

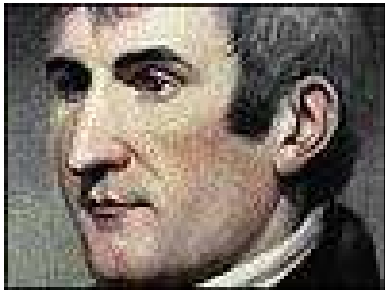
The American West



Transition and Change in
America

The American West

- History of the American West begins with the **Lewis & Clark Expedition.**



- Captain **Meriwether Lewis** leaves Pittsburgh aboard a specially designed keelboat, the **Discovery**, on the first leg of his transcontinental expedition
- At Louisville he is joined by Captain **William Clark!**
- Together **Lewis and Clark** proceed up the Mississippi to Wood River, Illinois, opposite the mouth of the Missouri, where they establish a winter camp



Lewis & Clark Expedition



- 1804- They head up the Missouri River and stop to visit with Daniel Boone
 - They hire a French trader named Charbonneau and his wife Sacagawea.
 - They complement the rest of the 30 man crew.
- 1805 - They reach the Rocky Mountains.
 - The Indians allow them to purchase 30 horses to complete their journey
- 1806 - Return to Washington

Events in THE WEST

1800 - 1820



1818 - 49th Parallel set as the Northern border of Canada and the United States.

1820 - Missouri Compromise : 1 slave state for 1 free state

1821 - Czar Alexander closes Alaska to foreign ships and traders and claims that border extends to 51st Parallel.

1822 - James Monroe warns Russia not to interfere with American interests in Pacific Northwest.

1823 - James Monroe issues the Monroe Doctrine.

1823 - Stephen F. Austin will begin colony of Texas. Agreement says that all colonists become citizens of Mexico.

Events in THE WEST

1820 - 1830



1824- Bureau of Indian Affairs created by Fed. Govt..

- US Army establishes a fort in Oklahoma to monitor Indian movements.

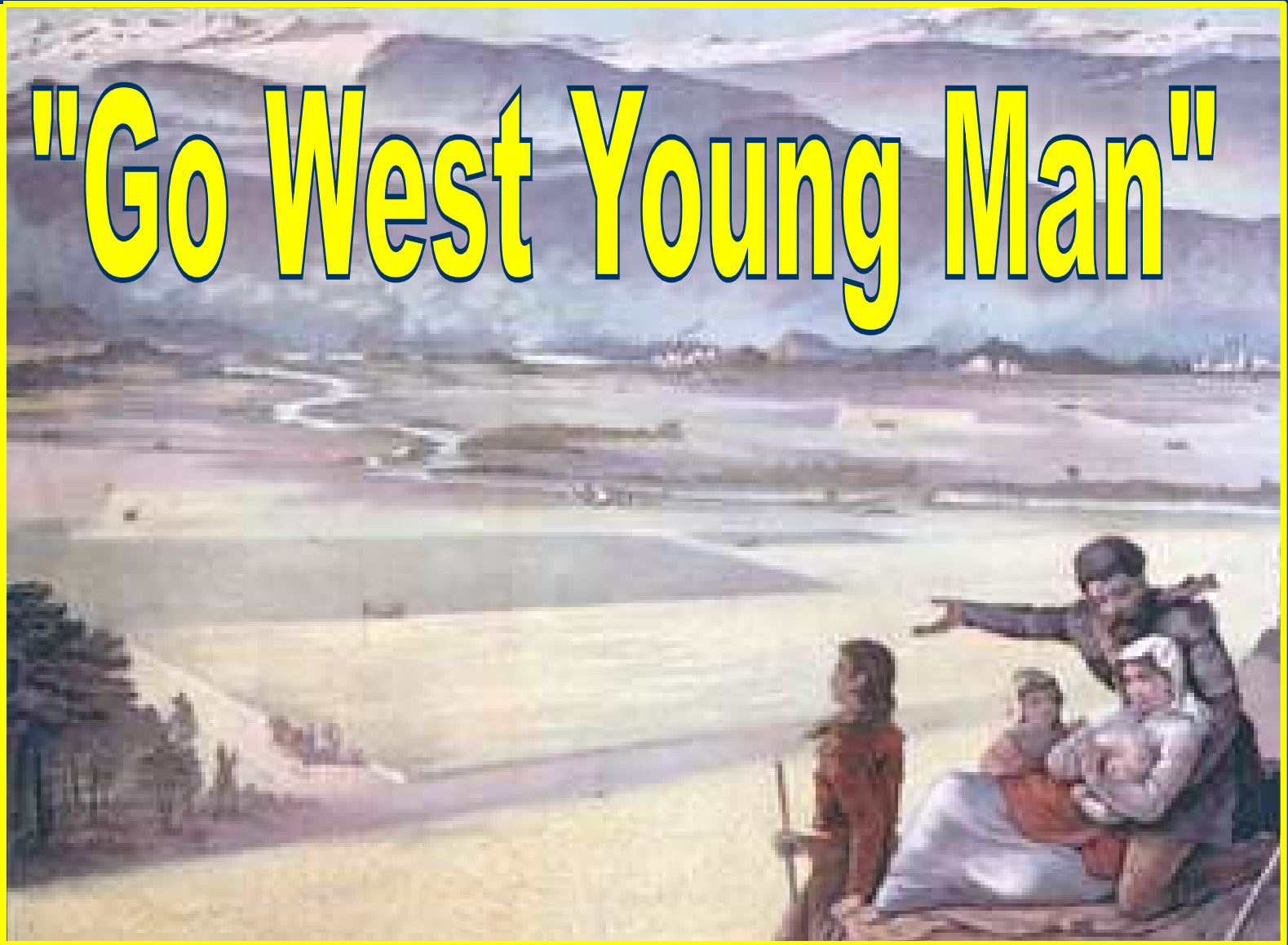
1825- US Govt.. established land exchange policy.

