

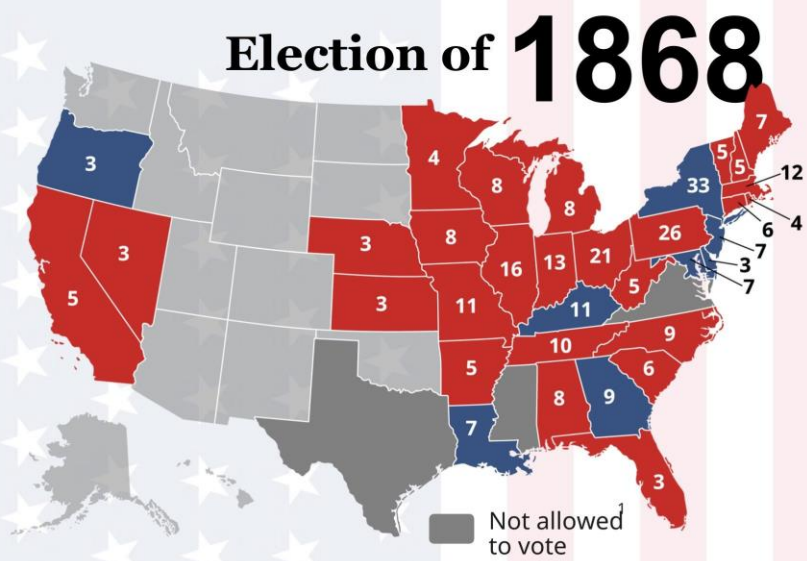
Unbound:
America from the War of 1812
Class 7



“American Progress” by John Gast



Election of 1868



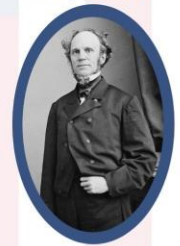
Ulysses S. Grant



Republican

214 electoral votes

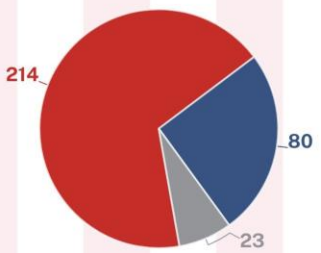
Horatio Seymour



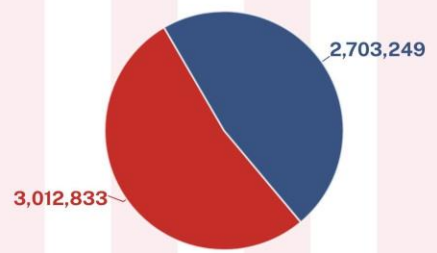
Democratic

80 electoral votes

ELECTORAL VOTE



POPULAR VOTE



FOOTNOTES

Election of 1868

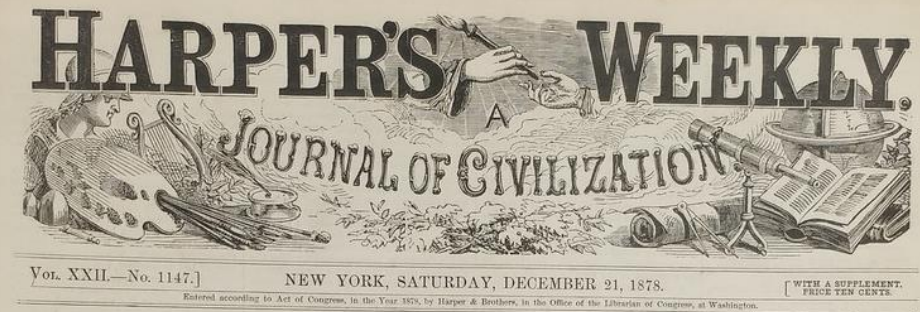
- Grant benefited from votes among newly enfranchised freedmen
- Seymour made racist appeals with criticism of General Grant's Reconstruction policy and his anti-semitic General Order No. 11 during the Civil War. He apologized in a letter for the controversial order, stating "I have no prejudice against sect or race, but want each individual to be judged by his own merit"
- Because three of the former Confederate states (Texas, Mississippi, and Virginia) were not yet restored to the Union, their electors could not vote in the election

Phil Sheridan – Indian Fighter

According to the Kansas Historical Society:

- "President Ulysses S. Grant wanted Sheridan to pacify the Plains Indians, primarily [in response to] the mishandling of the white/Indian conflict by such notables as Major John Chivington and General Winfield Scott Hancock. ...
- Sheridan's ultimate goal was to make the Indians give up their traditional way of life and settle on reservations. His tactic, though bordering on the barbaric, worked."

