populated cities throughout California.

LEARNING from GEOGRAPHY

1. What changes helped bring water to many regions? What problems did these changes cause?
2. What regulations did “The Law of the River” establish?

War With Mexico

Guide to Reading



History Social Science Standards

US8.8 Students analyze the divergent paths of the American people in the West from 1800 to the mid-1800s and the challenges they faced.

Looking Back, Looking Ahead

You read about the Texans' brave struggle for independence. This section will focus on the war with Mexico over the California and New Mexico provinces.

Focusing on the **Main Ideas**

- The Santa Fe Trail was a busy trade route through New Mexico, a large region governed by Mexico. (page 491)
- California was settled and populated by diverse cultures. (page 492)
- Strained relations between the United States and Mexico resulted in war. (page 495)

Locating Places

Santa Fe (SAN • tuh FAY)

El Camino Real

(kah • MEE • noh RAY • ahl)

Nueces River (nu • AY • suhs)

Bear Flag Republic

Meeting People

William Becknell

Jedediah Smith

María Amparo Ruiz de Burton

John C. Frémont

Content Vocabulary

ranchero (ran • CHEHR • oh)

ranch (RAN • choh)

Californio (ka • luh • FAWR • nee • OH)

cede (SEED)

Academic Vocabulary

concept

devote

Reading Strategy

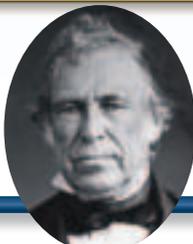
Taking Notes As you read the section, describe the actions and achievements of each of the individuals in the table.

	Actions taken
William Becknell	
Jedediah Smith	
John C. Frémont	

NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC

Who & When?

1844



1845

American forces led by General Zachary Taylor fight Mexican forces

1846

1846

Bear Flag Republic is proclaimed



1848

1848

Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo is signed



The New Mexico Territory

Main Idea The Santa Fe Trail was a busy trade route through New Mexico, a large region governed by Mexico.

Reading Connection Can you imagine walking from Missouri to Arizona, or beyond? Read on to see how traders did just that.

An American Story

Long lines of covered wagons stretched as far as the eye could see. “All’s set!” a driver called out. “All’s set!” everyone shouted in reply.

“Then the ‘Heps!’ of drivers—the cracking of whips—the trampling of feet—the occasional creak of wheels—the rumbling of wagons—form a new scene of [intense] confusion,” reported Josiah Gregg. Gregg was one of the traders who traveled west on the Santa Fe Trail in the 1830s to sell cloth, knives, and other goods in New Mexico.

What Areas Did New Mexico Include? In the early 1800s, New Mexico was the name of a vast region sandwiched between the Texas and California territories. It included all of present-day New Mexico, Arizona, and Nevada, and parts of Colorado and Utah.

Native American peoples had lived in the area for thousands of years. Spanish conquistadors began exploring the region in the late 1500s and made it part of Spain’s colony of Mexico. In 1610 the Spanish founded the settlement of **Santa Fe** (SAN•tuh FAY). When Mexico won its independence from Spain in 1821, it inherited the New Mexico province.

The Spanish had tried to keep Americans away from Santa Fe, fearing that Americans would want to take over the area. The Mexican government changed this policy, welcoming American traders into New Mexico. It hoped that trade would boost the economy of the province.

How Was the Santa Fe Trail Used? William

Becknell, the first American trader to reach Santa Fe, arrived in 1821 with a pack of mules loaded with manufactured goods to exchange for furs.

Becknell’s route into New Mexico came to be known as the Santa Fe Trail. The trail left the Missouri River near Independence, Missouri, and crossed the prairies to the Arkansas River. It followed the river west toward the Rocky Mountains before turning south into New Mexico. Because the trail was mostly flat, on later trips Becknell used wagons to carry his merchandise.

Other traders followed Becknell, and the Santa Fe Trail became a busy trade route for hundreds of wagons. Americans brought cloth and firearms, which they exchanged in Santa Fe for silver, furs, and mules. The trail remained in use until the arrival of the railroad in 1880.

As trade with New Mexico increased, Americans began settling in the region. In the United States, the **concept** of Manifest Destiny became popular, and many people saw New Mexico as territory worth acquiring. At the same time, they eyed another prize—the Mexican territory of California, which would provide access to the Pacific.

Reading Check Identify Where did the Santa Fe Trail end? What was it used for?



▲ Santa Fe Trail marker



California's Spanish Culture

Main Idea California was settled and populated by diverse cultures.

Reading Connection Imagine you lived in California in the mid-1800s. Would you like to have been a Native American, a rancher, or a settler from the East?

Spanish explorers and missionaries from Mexico had been the first Europeans to settle in California. Explorer Juan Bautista de Anza opened the overland route from Mexico to California and established the first settlement at San Francisco in 1776. Seven years earlier, Captain Gaspar de Portolá and Father Junípero Serra began building a string of missions that eventually extended from San Diego to Sonoma. These missions were connected along a route known as *El Camino Real* (kah•MEE•noh RAY•ahl), “the King’s Highway,” named for the king of Spain who ordered the missions built.

The mission system was a key part of Spain’s plan to colonize California. The Spanish used the missions to convert Native Americans to Christianity. By 1820 California had

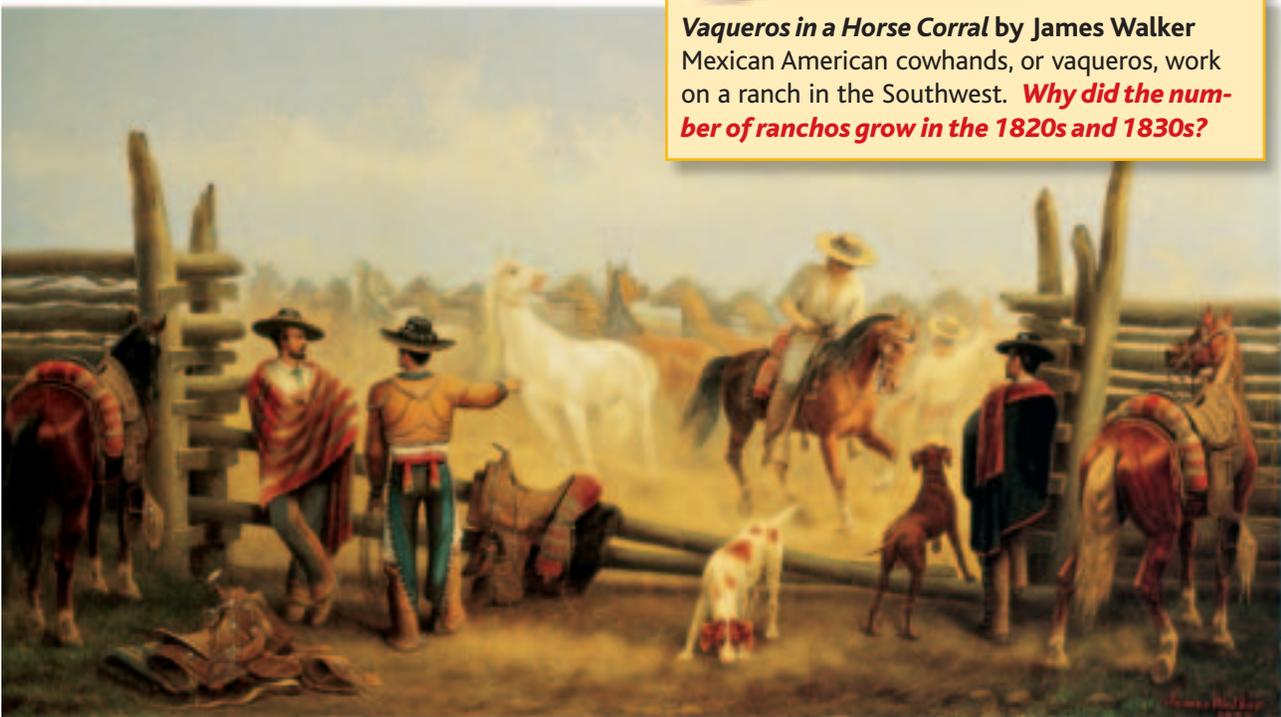
21 missions, with about 20,000 Native Americans living in them. In 1820 American mountain man **Jedediah Smith** visited the San Gabriel Mission east of present-day Los Angeles. Smith reported that the Native Americans farmed thousands of acres and worked at weaving and other crafts. He described the missions as “large farming and grazing establishments.” Another American in Smith’s party called the Native Americans “slaves in every sense of the word.”

California After 1821 After Mexico gained its independence from Spain in 1821, California became a state of Mexico. At the time only a few hundred Spanish settlers lived in California, but emigrants began arriving from Mexico. The wealthier settlers lived on ranches devoted to raising cattle and horses.

In 1833 the Mexican government passed a law abolishing the Spanish missions. The government gave some of the lands to Native Americans and sold the remainder. Mexican settlers called **rancheros** (ran•CHEHR•ohs)—ranch owners—bought these lands and built huge properties called **ranchos** (RAN•chohs).

History Through Art

Vaqueros in a Horse Corral by James Walker
Mexican American cowhands, or vaqueros, work on a ranch in the Southwest. **Why did the number of ranchos grow in the 1820s and 1830s?**





MARÍA AMPARO RUIZ DE BURTON

1832–1895

María Amparo Ruiz de Burton was the first Mexican American to publish a novel in English in the United States. Born into a wealthy family in Baja California in 1832, she stood to inherit the vast landholdings of her grandfather. She would eventually learn, however, that though the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ensured the land rights of Mexican American citizens, these rights would not be enforced.

After the war with Mexico, María married Colonel Henry Burton, an officer in the U.S. army. In 1859 the Burton family moved to Rhode Island, and María did not return to California until 1869 after the death of her husband. When she returned, she found that much of the land she and her husband owned had been sold and that the rest was inhabited by American squatters. In 1851 the California Land Act made all land owned by Mexicans public domain and available for settlement until the land titles of the original owners could be verified. Burton began a lengthy and expensive legal battle that would continue until her death in 1895. She died destitute and landless.