- Indian tribes of the East may trade their lands for those in the West.
- Also says they may establish their own form of Government.

1828- Cherokee Indians refuse to give up their lands in Arkansas and Georgia.

- Will lead to Legislation passed by Congress to rid the country of the “Indian problem”

"Go West Young Man"



Federal Legislation

1830- Pre-Emption Act

- Congress grants settlers the right to purchase (at \$1.25 per acre) **160 acres** of land which they have cultivated for at least **12 months**.
- Offers protection for **Squatters!**

1830- Indian Removal Act

- Authorizes the Federal Government to negotiate with **Eastern Tribes** who wish to exchange their lands for those in the West.
 - Passed by the 21st Congress in order to facilitate the relocation of American Indian tribes living east of the Mississippi River in the United States to lands further west.
 - Signed into law by President Andrew Jackson on May 28, 1830

Cherokee Nation vs State of Georgia

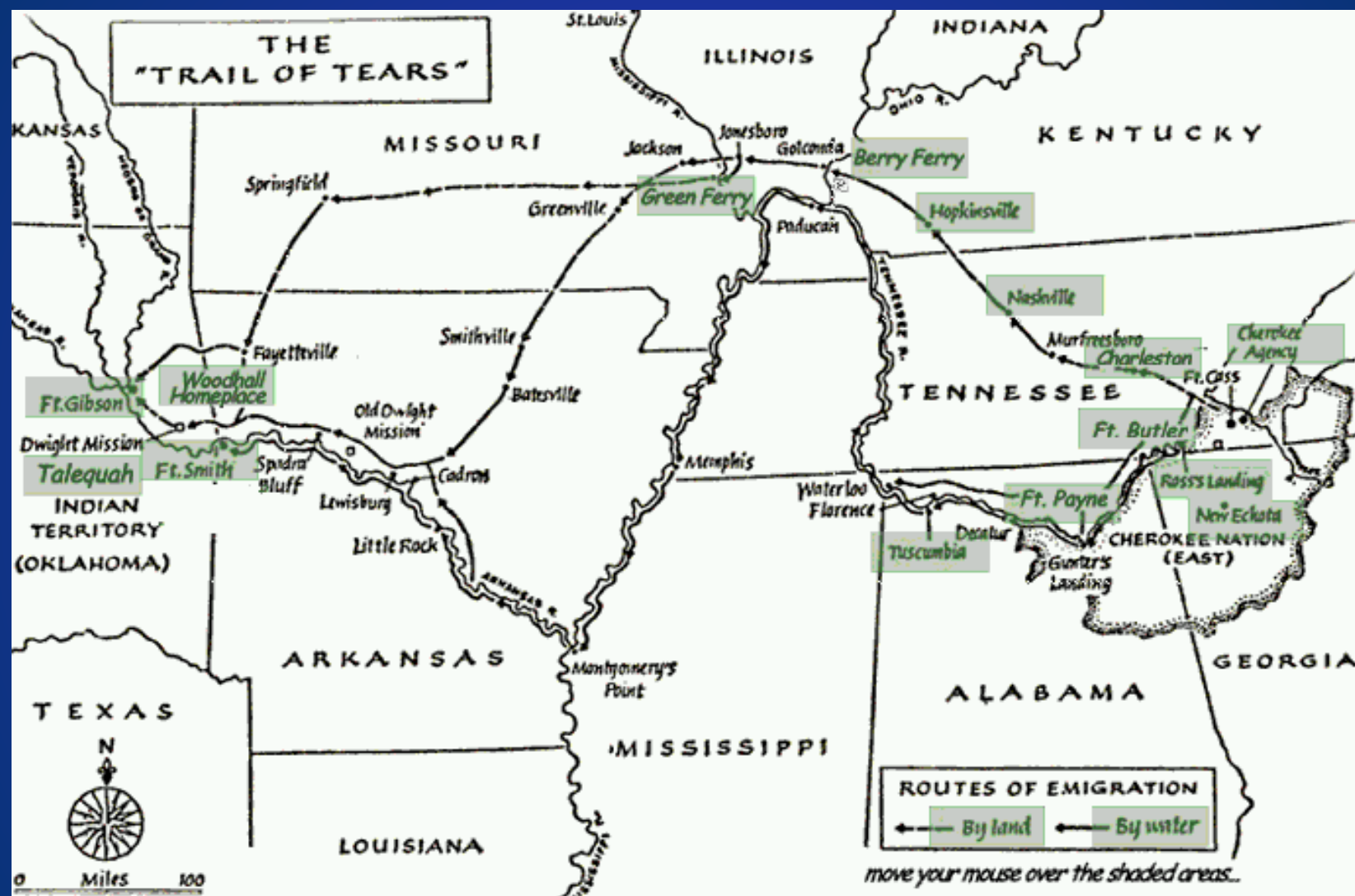


- **1831** - Supreme Court Case
 - John Marshall ruled that Indians have no protection under the Constitution of the United States.
- Marshall ruling states that they "are domestic independent nations" each of which is "a distinct political entity...capable of managing it's own affairs"
- Establishes precedent that they are subject to laws of United States.

Worcester vs State of Georgia



- 1832 Supreme Court Case
 - Court ruled that Federal Government not state has jurisdiction over Indian territories.
- Marshall ruled that they must be treated as “as nations” and that state laws “can have no force” on Indian territories.
- State of Georgia dared US government to enforce the ruling!



Events in THE WEST

1830 - 1840



- 1830**-Jedediah Smith and William Sublette, lead the first wagon train across the Rocky Mountains at South Pass and on to the Upper Wind River.
- The 500-mile journey through Indian country takes about six weeks, proving that even heavily loaded wagons and livestock can travel overland to the Pacific.
 - Joseph Smith publishes the **Book of Mormon** and established the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.
 - **Joseph Smith**, suffering persecution in his native New York, leads his followers to Kirtland, Ohio, where they can build a new Zion

Events in THE WEST

1830 - 1840



1834 - Congress restructures the **Bureau of Indian Affairs** as the Department of Indian Affairs, expanding the agency's responsibilities to include both **regulating trade** with the tribes, as before, and administering the **Indian lands** of the West

1835 - **Seminole Indians** of Florida reject offers of **relocation** from American Government.

– Begins a seven year war in Florida known as the **Seminole Wars**.

