

# Native Americans in the West

# Neil Young – “Pocahontas”

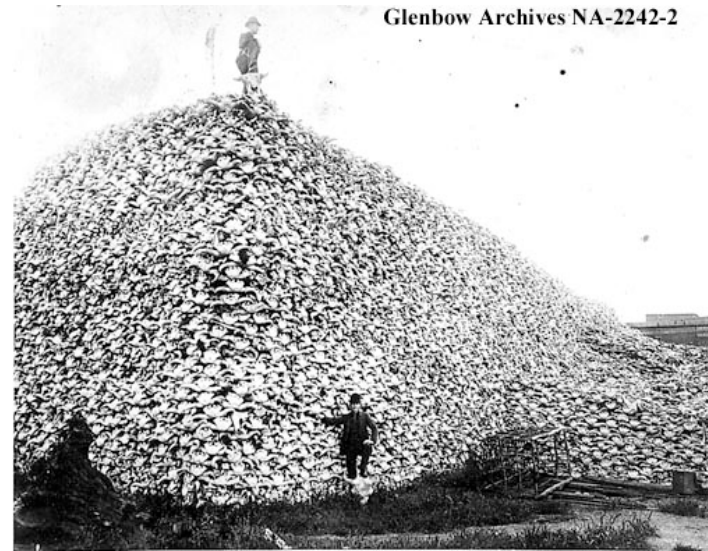
Marlon Brando,  
Pocahontas  
and Me...





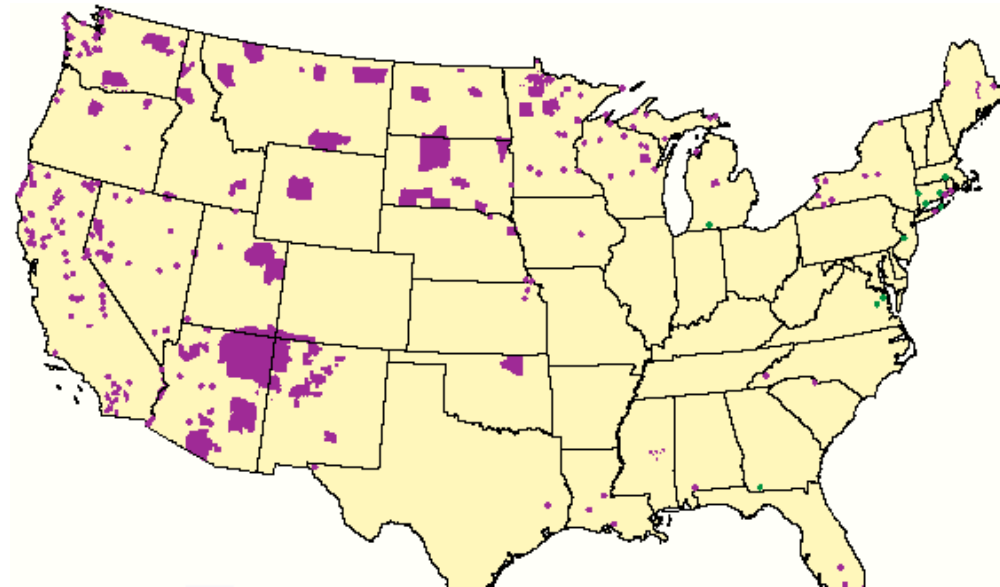
# How the West was Won

- 2/3 of Indians left lived on Plains; "Wild Indians"
  - Fierce fighters: held their own for 250yrs.
  - Eur. Introduced horses → adopted to their own use
  - Rapid fire of arrows: could fire 20 arrows to Eur. 1 or even 6 bullets (colt pistol)
- **Buffalo** – 12 million by end of Civil War
  - By 1878 – Fewer than 200 buffalo; railroad, hunters and skinnners had killed them



# Indian Reservations

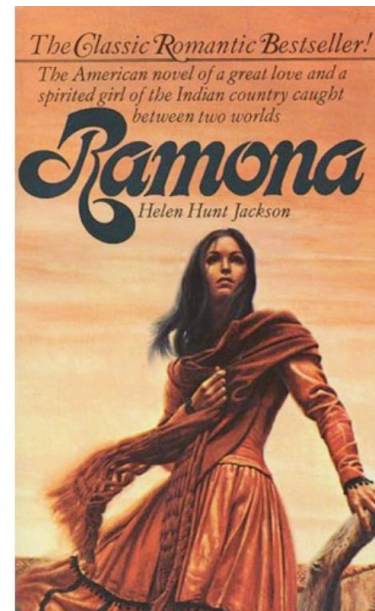
- **1850s – Concentration** – restricted to areas whites promised never to violate, then did...
- **Reconstruction** – Sherman/Sheridan sent to enforce Indian policy → HYPOCRISY by RadReps
- **Grant’s “Peace Policy”** – Civilize and Christianize





# Assimilation?

- New social conscience, but cultural differences b/t whites and Indians made assimilation difficult
- **Helen Hunt Jackson** – Describes unjust treatment of Indians & need for reform
- Collier: “Collective corruption, corruption which did not know it was corrupt.”



