

The BIG Question?

What helped Colorado to grow in the mid- to late 1800s?

Colorado changed in many ways during the 1800s. This is Durango around 1890. Why do you think there is a tipi on a wagon?



Timeline of Events

1860

1862

- The U.S. government passes the Homestead Act.
- Golden becomes the capital of Colorado Territory.

1863

Denver gets the first telegraph in the territory.

1865

1870s

The Iliff and Prowers ranches become the biggest ranches in the state.

1870

1870

The Denver Pacific Railway connects Colorado to Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Chapter

5



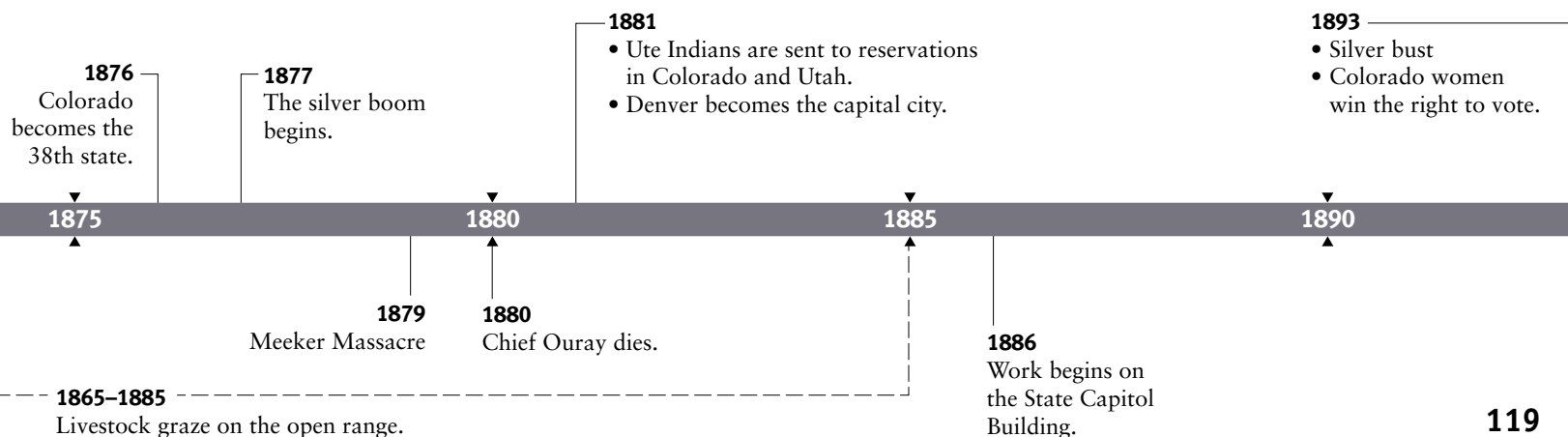
Become a Better Reader

VISUALIZE THE TEXT

Good readers “see” a story in their heads as they read. Turning the words you read into pictures in your mind helps you understand what you are reading. This is how you visualize the text.

This chapter is filled with stories about people who helped Colorado grow. Visualize the text as you read about ranchers, silver miners, and settlers who helped Colorado become a state.

A Changing Colorado



Key Ideas

- The Homestead Act helped to build Colorado Territory.
- Railroads brought many changes to Colorado Territory.
- Colorado became the 38th state on August 1, 1876.

Key Terms

citizen
 constitution
 homesteader
 representative



Become a Better Reader

Take Mental Snapshots

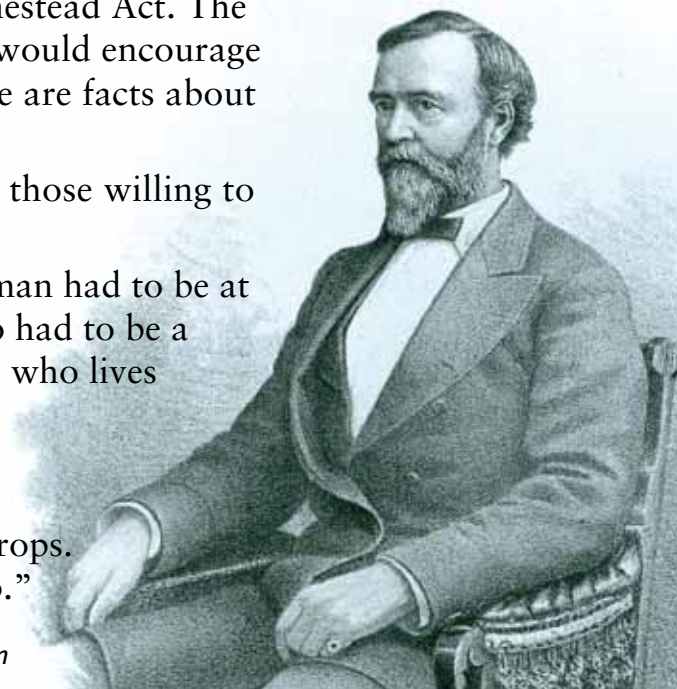
It was a big job to start Colorado Territory. President Abraham Lincoln made William Gilpin the first governor. Gilpin chose other government leaders to help. Some leaders were chosen by the people. The people chose one person to speak for the territory in the United States government. We call these leaders representatives. A **representative** is a person who acts and speaks for others.

The Homestead Act

One year after Colorado became a territory, the U.S. government passed the Homestead Act. The government hoped this new law would encourage people to settle farther west. Here are facts about the Homestead Act:

- It gave 160 acres of land to those willing to pay a small fee.
- To get land, a man or a woman had to be at least 21 years old. They also had to be a citizen. A **citizen** is a person who lives legally in the United States.
- Once they chose their land, **homesteaders** had five years to build a home and plant crops. This was called “proving up.”

William Gilpin



Colorado's First Telegraph

A year after the Homestead Act, a new invention made it easier to send messages. It was called the telegraph. Telegraph messages traveled along wires. The telegraph workers made tapping sounds as part of a code. Dots and dashes stood for letters and numbers. The short taps were called dots, and the long taps were called dashes.

People called operators learned to send and receive messages. A good operator could tap out 35 to 40 words a minute. People wanting to send messages had to pay for each word. It cost \$9.10 to send a 10-word message from Denver to New York.

A Fresh Start

Many people saw homesteading as a great chance for a new start. Some had lost their jobs. Others could not afford to buy farmland of their own. Families packed up all their belongings and moved west.

At first, people chose land in Nebraska, Kansas, and Oklahoma. The soil in those regions was good for farming. Few came to Colorado. They did not want to try farming in an area called “the Great American Desert.” When the best land was taken in those other states, people decided to give Colorado a try.

Homesteading

Plowing the dry ground was slow, hard work. It could take years to make farming pay off.

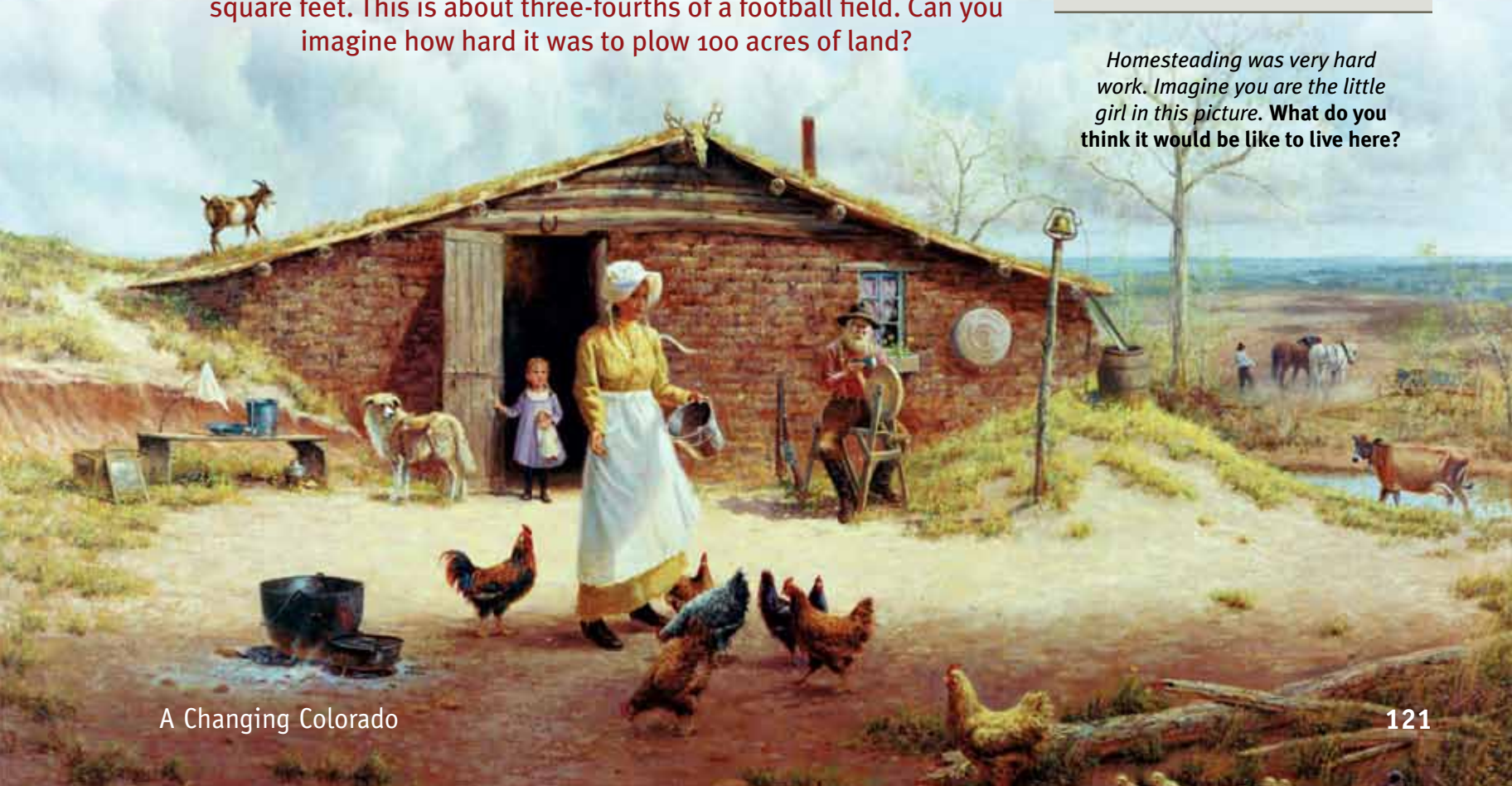
Preparing the land for crops was only part of the work. Homesteaders also had to build homes. They looked for wood, but there were few trees on the prairie. Farmers had to make their homes of something else—dirt!