Burton wrote two novels during her battles with the government over her land. Her first novel, *Who Would Have Thought It?*, challenges the idea of American supremacy by claiming that Mexicans are as white by blood as Americans. Although this argument maintains a social hierarchy of certain races over others, her statements on the treatment of Mexicans and on U.S. political corruption were important to the time period. Her second novel, *The Squatter and the Don*, again deals with the problems of corruption and racism by focusing on land battles in California. Burton's legacy impacted both literature and Mexican American history. Her fight for her land, though unsuccessful, exposed the discriminatory actions by many Americans against Mexican citizens.



“I think but few Americans know or believe to what extent we have been wronged by Congressional action.”

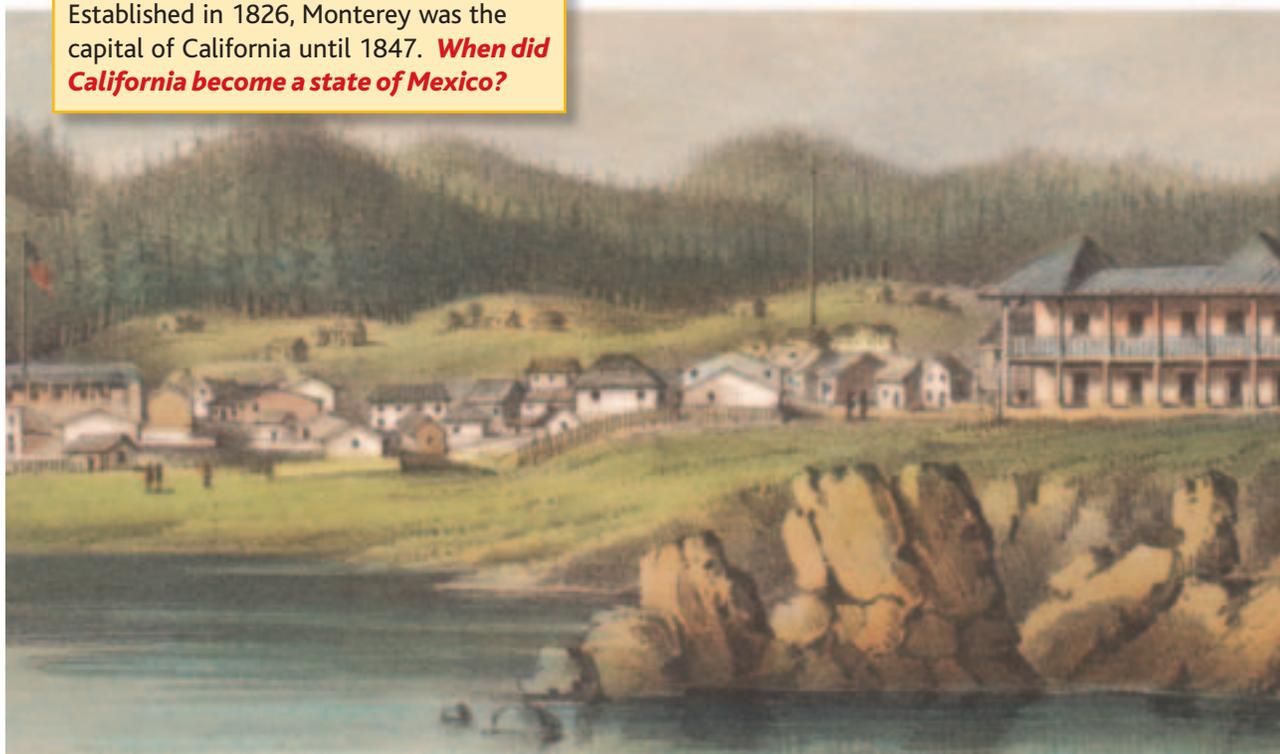
—from *The Squatter and the Don*

Then and Now

Burton fought for most of her life for her land. Find someone today who similarly has fought for his or her rights.

Picturing History

Established in 1826, Monterey was the capital of California until 1847. **When did California become a state of Mexico?**



Manifest Destiny and California

Americans had been visiting California for years. Most arrived on trading or whaling ships, although a few hardy travelers like Jedediah Smith came overland from the East. Soon more began to arrive by land and sea.

At first, the Mexican authorities welcomed Americans in California. In 1839 they granted land in the Sacramento Valley to John Sutter, a German immigrant. There Sutter built a trading post that became one of the first stopping points for Americans reaching California.

The newcomers included agents for American shipping companies, fur traders from Oregon, and merchants from New Mexico. In the 1840s, families began to arrive in California to settle. They made the long journey from Missouri on the Oregon Trail and then turned south after crossing the Rocky Mountains. Still, by 1845 the American population of California numbered only about 700. Most Americans lived in the Sacramento River valley.

Some American travelers wrote glowing reports of California. **John C. Frémont**, an army officer who made several trips through California in the 1840s, wrote of the region's

mild climate, scenic beauty, and abundance of natural resources.

Americans began to talk about adding California to the nation. Shippers and manufacturers hoped to build ports on the Pacific coast for trade with China and Japan. Many Americans saw the advantage of extending United States territory to the Pacific. That way, the nation would be safely bordered by the sea instead of by a foreign power, namely Mexico. William Marcy, U.S. Secretary of War, wrote:

“It is the wish. . . of the United States to provide for [California] a free government with the least possible delay, similar to that which exists in our territories.”

—letter to Colonel Stevenson

President James Polk twice offered to buy California and New Mexico from Mexico, but Mexico refused. Soon, the United States would take over both regions by force.

Reading Check Examine What made California attractive for U.S. expansion?



US8.8.6 Discuss the Texas War for Independence and the Mexican-American War, including territorial settlements, the aftermath of the wars, and the effects the wars had on the lives of Americans, including Mexican Americans today.

War With Mexico

Main Idea Strained relations between the United States and Mexico resulted in war.

Reading Connection How much would you pay for California and New Mexico? Read to learn what President Polk offered and how his offer was received.

President James K. Polk was determined to get the California and New Mexico territories from Mexico. Their possession would guarantee that the United States had clear passage to the Pacific Ocean—an important consideration because the British still occupied part of Oregon. Polk’s main reason, though, involved fulfilling the nation’s Manifest Destiny. Like many Americans, Polk believed California and New Mexico belonged to the United States.

After Mexico refused to sell California and New Mexico, President Polk plotted to pull the Mexican provinces into the Union through war. He wanted, however, to provoke Mexico into taking military action first. This way Polk could justify the war to Congress and the American people.

Relations between Mexico and the United States had been strained for some years. When the United States annexed Texas in 1845, the situation worsened. Mexico, which had never recognized the independence of Texas, charged that the annexation was illegal.

Another dispute concerned the Texas-Mexico border. The United States insisted that the Rio Grande formed the border.

Mexico claimed that the border lay along the **Nueces River** (nu • AY • suhs), 150 miles farther north. Because of this dispute, Mexico had stopped payments to American citizens for losses suffered during Mexico’s war for independence.

Polk sent an agent, John Slidell, to Mexico City to propose a deal. Slidell was authorized to offer \$30 million for California and New Mexico in return for Mexico’s acceptance of the Rio Grande as the Texas boundary. In addition, the United States would take over payment of Mexico’s debts to American citizens.

How Did Conflict Begin? Mexican officials refused to meet with Slidell and stated their plan to reclaim Texas. Polk then ordered General Zachary Taylor to march his soldiers across the Nueces River into the disputed border area.



Using Geography Skills

War between the United States and Mexico broke out in 1846 near the Rio Grande.

- 1. Location** Which battle occurred farthest north?
- 2. Infer** What information on the map can you use to infer which side won the war?

Taylor followed the order and built a fort there. In April 1846, Mexican soldiers attacked a small force of Taylor's soldiers. Taylor quickly notified Polk. On May 9, Polk told Congress that "Mexico has . . . shed blood on American soil." Congress passed a declaration of war against Mexico.

How Was News of the War Received? The war with Mexico divided Americans. Polk's party, the Democrats, generally backed it. Many Whigs believed the war was aggressive and unjust. Northerners accused the Democrats of waging war to spread slavery.

Illinois congressman Abraham Lincoln demanded to know the exact spot where the first attack on American troops had occurred. He claimed that the spot was clearly in Mexico and that Polk had no reason for blaming Mexico.

Frederick Douglass, an African American leader, called the war "disgraceful." He believed that the Southern states would bring slavery to any new territories won in the war. Newspapers mostly backed the war, and volunteers rushed to join the military.

Polk's War Plan President Polk planned for American forces to drive Mexico out of the disputed border region in Texas. Then, the forces would move into New Mexico and California. Finally, Mexico City, the capital of Mexico, would be taken.

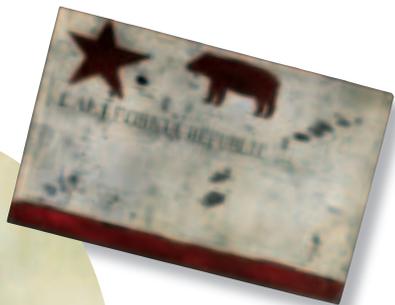
In September 1846, General Taylor's forces crossed the Rio Grande and captured the town of Monterrey. About five months later, he defeated the Mexicans again at Buena Vista. The Texas border was secure.

While Taylor advanced in northern Mexico, General Stephen Watts Kearney led his troops to California and New Mexico. In the summer of 1846, Kearny led about 1,500 cavalry soldiers along the Santa Fe Trail from Missouri to New Mexico. The Americans captured New Mexico's capital, Sante Fe, without firing a shot. Kearny and his forces then moved westward across the deserts to California.