Carl Schurz and Phil Sheridan pictured in Harper's

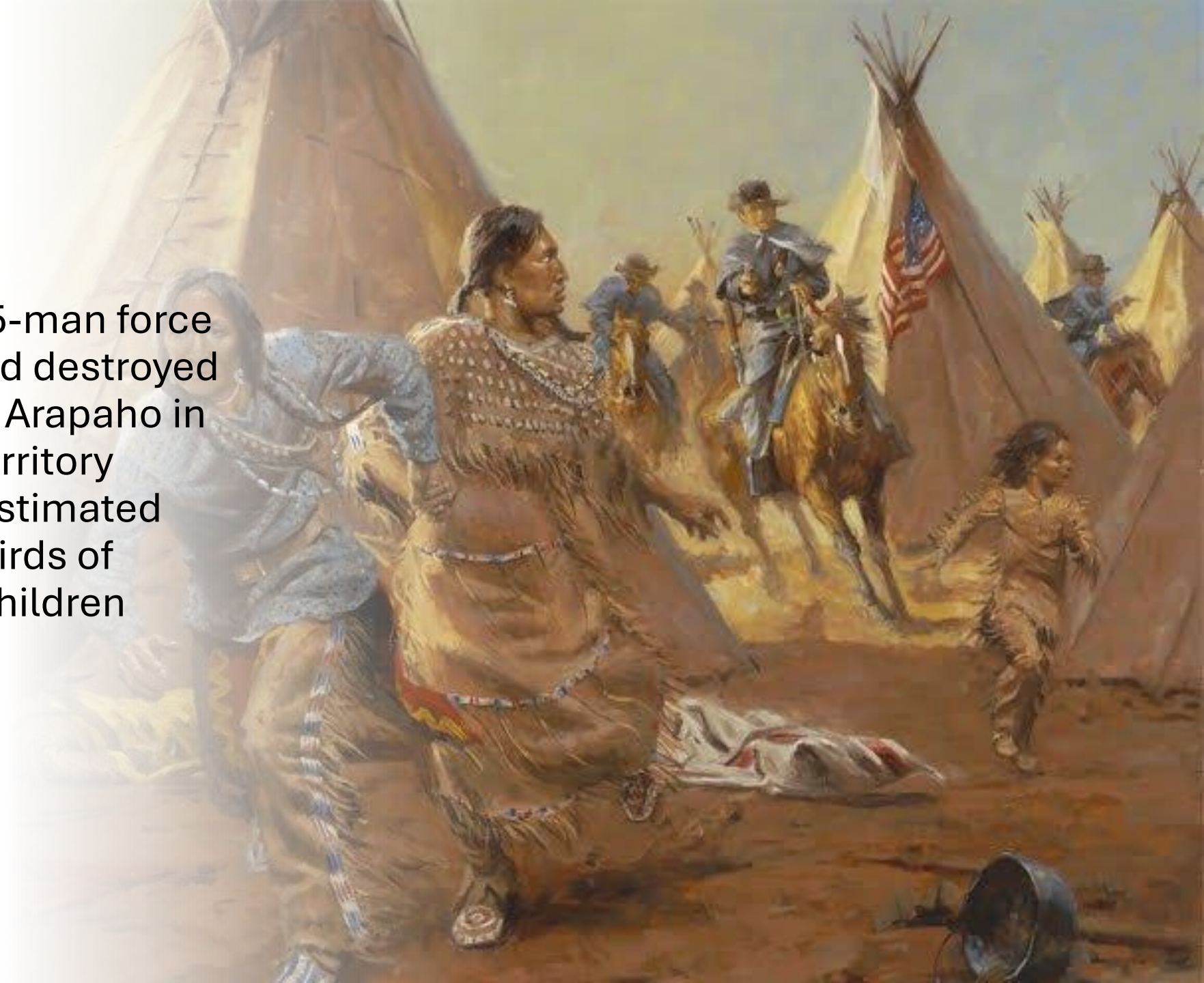


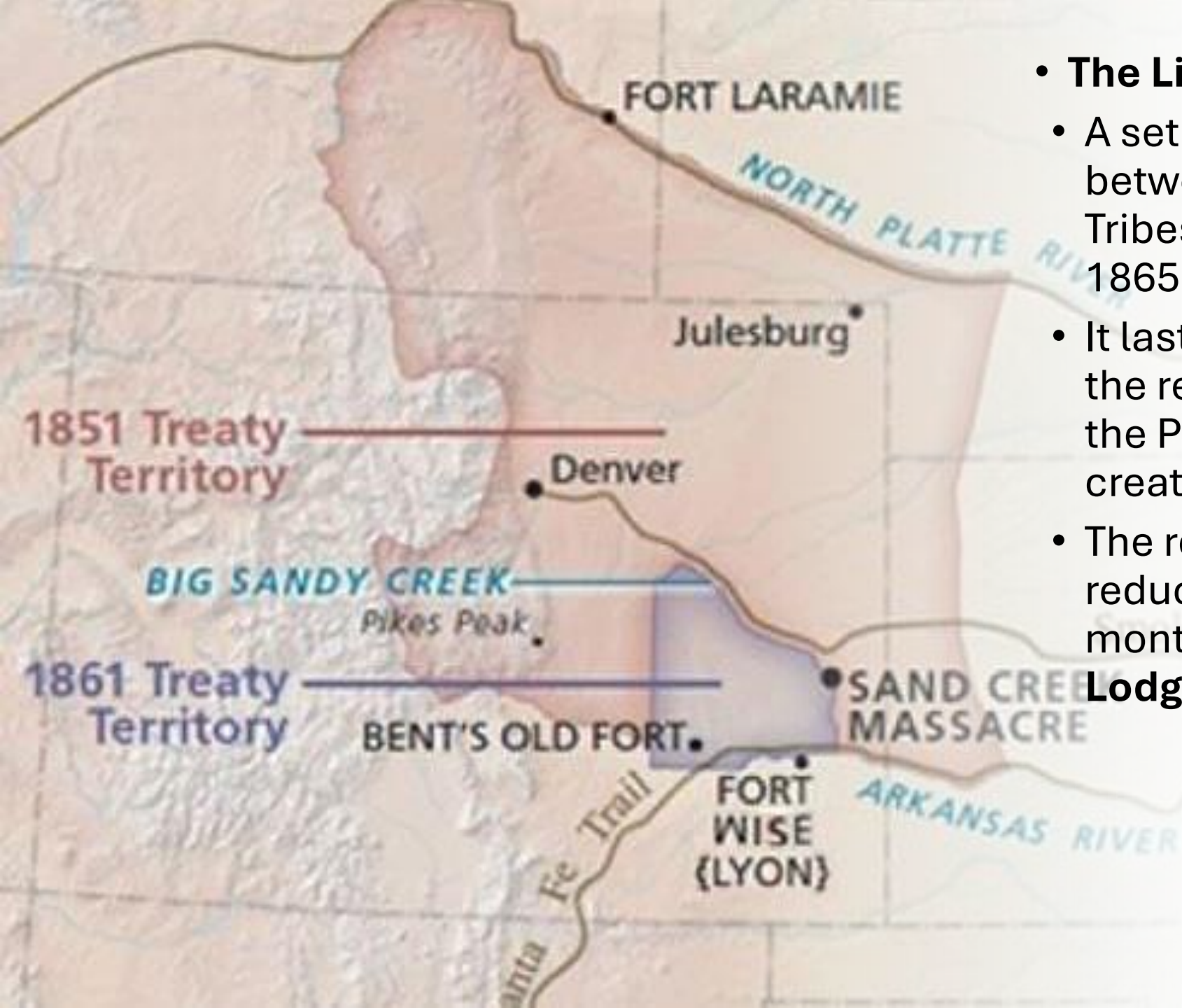
THE NEW INDIAN WAR.
NOW, NO BARBASTIC INSURRECTIONS, BUT LET US HAVE A SQUARE FIGHT.