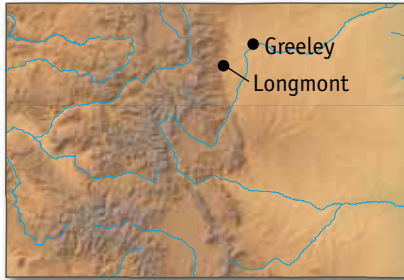
Two oxen could plow an acre of land in one day. An acre is 43,560 square feet. This is about three-fourths of a football field. Can you imagine how hard it was to plow 100 acres of land?

“Soddies”

A “soddy” home was made of blocks of dirt. These blocks had grass sod on top. Families placed the heavy blocks in rows as if they were using bricks. Sometimes they covered the inside walls with plaster, paint, or tar paper to keep them clean and dry. When the walls were high enough, builders made a roof of logs that held up more blocks of sod. Rain could make roofs bloom with sunflowers. In the picture below, a goat has climbed up on the roof to eat the grass and flowers.

Homesteading was very hard work. Imagine you are the little girl in this picture. What do you think it would be like to live here?





Linking the Past to the Present

Years ago, settlers had to learn how to survive in a new place. Today, many people from other countries come to live in Colorado. They have to learn where things are. They have to go to new schools or new jobs. They may even have to learn a new language. How are settlers from long ago like settlers today? How are they different?

Homesteaders gather buffalo chips for fuel. Why do you think they are not gathering wood instead?

Everybody Helped

In a homesteading family, everybody worked. A mother cooked meals, sewed clothes, and worked in the garden. She also took care of children and elders in the family. She even helped bring in the crops at harvest time.

Children carried water from the well or stream. They also cared for chickens, milk cows, pigs, goats, and horses. They helped in the fields and gardens, too. If there was a school nearby, children went only during the winter. The rest of the time, they had to help on the farm.

Farming the Plains

Colorado homesteaders farmed in two different ways. Some farmers irrigated (watered) their crops. They dug ditches to carry water from rivers and streams to the fields. Dams and gates in the ditches made it possible for farmers to control the flow of the water.

Other farmers tried dry farming. This means they planted crops that needed very little water to grow. Some crops, like winter wheat, were planted in the fall instead of spring. They got watered by rain and melting snow.

In time, corn, wheat, beans, barley, hay, and alfalfa grew across the plains. Melons ripened in the sun along the Arkansas River. Soon homesteaders had enough food to eat and extra crops to sell. Towns like Greeley and Longmont began as farming communities. Other towns began as supply centers for farmers. Hard work and good ideas changed the land.





Since mountains kept railroads from coming to Colorado, Coloradans had to build their own railroads.

Railroads

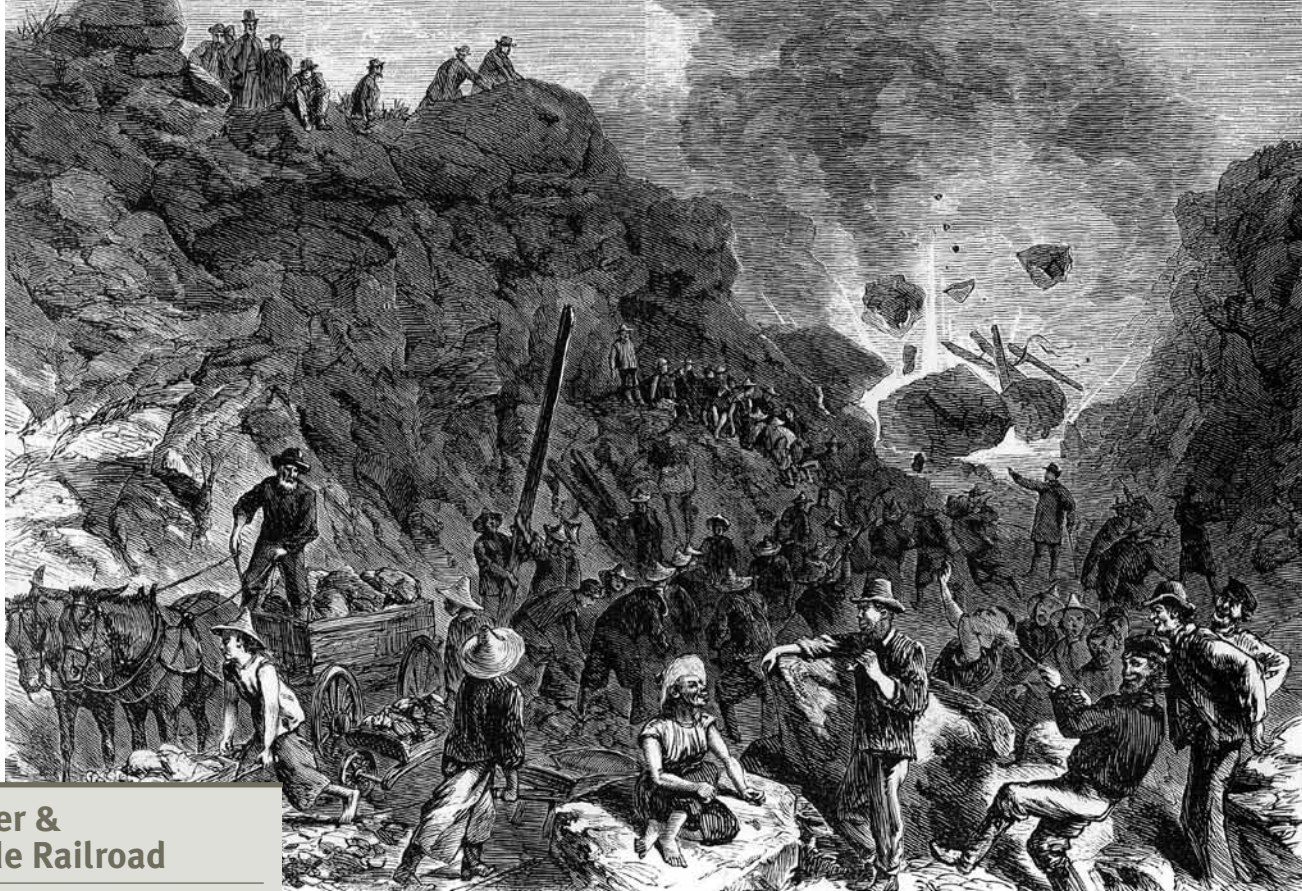
It took a long time for wagons to bring goods and supplies to Colorado Territory. It cost a lot of money to bring goods from other parts of the country. Railroads had not yet reached the Rockies. Explorers had not found a good way to build a railroad through the mountains. Still, the Union Pacific Railroad wanted to connect the eastern United States to the West Coast. Finally, the railroad company chose to run their tracks through Cheyenne, Wyoming. It was be easier to lay tracks through Wyoming, where most of the land was flat.

The Denver Pacific Railway

Many people and businesses began to move to Cheyenne. People knew their businesses would do better if they were close to the railroads. People in Denver worried about being so far away from the railroad. They wanted more goods and services to come to Colorado Territory. One group of citizens decided to build a railroad from Denver to Cheyenne. They called it the Denver Pacific Railway.



The Union Pacific Railroad arrives in Cheyenne.



The Denver & Rio Grande Railroad

The Denver & Rio Grande Railroad ran north and south along the Front Range and into the mountains. The tracks were closer together than regular railroad tracks. They were 3 feet apart instead of 4 feet and 8½ inches. Narrow tracks worked better in the mountains. The trains on narrow tracks could climb steep hills and make sharper turns.