What Was the Bear Flag Republic? In June 1846, a small group of Americans had seized the town of Sonoma north of San Francisco and proclaimed the independent Republic of California. They called the new country the **Bear Flag Republic** because their flag showed a bear and star on a white background. John C. Frémont and mountain man Kit Carson joined the Americans in Sonoma.

Though unaware of the outbreak of war with Mexico, Frémont declared he would seize California. Frémont's actions outraged many **Californios** (ka • luh • FAWR • nee • ohs), the Mexicans who lived in California. They might have supported a revolt for local control of government, but they opposed what looked like an attempt by a band of Americans to seize land.

Naval Intervention In July 1846, U.S. naval forces under Commodore John Sloat captured the ports of Monterey and San Francisco. Sloat declared California annexed to the United States. Sloat's fleet then sailed for San Diego, carrying Frémont and Carson. The Americans captured San Diego and moved north toward Los Angeles.



Picturing History

In June 1846, settlers in northern California declared California independent of Mexico and renamed the region the Bear Flag Republic. **What was John C. Frémont's role in the uprising?**

Carson headed east with the news of California's annexation. On the way, he joined Kearny's force, marching west from Santa Fe.

After Sloat's ships left, many Californios in San Diego rose up against the Americans controlling the city. General Kearny's troops arrived in the midst of the uprising. They faced a stiff fight but finally won. By January 1847, California was under American control.

The Capture of Mexico City After these victories, American forces set out to take Mexico City. In March 1847, troops under General Winfield Scott landed on the coast of Mexico, near the port of Veracruz. Scott captured the city and then began a 300-mile march to Mexico City. On the way, the Americans battled Mexican soldiers and armed citizens. By mid-September, Mexico City had been taken, and the Mexican government surrendered.

What Were the Terms of the Peace Treaty?

Peace talks began in January 1848. A month later, the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo (GWAH • duhl • OOP hih • DAL • goh) was signed. In the treaty, Mexico gave up all claims to Texas and agreed to the Rio Grande as the border between Texas and Mexico. Also, in what was called the Mexican Cession, Mexico **ceded** (SEED • uhd)—gave—California and New Mexico to the United States. In return, the United States gave Mexico \$15 million.

In 1853 the United States paid Mexico another \$10 million for the Gadsden Purchase, a strip of land along the southern edge of present-day Arizona and New Mexico. With this purchase, the United States mainland reached its present size. All that remained was to settle the newly won territories.

Reading Check Describe What lands did Mexico cede to the United States?

Section 3 Review

History Online
Study Central Need help understanding the war with Mexico? Visit ca.hss.glencoe.com and click on Study Central.

Reading Summary

Review the Main Ideas

- Americans established a busy trade route called the Santa Fe Trail through a large region governed by Mexico, called New Mexico.
- The cultures of Mexicans, Native Americans, and white Americans intermingled in California.
- The United States continued to pursue annexing California and the rest of the New Mexico region, which eventually resulted in war between the United States and Mexico.

What Did You Learn?

1. According to the Mexican government, where was the border between Texas and Mexico?
2. How much did the United States pay for New Mexico and California?
4. **The Big Ideas** Why did the Spanish establish missions? What happened to the mission land after Mexico gained its independence?
CA HR3.
5. **Analyzing Literature** Explain the meaning of this statement from page 493: "I think but few Americans know or believe to what extent we have been wronged by Congressional action."
CA HR5.

Critical Thinking

3. **Categorizing Information** Re-create the diagram below and describe the three parts of Polk's strategy to extend U.S. territory. **CA CS1.**



6. **Geography Skills** List the battles that appear on the map on page 495 in order from first to last. Identify each as a Mexican victory or a U.S. victory. **CA CS2. CA CS3.**

Connecting to the Constitution



US8.8.6 Describe the Texas War for Independence and the Mexican-American War, including territorial settlements, the aftermath of the wars, and the effects the wars had on the lives of Americans, including Mexican Americans today.

Admission of New States

Why It Matters In 1783 the United States was made up of 13 states. It also included lands that stretched west to the Mississippi River. In the years that followed, the United States added more territory by buying lands, fighting wars, and signing treaties. In these ways, the territory of the United States has gradually spread to form the 50 states that we know today.

Joining the Union The U.S. Constitution gives Congress the power to admit new states to the Union. Once admitted to the Union, each state is equal to every other state and has the right to control its internal affairs. No state has more privileges or fewer responsibilities than any other. All states in the Union are bound to support the Constitution.

Thirty-seven states have been admitted to the Union since the Constitution was ratified. Of these 37 states, 30 were admitted after often lengthy periods as United States territories. However, some states—Vermont, Kentucky,

Tennessee, and Maine—were formed from existing states with the approval of those states and Congress.

To become a state, a territory usually **petitions**, or asks, Congress to be admitted into the Union. If the petition is approved, Congress passes an enabling act. When signed by the president, an enabling act allows the people of the territory to prepare a constitution setting up a representative, republican government. Next, the territory elects delegates to draft a constitution. If approved by the residents of the territory, the document is sent to Congress for approval. Once approved, Congress then passes an act of admission—a law that makes the territory a state.



▲ California state seal

◀ California's State Capitol in Sacramento

“The powers not delegated [given] to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.”

—10th Amendment, U.S. Constitution



The Northwest Ordinance of 1787

The Northwest Ordinance of 1787 set up the Northwest Territory, the first territorial government in the United States. At the same time, the ordinance laid down a plan for eventually dividing the territory into states to be admitted into the Union. By 1850 six states—Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota—had been formed from the old Northwest Territory. From the early 1800s, to the present day, this plan with only minor changes has served as the model for admitting new states into the Union.

Westward Expansion During the 1840s, many Americans believed in **Manifest Destiny**, the idea that the United States should stretch from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean. Conflict soon arose between the United States and Mexico over Mexican-ruled lands in the West. In 1836 Texas had broken away from Mexico and became a republic. Its largely American-born leaders sought **annexation**, or admission, to the United States. In 1845 Congress passed a joint resolution to annex Texas. Bypassing becoming a territory, Texas was immediately admitted into the Union as a state.

Texas's annexation and border disputes led to war between the United States and Mexico in 1846. After Mexico's defeat, the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848 gave the United States the area that today includes California, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, and western Colorado. In 1854 the United States bought the remaining portions of present-day Arizona and New Mexico from Mexico. With this land purchase, the general boundaries of the mainland United States reached their final form.

Slavery and New States After the Mexican War, Northerners wanted to ban slavery in the new territories gained from Mexico. Southerners claimed that the territories belonged to the entire nation. Therefore, all Americans had equal rights in them, including the right to bring in slavery. A crisis erupted in 1849 when California sought admission to the Union as a free state. Again, the balance between North and South was threatened, this time in the North's favor. In the Compromise of 1850, Congress finally decided that California would be admitted as a free state. In the other lands gained from Mexico, however, territorial governments would allow slavery.

Toward 50 States In the late 1800s, the country entered a period of industrial growth. Railroads finally spanned the continent, and waves of settlers moved to the West. One by one, the western territories became states of the United States. In 1912 New Mexico and Arizona became the 47th and 48th—and final—states on the U.S. mainland.

The most recent states to be admitted are Alaska and Hawaii. Both lie outside the mainland United States. The United States bought Alaska from Russia in 1867 for \$7.2 million in gold. Hawaii, once an independent kingdom, was annexed to the United States in 1898. In joining the Union, both territories shortened the statehood admissions process. They each adopted a proposed constitution without waiting for an enabling act. Both were admitted as states in 1959.

Checking for Understanding

1. How are states usually admitted to the Union?
2. What issue caused difficulties concerning the admission of states during much of the 1800s?

Critical Thinking

3. **Connect** How was the creation of new territories and states related to westward expansion? **CA CSS.**

New Settlers in California and Utah

Guide to Reading



US8.8 Students analyze the divergent paths of the American people in the West from 1800 to the mid-1800s and the challenges they faced.

Looking Back, Looking Ahead

California and the New Mexico provinces became part of the United States in 1846. Many American settlers were eager to move there for a variety of reasons.

Focusing on the **Main Ideas**

- The discovery of gold in California had a significant impact on the settlement and economy of the region. (page 501)
- Utah was settled by Mormons, a religious group looking for safe haven. (page 505)

Meeting People

James Marshall
Joseph Smith
Brigham Young

Content Vocabulary

forty-niner
boomtown
vigilante (VIH • juh • LAN • tee)

Academic Vocabulary

range
community
item
pose
vision (VIH • zhuhn)

Reading Strategy

Organizing Information As you read this section, re-create the diagram below. In the boxes, describe who these groups and individuals were and what their role was in the settlement of California and Utah.

	What was their role?
Forty-niners	
Mormons	
Brigham Young	

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Who & When?

1846

1846
Mormons migrate to the Great Salt Lake area

1848

1849
California gold rush begins

1850

1850
California applies for statehood





US8.8.2 Describe the purpose, challenges, and economic incentives associated with westward expansion, including the concept of Manifest Destiny (e.g., the Lewis and Clark expedition, accounts of the removal of Indians, the Cherokees' "Trail of Tears," settlement of the Great Plains) and the territorial acquisitions that spanned numerous decades.

The California Gold Rush

Main Idea The discovery of gold in California had a significant impact on the settlement and economy of the region.

Reading Connection Have you ever found money on the street? Imagine how exciting it would be to find a place where you could pick up money off the ground. Read to find out how dreams of easy gold brought many people to California.

An American Story

James Marshall was building a sawmill on the South Fork of the American River in California. He worked for John Sutter, who owned a vast tract of land about 40 miles from present-day Sacramento. On January 24, 1848, Marshall saw something shining in a ditch. "I reached my hand down and picked it up," he wrote later. "It made my heart thump, for I was certain it was gold." Looking around, he found other shiny pieces. Marshall rushed to show the glittering pieces to Sutter, who determined that they were gold. Sutter tried to keep the discovery a secret, but word soon leaked out. The great California Gold Rush was under way!

