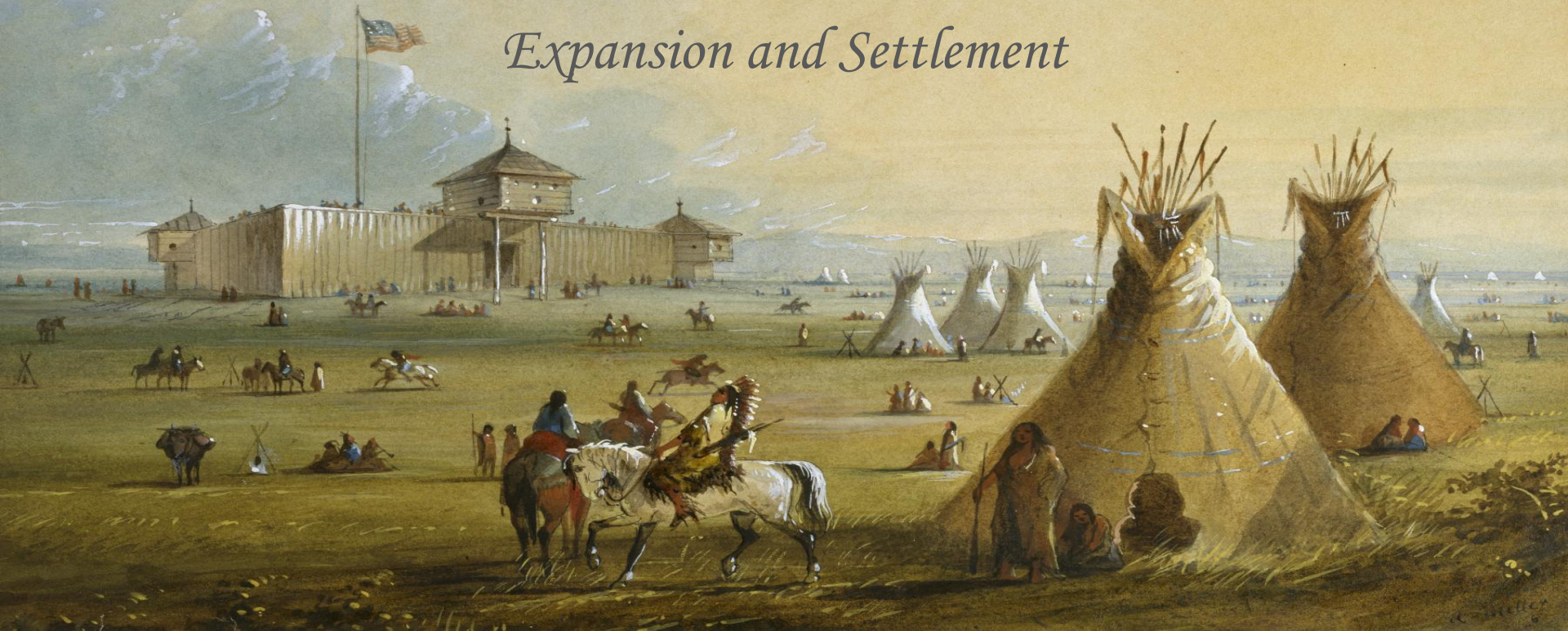


# *The American West*

*Expansion and Settlement*







## *The New Frontier*

*By the end of the Civil War, the U.S. controlled all the lands from the Atlantic to the Pacific.*

*The undeveloped lands included the Great Plains, the Rocky Mountains, the Great Basin and the deserts of the Southwest.*



## *Push and Pull Factor*

*Push factors* are reasons that people leave a place.

*Pull factors* are reasons that people are drawn to a place.

*Both of these are linked to the migration of people in the late 1800s towards the “final frontier”*



## *Push Factors:*

- Religious persecution*
- Ethnic prejudice*
- War*
- Drought*
- poverty*

## *Pull Factors:*

- Hopes for religious freedom*
- Promise of economic opportunity*

*Transcontinental Railroad: 1863 ~ starting with the Union Pacific line, then the Central Pacific Railroad*



# *Railroads ~*

- *Built by Chinese immigrants, Civil War veterans, and freedmen*
- *Completed in May of 1869*
- *Provided stimulus to settle the Great Plains by:*
  - *Making it easier to move and get supplies from the east*
  - *Making it easier for farmers and ranchers to send supplies east*
  - *Sold government land grants to settlers*
  - *Heavily advertising for people to move west*