It was an exciting time when the railroad connected Denver to Cheyenne. People in Colorado could buy all kinds of goods made in other places. They could even order a kit with everything they needed to build a house!

It took thousands of men to build railroad tracks. It was a dangerous job.
What kinds of danger can you see in this picture?

Working on the Railroad

The railroad needed a lot of workers. It took thousands of men to get the job done. They laid tracks across the prairies and into the steep mountains. It was hard work, and they faced danger every day. Most workers were immigrants. They came from China, Ireland, and Italy.

The Race to Cheyenne

Another railroad company also wanted to build a railroad from Colorado to Cheyenne. The Colorado Central Railroad planned to make Golden the territory's main supply center. At the time, Golden was the capital of the territory. The Denver Pacific Railway was in a race with the Colorado Central Railroad.

After two years, the Denver Pacific Railway arrived in Cheyenne first. The new railroad connected Colorado Territory to the rest of the United States. Now people could get goods and supplies faster and cheaper than ever before. Soon other railroads would be built across the territory.

Railroads Bring Change

Colorado Territory changed quickly once the railroads arrived. Railroads brought many new settlers to the territory. Some came to work in the mines or to sell goods and supplies to miners. Others came to buy farmland or to raise cattle.

Tourists

The railroads also brought another group of people to the territory. Today, we call these people tourists. Many came to see our beautiful mountains. Some came for the fresh mountain air. Others hoped our natural hot springs would improve their health.

Hotels and lodges provided jobs for people. Many worked as managers, clerks, maids, cooks, waiters, and guides. Children could earn extra money cleaning rooms or washing dishes in hotels and restaurants.

Idaho Springs began advertising its hot-water pools during the 1860s. Colorado's hot springs resorts still keep visitors warm.



1869. May 10th. 1869.

GREAT EVENT
Rail Road from the Atlantic to the Pacific
GRAND OPENING
— OF THE —

Union Pacific
RAIL ROAD
PLATTE VALLEY ROUTE.

PASSENGER TRAINS LEAVE
OMAHA
ON THE ARRIVAL OF TRAINS FROM THE EAST.

THROUGH TO SAN FRANCISCO
In less than Four Days, avoiding the Dangers of the Sea!

Travelers for Pleasure, Health or Business
Will find a Trip over The Rocky Mountains Healthy and Pleasant.

LUXURIOUS CARS & EATING HOUSES
ON THE UNION PACIFIC RAIL ROAD.

PULLMAN'S PALACE SLEEPING CARS
RUN WITH ALL THROUGH PASSENGER TRAINS.

GOLD, SILVER AND OTHER MINERS!
Now is the time to get your Fortune in Colorado, Wyoming, Arizona, New Mexico, Idaho, Colorado, Utah, Oregon, Nevada, New Mexico, Idaho, Nevada or California.

CORRESPONDENCE MADE AT
CHEYENNE for DENVER, CENTRAL CITY & SANTA FE
BY ORDER AND CHANGE FOR BELLEVUE, WYOMING, VIRGINIA CITY, SALT LAKE CITY AND ARIZONA

THROUGH TICKETS FOR SALE AT ALL PRINCIPAL RAILROAD OFFICES.
Be Sure they Read via Platte Valley or Omaha
Company's Office 22 La Salle St., opposite City Hall and Court House Square, Chicago.
CHARLES E. WHEELER, Ticket Agent.

From Territory to State

As the territory continued to grow, many people were excited for Colorado to become a new state. But first, territory leaders had to write a state constitution. A **constitution** is a set of rules that explains how government should work. It took many years to create a strong constitution. Then it had to be approved by the people of the territory. After Coloradans voted yes, the state constitution went to the U.S. government for approval.

Coloradans elected John L. Routt as their first state governor. He later served as mayor of Denver.

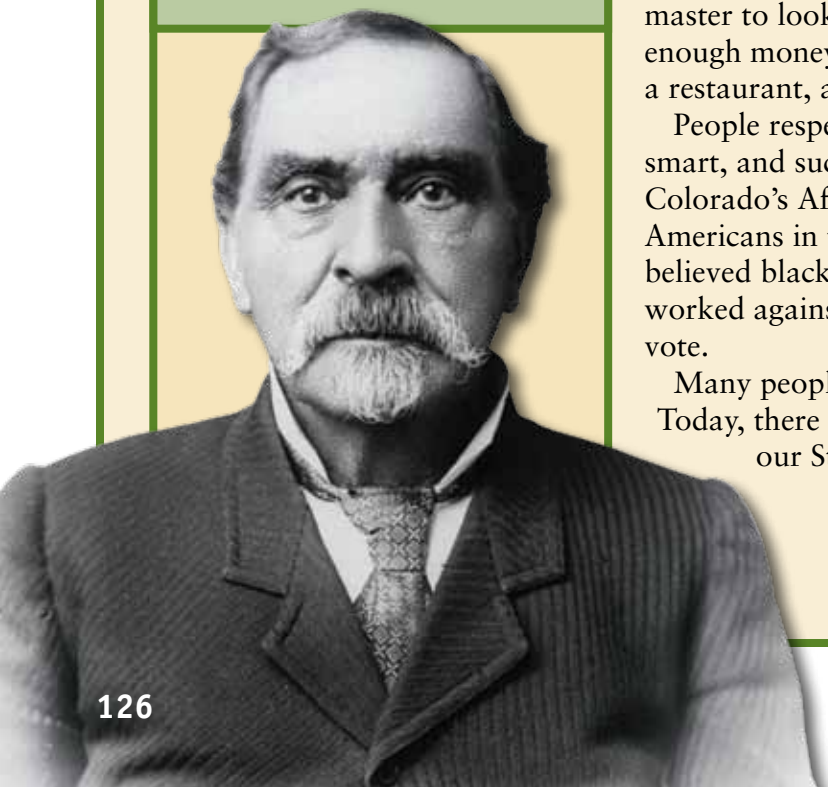
On August 1, 1876, Colorado became the 38th state. It happened 100 years after the United States had become a nation. That is why Colorado is often called the Centennial State. Centennial comes from the word *century*, which means 100 years.

With statehood, the people of Colorado were now free to elect their own leaders. They could also vote for president of the United States. They could choose state representatives to help make laws for the whole country. Finally, the people of Colorado had the same rights as people in other states.



COLORADO

P O R T R A I T



Barney Ford
1822–1902

Barney Ford was born a slave in the South. He ran away from his master to look for gold in Breckenridge. He found some and made enough money to move to Denver. There, he opened a barbershop, a restaurant, and the Inter-Ocean Hotel.

People respected the way Ford ran his businesses. As a popular, smart, and successful businessman, he became a speaker for Colorado's African Americans. He was also one of the first African Americans in the territory to run for a government office. Ford believed black men should have the same rights as other men. He worked against a state constitution that did not allow black men to vote.

Many people remembered him as a good friend and businessman. Today, there is a stained glass window portrait of Barney Ford in our State Capitol Building.

Go to the Source



Study a Proclamation

President Ulysses S. Grant issued this proclamation. A proclamation is an official announcement to the people. Read the proclamation and answer the questions below.

The President's Proclamation Declaring Colorado a State

“WASHINGTON, August 1, - The President . . . has issued his proclamation declaring and proclaiming the fact that the fundamental conditions imposed by congress on the state of Colorado to entitle that state to admission to the Union have been ratified and accepted, and the admission of said state into the Union is now complete.”

—*Rocky Mountain News*

LOOK

- Choose three words you do not know from the article and define them.

THINK

- For what purpose was this proclamation given?

DECIDE

- Why do you think the proclamation was put in the newspaper?

*A view from the
state capitol dome
around 1895.*



*State Capitol
Building*



The State Capital

Many cities hoped to be chosen as the capital city of the new state. For the first few years of statehood, government leaders met in different places. Sometimes they gathered in Colorado City (now part of Colorado Springs). Sometimes they met in Golden. The government of the new state needed a home. Boulder wanted to be the capital city. So did Pueblo and Canon City.

Denver was finally chosen as the state's capital. It had the most hotel rooms, restaurants, and other services for the lawmakers.

Capital or Capitol?

Do you know the difference between these words? They sound alike, but they have different meanings.

capital = a city where government offices are located

capitol = a building



The State Capitol Building

Ten years after Colorado became a state, work began on the State Capitol Building. It took 22 years to complete. Gunnison supplied granite for the outside walls. Marble from the town of Marble covered the floors. Rose onyx from Beulah decorated the walls.

The capitol dome rose 180 feet above the first floor. Colorado miners donated enough pure gold to cover the dome. It gleamed in the sunshine and glowed warmly on cloudy days.

Sometimes, during heavy storms, hail pelted away tiny flecks of the gold from the dome. Hopeful “prospectors” put pots and pans under the capitol drain spouts. They hoped to find bits of gold in the rainwater!

LESSON 1 What Did You Learn?