Sand Creek Massacre

November 29, 1864, a 675-man force of US Cavalry attacked and destroyed a village of Cheyenne and Arapaho in southeastern Colorado Territory killing and mutilating an estimated 150 Indians, about two-thirds of whom were women and children

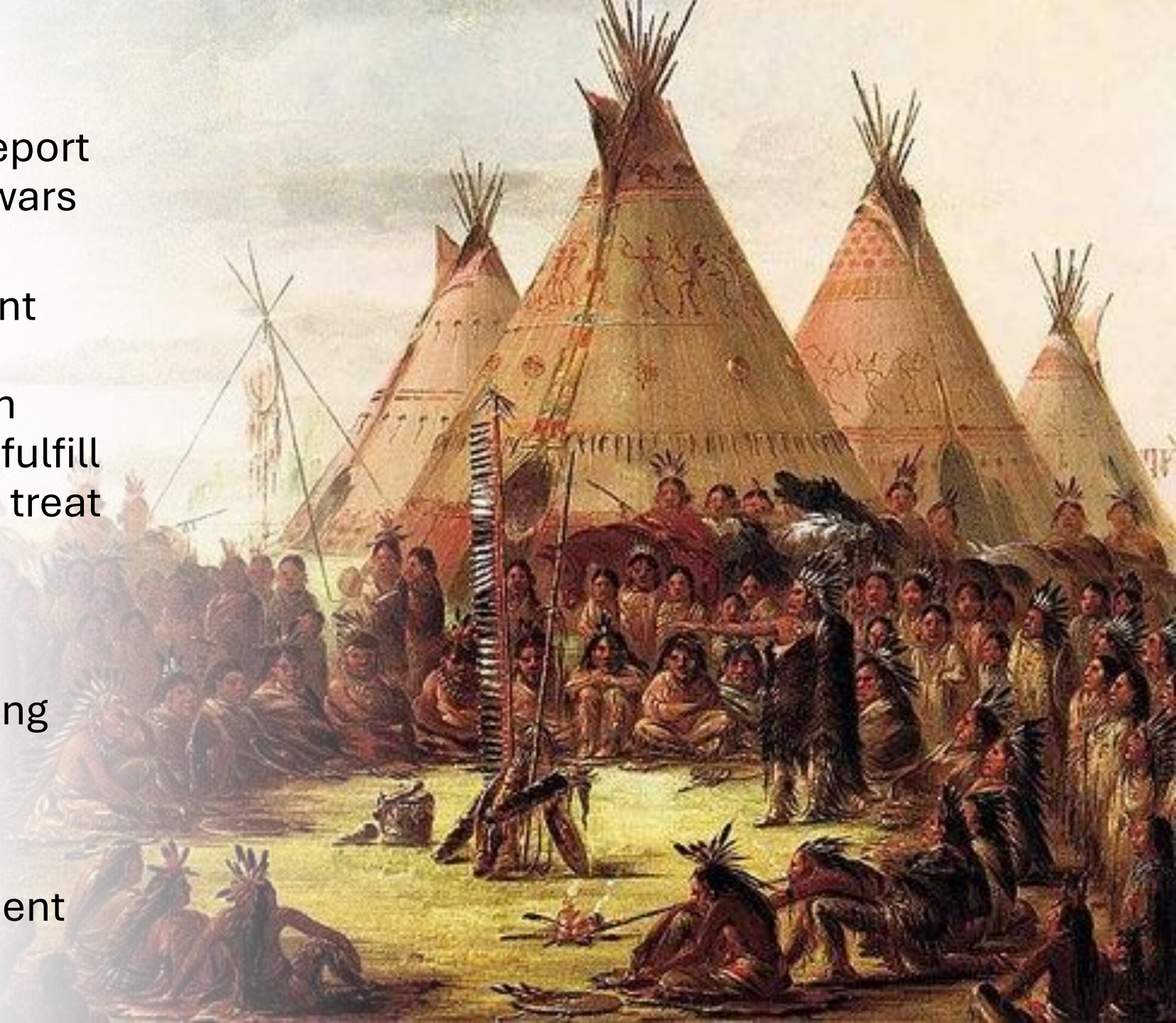




- **The Little Arkansas Treaty**
 - A set of treaties signed between major Plains Indian Tribes in Kansas in October 1865 with the United States
 - It lasted less than two years, the reservations it created for the Plains Indians were never created
 - The reservation area was reduced by 90% eighteen months later in the **Medicine Lodge Treaty**

