Mining	Railroads	Farming/Homesteading
• Gold discovered, 1848 • Gold Rush, 1849 • Attracted by huge $ to be made • Other businesses came to support miners (meals, rooms, laundry, supplies, etc.) • Very few got rich • Expensive to extract ore • Caused CA's population to grow • Lawlessness in mining camps & boomtowns (gambling, violence, murder drunkenness, theft, poor diet, disease) • Development of vigilantes (self-appointed law enforcers) • Mining in CA, MT, ID, CO, SD, AK, NV, AZ • Boomtown: Mining camp that grew when services came in • Ghost town: boomtown that was abandoned when ore ran out • Many more immigrants • New states, towns; rapid population growth; areas organized into territories • Comstock Lode: gold & silver in NV, $300 million	• Need to transport what was produced far away • Lincoln authorized Transcontinental Railroad on July 1, 1863 • Used land & money to pay for it • Omaha, NE to Sacramento, CA; 2,000 miles • Led to many settlements; thousands of new towns • Immigrant labor (Chinese, Irish) • Civil War vets, Freedmen • Obstacles: Sierra Nevada Mtns, Donner Pass, avalanches • 10 inches a day in mtns, 6 miles a day in plains • deadly; use of nitroglycerin • finished May 10, 1869; met in Promontory, UT • a 6 month trip by wagon was reduced to a 6 day trip by RR; had been 18,000 miles by ship • 5 RR lines • development of time zones (1883) • RR largest employer: 1,000,000+ • 200,000 miles of track by end of 19th century (?) • shipped buffalo hide, gold, silver, timber, wheat, meat, etc. • led to catalog shopping	• 40,000 settlers to NE; by 1892, ½ went back • ¼ of settlers were women and Freedmen ("Exodusters") • Homestead Act of 1862: 160 acres of free land for a $10 filing fee, had to stay on land for 5 years • 10% of US was given away to "homesteaders" • Problem: not enough acreage to support a family during tough times or make a profit • Obstacles: many settlers not used to farming (it was different and difficult), they were unprepared, unfamiliar with the needs of wheat, weather issues: extreme heat, cold, drought, wind (storms, tornadoes—400/year); • Locusts (3 trillion, swarm ½ mile high; 100 miles wide; 1,000 miles long); later, extinct • Lived in mud huts or sod houses • Known as "sodbusters" (sod was grass with roots tangled in soil) • US eventually produced 50 million tons of wheat • Problems with cattle trampling

Native Americans	Immigration	Ranching/Cowboys
• 30 years of wars; conflict over controlling land • Indian dependence on buffalo • white settlers hunted buffalo so much that Indians were threatened • 30,000,000 → 85 (1889) • RR took millions of acres of NA hunting ground • 371 treaties, most broken • outnumbered, outgunned • suffered from misperceptions • solution was seen as keeping whites and NAs separate • Fort Laramie treaty: 1851, convinced native people to stop following buffalo and settle permanently with gov't promise to protect their land; 1859, settlers moved onto Colorado land for gold • Sand Creek Massacre (1864): After new treaty attempted to move Indians off Colorado land, some native people resisted. Army-protected Indiansraised white flag but were attacked anyway. 100-150 died. • Dawes Act: Gave Native Americans 160 acres to farm, set up assimilation schools. Land often lost to dishonest white settlers. • Battle of Little Big Horn: Custer attempted to forcibly put Sioux on reservation; all 266 of Custer's men (and he himself) died (only US Army survivor is a horse named Comanche) • Nez Perces: a band that resisted, traveling 1300 miles in 75 days trying to get to Canada • Wounded Knee: (Wounded Knee Creek, SD) As Sioux were surrendering, a shot rang out and soldiers opened fire. 200 Sioux died, 30 soldiers. Last major conflict. Dec 29, 1890 • Crazy Horse: Sioux, Little Big Horn • Sitting Bull: Sioux, Little Big Horn, performer in Buffalo Bill Cody's Wild West Show • Geronimo: Apache resister • Chief Joseph: Nez Perce • Buffalo soldiers: what Native Americans called African-American soldiers • Reservations: land set aside for Native Americans to live on; unwanted land • Dependence on gov't when forced onto reservations • "The only good Indian is a dead Indian" Philip Sheridan, former Union general	• Came for economic and political reasons (lack of ability to make money and/or persecution at home) • From Denmark, Germany, Poland, Italy, Sweden, Greece, Ireland in Europe • Jobs: meatpacking, steel mills, factory work, RR, menial jobs • Chinese paid $1/day on RR • From 1825-1925, 1/3 of Norway came to US for timbering (lumber) • Mining: Italians, Germans, Chinese, Mexicans, Spanish, Irish • Much discrimination • Map on p. 114 in Hakim's *Reconstructing America* • Pie Chart on p. 626 of textbook	• Meat (cattle & sheep) • 6,000,000 wild cattle in TX alone • buy a cow for $4, sell for $40 • cowboys hired for cattle drives • cowboys earned $1/day • many were Freedmen, Mexicans • much Mexican influence • cattle drive: 1,000 miles to meet RR to deliver cattle • fears: stampedes and cattle rustlers (people who would steal cattle) • stampede: when cattle get spooked and run wild without stopping • Cowtowns: where cattle drive trail met RR • Abilene, Kansas City, Dodge City, Wichita • (open) range: open land for grazing cattle • problems with homesteaders • led to development of barbed wire but Joseph Glidden • barbed wire blocked cattle drives and eliminated open range