Places to Locate

Cheyenne, Wyoming
Golden
Greeley
Longmont

People to Know

Barney Ford
William Gilpin
Ulysses S. Grant
Abraham Lincoln

Events to Remember

Colorado Territory becomes a state.
Railroads come to Colorado.
The U.S. government passes the Homestead Act.

Lesson Review Activity

Use information from the lesson to write your own story about Colorado becoming a state. Include the places, people, and events that helped Colorado achieve statehood.

Key Ideas

- The silver boom helped Colorado grow.
- The U.S. government took more land from the Utes when prospectors found silver there.
- After a battle between Ute and non-Indian cultures, the tribe was forced to move to Southwestern Colorado and Utah.
- Colorado women won the right to vote in 1893.

Key Terms

bust
grubstake
smelting
suffrage

Become a Better Reader

Visualize to Retell

Becoming a state excited most people in Colorado. It did not take long for them to begin choosing their new state leaders. John L. Routt became the state's first governor. He had been governor of the territory when Colorado became a state. He worked very hard to solve problems. He helped build strong industries, such as mining and ranching.

The Silver Boom

Mining continued to be an important industry when Colorado became a state. Mines crushed ore into smaller and smaller pieces. Then they separated gold from the ore using heat and chemicals. This process was called *smelting*. Nathaniel P. Hill, a chemistry professor, brought the process to Colorado. Smelting near the mines helped mining companies make more money.

Gold was not the only metal buried in Colorado. Silver lay there, too. Miners in Georgetown were the first to find silver. But silver, like gold, had to be freed from ore. Finally, new smelting processes helped people separate the silver from the ore. Later, silver mines opened in Boulder County. But the biggest silver find happened in Leadville.



Leadville

Miners looking for gold near Leadville talked about some blue stuff they had found. The blue stuff turned out to be a metal (lead) with lots of silver in it. This is how the town of Leadville got its name.

People came rushing to Leadville once they heard about the find. Some worked for big mining and smelting companies. Most of them earned about \$2 a day. Other people sold supplies and opened businesses in the town.



Cloud City

Leadville soon became the second-largest city in Colorado. People called it “Cloud City” because it was two miles above sea level. Smelters in town also put out clouds of stinky black smoke. The evergreen forest was cut down for buildings and fuel. Mines and smelters moved in where mountain meadows once stood.

The town was dirty and ugly. People did not clean up their garbage. They did not have plumbing like we do today. Germs and illnesses spread quickly.

In time, the people of Leadville began to clean up the town. They raised money to remove garbage. They built water systems to carry away waste. They also built churches, hospitals, and schools. Life started getting better in Leadville.

This is Leadville in 1878. Do you think someone took this photo before or after people cleaned up the city? Explain your answer.



Silver turned up in the San Juan Mountains, too. These rich discoveries helped start the towns of Silverton and Telluride. Ouray and Rico also became silver towns. The town of Durango began as a supply town for nearby mines.



Charles Boettcher became one of Colorado's richest men.

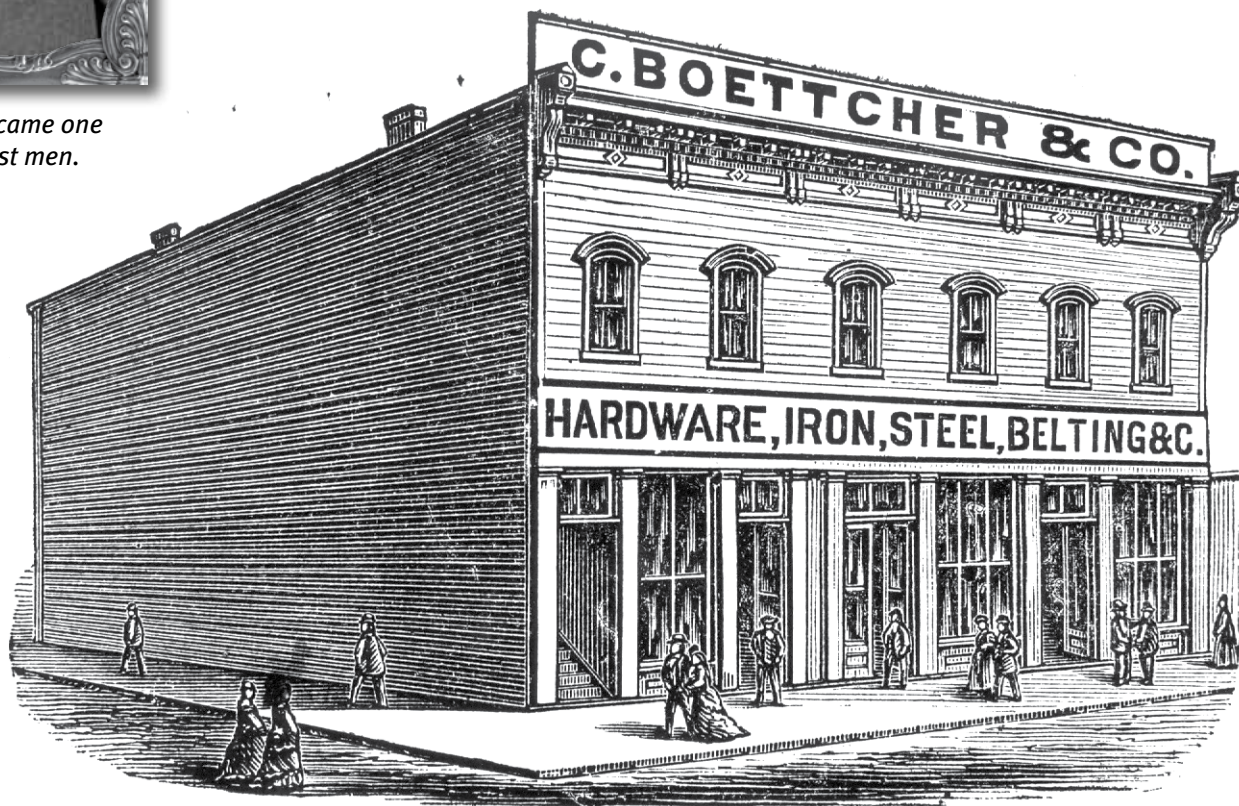
The Silver King

When Horace Tabor and his wife, Augusta, moved to Leadville, they bought a store. Life changed quickly for the Tabors when Horace agreed to grubstake two silver prospectors. To **grubstake** means to give supplies in return for a part of whatever the prospectors dig up.

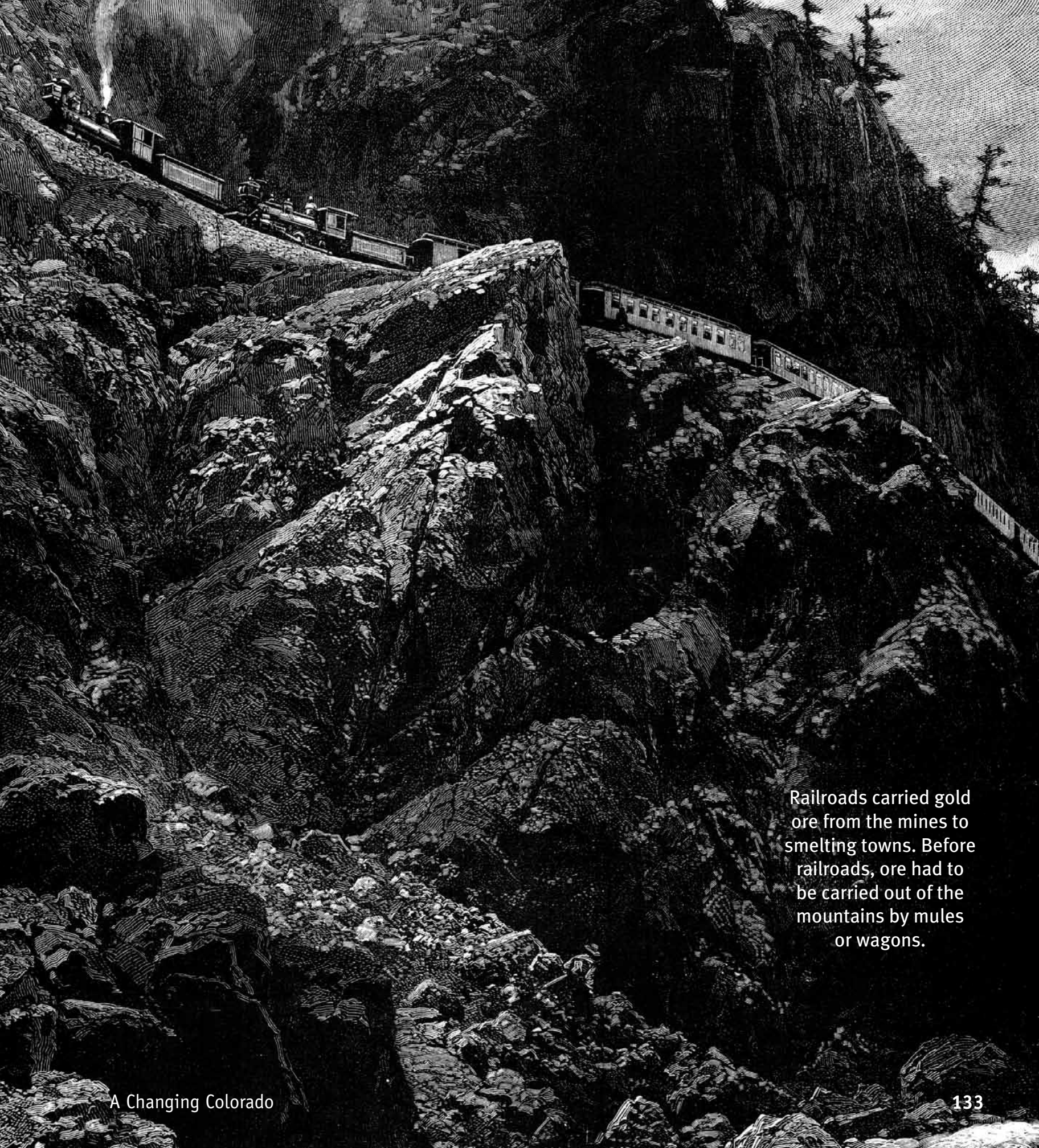
Surprisingly, the prospectors hit the jackpot! Horace became a millionaire. The Little Pittsburg mine was one of the first big silver discoveries in Leadville. Horace decided to buy more mines with his money. People began calling him “the Silver King.”