*American Indians ~ during westward expansion*



# *Relocation of the American Indian*

*1830~ordered removal of all Indians in Southern states to west of the Mississippi River*

*Resulted in the “Trail of Tears” ~ 1/4 of the Cherokee tribe dies on the journey*

*1864-1890 ~ American settlers set their eyes on the Great Plains;*

*Cherokee, Sioux, and Cheyenne tribes are already living on the plains*

*The conflict between settlers and the tribes would result in the “Indian Wars” ~ lasting 25 years, these wars were a series of skirmishes between federal troops (including the Buffalo Soldiers ~ African American troops) and the local tribes*

*The Reservation System ~*

*The federal government promised food, housing, resources, schools, and support to Indians who moved to reservations.*



*However many officials in charge of helping the Indians assimilate to reservation life were corrupt.*

*The tribes were starving and desperate to get off the reservation lands.*

# *Deadly Consequences for the Cheyenne and Plains Indians*

*1851 ~ the Treaty of Fort Laramie is signed with the Cheyenne tribe and they settle on reservation land*

*~ Gold is found*

*1864 ~ Union troops attacked a Cheyenne camp at Sand Creek, despite the white flag soldiers killed more than 100; mostly women and children*

*1870s Extermination of the buffalo ~ the increase in killing for hides and sport decimated the main food source for Plains Indians*



## *Deadly Consequences for the Sioux Indians*

*1862 ~ braves are denied promised supplies and attack settlers in Minnesota. 38 Sioux will be executed*

*1868 - 1875 ~ conflict over the Black Hills begin; sacred grounds for the Sioux; buffalo are being slaughtered to force the tribe to move; gold is found in the B.H.*

*1876 ~ **Sitting Bull** encourages resistance from leaving the sacred lands. **Crazy Horse** and his warriors surround **General Custer** and his men at **Little Big Horn**. Custer and 276 of his men are killed*

*1877 ~ Crazy Horse is captured and killed; the Sioux are forced onto a reservation*

*1890 ~ the Sioux pray to the "Great Spirit" to give them their lands back; fearing a rebellion federal troops massacre the Sioux at **Wounded Knee** - the final battle of the Indian Wars*

# INDIAN LAND FOR SALE

GET A HOME

OF  
YOUR OWN

\*

EASY PAYMENTS



PERFECT TITLE

\*

POSSESSION

WITHIN

THIRTY DAYS

## FINE LANDS IN THE WEST

IRRIGATED  
IRRIGABLE

GRAZING

AGRICULTURAL  
DRY FARMING

IN 1910 THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR SOLD UNDER SEALED BIDS ALLOTTED INDIAN LAND AS FOLLOWS:

Location	Acres	Average Price per Acre	Location	Acres	Average Price per Acre
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## *Cheap land*

*The removal of Indians and the buffalo left huge amounts of land open for settlement. The gov't wanted to encourage settlement with both U.S. citizens and new immigrants coming in from Europe.*

*~Homestead Act of 1862 - promised 160 acres for \$1.65 per acre if farmed for 6 months OR free if farmed for 5 years*

*~ Railroads sold off plots of land*

*~ under pressure from settlers the gov't sells "Indian Territory" (Oklahoma) in the first **land run***