Medicine Lodge Treaty

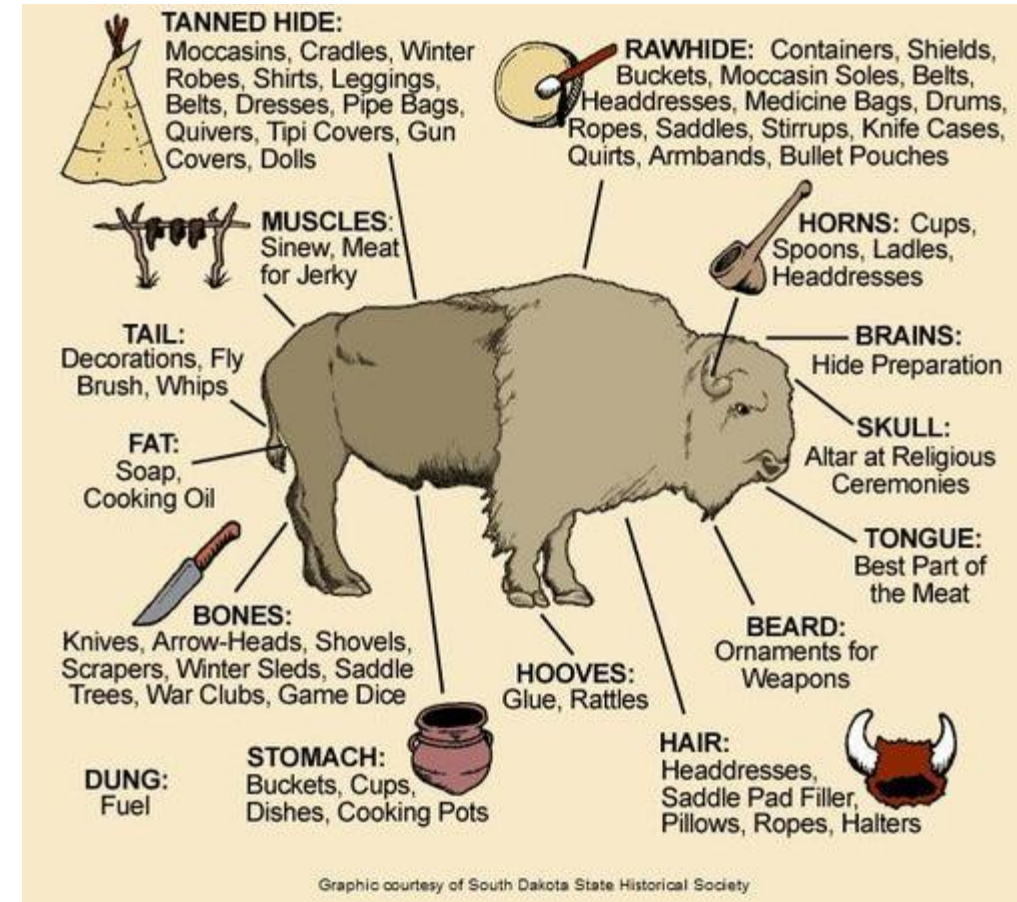
- Indian Peace Commission report of 1868 concluded that the wars had been preventable
- The United States government and its representatives had contributed to the warfare on the Great Plains by failing to fulfill their legal obligations and to treat the Native Americans with honesty.
- Treaty was intended to bring peace to the area by relocating the Native Americans to reservations in Indian Territory and away from European-American settlement