More Success

Charles Boettcher also got rich in Leadville. Boettcher came to America as an immigrant from Germany. He loved the hardware business, where he sold all kinds of tools to people. He opened his first store in Boulder. Years later, he opened another store in Leadville. His store sold mining goods. His motto was “Hardware. Hard goods. Hard cash.” Boettcher put some of his money back into other Colorado industries.



This is the front of Charles Boettcher's store in Leadville. Do you know what kinds of supplies were sold here?

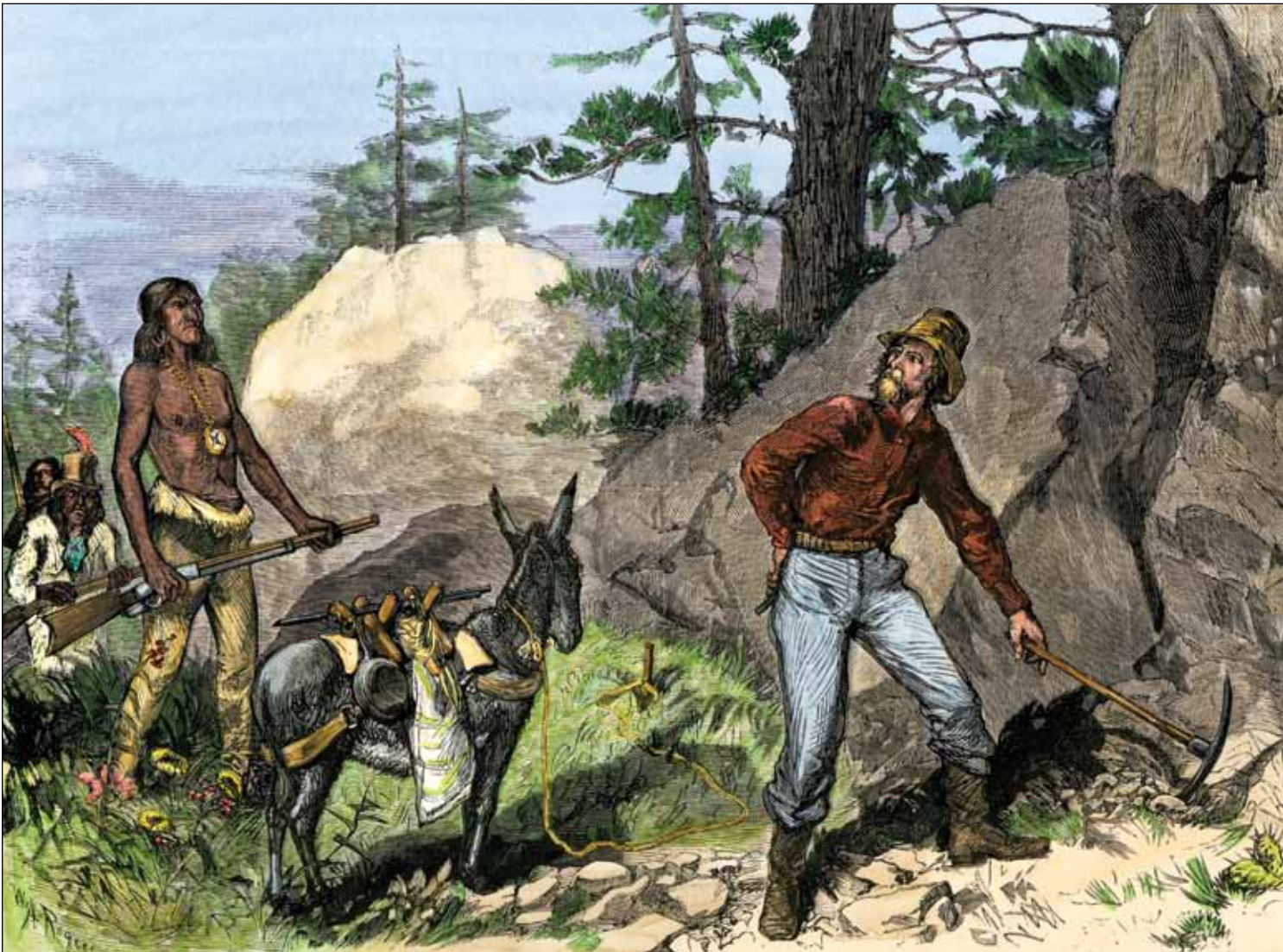


Railroads carried gold ore from the mines to smelting towns. Before railroads, ore had to be carried out of the mountains by mules or wagons.

Broken Promises

Prospectors found silver in the San Juan Mountains. This became a problem for the Utes of Colorado. The U.S. government had promised them land in most of western Colorado. They had even signed a treaty saying this. But that did not stop prospectors from moving onto Ute land when they found gold and silver.

The Ute people began to see they would never be allowed to stay on lands U.S. citizens wanted. Government leaders asked Ute chiefs to sign a new treaty. A group of Ute chiefs went to Washington, D.C., to meet with government leaders. Chief Ouray was one leader who went.



What do you think is happening in this picture? What could they be saying to each other?

Chief Ouray

Chief Ouray was a wise chief of the Utes. He spoke many languages. He had lived and worked with people from many different cultures. Ouray went to Washington, D.C., to sign a treaty once before.

There, Chief Ouray and his wife, Chipeta, saw how settlers lived. He saw great cities and strong forts. He understood that the Utes could not fight all the settlers. Ouray knew that government soldiers could wipe out his whole tribe. He did not want the Utes to disappear forever.

Government leaders did not give Ouray or the other Ute chiefs a choice. Once again, they were forced to give up more land. The United States promised to pay for the land. But Ute tribes did not get what the government promised.



Chipeta, Queen of the Utes

Chipeta was only 16 when she married Ouray. Her name means “white singing bird.” Like her husband, she tried to live peacefully and was friendly with settlers. She sat by Ouray at his council meetings. She also went with him to sign treaties in Washington, D.C. The people in Washington liked and respected her. The newspapers called her “Queen of the Utes” because of the classy way she behaved.

Chipeta was never able to have children of her own. Instead, she adopted four children. After Ouray died, Chipeta continued to seek peace between her people and settlers. She moved with her people to a reservation in Utah. She died there, but her body was later reburied in Colorado.

Linking the Past to the Present

Today, you can see where Chief Ouray and Chipeta once lived. You can visit the Ute Indian Museum just outside of Montrose. The museum has many interesting Ute artifacts. There is a real wickiup, some leather clothing, and old Ute weapons.

A Battle between Cultures

The government sent Nathan Meeker to help the Utes learn settlers' ways. Meeker taught the Utes how to farm. He showed them how to raise cattle and sheep. But the Utes did not want Meeker's help. They were angry that the U.S. government wanted them to change.

One day, Meeker made a big mistake. He plowed land where the Utes raced their horses. The Utes grew even angrier than before. Ute warriors attacked and killed Meeker and other settlers. They captured Meeker's wife, daughter, and a few others. The Utes also attacked soldiers sent to help Meeker. They killed the leader of the group and 10 of his men.