1838-Mormon founder **Joseph Smith** leads his persecuted followers to **Missouri**, to settle at a site he calls the **Garden of Eden**, but local opponents force the settlers to flee into Illinois where they establish Nauvoo.

Events in THE WEST

1840 - 1850



1841 - Western Emigration Society leads the first wagon train of pioneers across the Rockies, a party of 69 adults and children who divide into two groups after crossing South Pass.

1842 - Francisco Lopez discovers gold dust in the roots of an onion he dug up for lunch, touching off a local gold rush to San Feliciano Canyon near Los Angeles, but news of the discovery is largely ignored elsewhere.

1843 - Great Migration begins into Oregon.

- Eventually 5,000 cattle and over 100 wagons will prove that you can reach the Pacific through an overland route.

1844 - Mormon leader Joseph Smith and his brother, Hyrum, are killed by a mob at Carthage, Illinois.

- Brigham Young becomes the new head of the church.

Events in THE WEST

1840 - 1850



- 1846** - Driven from Nauvoo by violent mobs, the Mormons head west under the leadership of Brigham Young, travelling with the organization of a military campaign.
- Winter Quarters established near present-day Omaha, Nebraska, despite their preparations, many suffer near starvation and a cholera epidemic claims 600 lives.
 - At Winter Quarters Brigham Young assembles a "Mormon Battalion" of 500 volunteers to fight in the Mexican War, though by the time they reach California early in 1847, the conquest there is complete.
- 1847** -Brigham Young leads an advance party along the Mormon Trail into the Valley of the Great Salt Lake, where they arrive on July 23 to create a safe refuge.

Events in THE WEST

1840 - 1850



1848 - January 24, James Marshall discovers gold on the American River.

- In May, Sam Brannan, a Mormon elder who owns a store near Sutter's Fort, arrives in San Francisco with a bottle of gold dust and a plan to draw potential customers for his supplies.
 - Walking through the streets with the gold dust in his hand, he shouts, "Gold! Gold from the American River!"
 - Brannan's publicity stunt sets off a gold rush that will draw fortune-hunters from around the world.

1849 - 49ers heading for California's gold fields crisscross the country with wagons, supplies and dreams of gold!

- 49ers also come west by ship, sailing around Cape Horn or crossing by canoe and donkey train through the jungles of Panama.
- 800,000 people move Westward by end of the year!

Events in THE WEST

1850 - 1860



1850 - California enters the Union.

- With miners flooding the **hillsides** and devastating the land, **California's Indians** find themselves deprived of their traditional food sources and forced by hunger to raid the **mining towns** and other white settlements.
- Miners retaliate by hunting Indians down and **brutally abusing them.**
- **Indenture Act** established a form of **legal slavery** for the native peoples of the state by allowing whites to declare them vagrant and auction off their services for up to four months.
 - The law also permits whites to **indenture Indian children,** with the permission of a parent or friend, and leads to widespread **kidnapping** of Indian children, who are then sold as "**apprentices.**"

Events in THE WEST

1850 - 1860



- **1850** - Levi Strauss manufactured heavy weight trousers for Gold Miners.
 - Pants are durable and made of twilled cotton cloth!
- Gold Rush into California floods the state with unwanted immigrants and Indians look to retaliate!
 - White miners flood the hillsides and intentionally dam up creeks to pan for Gold!
 - This destroys the natural food sources that Native Americans had survived on for centuries!
- California Legislature - Passed a law which makes enslavement of Native Americans legal.
 - Whites can declare them to be vagrants and auction off their services for up to four months!

Fort Laramie Treaty of 1851



- Lakota, Cheyenne, Arapaho,

Fort Laramie Treaty also promises:

- **\$50,000 per year annual payment by the USA to each tribe. (NEVER PAID!)**
- **All disputes between whites and Indians will be settled by restitution (payment of \$\$\$)**
- **The Chiefs that sign the treaty do not have the authority to do so and the treaty is worthless!**

Events in THE WEST

1850 - 1860



1852- More than **20,000 Chinese immigrants** will enter the United States by years end.

- All but **17** thru **San Francisco**.

1853 - California begins to confine Indian population on harsh **military reservations**.

