Reconstructing the West
Emanual Leutze, Westward the Course of Empire Takes its Way, 1861
The Great Plains
Stephen Long’s “Great American Desert”
Fort Laramie, Wyoming 1831, 1849
Major Conflicts, 1860s-70s

Native Americans in the West: Major Battles and Reservations
Steps to the Sioux War of 1876

- Late 1840s: trails built after gold discovered in CA
- By early 1850s, a flood of settlers move west
- 1851: First Ft. Laramie Treaty:
  1. Recognized Indian “hunting grounds” (borders fuzzy);
  2. US Govt. to supply annuities/food in exchange for right to build roads;
  3. Most northern tribes (10,000 Indians) sign;
- Lt. John Grattan and 30 troopers killed by Brule Sioux, Aug. 1854 near Ft. Laramie (fuss over a lame cow!)
- August 1855: US Army show of force on Oregon Trail under Col. Wm. S. Harney
- 1862: Sioux Uprising, Minnesota
- August 11, 1864: Sand Creek Massacre, near Ft. Lyon, Colorado: Black Kettle attacked by Col. John Chivington’s 3rd Colorado Militia Cavalry; 130 women and children murdered
- July 1866, Red Cloud orders attacks on the Bozeman Trail (forts Reno, Phil Kearney, CF Smith)—Red Cloud’s War
Dakota Leader Little Crow, Minnesota Dakota Uprising, 1862
Col. John Chivington, Black Kettle, Cheyenne (center), Red Cloud, Oglala Sioux
Fetterman Massacre and the Second Fort Laramie Treaty (1866, 1868)

- Dec. 6, 1866, Lt. William Fetterman (Ft. Phil Kearney) and 30 troopers wiped out by 1,000 Lakota when he crossed Lodge Trail Ridge to follow Crazy Horse.
- Red Cloud keeps up pressure in 1867; Crazy Horse attacks Ft. Phil Kearny itself in August.
- 2nd Ft. Laramie Treaty, 1868: Lakota get sovereignty over western half of Wyoming, part of western South Dakota (including Black Hills), and were allowed to roam over an “unceded territory” comprised of eastern Montana and the Yellowstone River drainage (between the Powder and Big Horn Rivers—the “Powder River country”); Bozeman Trail would close. 200 Sioux leaders signed. Annuities for Indians who come onto reservations. 200 Sioux and Cheyenne leaders sign.
- US ARMY mounts winter campaigns (Sheridan).
- George A. Custer leads 7th Cavalry from Ft. Dodge, KS; Washita Massacre (western Oklahoma) Nov. 27, 1868—Black Kettle’s camp destroyed while under flag of peace.
George Armstrong Custer
New Challenges to the Status Quo, Early 1870s

• Surveyors lay beginnings of Northern Pacific transcontinental railroad line as early as 1871; need protection
• 1873 Depression
• 1874 Custer/7th Cavalry expedition into the Black Hills; find gold there
• New policy: move all tribes onto reservations; make war on those refusing to go
Yellowstone River System
"I enclose you a lock of hair taken from the remains [of Custer] which are so precious to you. I also kept a few hairs for myself as having been worn by a man who was my beau ideal of a soldier and an Honorable Gentleman."

—July 28, 1877, A NOTE TO LIBBIE CUSTER FROM MAJOR JOSEPH GREEN TILFORD WHO SHIPPED THE BOY GENERAL'S BODY TO WEST POINT.
Sioux Leaders at the Little Bighorn Battle, June 25, 1876: Sitting Bull, Crazy Horse (?), Gall
Little Big Horn in Art
Reno’s Retreat by Amos Bad Heart Bull
“The Death of Custer,” Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Show
Reconstructed Indians: Carl Schurz, Philip Sheridan, and the Battle of the Departments
Bison Skulls, 1874
“No one is making you do anything you don’t want. I’m just saying we’re all headed for Dodge City and we think you should come along.”
Reconstructed Indians: Henry Dawes
Wounded Knee, Dec. 29, 1890
Florence Frances Palmer, 1866
Useful Sources

**Primary Sources**

DOC] [On the Cattle Trails](cwush.wikispaces.com/.../On+the+Cattle+Trails+Primary+Source.doc]

Progress of the United States Since 1800, from reports of the Bureau of Statistics, Dept. of Commerce, and other sources (packet)


Crazy Horse and Sitting Bull quotes (packet; from various books; some included below)

**Secondary Sources**

Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument, for a good secondary essay on the battle and events leading up to it at: [http://www.nps.gov/libi/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/libi/index.htm)


Kingsley M. Bray, Crazy Horse: A Lakota Life. Norman, University of Oklahoma Press, 2006


Films

Son of the Morning Star, Mike Robe, dir., Republic Pictures, 1991
Dances With Wolves, Kevin Costner, dir., Tig Productions, 1990
Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee, Ives Martineau, dir., HBO Films, 2007

Westward Expansion: Image and reality, a classroom activity based on the 1868 painting/engraving by Florence Frances Palmer T:
http://chnm.gmu.edu/tah-loudoun/blog/psas/westward-expansion-image-and-reality/

Image Websites

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Manifest Destiny in Pictures, 1776-1893 at:
http://tigger.uic.edu/~pbhales/fasi/visuals%20manifest%20destiny.html