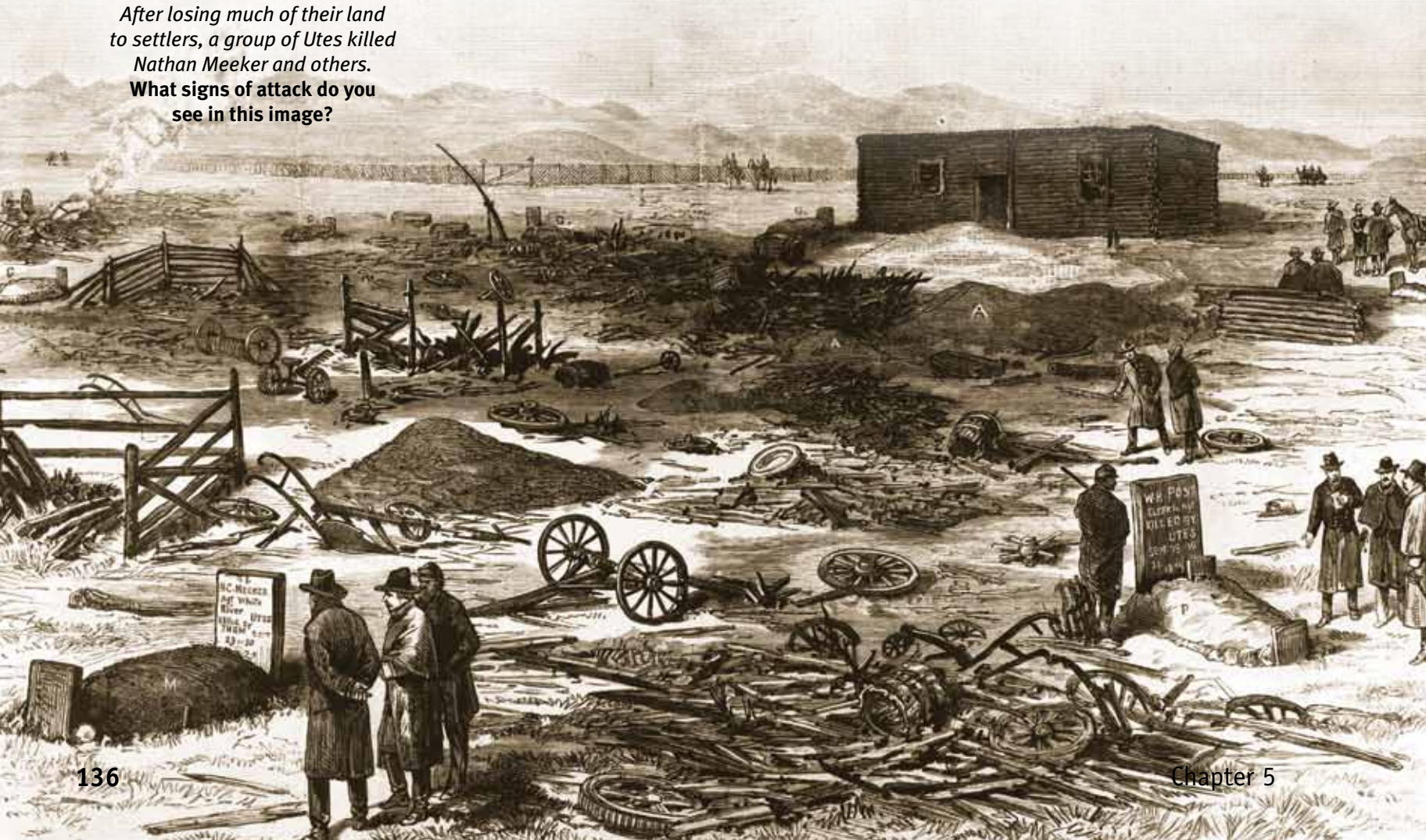


Nathan Meeker

Chief Ouray Steps In

Many settlers felt shocked when they heard about the attack. Government leaders asked Chief Ouray to help make peace. Ouray and other Ute leaders convinced the Ute warriors

After losing much of their land to settlers, a group of Utes killed Nathan Meeker and others.
What signs of attack do you see in this image?



to let the Meeker women go. Ouray asked government leaders not to punish the Utes for the attacks. But it was too late. Settlers wanted the Utes out of Colorado.

The Utes Are Moved to Reservations

Many people all over Colorado wanted the government to move the Utes. One more treaty forced many of the tribe to move to southwestern Colorado and Utah. Fewer than 1,000 Utes got to stay in Colorado. They had only two tiny reservations in the southwest corner of Colorado.

Chief Ouray did not live to see his people moved from Colorado. He died before they left. His wife and friends buried him in a secret place. Later, he was reburied in a cemetery near his Colorado home.

Helen Hunt Jackson 1830–1885

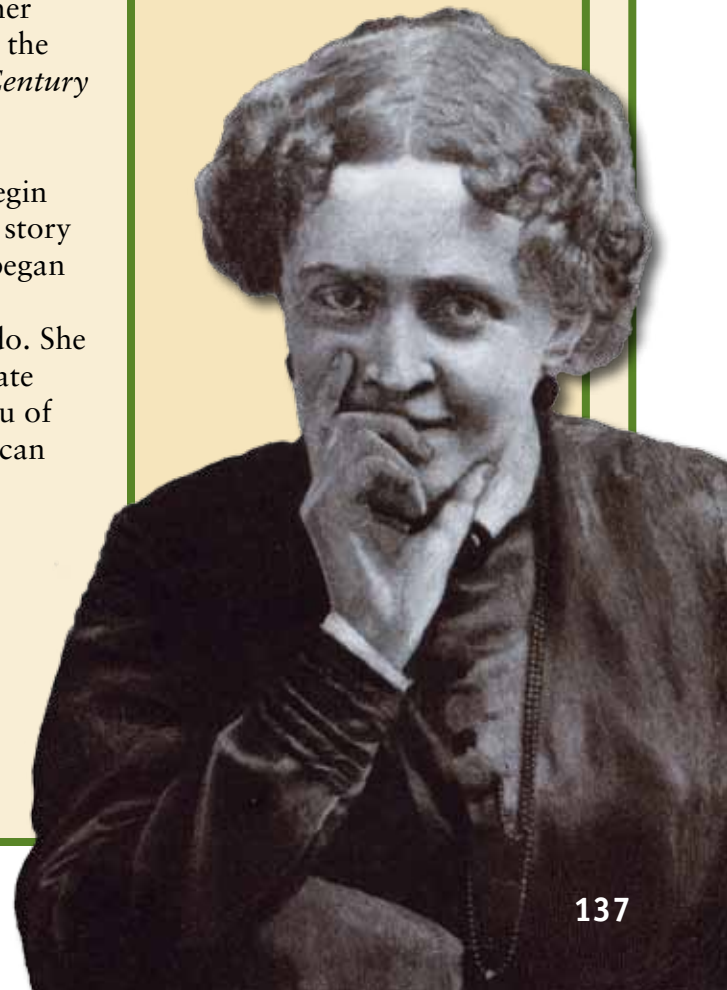
Helen Hunt Jackson worried about how our government treated American Indians. She listened to the American Indians tell about being forced to leave their homes. These stories made her angry with government leaders. She wrote a book about how the government broke treaties with the Indians. It was called *A Century of Dishonor*.

Jackson gave every U.S. lawmaker a copy of her book. She hoped leaders would see their mistakes. But people did not begin to change until they read her second book, *Ramona*. It was a story that helped people change their hearts. Finally, some people began to see how badly the Indians had been treated.

Jackson did not want the Utes to be removed from Colorado. She sent letters to newspapers and to lawmakers. But it was too late to stop the move. Years later, Jackson worked with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Her reports helped improve the lives of American Indians all over the West.



COLORADO P O R T R A I T



This is Silver Plume during its boomtown days.



The Silver Bust

Silver mining was the most important industry in Colorado during the 1880s. The United States and other countries bought silver to make coins. The U.S. government even promised to buy lots of silver to keep the mines in business. But they backed out of their promise when the mines had more silver than people needed.

When the government stopped buying silver, the price of silver dropped. The price went from \$1.32 an ounce to 67 cents. Thousands of miners and smelter workers lost their jobs. Men such as Horace Tabor lost their riches almost overnight.

What Do You Think?

Why might it be important to understand boom and bust cycles? How can this help people who plan our cities and states?

The Boom and Bust Cycle

Colorado's silver mining industry had a boom and bust cycle. Let's find out what this means. In Chapter 4, you learned that a boom is a great burst of good fortune. During a boom, there are plenty of jobs for people. People earn more money and buy more goods. Towns grow larger.

A **bust** is the opposite of a boom. During a bust, people lose their jobs. They may have to move to a different city to look for work.

Can you name any other events with boom and bust cycles that you have learned about so far?



Women promised that if they won the right to vote, they would clean up Colorado's problems. Why do you think these women in the picture are holding brooms?

Colorado Women Win the Vote

In the early years of our country, women were not allowed to vote. They could not hold government offices. Some men wanted women to stay home and take care of children. But women wanted to help choose government leaders. They knew government decisions affected women and children, too.

Some women traveled around giving speeches about women's suffrage. *Suffrage* is the right to vote. Governor Routt was one man who wanted women to win the vote. His wife, Eliza, also worked to give women voting rights.

After years of hard work, Colorado women were given the right to vote. In the next election, Eliza was the first woman in Colorado to vote. Wyoming, Colorado, Idaho, and Utah were the first states to give women the vote. It took another 27 years before all women in the United States could vote.

LESSON 2 What Did You Learn?