- 150,000 Native Americans lived there before 1849, by 1870, only 30,000 left!

1853- California and Mexico agree to the **Gadsden Purchase** which gives the US land between Texas and California for \$10 million.

1854- Congress repeals the **Missouri Compromise** of 1820 with the Kansas-Nebraska Act.

- Allows for citizens of state to choose between **Slave** or **Free state**

Events in THE WEST

1850 - 1860



1854 - Republican Party created to oppose slavery and privilege, support railroads, free homesteads and free labor in Western lands.

1855 - The Puget Sound Anti Chinese Congress meets in Seattle, WA to frighten Chinese into leaving the state. Sheriff, Mayor and others rampage through Chinese part of town throwing immigrants out!

1856 - John Brown will lead a raid on Pro Slavery settlers in Kansas and massacre five men.

- In reaction pro slavery forces will rampage through Lawrence, KS and kill one "free soiler"

Events in THE WEST

1850 - 1860



- 1857** - President James Buchanan sends troops into Utah to impose Federal Law on the Mormons.
- Pro-Mormon forces will attack federal troops.
 - Brigham Young vows to fight rather than submit to federal authority.
- Mormon supporters attack a non-Mormon wagon train as it moves through Utah territory.
 - They lure settlers from their wagons and kill all but a few of the children in the party.
- LeCompton Constitution - drafted in Kansas by Pro Slavery supporters.
- Says that Kansas wants slavery!

Events in THE WEST

1860 - 1870



1860 - Pony Express makes its first delivery.

- Mail delivered over 1,900 miles from St. Louis to Sacramento in 11 days.
- Pony Express will only operate for 18 months in the West

1861 - Civil War begins in Fort Sumter, SC.

1862 - Homestead Act passed by Congress.

- People may receive up to 160 acres of unclaimed land and if they stay there for 5 years and make improvements, they get title to it for free!

1863 - Emancipation Proclamation issued by President Lincoln.

1865 - Civil War ends with surrender of Robert E. Lee at Appomattox Courthouse in Virginia.

Events in THE WEST

1860 - 1870



1866 - General Philip Sheridan put in charge of Indian Affairs for the Army.

- “Kill the Buffalo and you kill the Indian”.

1866 - A Lakota War Party lures Army soldiers from Fort Kearny in Wyoming and kills every last man!

1867 - Nebraska enters the Union.

- US purchases Alaska.

1867 - Medicine Lodge treaty signed.

- States that Indian tribes will have their own reservations in Western Oklahoma.
- Govt. promises to establish schools and provide health care.

1868 - 2nd Fort Laramie Treaty signed which ends Indian Wars along the Bozeman Trail in Wyoming.



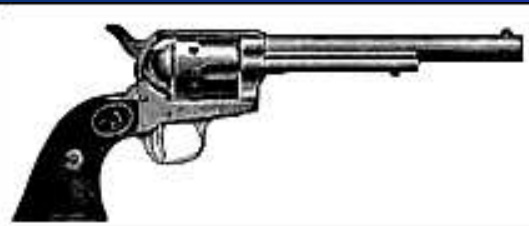
Badmen & Lawmen

“Doc” Holliday



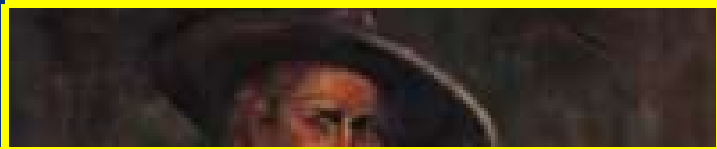
- Born in Georgia 1851.
- Graduate of Dental School 1872.
- Suffered from chronic pulmonary tuberculosis.
- Lived most of his life as a gambler and was involved in a number of gunfights.
- Moved to Tombstone, AZ where he took up with Wyatt Earp.
- Suspected of many stagecoach and train robberies but never proven!
- October 26, 1881 - involved in the famous gunfight at the OK Corral!