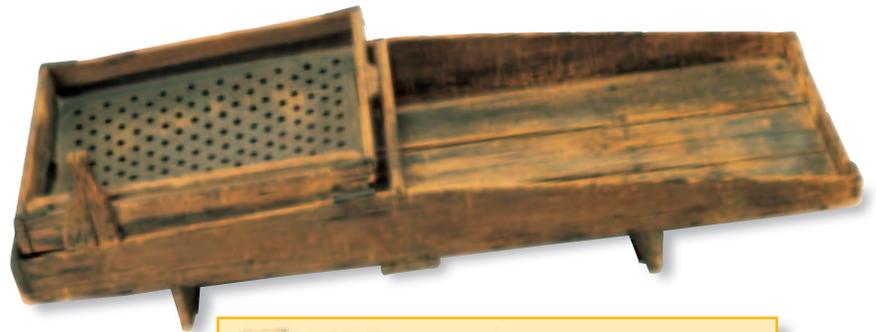
Who Were the Forty-Niners? People from all over the world flocked to California in search of quick riches. Nearly 100,000 people came to California looking for gold in 1848 and 1849. Those who arrived in 1849 were called **forty-niners**. An official in Monterey reported that "the farmers have thrown aside their plows, the lawyers their briefs [statement of a client's case], the doctors their pills, the priests their prayer books, and all are now digging gold." By the end of 1848, they had taken \$6 million in gold from the American River. In modern-day value, the gold would be worth more than \$100 million.

Many of the gold seekers came to California by sea. Thousands of forty-niners sailed to San Francisco from New York, Boston, and Galveston. Most traveled around the southern tip of South America. By far the greatest number of gold seekers came overland, traveling on the Oregon Trail or Santa Fe Trail and then pushing westward through California's Sierra Nevada mountain **range**.

Americans made up more than half of the forty-niners. Others came from Mexico, South America, Europe, and Australia. About 300 men arrived from China, the first large group of Asian immigrants to come to America. Although some eventually returned to China, many remained, establishing California's Chinese American **community**.

Land Rights The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ending the war with Mexico made Californios (Hispanic Californians) citizens of the United States. The treaty also guaranteed them the rights to their lands. But these rights would soon be weakened.

The Land Law of 1851 set up a group of people to review the Californios' land rights. The Californios had to prove what land they owned. When a new settler claimed the rights to a Californio's land, the two parties would go to court. Some Californios were able to prove their claims by providing official documents. Many, however, lost their land.



Picturing History

Many miners used a device like this to pan for gold. It is sometimes called a rocking cradle.

Why do you think it is known as a cradle?

Biography



US8.8.3 Describe the role of pioneer women and the new status that western women achieved (e.g., Laura Ingalls Wilder, Annie Bidwell; slave women gaining freedom in the West; Wyoming granting suffrage to women in 1869).

JOHN BIDWELL

1819–1900

ANNIE BIDWELL

1839–1918

The Bidwell mansion in Chico, California, stands as a monument to two pioneers who dedicated their lives to agricultural and social reform. John Bidwell set out from Missouri in 1841 on an overland journey to California. The expedition set out with not much more than the vague knowledge that California lay somewhere to the west.

Upon arriving in California, John Bidwell befriended John Sutter and was able to make a large fortune mining gold. Bidwell soon turned to agricultural endeavors, introducing Bermuda grass and the casaba melon to California. In 1868 John married Annie Ellicott Kennedy, a young woman from Washington, D.C. The construction of the Bidwell mansion had begun three years before. Upon its completion, Annie used its various rooms to educate the Mechoopda, a tribe of Native Americans who lived on the land surrounding the mansion.

Both John and Annie joined the Temperance movement. John ran unsuccessfully for president on the prohibition ticket in 1892, and Annie joined the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. Annie also championed women's rights and joined the woman suffrage movement, at which time she met and befriended Susan B. Anthony.

As the Gold Rush boomed in California, John noticed the effects hydraulic mining had on the California environment. This process of mining caused silt to sift down upon farms and streams and eroded the Sierra hillsides. John testified in *Woodruff v. North Bloomfield*, an environmental case that ended hydraulic mining in the United States. The Bidwells left an unforgettable impact on the Chico region of California. They aided the development of agriculture in the region, and their mansion still stands today as a historic park under the direction of the Department of Parks and Recreation of California.



“Our ignorance of the route was complete. We knew that California lay west, and that was the extent of our knowledge. . . .”

—John Bidwell

Then and Now

The Bidwells were dedicated to environmental causes. Research a current environmentalist and explain how his or her actions are similar to the Bidwells'.

Life in California As people rushed to a new area to look for gold, they built new communities, called **boomtowns**, almost overnight. At one site on the Yuba River where only two houses stood in September 1849, a miner arrived the next year to find a town of 1,000 people “with a large number of hotels, stores, groceries, bakeries, and . . . gambling houses.” The miners gave some of the boomtowns colorful names such as Shinbone Peak and You Bet. Cities also flourished during the Gold Rush. As ships arrived daily with gold

seekers and adventurers, San Francisco quickly grew from a tiny village to a city of about 20,000 people. By 1860 the city had 57,000 residents, making it the fifteenth largest American city and the largest city west of the Mississippi River.

Most of the hopeful forty-niners had no experience in mining. Rushing furiously from place to place, they attacked hillsides with pickaxes and shovels and spent hours bent over streambeds, “washing” or “panning” the water to seek gold dust and nuggets.

Linking Past & Present

Blue Jeans

▼ Jeans are popular everyday wear.

Past In 1873 Levi Strauss, a dry goods merchant living in San Francisco, and Jacob Davis, a Nevada tailor, developed and began to market denim pants reinforced with small copper tacks called rivets.



▲ Early Levi ads were aimed at miners and farmers.

Present At one time, jeans were associated exclusively with hard work. Now they're worn everywhere. Levi's popular denims—called blue jeans today—are known for their durability and quality. **Why do you think miners and farmers were among the first to wear Levi's denims?**

The Way It Was

The California Constitution

Forty-eight delegates met in Monterey to draw up a constitution in September of 1849. Eight delegates were Californios. A declaration of rights guaranteed freedom of assembly, religion, and speech. The first section of the California Declaration of Rights begins:

“All men are by nature free and independent, and have certain inalienable rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing, and protecting property: and pursuing and obtaining safety and happiness.”

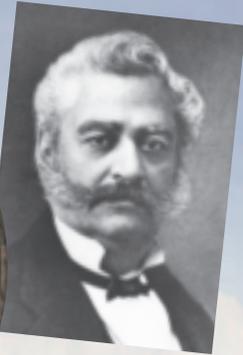
The right to vote was extended to all white males over the age of 21 who had been residents of California for 30 days. Pablo de

The California Gold Rush more than doubled the world’s supply of gold. For all their effort, however, very few of the forty-niners achieved lasting wealth. Most of the miners found little or no gold. Many of those who did find gold lost their riches through gambling or wild spending.

Merchants, however, made huge profits. They could charge whatever they liked because the miners had no place else to go to buy food and other essential items. Eggs sold for \$10 a dozen. Mining tools were expensive too, and the price of a burro went from \$15 to \$40.

Gold Rush Society Very few women lived in the mining camps, which were filled with men of all backgrounds. Lonely and suffering from

▼ Peter H. Burnett



▲ Pablo de la Guerra

la Guerra of Santa Barbara led other Hispanic delegates to the convention in arguing for the right to vote for Native Americans, African Americans, and mestizos. The delegates agreed to recognize any man who had been a Mexican citizen, regardless of race, as a citizen of California. However, African Americans and Native Americans who were not of Mexican descent would not be included.

Californians approved the constitution in November 1849 by a vote of more than 12,000 to 811. Voters elected Peter H. Burnett governor and chose members of the state legislature and a representative to the United States Congress.

the hardships of mining, many men spent their free hours drinking, gambling, and fighting.

Mining towns had no police or prisons, so lawbreakers posed a real threat to business owners and miners. One miner wrote:

“Robberies and murders were almost of daily occurrence. Threats had been made to burn down the town.”

—from *California Men and Events*

Concerned citizens formed vigilance committees to protect themselves. The **vigilantes** (VIH•juh•LAN•tees) took the law into their own hands, acting as police, judge, jury, and sometimes executioner.



US8.8.2 Describe the purposes, challenges, and economic incentives associated with westward expansion, including the concept of Manifest Destiny (e.g., the Lewis and Clark expedition, accounts of removal of Indians, the Cherokees' "Trail of Tears," settlement of the Great Plains) and the territorial acquisitions that spanned numerous decades.