Places to Locate

Georgetown
Leadville

People to Know

Charles Boettcher
Chief Ouray
Chipeta
Nathaniel Hill
Helen Hunt Jackson
Nathan Meeker
Horace and
Augusta Tabor

Events to Remember

The Utes are pushed from Colorado.
Women in Colorado are given the right to vote.

Lesson Review Activity

Write each Person to Know on separate index cards. Then for each person, use another card to write details about him or her. Use the cards to play a matching game with a partner. Place the cards face down. Take turns drawing two cards to look for a match.

Key Ideas

- People began raising cattle along Colorado's eastern plains.
- There were many fights between cattle ranchers and sheep ranchers.
- Ranching helped new towns grow.

Key Terms

brand



Become a Better Reader

Use Your Senses

Once the Utes moved to reservations, farmers, miners, and ranchers felt much safer. More settlers came to Colorado than ever before. New towns, such as Grand Junction, were built on former Ute lands.

Colorado Ranching

Spanish people moving north from Mexico were the first to bring livestock to Colorado. They brought horses, cattle, and sheep. Many settled in the San Luis Valley along the Rio Grande. In time, others began raising cattle along Colorado's eastern plains.

John W. Iliff opened a general store during the gold rush. Sometimes people did not have enough money to pay him for supplies. They asked if they could give him livestock instead. People gave him mules, oxen, and cattle. Most of the animals looked starved from their long journey west. Iliff set them



loose to feed on wild prairie grasses. He was surprised to see how quickly the animals grew stronger and fatter.

Cattle Kings

Iloff later sold his store and started a ranch. He bought Texas longhorns and fed them on the open range. The cattle herd soon grew in size. He sold them to feed hungry miners, settlers, soldiers, and railroad crews. Within 10 years, Iloff owned 35,000 cattle. His ranch along the South Platte River was more than 100 square miles. Raising and selling cattle for beef made him a rich man.

Because of his success, others started raising cattle to sell for beef. John W. Prowers raised his cattle on what used to be Cheyenne land. His herds grew almost as big as Iloff's. Both men were called "cattle kings" because their ranches and herds grew so large.

Raising cattle became a big business in Colorado. What kind of job are the men in this picture doing?

Ranch Women

Ranching was a tough business. There were plenty of women who were strong enough to do the job. Women ran hundreds of Colorado ranches.

When Iloff died, his wife, Elizabeth, took over the family's cattle ranch. She raised thousands of cattle and three young children at the same time.

This article was in a Denver newspaper in 1884:

"Of the 800 ranch women now doing business in Colorado, all are well and favorably known. They are worth several million dollars, and they have got the clearest heads and the best judgments regarding stock."

— Denver Republican

BRANDING

When cattle roamed the open range, ranchers had trouble keeping track of them. They created a way to mark their animals with special symbols or letters. They called it *branding*. Each ranch had its own brand. Brands were made out of metal and connected to an iron pole. Ranchers placed the branding irons in a fire until they became red-hot. The hot iron was used to burn the brand into the hide of an animal.

Brands are still used today to help keep track of livestock. More than 36,000 brands are used in our state. Below are a few famous ones.

Cattle Brand Tips

A “bar” is a straight line over or under the letters. A “lazy” letter means it is lying down on its side. A “flying” letter has little wings on it.



Linking the Past to the Present

Today, ranchers still brand cattle. They also use ear tags to mark their animals. Both markings help ranchers see whose animals are being bought or sold.



Double Bar T



Circle Y



Flying Triangle



Rocking R



Lazy Dollar



Double
Diamond X



Triple R



Diamond



Lazy J



D bar T

Counting Sheep

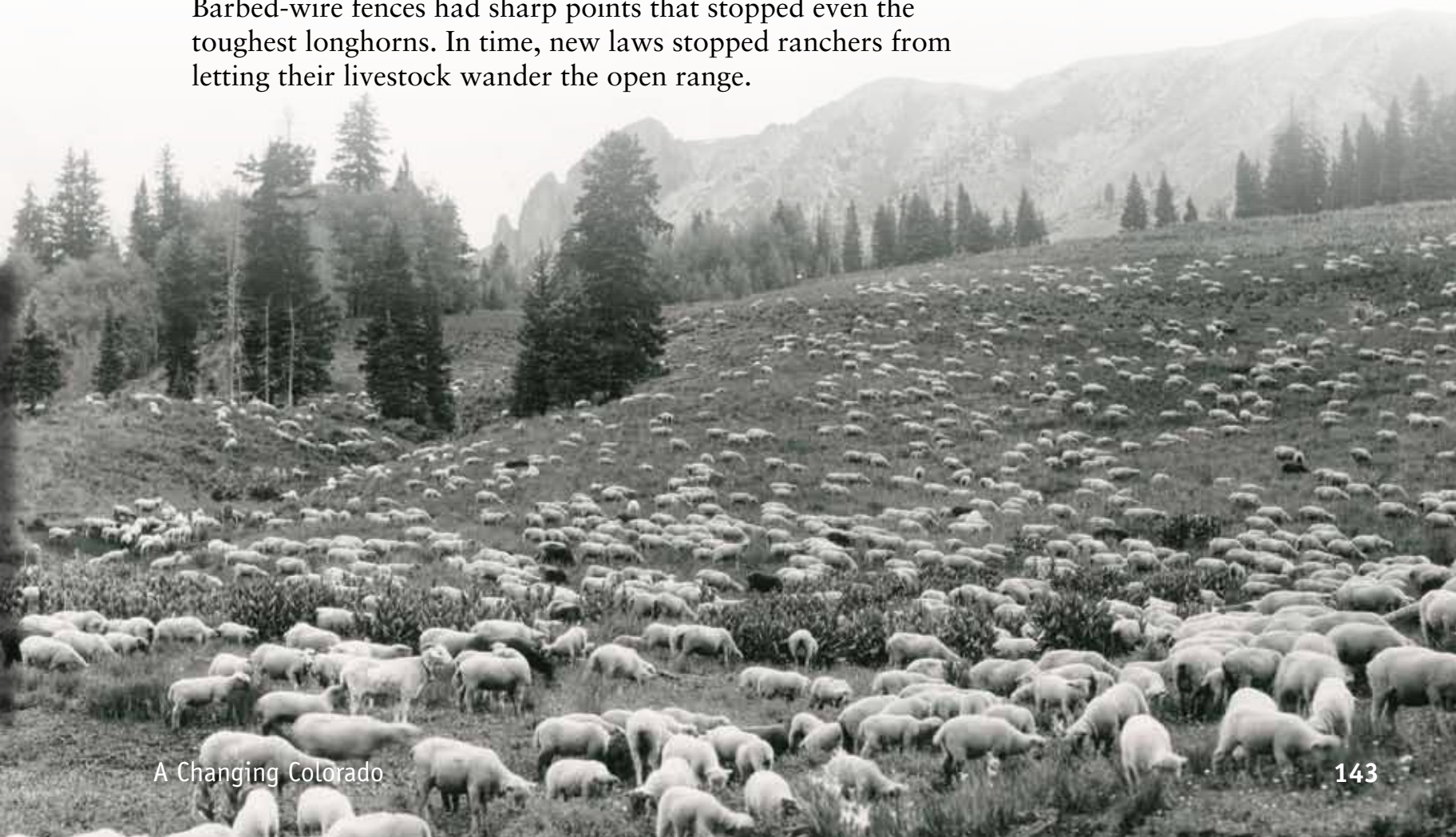
For many years, ranchers raised sheep in southern Colorado. Companies bought their wool to make clothing and blankets. But ranchers raising cattle did not get along with ranchers raising sheep. Cattle ranchers said sheep ate all the grass, leaving nothing for cattle. Troubles got worse when cattle and sheep ranchers began fighting for the same water and grasslands. They did not want to share the land or water with each other.

Range Wars

Problems between the groups turned into war. Cattle ranchers poisoned and killed thousands of sheep. They ran whole herds off cliffs. They attacked sheep camps and even killed several sheep herders.

Cattle ranchers also fought with farmers. Farmers grew angry when roaming cattle destroyed their crops. They used a new invention called barbed-wire fencing to keep cattle away. Barbed-wire fences had sharp points that stopped even the toughest longhorns. In time, new laws stopped ranchers from letting their livestock wander the open range.

Sheep graze on prairie grass along the range. Would it be difficult to keep track of all these sheep?



Settling the San Luis Valley



This is John Morgan (in the back) and his family at the time they came to Colorado. How are the children in this photo dressed differently than children today?