Wyatt Earp



- Born Wyatt Berry Strapp Earp in Monmouth, IL in 1848.
- He was appointed constable of Lamar, Missouri in 1871.
- He left town when his wife died of Typhoid.
- He spent some time working for the Union Pacific RR in KS, TX and NM.
- He was a policeman in Wichita, KS and joined up with Bat Masterson and "Doc" Holliday in Dodge City in 1878.
- He and his brothers moved to Tombstone, AZ in 1880.

Wild Bill Hickock



- Born in Illinois in 1837.
- Moved westward in 1856 and worked as a teamster, stagecoach driver and lawman.
- During the Civil War, he was a military scout.
- He supposedly married "Calamity Jane" in 1870.
- He worked his way throughout the West as a lawman and sheriff.
- He accidentally shot one of his own deputies.
- He was killed by a fellow poker player in 1876 in Dakota territory.

BUFFALO BILL'S WILD WEST AND COMPANY'S ROUGH RIDERS OF THE WORLD



Buffalo Bill Cody



- Born in 1846 in Iowa.
- 1859 - he tried his luck in the Pikes Peak Gold Rush.
- Served as a Union Scout during the Civil War.
- Served as a buffalo hunter in 1867 and shot 4,800 buffalo to earn his nickname.
- Became famous for his legendary exploits as a frontiersman and used his fame to create a stage show!
- Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show toured the country for about 25 years until he lost it to creditors.

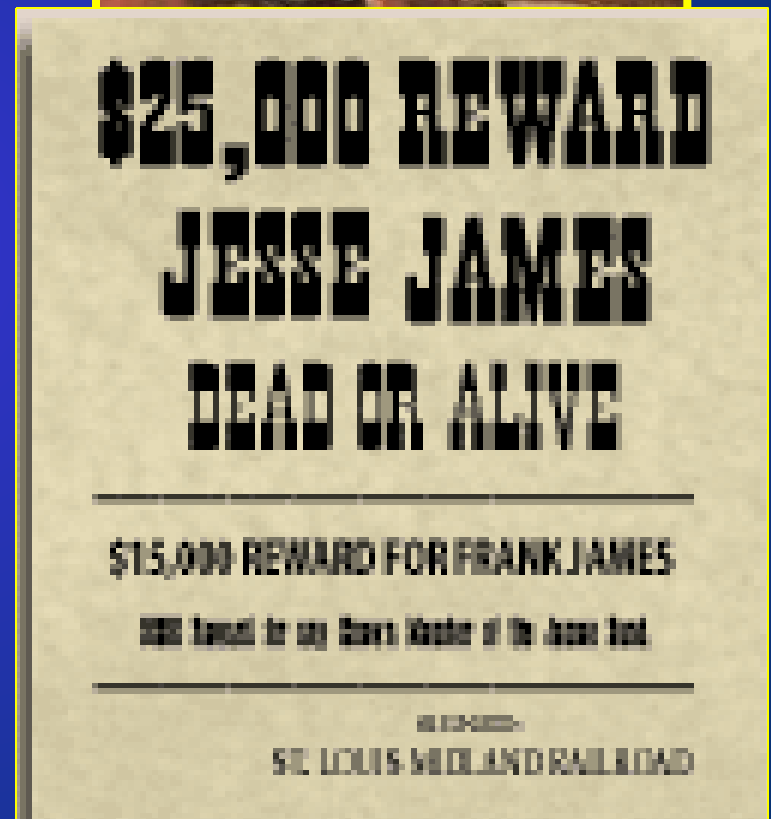
- Born Henry McCarty in 1859 in New York City.
- Moved west in 1873 to New Mexico.
- First crime committed at age of 15.
- Killed his first victim at age of 17 in Silver City, NM.
- He became a "regulator" involved in New Mexico cattle wars.
- He was a cattle rustler from 1879-1880.
- He was shot and killed by Sheriff Pat Garrett in 1881.

Billy the Kid



- Born: September 5, 1847 in Clay County, Missouri
- Died: April 3, 1882 in St. Joseph, Missouri.
- Both he and his brother Frank had long careers as bank robbers and murderers after the Civil War.
- Formed the James Gang with Cole Younger around 1870.
- For about 10 year period, their exploits were glamorized in dime store novels.
- James was killed in 1882 by Robert Ford, a member of his gang.