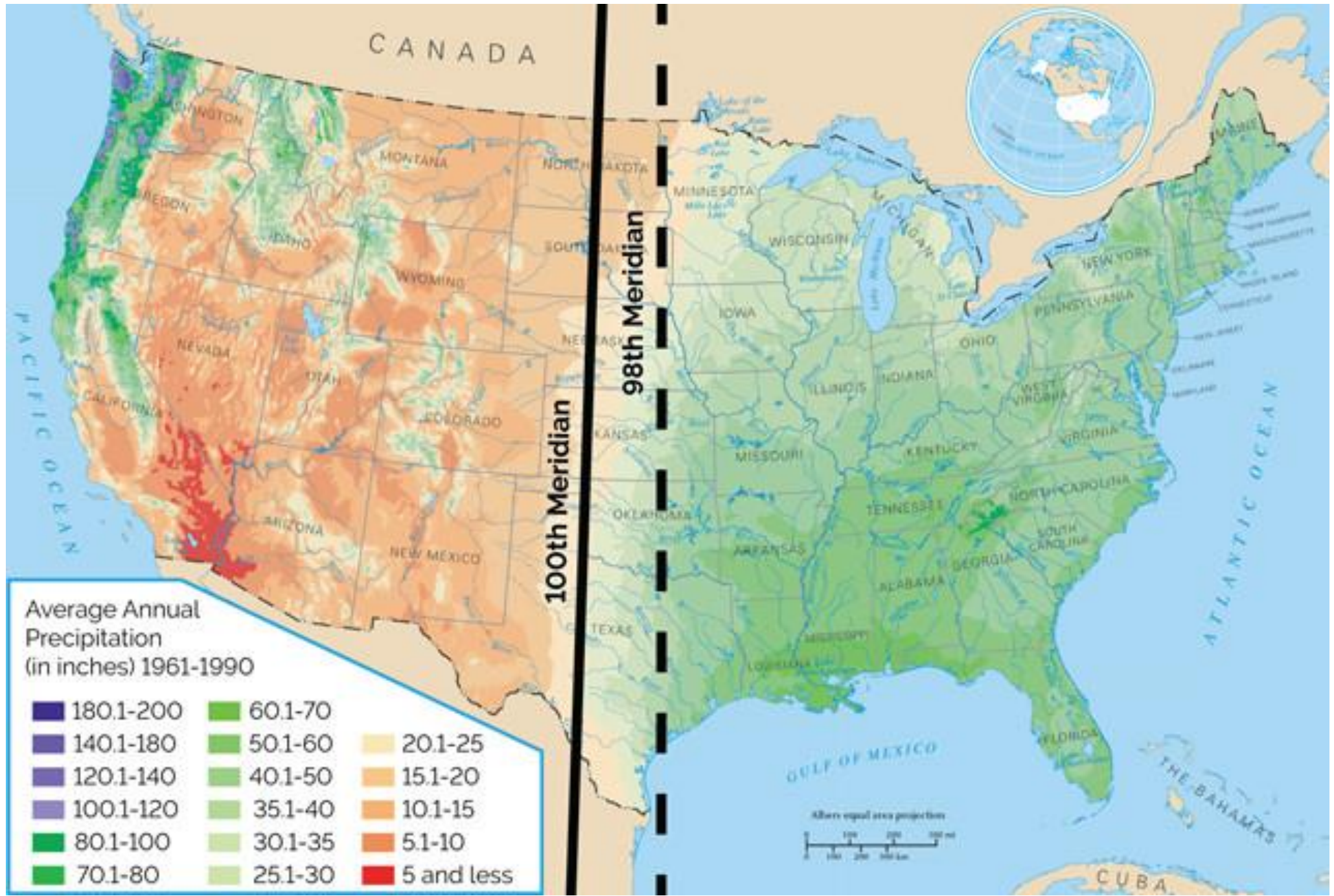




Native Americans and the Colonists

- Native Americans had been swept ever westward by the advance of whites since Colonial Times
- Their successive removal of from the East onto the Great Plains reduced their reliance upon farming for food and more dependent on the bison
- The extermination of the once massive herds drove the remaining rounds of violence with the US Cavalry
- The decimation of the bison had a political purpose. ***With their source of food gone, Indians would be obliged to settle down and accept rations on a federal reservation***







Farming West of the 100th Meridian

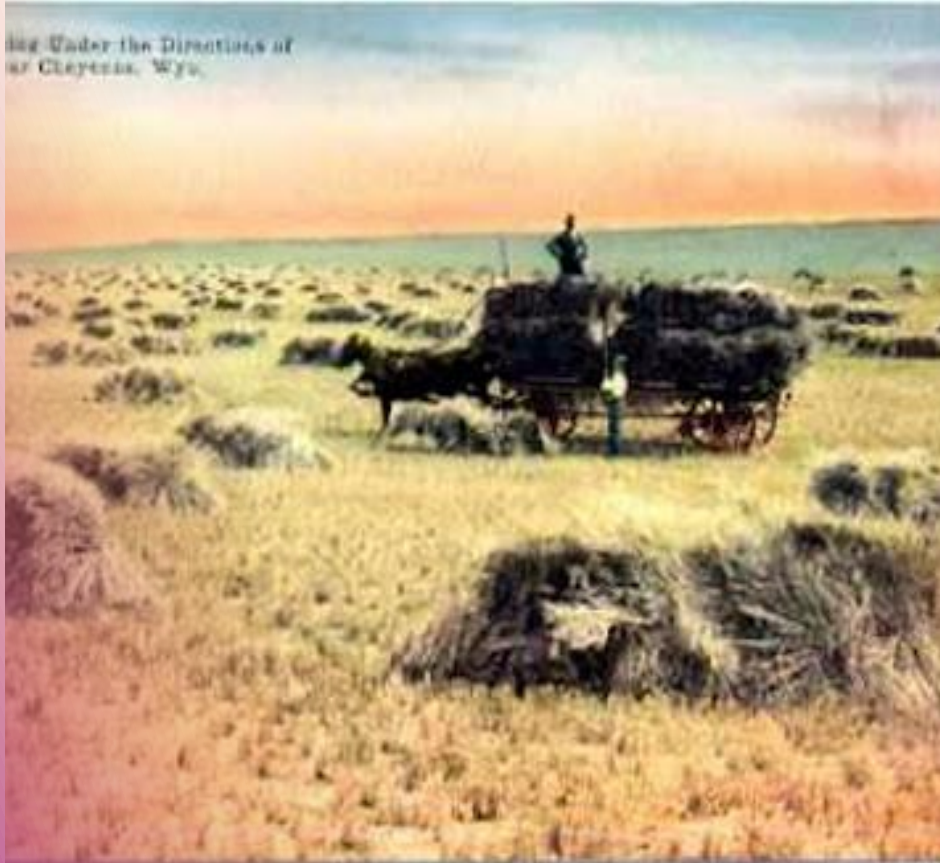
- Farms needed to be much larger than contemplated in the Homestead Act
- Arid Climate: unsuitable for traditional farming methods used in the more humid eastern United States. Settlers, unfamiliar with these arid conditions, often faced crop failures and soil degradation
- Soil Erosion: The removal of native grasses for crop cultivation left the soil exposed and vulnerable to erosion. This was exacerbated during periods of drought, leading to significant soil loss and the infamous Dust Bowl of the 1930s.