Courtesy Museum of Art, Brigham Young University

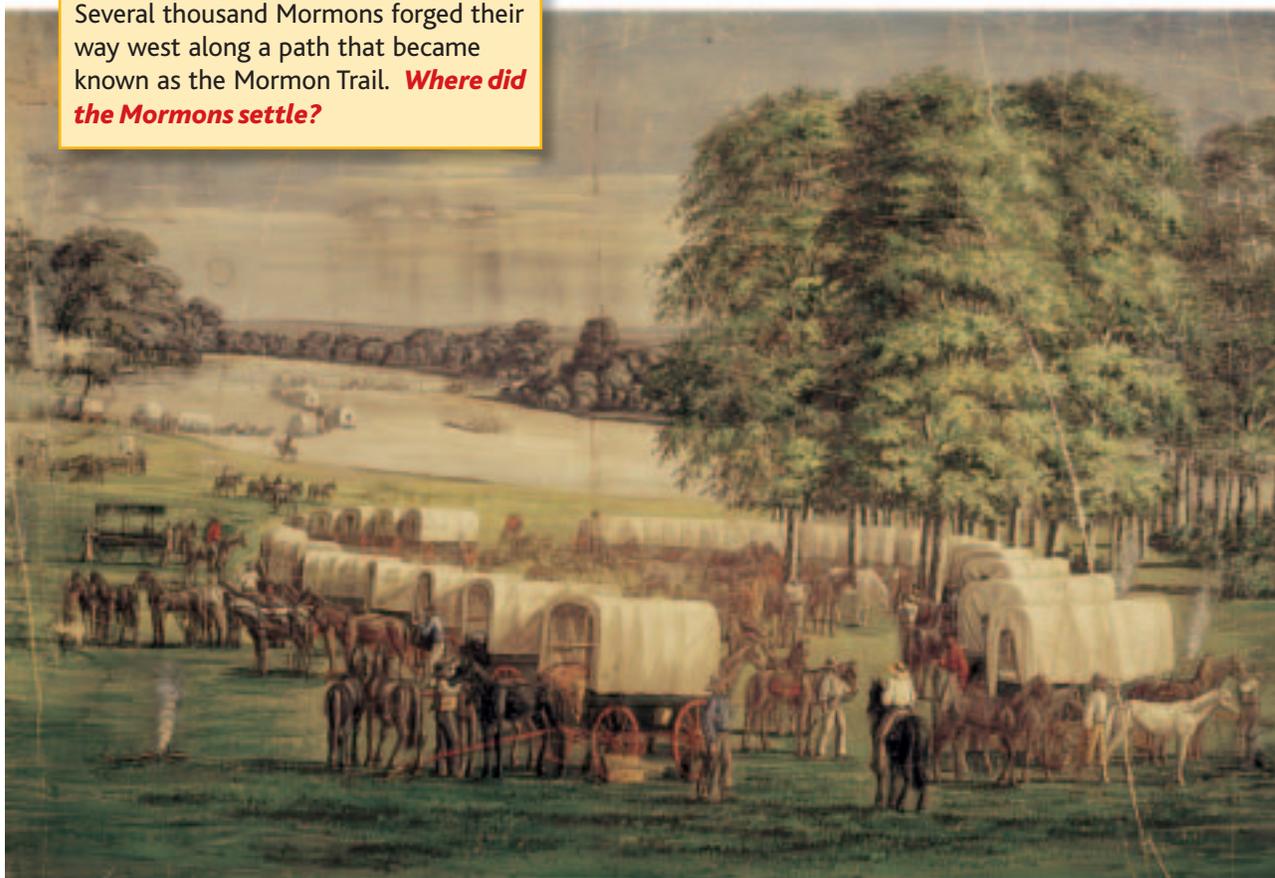
Economic and Political Progress The Gold Rush ended within a few years but had lasting effects on California's economy. Agriculture, shipping, and trade expanded to meet the miners' needs for food and other goods. Many people who had come looking for gold stayed to farm or run a business. California's population soared, rising from about 20,000 in 1848 to more than 220,000 only four years later.

Such rapid growth brought the need for more effective government. In March 1850, California applied for statehood. Because California's new constitution banned slavery, however, the request caused a crisis in Congress. The South opposed making California a state because it would upset the balance of free and slave states. California did not become a state until Congress worked out a compromise six months later.

Reading Check Explain Why did the forty-niners come to California?

Picturing History

Several thousand Mormons forged their way west along a path that became known as the Mormon Trail. **Where did the Mormons settle?**



A Religious Refuge in Utah

Main Idea Utah was settled by Mormons, a religious group looking for safe haven.

Reading Connection If you were building a new home what would you do first? Read on to see how the Mormons made the most of the harsh terrain they settled.

In 1855, a visitor to the Utah Territory wrote admiringly of:

“[The] indomitable energy . . . which seems to possess the entire Mormon community.”

—Howard Stansbury

This account described the Mormons, or members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Mormons had come to Utah to fulfill their vision of the godly life.

How Was the Mormon Religion Founded?

In 1830 **Joseph Smith** of New York State had visions that led him to found the Mormon church. The visions also inspired him to build an ideal society.

Smith believed that property should be held in common. He also favored polygamy, the idea that a man could have more than one wife. This angered many people, so the Mormons eventually gave up this practice.

Smith formed a community in New York, but neighbors disapproved of the Mormons' religion. They forced the Mormons to move on. From New York, the Mormons went to Ohio, then to Missouri, and then to Illinois.

In 1844 a mob in Illinois killed Smith, and **Brigham Young** took over as the Mormon leader. Young decided that the Mormons should move again, this time near the Great Salt Lake in present-day Utah. Although part of Mexico at that time, no Mexicans had settled in the area because of its harsh terrain.

A Haven in the Desert About 12,000 Mormons made the trek to the Great Salt Lake area. It was the largest single migration in American history. The hard-working Mormons made their new home, Deseret, flourish. They planned their towns carefully and built irrigation canals to water their farms. They also set up industries so they could be self-sufficient. Mormon merchants sold supplies to forty-niners who were headed westward.

In 1848 the United States acquired the Great Salt Lake area from Mexico. Two years later Congress set up the Utah Territory, and Brigham Young became its governor. Utah did not easily become part of the United States, however. The Mormons wanted to be left alone and resisted federal authority. In the late 1850s, war almost broke out between the Mormons and the United States Army. Utah did not become a state until 1896.

Reading Check Explain Why was Deseret able to grow economically?

Section 4 Review

Reading Summary

Review the Main Ideas

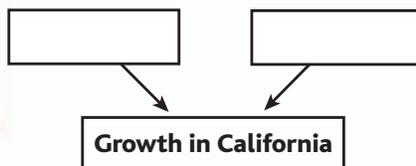
- Settlement of California was significantly impacted by the discovery of gold in 1849.
- Joseph Smith and Brigham Young led the Mormons on a cross-country journey to find a safe haven for settlement. Eventually, they chose present-day Utah to establish their community.

What Did You Learn?

1. Why was California's entry into the Union delayed?
2. What is another name for the Mormons?

Critical Thinking

3. **Organizing Information**
Re-create the diagram below. In the boxes, describe how the Gold Rush helped California's economy grow. **CA HI.2.**



4. **The Big Ideas** What steps did Californians take to apply for statehood? When was California admitted? **CA HI.1.**

5. **Predicting Consequences** How might the history of California be different if the Gold Rush had not happened? **CA HI.4.**

6. **Creative Writing** You are living in a boomtown in California in the mid-1800s. Write a week's worth of journal entries, recording what your life is like. **CA 8WA2.1**

History Online
Study Central Need help understanding the settlement of California and Utah? Visit ca.hss.glencoe.com and click on Study Central.



Thunder on the Sierra

By Kathy Balmes

Before You Read

The Scene: This part of the story takes place at Señor Sosa's gold claim in the Sierra in 1852.

The Characters: Mateo is a 13-year-old boy who trades with miners in the California gold camps. His pack animals are mules with names, such as Fabio and Cisco. Señor Sosa has a gold claim in the mountains somewhere between the mining camps of Indian Gulch and Poverty Hill.

The Plot: While restocking supplies that he will sell to the gold miners, Mateo agrees to deliver a letter to a Señor Sosa if he can find the man.

Vocabulary Preview

decaying: rotting

ghastly: scary like a ghost or corpse

glossy: shiny on the surface

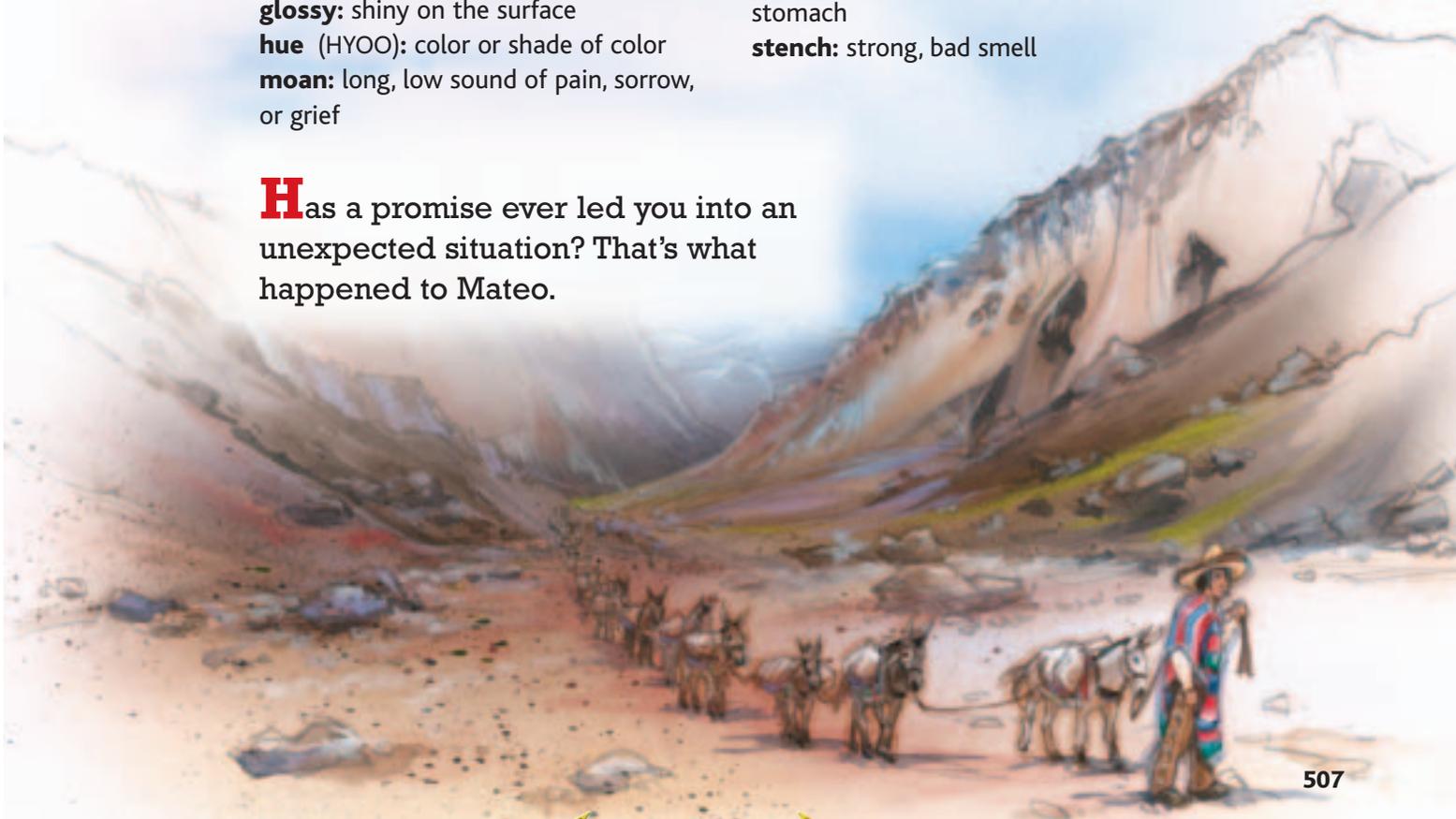
hue (HYOO): color or shade of color

moan: long, low sound of pain, sorrow, or grief

nauseating (NAW • zhee • AYT • ihng): causing a strong sick feeling in the stomach