Jesse James



Butch Cassidy & The Sundance Kid



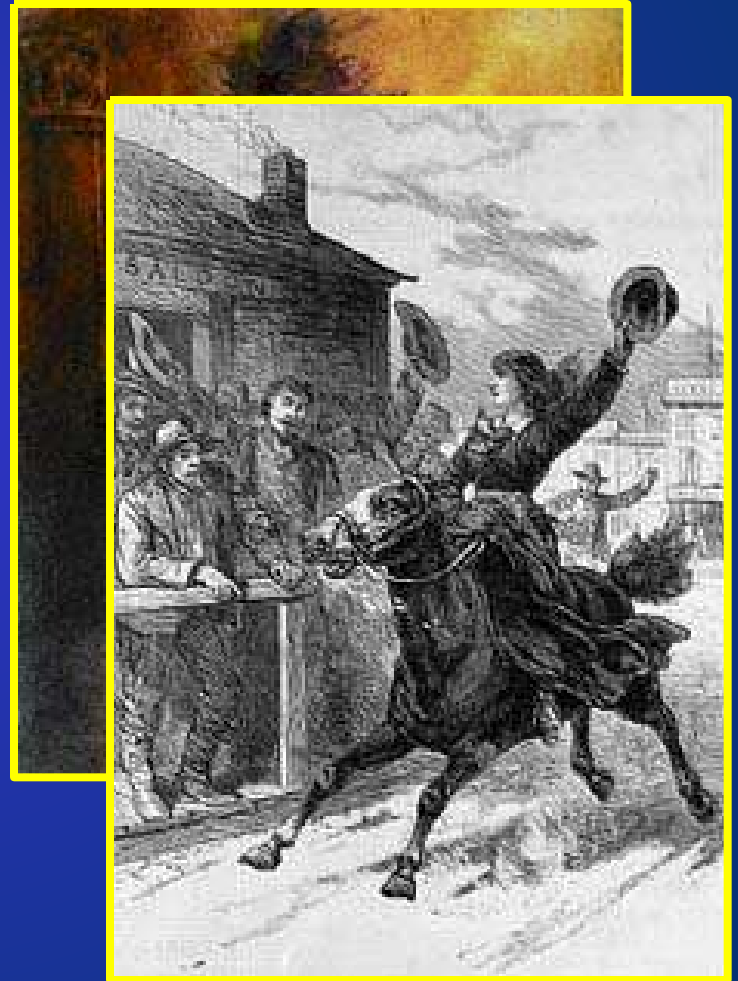
- Robert Leroy Parker (Butch Cassidy) and Harry Longabaugh (The Sundance Kid) were both honest laborers.
- They eventually worked together to form "The Wild Bunch" Gang.
- They robbed and terrorized trains and banks for much of their careers throughout Wyoming, Arizona and New Mexico.
- Legend says that they were killed in Bolivia trying to rob a mine payroll train.
- Many people have claimed to be the duo up to the 1950's but none has ever proven true!



Women of the West

- "Bandit Queen" of the Wild West.
- Born Myra Belle Shirley on a farm in Texas.
- She met up with Cole Younger at the age of 18.
- 1880 she married a Cherokee Indian named Sam Starr and then took the name Belle Starr.
- She helped her first husband rob trains in Texas and California.
- She was later imprisoned in Detroit for stealing horses.
- Ambushed and shot in Indian Territory.

Belle Starr



- Born Martha Jane Canary.
- Numerous tales of how she got her nickname but no one knows for sure.
- She was a tough cookie and dressed like a man, in buckskins.
- By the time she was 18, Jane had been a nurse, a dishwasher, a waitress, a cook and an ox-team driver.
- Had a reputation for being able to handle a man, shoot like a cowboy, skills that took her into Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show where she performed sharpshooting astride her horse.

Calamity Jane



- Born Mary Catherine Elder in Hungary.
- Reported to have been the wife of Doc Holliday, although there are no records of the marriage.
- She traveled with Holliday to Texas, Dodge City, Las Vegas, New Mexico and finally Tombstone, Arizona.
- Rumor is that she saved his life on more than one occasion.

Big Nose Kate