Development of Dryland Farming Techniques

- **Deep Plowing:** Turning over the soil to a greater depth helped retain moisture by reducing evaporation
- **Soil Mulching:** Creating a loose layer of soil on the surface acted as a barrier to moisture loss
- **Crop Rotation and Fallowing:** Alternating crops and leaving fields fallow allowed the soil to recover and accumulate moisture
- **Drought-Resistant Crops:** Introducing hardy crop varieties, such as Turkey Red wheat, which were better suited to dry conditions

Dryland farming techniques:

- Enabled the cultivation of vast areas previously deemed unsuitable for agriculture
- Supported the growth of rural communities and stimulated economic development in the Great Plains



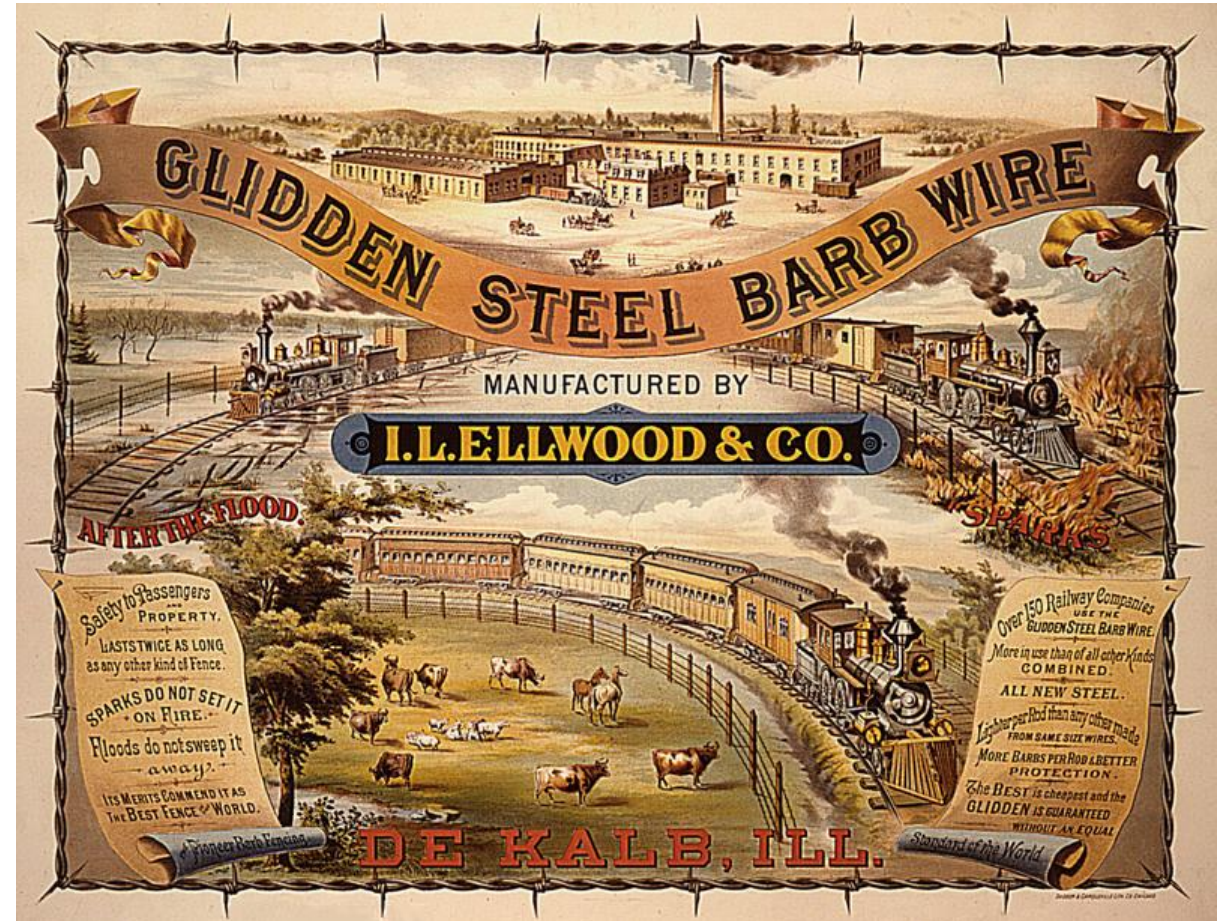
Texas Longhorn Cattle



- Following the Civil War, Texas ranchers drove their abundant Longhorn cattle to newly-established cattle towns such as Abilene, Kansas, in 1867
- These towns served as pivotal railheads where cattle driven from Texas were loaded onto trains bound for eastern markets
- This system seemed to transform cattle ranching into a lucrative industry, with cattle purchased for \$3 to \$5 per head in Texas selling for \$30 to \$50 at railheads
- Growing recognition of the danger tick-borne disease affected other cattle varieties changed stockyard and transport practices
- Bouts of bad weather like the “Big-Die Up” of 1886-87 bankrupted many ranchers and investors

Barbed Wire and The Changing West

- Led to the enclosure of previously open lands, promoting more intensive farming and ranching practices
- This disrupted traditional cattle drives, and led to conflicts known as the “Fence Cutting Wars”
- The widespread use of barbed wire symbolized the taming of the Wild West, representing human control over nature, but also the displacement of Native American tribes, disruption of the migratory patterns of wildlife and the decline of the cowboy era, a cultural icon lasted into Modern Times





