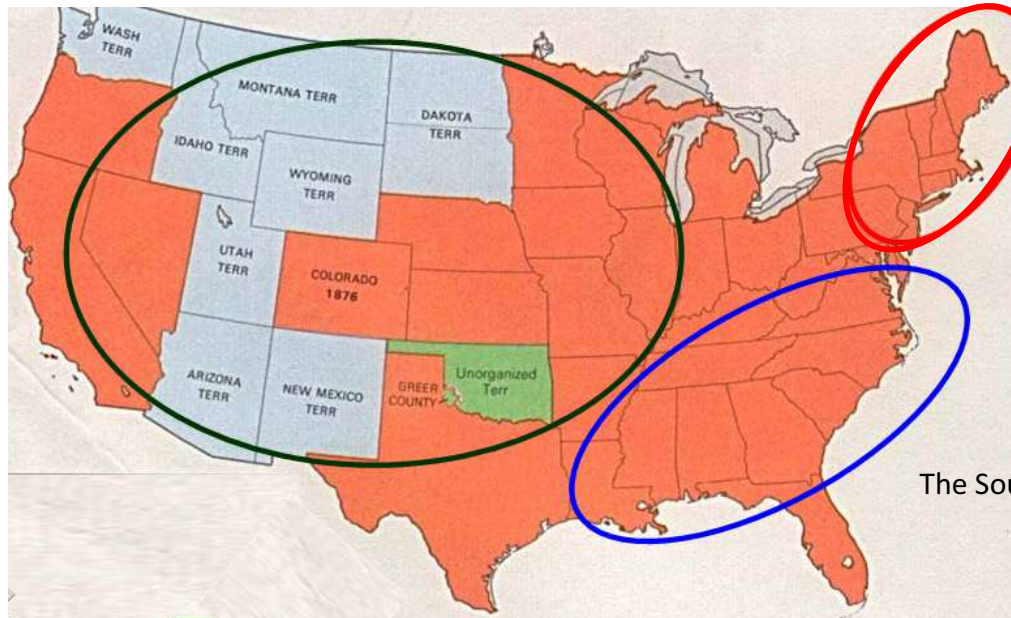


**America in the Gilded Age (1870—1900): The West**

After the Civil War, the U.S. entered an era known as the \_\_\_\_\_ when America experienced rapid changes

The West:



The North:

The South:

**I. Overview of the West**

A. After the Civil War, the area west of the Mississippi River was settled:

1. Miners, ranchers, farmers flooded into the “\_\_\_\_\_” looking for economic opportunities
2. \_\_\_\_\_ railroads connected the country
3. Plains Indians were forced to \_\_\_\_\_ & move to reservations

B. By 1890, the frontier was \_\_\_\_\_

**II. Americans Flooded into the West After the Civil War**

A. \_\_\_\_\_ was the 1<sup>st</sup> magnet to attract settlers to the West:

1. Before the Civil War, miners discovered gold in \_\_\_\_\_, Colorado, & \_\_\_\_\_
2. After the Civil War, miners resumed their migration into the West to find more \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_ were formed in the West; Needed gov’t, law enforcement, & \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_ had the expensive machinery (“\_\_\_\_\_ mining techniques”) to extract most of the gold in the West
5. \_\_\_\_\_ & Latin American immigrants came to find gold; \_\_\_\_\_ led Congress to pass the Chinese \_\_\_\_\_ Act in 1882 which ended Chinese immigration

B. Ranchers & The Cattle Boom

1. After the Civil War, the demand for \_\_\_\_\_ skyrocketed
2. To meet this demand, \_\_\_\_\_ drove Texas longhorns across the open “\_\_\_\_\_” to railroad towns:
  - a. Cattle bought in Texas for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ could be sold for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in Kansas
  - b. Cattle drives created new towns
  - c. Ranchers used the “open range” to \_\_\_\_\_ longhorns during the \_\_\_\_\_ “long drive”
  - d. By 1867, ranchers started using \_\_\_\_\_ to ship cattle to \_\_\_\_\_ cities like Chicago
3. By the 1880s, cattle ranching was difficult because:
  - a. The “open range” was closed as farmers used new \_\_\_\_\_ fencing to close off their farms
  - b. Overgrazing & \_\_\_\_\_ left little grasslands for grazing cattle
  - c. Competition from \_\_\_\_\_ herding

### C. Homesteads & Farmers

1. The U.S. gov't offered \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ to settle the West:
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_ (1862) gave \_\_\_\_\_ acres to citizens who pledged to "improve the land" for at least \_\_\_\_\_ years
  - b. Other gov't acts helped develop western lands by planting trees & building \_\_\_\_\_ systems
  - c. By 1900, \_\_\_\_\_ Americans claimed homesteads
2. Life in the Plains was difficult: There were few \_\_\_\_\_ so homesteaders built \_\_\_\_\_ houses; \_\_\_\_\_ % of homesteaders failed
3. But many homesteaders adapted: Used \_\_\_\_\_ farming techniques; Planted tough varieties of \_\_\_\_\_; Used harvesting machinery
4. \_\_\_\_\_ were \_\_\_\_\_ farmers who moved West to escape crop liens & Jim Crow laws in the South
5. In 1890, the western frontier "closed": There were no more unorganized \_\_\_\_\_ in the West

### D. The Transcontinental Railroad

1. In 1862, Congress authorized the first transcontinental \_\_\_\_\_:
  - a. Union Pacific worked westward from Nebraska (\_\_\_\_\_ laborers); Central Pacific worked eastward from CA (\_\_\_\_\_ immigrants)
  - b. On May 10, \_\_\_\_\_ the 2 tracks met at Promontory Point in Utah
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ gave out \$65 million & millions of acres to railroad companies to \_\_\_\_\_ the East & West coasts with railroads
3. In 1870, railroads developed the 1<sup>st</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

### III. The Plains Indians

#### A. The Plain Indians

1. In 1865, \_\_\_\_\_ of all Indians lived on the Great Plains
2. Their culture was dependent upon the \_\_\_\_\_ & the horse

#### B. America's Indian policy changed:

1. In the 1830s, Indians were moved across the Mississippi River into "one big \_\_\_\_\_"
2. In the 1850s, (due to \_\_\_\_\_), Indians were moved into concentrated reservations
3. In the 1860s, reservations were \_\_\_\_\_ by farmers & miners

#### C. Indians Wars

1. Little Big Horn (1876)
  - a. In 1876, Americans flooded into \_\_\_\_\_ territory in South Dakota when \_\_\_\_\_ was discovered
  - b. The Sioux, led by \_\_\_\_\_, retaliated by ambushing Colonel Custer & all 197 soldiers in the Seventh Cavalry at \_\_\_\_\_
2. Wounded Knee (1890)
  - a. When the U.S. army tried to stop Sioux "\_\_\_\_\_", 200 men, women, & children were slaughtered during the Battle of \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. The Battle of Wounded Knee in 1890 was the last Indian war in American history
3. The final blow to Indian culture came with annihilation of \_\_\_\_\_:
  - a. Began with the construction of the transcontinental RR in 1860s
  - b. From 1872 to 1874, \_\_\_\_\_ buffalo were killed each year

### IV. Conclusions: By 1890, the frontier was closed:

#### A. Miners, ranchers, & farmers flooded West at the expense of \_\_\_\_\_

#### B. But, Westerners began to grow frustrated due to their dependency on Eastern \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, & politicians