

- Importance of mining
  - By 1859, at least 35k Americans in present Colorado mining gold
  - Leads to problems between Americans and Indians in the vicinity
  - Indians take food from the whites who clearly have too much
  - Governor is pushed on to get the Indians to sign peace treaties
  - First treaty of Fort Leremy
  - Indians get a very small reservation
  - By 1880, largest production of gold is no longer California, but Colorado
- Nov 1864
  - Group of militia put together and put under General Chillington
  - Chillington not such a great officer
  - His men meet a group of Cheyene Indians who have signed the agreement and are flying the American flag
  - He and his men just charge in and kill as many as they can
  - New Treaty
    - \* Helps the Cheyene survive, but the indians give up more land
- A new gold strike in western Montana
  - Federman takes a group
    - \* Gets wiped out completely by an Ambush
    - \* Leads to the second treaty of Fort Leremy
    - \* Establishes the Great Sioux Reservation
- Department of American Indian Affairs
  - Ely Parker
    - \* Indian himself
  - Sets up new system for treaty obligations
- Custer
  - Used to be a Major General
  - Finds a group of Indians on the Washita River
  - Strikes at morning in 1868
- Another gold strike 1872

- South Dakota
- Area regarded as somewhat sacred by the Sioux
- 1874 - An expedition of over 1k people is put together and put under Custer
- Custer leads into black hills area, no problems with Indians
- Mentions that there's gold as well
- Prospectors flooding in
- Indians ask government for help
  - \* Government wants to pressure the Indians to sell the black hills
  - \* They are very reluctant
  - \* Fall/Winter 1875 - Delivers ultimatum
- As spring comes around, the Indians leave the reservation to follow the buffalo
- Custer sent out to find the Indians
- One of his guys says he can just look at the footprints and notices that they're all headed to Little Bighorn
- Custer violates orders and pursues directly instead of swinging south
- Finds many more Indians than expected
- Splits 7th cavalry into 3 parts
- Plans a pincer movement
- Completely fails
- Nobody knows where Custer and the other part is and no help comes
- Indians cross ahead of the retreating Custer and surround him
- Custer loses all of his 211 men
- News arrives on July 4 on the centennial
- Within a year the Indian problem is completely wiped out
- One more significant clash
  - Swings public opinion to help the Indians a bit more
  - Nez Perce Indians in Oregon
  - Had signed a treaty
  - Of course, gold is found in the reservation
  - Prospectors flow in and Nez Perce are pushed to sign away the reservation
  - Refuse and pressure builds
  - New reservation

- Nez Perce decide to run to Canada to join the Sioux under the protection of England
  - Clashes several times with US Army (who did know about the goal of Canada)
- One more shift in policy
  - If the Indians agree to become American citizens then they'll get individual lands out of the reservation
  - Indians bring suits against people
- Schools for Indians
  - Purpose to teach Indians how to be American
  - Many on reservations
  - What happens is that the Indian kids become in between
    - \* Neither Indian or American
    - \* Can't track animals, read skies, speak language, etc
    - \* Leads to large problems
    - \* Alcoholism, etc
  - The news of these schools is spread widely
  - Pictures of Americanized kids disseminated throughout nation
- Indian Revivalism
  - Belief that returning to Indian ways will cause white men to depart
  - Popularized by Indian shamans
  - Ghost Dance
  - Rumor that Ghost Shirts will prevent white man's bullets from hurting you
  - Decision made to arrest Sitting Bull
  - One of his supporters resists
  - Police shoot them and fatally wound Sitting Bull
- Massacre at Wounded Knee 1890
- Comstock Mine
- Cowboys (Cattle industry)
  - Tough life
  - Very little pay
  - Few people work for more than 3 years

- Beef becomes popular
- 1886/1887 Great Die-off / Big Freeze
  - \* Grown now in well tended fields after a large blizzard kills a lot of them
- Land grants to railroads
  - Not granted until built
  - Specific pattern depends on area
  - Also around 1880 time zones begin for standardized timing in order to coordinate trains
  - Also, constructing the railroads requires a lot of manpower
    - \* This is available except for central pacific
    - \* Central pacific recruits Chinese
    - \* A large number of Chinese are encouraged to come to work on the railroad
    - \* A treaty is signed with the Qing dynasty to have the Chinese workers come