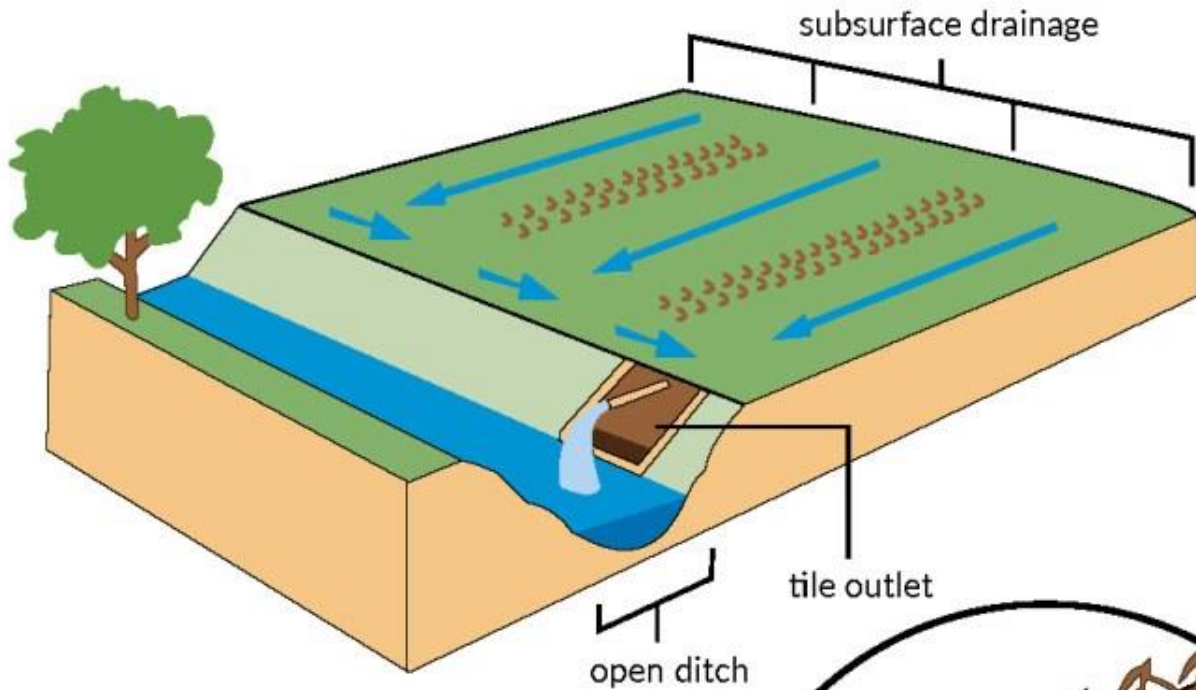
- In the American West of 1881, **Frederic Remington** saw the vast prairies, the quickly shrinking bison herds, the still unfenced cattle, and the last major confrontations of US Cavalry and Native American tribes, scenes he had imagined since his childhood

Conquering the Wetlands

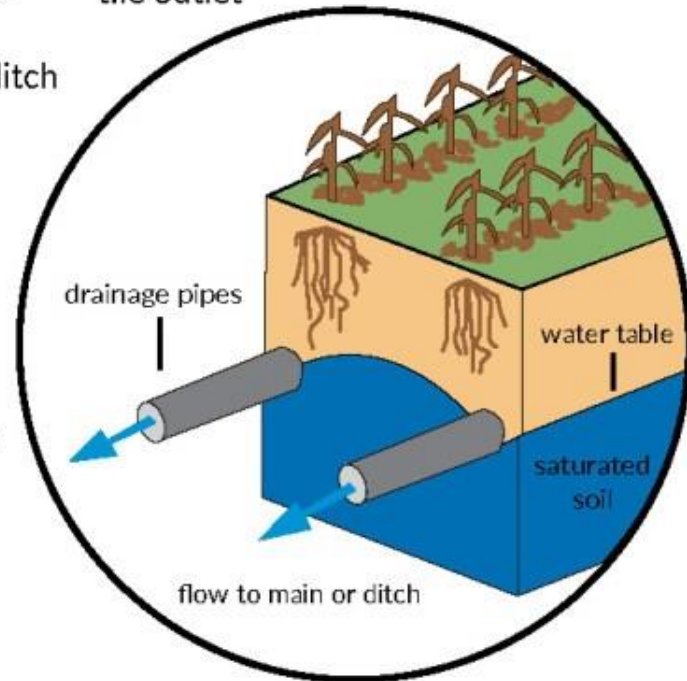
- Malaria and Yellow Fever a hazard in these areas
- The reclamation of wetlands contributed to the growth of the agricultural sector, providing new lands for crops and supporting population growth.
- The Swamp Land Acts transferred millions of acres of “swamp and overflowed lands” to individual states, stipulating that the lands be reclaimed for agricultural use