stench: strong, bad smell

Has a promise ever led you into an unexpected situation? That's what happened to Mateo.



As You Read

A novel has a main plot that relates to the action in all or almost all of the book. The main plot in *Thunder on the Sierra* concerns Mateo's desire to get back his stolen horse. This novel also has subplots, or shorter plots, that occur in part of the story. As you read, think about the subplot that takes place in this excerpt. What is the problem or conflict? How is it resolved? Or is it solved?



When I first came across Señor Sosa's camp, I thought it was deserted. I had crossed between Indian Gulch and Poverty Hill twice, looking for the man. I was ready to give up when a downpour started, and I saw a broken down shack. As I hobbled¹ and unloaded the mules a short distance away, I heard a low moan. I pushed the door of the shack open. Inside was dark. A nauseating stench, like a decaying corpse, almost knocked me backwards.

"Hello? Who are you?" a weak voice asked in Spanish.

"My name is Mateo."

"You must be an angel. Good. I'm finally dying."

"No. I'm not an angel. I'm an arriero,"² I replied.

"My name is Sebastián Sosa."

I had found my man.

"Are you sick or hurt?" I asked, knowing it must be one or the other.

"Sick."

Even though it was pouring rain, I hesitated to enter the shack.

"Do you have cholera³ or dysentery⁴ or malaria?⁵ I have quinine. It can ease malaria."

"I don't have malaria."

¹ **hobbled:** tied a rope or strap around two legs

² **arriero:** a person who drives mules

³ **cholera:** very severe diarrhea that can kill the patient

⁴ **dysentery:** severe diarrhea

⁵ **malaria:** severe chills and fever

I pushed down my fear of the deadly cholera and entered the shack. He had not been able to get up from his bed. His shack smelled of vomit, urine, and diarrhea. I breathed through my mouth to avoid the overwhelming odors.

I had never seen anyone in such awful condition. His bleeding gums made his attempt to smile ghastly. His skin had a purple hue. His arms were swollen to double their normal size. They were black where his blood vessels had broken. He was hideous. But as I moved closer, I could see what was wrong with him.

“What have you been eating?” I asked.

“Nothing lately. Before that only spoiled salt pork and flour fried in grease,” he said weakly.

“For how long?” I asked.

“Months,” he said.

“Were you always alone?” I said.

“No. I had a partner. We had studied law together before the gold rush. We met again in the diggings.⁶ But he gave up this summer. We hadn’t found any gold, and our food was running out. He left for San Francisco to start a law firm. I planned to follow him back in a few weeks to become his law partner.”

“Why didn’t you?” I asked.

“I found gold. Not much. But enough to keep me here panning. After a few months I got sick. My arms and legs swelled. Now it hurts me to move,” he said.

“You have scurvy. I’ve seen it in other camps where the miners don’t have good food. You’re the worst case I’ve ever seen.”

The watery brown eyes pleaded, “Can you help me?”

“Yes. You need fruits and vegetables. I have some in my packs. I’ll stay until you are strong enough to take care of yourself.”

The sick man lay back and closed his eyes. “God bless you. You are an angel,” he murmured.

I brought him raisins and dried apples from Fabio’s pack. I filled his cup with water and fed him. His breath stunk like an animal that had been dead for a month. He could barely chew and swallow. Was I too late?

⁶ **diggings:** area where people are looking for gold



"I can't make a fire to cook potatoes and onions for you until the rain stops. I'm going to hike around and see if I can find some wild greens. An old Indian showed me which plants cure scurvy."

I looked around for the plants. But I found nothing.

The rain had stopped by the time I returned. I took dry wood from inside the shack and built a fire outside. I fried a pan full of onions and potatoes. The wonderful aroma floated into the shack.

I brought a plate of vegetables to his bed.

"Smells good," said the grateful man.

"Eat as much as you can. It will make you better."

I fed him. But he wasn't able to chew much.

I noticed a copy of *Robinson Crusoe*⁷ and three law books on a crude wooden shelf. The law books reminded me of the letter. *I'll wait until he's stronger*, I thought. *It might be bad news.*

I slept outside the door. I couldn't stand the smell in the shack.

The sick man seemed a little better in the morning and ate more of the onions and potatoes. I heated the dried fruit in water until it became plump and easier for him to swallow.

After breakfast I moved the mules to a new place to graze and informed them that they had the rest of the week off. I returned to the shack.

"Can you walk outside so I can clean your cabin? You can lean on me."

"I'll try," Señor Sosa replied weakly.

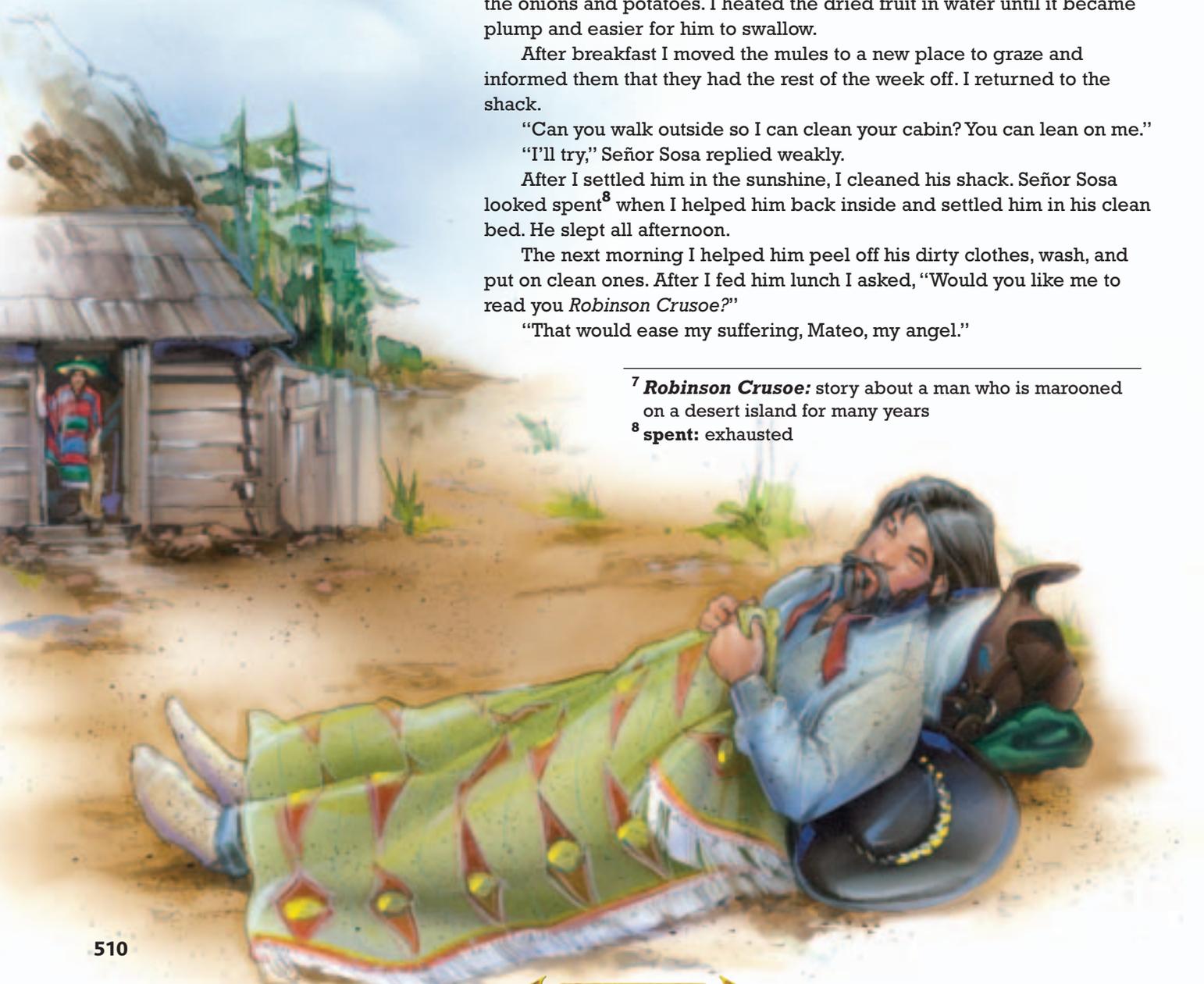
After I settled him in the sunshine, I cleaned his shack. Señor Sosa looked spent⁸ when I helped him back inside and settled him in his clean bed. He slept all afternoon.