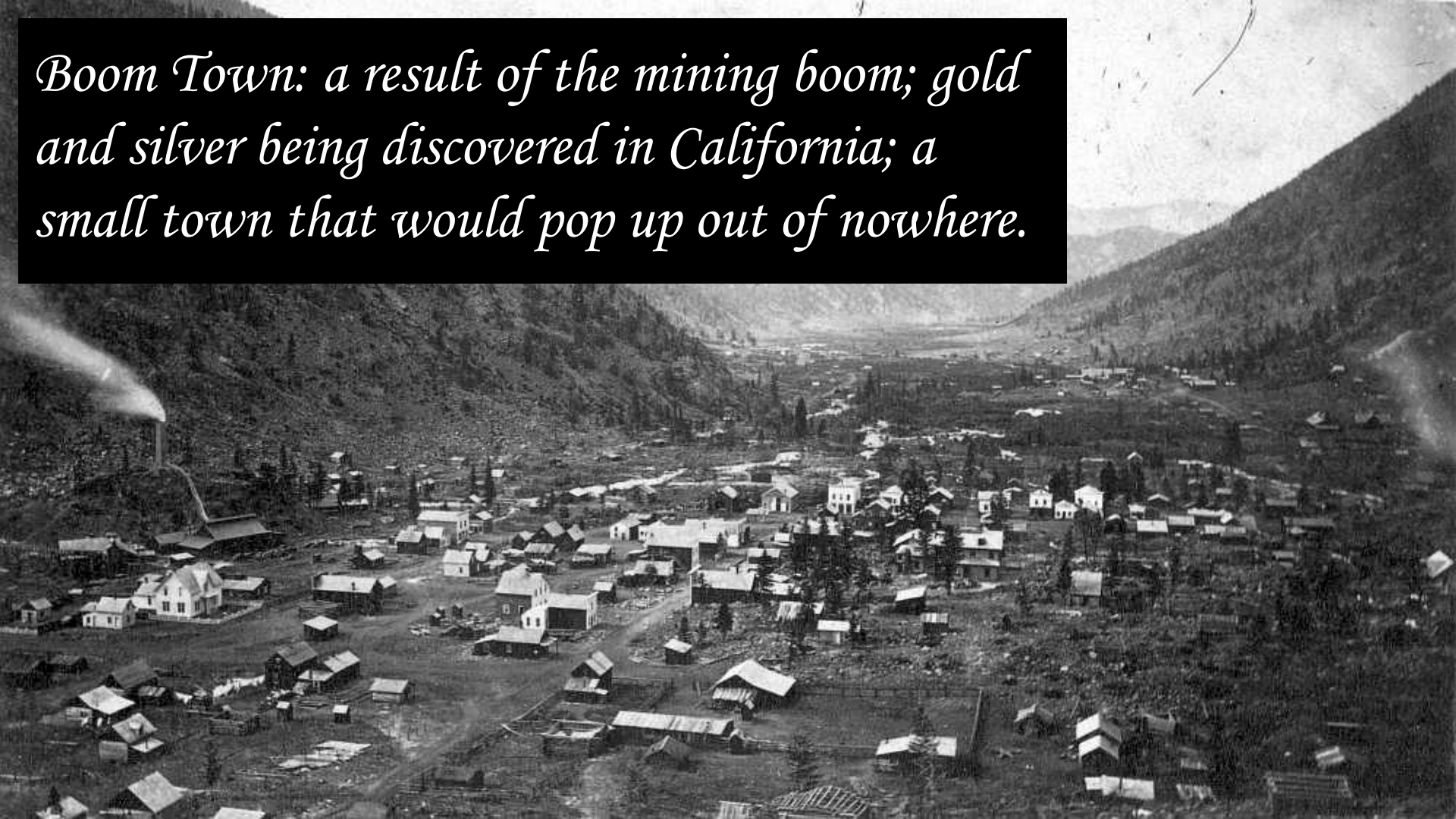


## *Mining Boom*

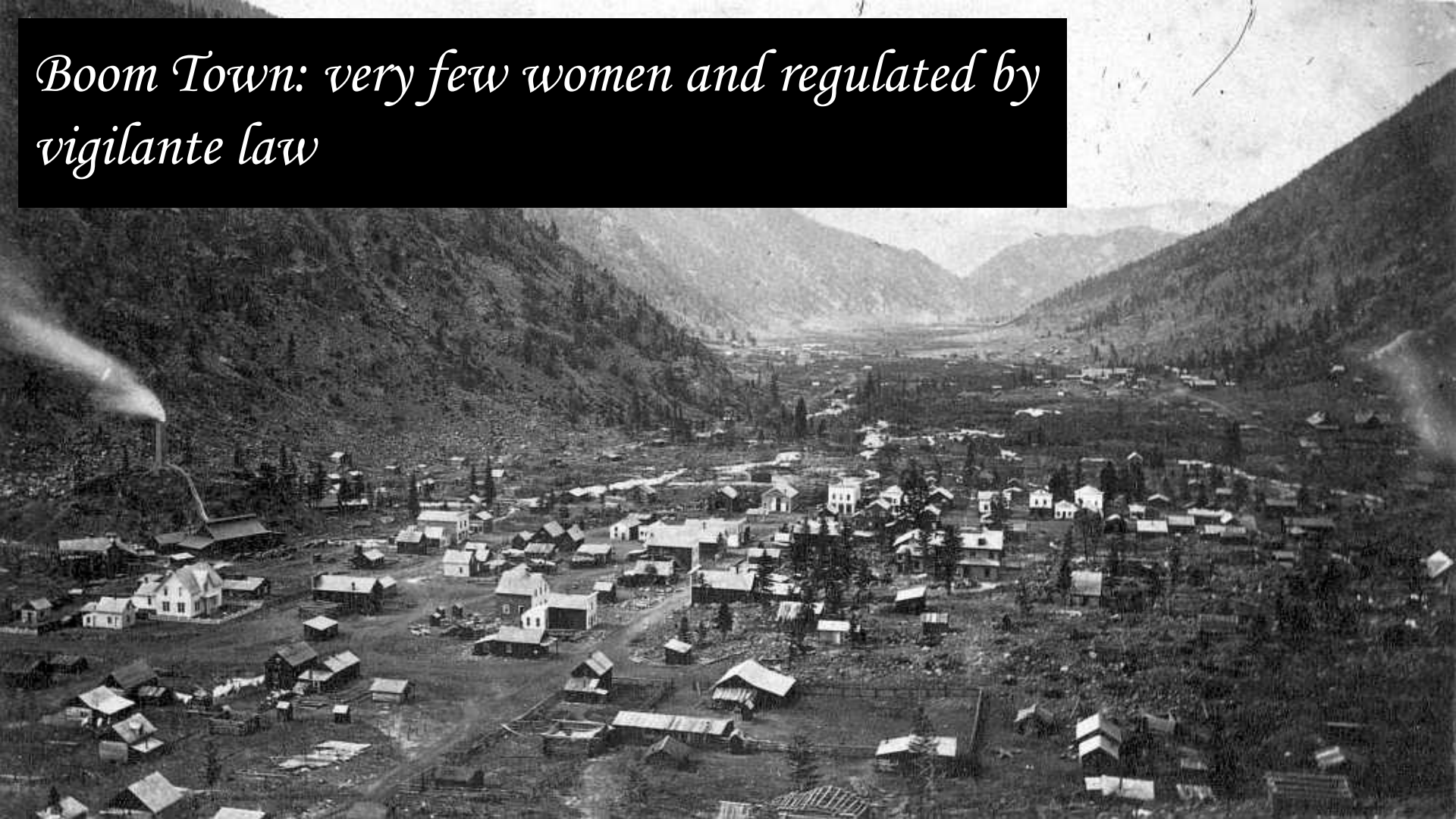
*~ Gold and silver are discovered in California, the Rocky Mountains, and the Black Hills*

*~ thousands of prospectors hoping to strike it rich rush to the area*

*Boom Town: a result of the mining boom; gold and silver being discovered in California; a small town that would pop up out of nowhere.*



*Boom Town: very few women and regulated by vigilante law*





*“Ghost Towns” ~ panning was the main source used to collect gold. Once that stopped working miners would move on as quickly as they had settled; leaving a “ghost town” behind.*





# *The Cattle Kingdom and the Open Range*

*Cattle Kingdom ~ lasted 20 years; long horns were herded from Texas to Kansas where they were then shipped by rail for slaughter*



*Range Stock and Corrals*

*Western Canada Ranching Series No. 18  
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During the cattle boom; **Cowboys** took thousands of head of cattle on a **long drive** across the **open range** (public lands that did not belong to anyone and were not fenced) from Texas to Kansas



Range Stock and Corrals

Western Canada Ranching Series No. 18  
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## *The end of Open Range*