NORTH					
Placost W. DePriest Ezechiel Rogers	Thomas W. DePriest James H. DePriest	Wilson Kineman R. R. Clouse 6 James B. Chapman	Elizabeth J. Lund Manassa Flour Milling Co. 5 Lander F. Mombin	Harmon Stearns E. D. Brown 4 T. W. Dalton Sutton	John H. Carr 3 Joseph P. Hays
EVANS					
9 David W. Nelson	Joseph M. Valentine Frank Boush	10 Frank Boush	James D. Valentine Christopher Cady 11 Joseph J. Jarvis John A. Marshall	13 James M. Ditchell	14 Frank Peterson Lawrence D. Peterson John Layton
PETERSON					
24 Aaron S. Hawkins	23 Frank Boice John Parter	22 Russell Rogers William L. Bull 21 Albert Smith James C. Dickson	20 James J. Smith Martha Crooks 21 Albert Smith Brighton Harrison	20 James C. Grant Oran 20 Benjamin Boice	19 Frank Johnson Andrew J. Johnson Felix Meyer
BERTHELSON					
25 William P. Camp Albert L. Reed	26 George W. Driver James Patterson	27 B. F. McKimay John H. Redick 28 Thomas W. Johnson Preston Reynolds	28 Arthur McGregor John P. Hodelite 29 Robert M. Hays Blanchard Shea	29 W. C. Greer Store 30 Daniel R. Sellers Mary A. Purfield	30 Ward T. Johnson Othello Johnson School House Old Log Pile James Johnson Anna Hays
MAIN					
40 "Old Father" Gaus John Gaus	39 George W. Perkins John Adams	38 M. Draper Patrick C. Reynolds John J. Edwards	37 Peter Madsen John W. Adams Moses D. Edwards	36 Ruben D. Dean	35 Manassah Camp Store Martin Christensen Luis F. Koch
SMITH					
41 John W. Swift John Z. Daniels Shapp George D. Payne	42 Joseph Barrett Harum Dampney	43 John W. Langston James R. Daniels	44 Lander Teas D. K. Sellers	45 Lee Huffer Henry Huffaker John Henry Smith	46 John Morgan John R. Hoff Francis D. Shiden
MORGAN					
56 William R. Evans Harrison Swafford	55 Nelson Stearns	54 Eli McEntire	53 Elizabeth Hamblin Cornelius J. Fowler	52 Mary A. Reed	51 Alonso S. Blair
JACK					
57 Charles G. Carter	58 Lewis Smith	59 Emily Carter John Carter	60 Aberry Huffaker Thomas Littlejohn	61 Joseph P. Thomas	62 H. C. Christensen

Many early pioneers traveled through Colorado's San Luis Valley. Winters are harsh and cold, but summers are pleasant and green. The growing season is very short.

In the late 1800s, members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons) were moving west. The president of the Mormon Church asked John Morgan to build a settlement in the San Luis Valley. Morgan began leading people to the valley.

Spanish-speaking settlers living there taught the newcomers how to grow crops in the high

mountain climate. They also helped the new settlers prepare for the long, cold winter. Over the next several years, the Mormon settlers and other pioneers built ranches and farms. They raised sheep and cattle and grew alfalfa and other crops. Morgan's family built the V Heart Ranch. The valley settlement grew much larger.

John Morgan had grown up in Virginia. He invited many of his southern friends to settle in the San Luis Valley. Today, the valley is a mix of many cultures, including Hispanic, European, and American Indian heritages.

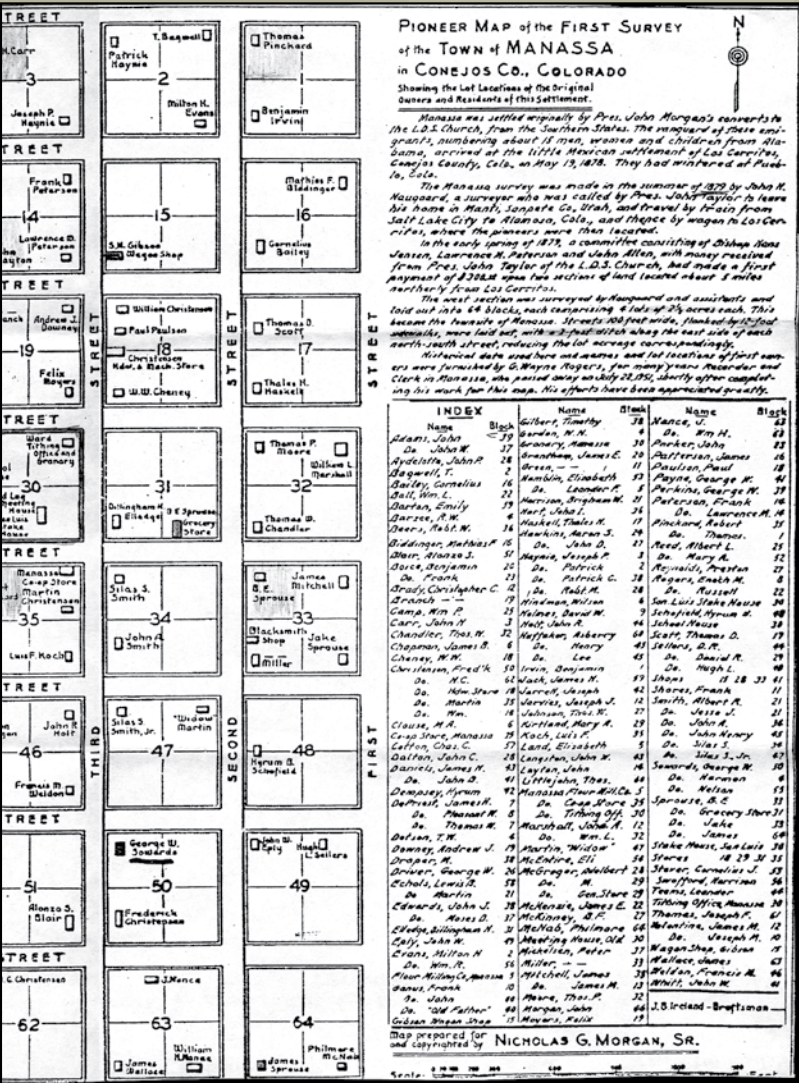
Mexican Land Grants

Spanish-speaking people built the first towns in southern Colorado. These pioneers from New Mexico settled in the San Luis Valley. The Mexican government owned the land at that time.

To help settlers, the Mexican government gave them land grants. This meant the settlers legally owned the land. The Conejos Grant covered the western half of the San Luis Valley. It was named for the Conejos River.

Conejos means rabbit in Spanish.

In the town of Conejos, these Colorado pioneers built the oldest church in Colorado. They named it for Our Lady of Guadalupe. She is the patron saint of Mexico.



This map shows where Mormon families settled near Manassa.

LESSON 3 What Did You Learn?

Places to Locate

San Luis Valley

People to Know

John W. Iliff
John Morgan
John W. Prowers

Lesson Review Activity

Write one paragraph explaining how each of the People to Know contributed to Colorado's ranching business.



This is the brand of the VHeart Ranch.

COLORADO

Social Studies Skills

Draw Conclusions

Your history book uses facts to tell a story. Of course, your book does not include all the facts. If it did, you would need a bigger backpack! But you are given enough facts so that you can draw your own conclusions. For example, in this chapter you read about the Homestead Act. You learned about why people wanted homesteads. You also learned about some of the difficulties of homesteading. However, you did not read about why the Homestead Act ended.

This is one area in which you can draw conclusions, using what you already know. For example, you might draw the conclusion that the government stopped giving out land because there was not more land to give.

Good historians do not jump to conclusions about why and how things happened. They carefully study their topic first. They support their conclusion with facts. Use what you learned to draw a conclusion about a topic from the chapter.

1. On a sheet of paper, write facts from the chapter that describe the challenges people faced during Colorado's growth.
2. Study the facts you gathered, and draw a conclusion about the challenges people faced.
3. Revise your conclusion so it is well supported by the facts you have gathered. Your conclusion should state an idea that the textbook does not include.
4. On another sheet of paper, write a paragraph with your conclusion as the topic sentence. Support your topic sentence with facts from the chapter.



Chapter Review 5



Become a Better Reader

Visualize the Text

Good readers “see” the story in their heads as they read. It is like watching a movie in your head every time you open a book. Picturing the text helps you understand what you read. This is how you visualize the text.

Choose one person or one event from this chapter that you were able to visualize well. Describe the event or person in your own words. Be sure to use words that excite the senses. Share your description with a partner and compare your visualizations.



Technology Tie-In

Create Trading Cards

Use the Trading Card option at BigHugeLabs.com, or a similar feature from another site, to create trading cards. For each card, highlight different ways Colorado grew in the mid- to late 1800s. If the Web resources are not available, create the cards on a computer or by hand. For example, you might create a card to explain how Colorado became a state.

For each card, you will need to find a picture on the Internet or draw one. Each card will also need a title and a short description about how it helped Colorado grow. Be sure to include the most important facts on the card.

Compare your cards with a friend’s. How are they similar? How are they different?

Review What You Read

Lesson 1

1. How did the Homestead Act help build Colorado Territory?
2. What changes did the railroad bring to Colorado Territory?
3. In what year did Colorado become a state?

Lesson 2

4. How did the silver boom help Colorado to grow?
5. Why were Utes forced to give up more of their land during the silver boom?
6. In what year did Colorado women receive the right to vote?

Lesson 3

7. How did ranching become popular in Colorado?
8. What caused problems between cattle ranchers and sheep ranchers?
9. How did ranching help new towns grow?