How drainage tile works



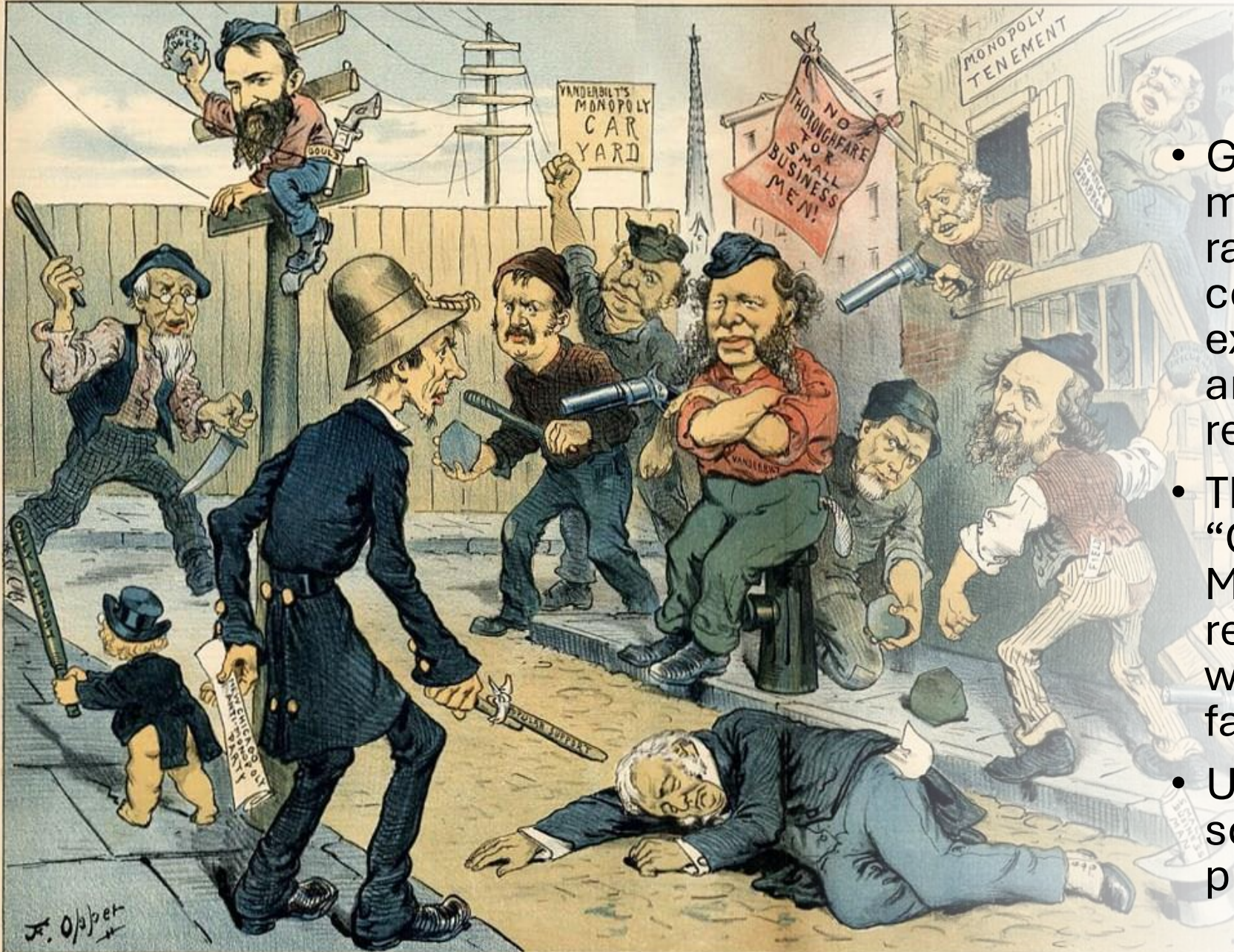
Farmers use subsurface drainage tile to drain excess water from croplands. This keeps crops from becoming waterlogged and increases crop yield. However, the tile can also send excess nutrients and other pollutants into waterways.



- The introduction of drainage tiles in 1838 allowed for systematic removal of excess water from the soil, speeded up by use of steam-driven entrenching machines that could dig a quarter mile of a four-foot wide ditch by 1880s
- The extensive drainage led to significant loss of wetland ecosystems, resulting in habitat destruction, decreased biodiversity, and altered hydrological cycles. This has had lasting effects on water quality and increased vulnerability to flooding
- The transformation of wetlands impacted Indigenous communities who relied on these ecosystems for sustenance and cultural support



- In 1867, Oliver Hudson Kelley, an employee of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, founded the **National Grange**
- His tour of the post-Civil War South revealed widespread agricultural inefficiencies and isolation among farmers
- Grange aspired to be a fraternal organization to promote educational discussions and social interaction among farmers, aiming to improve agricultural practices and reduce rural isolation



Anti-Monopolism and the Grange

- Grange worked against monopolistic practices of railroads and grain elevator companies when they charged exorbitant rates for transporting and storing crops, significantly reducing farmers' profits
- This led to the enactment of the "Granger Laws" in several Midwestern states, which regulated railroad and warehouse rates to protect farmers' interests
- Unions, political parties and social groups adopted positions pro or con towards monopolies

The Anti-Monopolism Movement

- The Populist Party grew from farmers, laborers, and other marginalized groups frustrated by the power of monopolistic corporations, especially railroads and banks, which they felt were manipulating the economy for their own benefit. This dissatisfaction led to increased support for Populist and progressive platforms, which called for more government intervention to limit monopolistic practices.
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- 2. ****Shift Towards Regulation****: Anti-monopolist sentiment helped foster the idea that the government should play a role in regulating the economy to prevent the exploitation of consumers and small businesses. This sentiment eventually led to significant regulatory legislation, including the Interstate Commerce Act (1887) and the Sherman Antitrust Act (1890). These acts were some of the first steps towards government regulation of business practices in the U.S.

