Chapter 8 Moving West

Lesson 1 Inventions, Roads, and Railroads

profit – the money a business earns after all expenses are paid

3 Important inventions:

1. cotton gin

2. telegraph

-made inventor Samuel F.B. Morse famous

3. mechanical reaper

-cut gain faster than by hand with a scythe

mass production – using interchangeable parts to make many goods at the same time

Industrial Revolution – time period when there was a shift from making goods by hand to making them in a factory

Samuel Slater invented spinning machine.

-became basis of factories in RI

-New England became region of mills

Improvements in transportation:

1. Steamboat – allowed boats to travel against river currents (upstream)

2. Erie Canal – human-made waterway

-faster to move farm goods from Ohio River valley to the East

3. Railroads – could be anywhere

-didn’t have to follow rivers or canals

Lesson 2 The Lone Star State

vaqueros – Mexican cowboys

Settlers in Texas came from South

-had slaves

-slavery had been banned by Mexican gov’t

-led to tension

annex – to take over territory and make a state

Missouri Compromise – law that brought Maine and Missouri into Union and banned slavery in Louisiana Purchase

manifest destiny – the idea that the U.S. had a right to add territory until it reached the Pacific Ocean

Steps to Texas becoming a state:

1. 1820’s – Americans settled there

2. Unhappy with Mexican government

3. Texas defeated Mexico – independence

4. U.S. annexed Texas (1845)

Outcome of Mexican War – Mexico lost its northern territory (Western U.S.)

Lesson 3 Trails to the West

wagon train – line of wagons traveling as a group

prairie schooner – named after a ship; wagon designed for trip west

Why Oregon? – married couples could claim 640 acres of farmland for free

Mormon Trail

persecution – poor treatment to a group because of their beliefs

Brigham Young – Mormon church’s leader

-wanted to move west so they could worship freely

Routes that settlers followed in 1800’s:

1. Oregon Trail

2. Mormon Trail

3. Santa Fe Trail

Old Spanish Trail

-connected Santa Fe to Los Angeles

-Native Americans often met and traded

-rarely attacked settlers

Lesson 4 The California Gold Rush

gold rush – rapid flood of people into an area where gold has been discovered

Sequence of events in mining:

1. Miners “panned” for gold

-scoop gravel with flat pan

-heavier gold drops to bottom

2. Invented the sluice

3. Mining companies brought in rock crushing machines

Supplies – scarce (low)

Demand – great

entrepreneur – someone who takes risks to start a business

-provided miners with things they need – led to profit

California’s population grew

-had enough people to become state

Chinese and Mexican miners worked hard

discrimination – unfair treatment

Pony Express – system of carrying mail by horse