The next morning I helped him peel off his dirty clothes, wash, and put on clean ones. After I fed him lunch I asked, "Would you like me to read you *Robinson Crusoe*?"

"That would ease my suffering, Mateo, my angel."

⁷ **Robinson Crusoe**: story about a man who is marooned on a desert island for many years

⁸ **spent**: exhausted



After I had read for about an hour, a movement in a shadowy corner of the cabin caught my eye. I saw a small, sleek⁹ animal slink out of a hole under the crude boards and bound gracefully onto Señor Sosa's bed.

"Is that supposed to be in here?" I asked, pointing to the small animal with round, bright eyes. It looked like a tiny raccoon, only cuter, and its coat was softer.

Señor Sosa smiled. "She's my pet," he said as he stroked her velvet fur. "Madalena was my only companion before you came. She's a ringtail. They're so good at catching rats and mice that they're often called miner's cats. This cabin would be overrun with rodents if she didn't eat them."

"She's pretty," I said.

"Madalena has been a great comfort. I figured she'd keep the rodents off my corpse. I'd been warned that one in five miners died in the first year of the gold rush. I didn't believe it. Now I wonder how so many survived."

I reached out a hand to pet the glossy fur. But Madalena darted off the bed and down the hole.

The next morning the lawyer was noticeably healthier. *He's a young man*, I realized with amazement. *It's time*, I decided.

"I have a letter for you," I announced after he fed himself breakfast.

Señor Sosa stared at me in surprise.

"It's from your partner in San Francisco. He said it's important. I kept it until you were strong, in case it's bad news."

"Read it to me, Mateo. I am still weak."

"Yes, señor. The letter is dated September 15, 1852."

"What month is it now, Mateo?"

"December, señor."

"Continue."

I read: " *My Friend, I hope this letter finds you in good health.*"

The lawyer snorted. "Go on," he urged.

⁹ **sleek:** smooth and glossy



America's Literature

‘Please join me in San Francisco immediately. Because we are Spanish-speaking lawyers, who also speak English, we are needed to help rancheros to prove in court that they own the land they live on.

‘Disappointed Yankee miners often want land in California. They have pressured the American government to issue the Land Act of 1851. It requires all rancheros to submit proof, within two years, that their land was given to them by the Spanish or Mexican governments. Often the land grants are not well documented so lawyers and courts find it easy to detect some flaw in the titles. Many Californios have already lost part or all of their ranchos. Others don't realize that their ranchos are in danger.

‘The court's deadline is approaching. I have too much business to handle by myself. It cannot wait. I need your help. Please join me in San Francisco. I anxiously await you.

*Sincerely,
Your Partner,
Manuel Torres Vargas*

After I finished reading him the letter, we sat in stunned silence. . . .

“I'm leaving here as soon as I'm able. Will you sell me a mule? I have gold. I'll pay you twice what it is worth. That should satisfy its owner. Please?”

“Yes, señor. And I'll sell you the food you will need. Tomorrow I must be on my way. There are miners waiting for supplies.”



Responding to the Literature

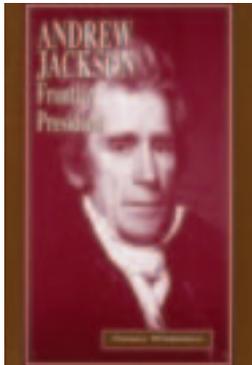
1. How did Mateo find Señor Sosa?
2. Why did Mateo wait to read the letter to Señor Sosa?
3. **Synthesize** Use the word *scurvy* in a sentence that shows its meaning. You may define scurvy, use it as an example, or compare or contrast it. **CA 8RW1.3**
4. **Infer** What country were Mateo and Señor Sosa originally citizens of? Give examples from the selection of how the author established this fact. **CA 8RC2.0**
5. **Read to Write** This excerpt contains one of the subplots in *Thunder on the Sierra*. Describe the subplot. What is the conflict? Is the conflict resolved? Explain. What new conflict does the letter raise? **CA 8RL3.2**

Reading On Your Own...



From the California Reading List

Do you want to learn more about Andrew Jackson and the new groups of people who became part of the United States? You might be interested in the following books.

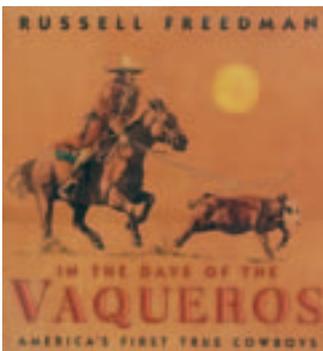
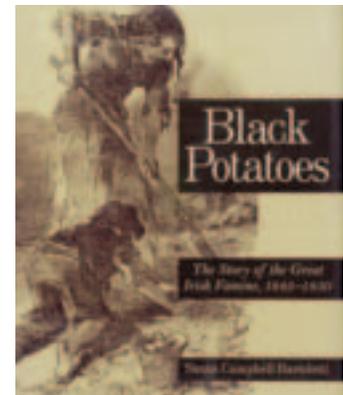


Biography

Andrew Jackson: Frontier President by Nancy Whitelaw describes the life of this colorful frontiersman who became president. She includes his two terms as president and his many firsts in that position. *The content of this book is related to History–Social Science Standard US8.4.*

Nonfiction

Black Potatoes: The Story of the Great Irish Famine, 1845–1850 by Susan Campbell Bartoletti leads readers through five years of failed potato crops in Ireland. The story of millions of Irish dying and emigrating is told in first-person accounts, news reports, and sketches. *The content of this book is related to History–Social Science Standard US8.6.*

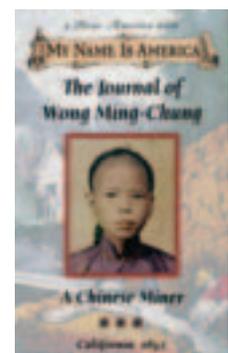


Nonfiction

In the Days of the Vaqueros: America's First True Cowboys by Russell Freedman tracks the origins of the cowboy back to Spanish Mexico in the 1500s. Freedman describes the equipment and techniques that they developed, their migration to California, and the debt that American settlers owed the vaqueros. *The content of this book is related to History–Social Science Standard US8.8.*

Historical Fiction

The Journal of Wong Ming-Chung by Laurence Yep recounts the experiences of a Chinese immigrant, nicknamed "Runt," and his uncle during the California Gold Rush. When it becomes clear that there is no Golden Mountain, they develop other ingenious ways to find opportunity in the United States. *The content of this book is related to History–Social Science Standard US8.8.*



Analyzing Primary Sources



US8.8 Students analyze the divergent paths of the American people in the West from 1800 to the mid-1800s and the challenges they faced.

Going to War With Mexico

The war with Mexico (1846–1848) was supported by President James K. Polk and those who believed in Manifest Destiny. This war was fought to settle the border dispute between the United States and Mexico after Texas declared independence from Mexico. When the Mexican War was over, the United States had gained the vast California and New Mexico territories.

Read the passages on pages 514 and 515 and answer the questions that follow.

Mormons heading west in Conestoga wagon trains ▶



Reader's Dictionary

forbearance (fawr • BAR • uhns):
patience, tolerance, or self control

vindicate (VIHN • duh • KAYT): to free
from blame or guilt

declivity (dih • KLIHV • uht • ee):
a descending slope

lauded (LAWD • ihd): celebrated

extolled (ihk • STOHLd): praised highly

Declaration of War With Mexico

On May 9, 1846, after several Americans were killed by Mexican troops in the borderlands between Texas and Mexico, President James Polk declared to Congress that the United States and Mexico were at war.

The cup of **forbearance** had been exhausted even before the recent information from the frontier of the Del Norte. But now, after reiterated menaces, Mexico has passed the boundary of the United States, has invaded our territory and shed American blood upon the American soil. She has proclaimed that hostilities have commenced, and that the two nations are now at war.

As war exists, and, notwithstanding, all our efforts to avoid it, exists by the act of Mexico herself, we are called upon by

every consideration of duty and patriotism to **vindicate** with decision the honor, the rights, and the interests of our country. . . .

The Oregon Trail

In *The Oregon Trail*, historian Francis Parkman tells of his encounters during an 1845 journey through the West.

When we came to the descent of the broad shallow valley . . . an unlooked for sight awaited us. The stream glistened at the bottom, and along its banks were pitched a multitude of tents, while hundreds of cattle were feeding over the meadows. Bodies of troops, both horse and foot, and long trains of wagons, with men, women, and children, were moving over the opposite ridge and descending the broad **declivity** before us. These were the

Mormon battalion in the service of government, together with a considerable number of Missouri Volunteers. The Mormons were to be paid off in California, and they were allowed to bring with them their families and property. . . . to found, it might be, a Mormon empire in California.

Petition for Justice

The Chinese immigrants who came to California during the Gold Rush suffered much prejudice and violence. Chinese merchant Pun Chi describes the discrimination in a petition for justice from Congress.

When your honorable government threw open the territory of California, the people of other lands were welcomed here to search for gold and to engage in trade. The shipmasters of your respected nation came over to our country, **lauded** the equality of your laws, **extolled** the beauty of your manners and customs, and made it known that your officers and people were extremely cordial toward the Chinese. . . . we trusted in your sincerity. Not deterred by the long voyage, we came here presuming that our arrival would be hailed with cordiality and favor. But, alas! what times

are these! —when former kind relations are forgotten, when we Chinese are viewed like thieves and enemies, when in the administration of justice our testimony is not received, when in the legal collection of the licenses we are injured and plundered, and villains of other nations are encouraged to rob and do violence to us! Our numberless wrongs it is most painful even to recite.