*The end of open range would come with the invention of barbed wire and the desire of cattle ranchers to settle and raise their own herds.*



# *The Farming Frontier*



*Farming ~ was not easy on the Great Plains; they faced challenges with both the Indians and cattlemen in the west*

<i>Obstacle</i>	<i>Solution</i>
<i>Remoteness of markets</i>	<i>Railroads</i>
<i>Lack of wood, clay or rock to build homes</i>	<i>“Sod houses”</i>
<i>Lack of wood for fences</i>	<i>1874 ~ barbed wire is invented</i>
<i>Lack of rainfall</i>	<i>Used drilling equipment to dig wells, windmills</i>
<i>Tough, dry soil</i>	<i>Steel or chilled-iron plows were used to plow deeper</i>
<i>Lack of fuel</i>	<i>Buffalo chips</i>
<i>Lack of manpower</i>	<i>Machinery - horse drawn equipment to harvest and prepare the land</i>

# *Americanization and the Dawes Act*

*In an effort to assimilate Indians into American culture it is decided that owning property might help them join “mainstream” society.*

*The gov’t proposes the Dawes Act 1887~*

*~ each male Indian was permitted to claim 160 acres on the reservation; those who took the land would become U.S. citizens and have the right to vote*

*Failures of the Dawes Act:*

*~ it challenged Indian culture*

*~ did nothing to help economic hardships*

*~ led to the sell off of reservation lands by Native Americans for money to survive*