▲ Engraving of Chinese miners in California



Document-Based Questions

Declaration of War With Mexico

1. Who does Polk blame for causing the war?
2. Why does Polk believe the United States should go to war with Mexico?

The Oregon Trail

3. What does Parkman see in the valley that is so surprising?
4. Who was working for the government?

Petition for Justice

5. According to Pun Chi, how did Chinese immigrants expect to be treated in America?

6. What injustices were being committed against the Chinese in California?

Read to Write

7. Suppose the United States still had much unsettled western land, with no claims on it and little government or population. Imagine that you are preparing to move to this new territory. Write a letter to your family explaining your reasons and your plans. Use references to the primary sources you just read. **CA H.11. CA 8WA2.1**

Chapter 11

Assessment

Standard US8.8

Review Content Vocabulary

Use the following vocabulary terms to create a newspaper article in which you describe events in the Southwest during this era.

1. emigrant
2. *Tejano*
3. *empresario*
4. *ranchero*
5. forty-niner

Review the **Main Ideas**

Section 1 • Westward to the Pacific

6. What agreement did the United States and Great Britain reach about the Oregon Territory?
7. What was Manifest Destiny?

Section 2 • Independence for Texas

8. Who was Stephen Austin? What was his role in early Texas history?
9. What was the outcome of the Battle of San Jacinto?

Section 3 • War With Mexico

10. Some Americans believed that annexing California would benefit national security. Why?
11. Identify the two main causes of the United States's war with Mexico.

Section 4 • New Settlers in California and Utah

12. What started the California Gold Rush?
13. Why did Mormons emigrate to Utah?

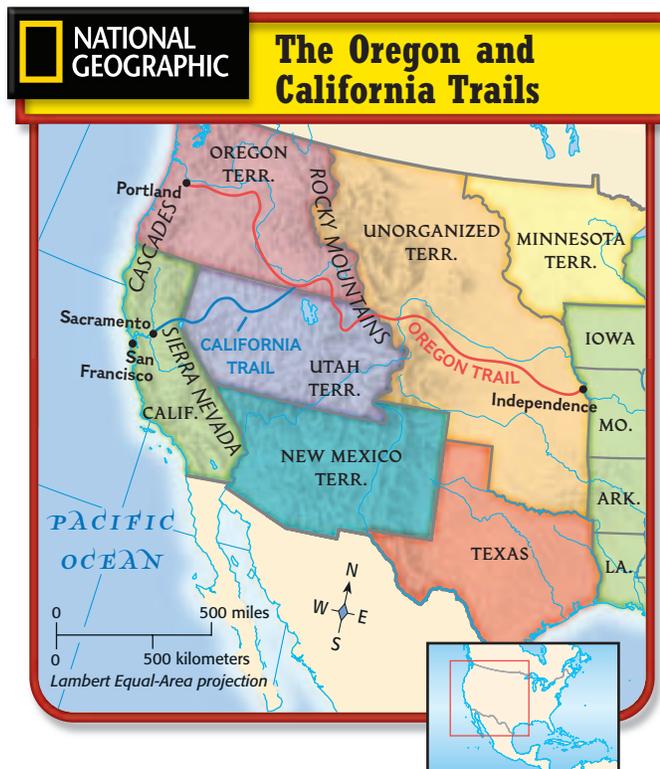
Critical Thinking

14. **Determining Cause and Effect** How did economic troubles in the East affect settlement in the Oregon area? **CA HI.2.**
15. **Conclude** How did the war with Mexico change the U.S. border and its land holdings? **CA CS.3.**

16. **Drawing Conclusions** How do you think the government of Mexico reacted to the American idea of Manifest Destiny? **CA HR.5.**
17. **Compare** How did the negotiations between the United States and Britain over the Oregon Territory differ from those between the United States and Mexico over the Southwest? **CA HI.2.**

Geography Skills

Study the routes of the western trails shown on the map. Then answer the questions that follow. **CA CS.3.**



18. **Region** Which mountains did settlers have to cross to reach Oregon's Pacific coast? California's Pacific coast?
19. **Location** In what city did the Oregon Trail begin? In what city did it end?

Read to Write

20. **The Big Ideas** **Evaluate** How did immigration impact the economy and society of Texas, California, and Utah? Write an essay summarizing your conclusions. **CA 8WS1.1**
21. **Using Your FOLDABLES** Manifest Destiny was a term first used by a reporter in 1845. Was he introducing a new concept for Americans or describing something that settlers had believed since colonial times? Does Manifest Destiny have any modern forms? Explain your conclusions in a short essay. **CA 8WA2.4 CA H13.**

Academic Vocabulary

Choose an academic vocabulary word to complete each sentence.

- range
 - access
 - route
 - vision
22. The United States government was eager to have ___ to the Pacific Ocean.
23. Political leaders had a clear ___ of Manifest Destiny and pursued acquiring new territory for Americans to settle.

Building Citizenship

24. **Analyze** According to the Constitution of the United States, what steps need to be taken in order for new states to enter the Union? Why was Texas admitted by a joint resolution of the Senate rather than by treaty? Explain. **CA H12.**

Reviewing Skills

25. **READING SKILL** **New Vocabulary** Write definitions for the words *emigrant* and *immigrant*. Clearly explain what each term means. Then use each of these words in a sentence. **CA 8RW1.0**

26. **ANALYSIS SKILL** **Predicting** Write a paragraph predicting how Manifest Destiny will affect relationships with Native Americans. **CA H12.**



Standards Practice

Select the best answer for the following questions.

27. **The discovery of gold in California led to which of the following?**
- discovery of gold in the Black Hills of the Dakotas
 - increased western expansion and foreign immigration
 - annexation of California as a slave state
 - war with Mexico over the independence of California
28. **The Mormons immigrated to the West to**
- mine for gold.
 - settle Texas.
 - escape further religious persecution.
 - purchase California from Mexico.
29. **Some Northern leaders opposed admitting Texas to the United States because**
- Texas was part of Mexico.
 - they feared Texas would become a slave state.
 - Texans did not want to join the Union.
 - they feared Texas would become a free state.

The Young Republic

Between 1800 and 1860, the United States grew stronger as it expanded to the Pacific Ocean. At the same time, the North, the South, and the West developed sectional differences that would affect the country's future.

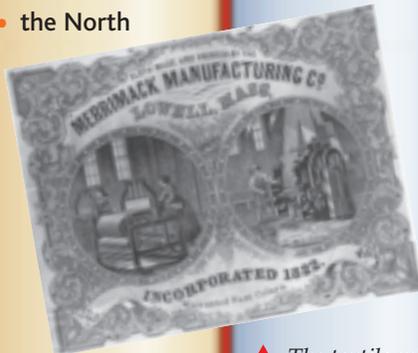


Chapter 8

The Northeast: Building Industry

• 1790–1850

- New England
- the South
- the West
- New York
- the North



▲ The textile mills in Lowell, Massachusetts, employed many young women.

Chapter 9

The South

• 1820–1860

- the South
- Upper South
- Deep South

Chapter 10

The Age of Jackson

• 1815–1848

- the South
- the Northeast
- Georgia
- Alabama
- Mississippi
- Florida
- Indian Territory



◀ Goblet showing Andrew Jackson's log cabin

Chapter 11

Manifest Destiny

• 1819–1858

- Oregon Country
- Texas
- Mexico
- New Mexico Territory
- California
- Utah

When

Where

Chapter 8

The Northeast: Building Industry

Major Events

- **c. 1800** Industrial Revolution
- **1807** Steamboat *Clermont*
- **c. 1820s on** Changes in art and literature
- **1825** Erie Canal
- **1840s–1860s** Millions of new immigrants
- **1848** Seneca Falls Convention



◀ *Erie Canal barrel*

Chapter 9

The South

- **1793** Cotton gin
- **1808** End of importing slaves
- **1830–1860** More severe slave codes
- **1831** Nat Turner's rebellion
- **1840s** Tredegar Iron Works is a leading iron producer
- **1860** South has only one-third of nation's rail lines
- **1860** New Orleans has 168,000 people

Chapter 10

The Age of Jackson

- **1820s** Expansion of voting rights
- **1830** Webster-Hayne Debate
- **1830** Indian Removal Act
- **1832** Nullification Act
- **1832** Veto of National Bank
- **1835–1842** Seminole wars
- **1837** Panic of 1837
- **1838** Trail of Tears

Chapter 11

Manifest Destiny

- **1830–1840s** American settlers in Oregon
- **1835–1836** Texas War for Independence
- **1845** Texas statehood
- **1846–1847** Mexican War
- **1846** Bear Flag Republic
- **1846** Mormons migrate to Utah
- **1848** California gold rush
- **1853** Gadsden Purchase

Some Important People

- Samuel Slater
- Francis Cabot Lowell
- Robert Fulton
- Horace Mann
- Henry David Thoreau
- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
- Elizabeth Cady Stanton
- Susan B. Anthony

- Eli Whitney
- William Gregg
- Joseph Reid Anderson
- Nat Turner
- Harriet Tubman
- Frederick Douglass



◀ *Harriet Tubman*

- Andrew Jackson
- Henry Clay
- John Q. Adams
- John C. Calhoun
- Daniel Webster
- Black Hawk
- Osceola
- Martin Van Buren

- William Henry Harrison
- John Q. Adams
- James Polk
- Henry Clay
- Stephen Austin
- Santa Anna
- Sam Houston
- John Frémont
- Zachary Taylor
- Joseph Smith
- Brigham Young

How do these events and ideas affect our lives today?

- The United States began to emerge as an industrial giant during this period.

- The heritage of discrimination and unequal rights created by slavery still poses problems today.

- Many Native Americans still live on reservations.

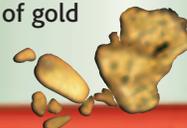
- The United States grew from coast to coast during this period.

What was happening in California at this time?

- **1820s** Beginning of rancho economy
- **1834** Break up of missions starts

- **1846** Bear Flag Revolt

- **1848** Territorial transfer to U.S.
- **1848** Discovery of gold



◀ *Gold nuggets*