- **Dawes Act (1887)** – Break up of reservations into private ownership of land by Indians
  - Those receiving allotments became US citizens
  - Each male could own 160 acres; ownership held in trust for 25 years; Indians could not sell land during that period → rejected farming
  - When trusteeship expired, lost much of their land to fleecing
- **Burke Act (1906)** – could reduce 25 years according to Govt. discretion → gave Indians citizenship
- Funds for education of Indian children
- **BLUM**: Most laws to assimilated Indians were failures, Indians lived in poverty on reservations.

## INDIAN LAND FOR SALE

GET A HOME  
OF  
YOUR OWN  
EASY PAYMENTS



PERFECT TITLE  
POSSESSION  
WITHIN  
THIRTY DAYS

## FINE LANDS IN THE WEST

IRRIGATED GRAZING AGRICULTURAL  
IRRIGABLE 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
Colorado	5,211.21	\$7.27	Oklahoma	34,664.00	\$19.14
Idaho	17,013.00	24.85	Oregon	1,020.00	15.43
Kansas	1,684.50	33.45	South Dakota	120,445.00	16.53
Montana	11,034.00	9.86	Washington	4,879.00	41.37
Nebraska	5,641.00	36.65	Wisconsin	1,969.00	17.00
North Dakota	22,610.70	9.93	Wyoming	865.00	20.64

FOR THE YEAR 1911 IT IS ESTIMATED THAT 350,000 ACRES WILL BE OFFERED FOR SALE

For information as to the character of the land write for booklet, "INDIAN LANDS FOR SALE," to the Superintendent U. S. Indian School at any one of the following places:

CALIFORNIA	INDIANA	MISSOURI	NEBRASKA	NEW YORK	OHIO	UTAH	WASHINGTON
Albany	Indianapolis	St. Louis	Omaha	Albany	Cincinnati	Denver	Fort Stevens
San Francisco	Indianapolis	St. Louis	Omaha	Albany	Cincinnati	Denver	Fort Stevens
San Francisco	Indianapolis	St. Louis	Omaha	Albany	Cincinnati	Denver	Fort Stevens
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WALTER L. FISHER,  
Secretary of the Interior

ROBERT G. VALENTINE,  
Commissioner of Indian Affairs



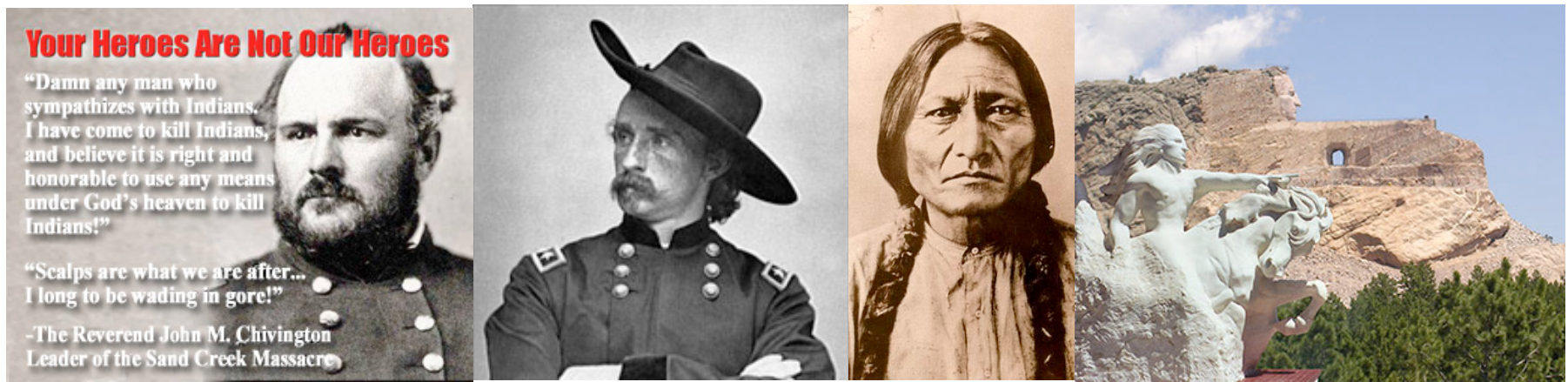
# New Western States

- Whites began settling, mining & building RRs→ forced Indians to N, S & W
- If Indians refused reservations→ subjected to Army
- Gold found in Black Hills of S. Dakota→ Conflict!



# Indian Wars

- **Sand Creek Massacre (1864)** – After 3 years of attacks by Arapaho & Cheyenne, **John Chivington** refused to accept surrender of **Black Kettle** & killed men, women & children.
- **Little Bighorn (1876)**
  - Sioux Indians were promised sacred grounds called the Black Hills (Wyoming & S. Dakota)
  - Gold was discovered there so 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry ordered to move Sioux off ground, led by **Gen. George Custer vs. Sitting Bull, Crazy Horse** (Sioux & Cheyenne)
  - Custer and all 264 troops killed
  - Sitting Bull escapes, but → Sioux and Cheyenne finally defeated and forced to move to reservations





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- A black and white portrait of a Native American man, likely Geronimo, standing outdoors. He has long, dark hair and a serious, intense expression. He is wearing a light-colored, long-sleeved shirt with a dark, patterned scarf or bandana draped around his neck. He holds a long-barreled rifle diagonally across his body with his right hand. The background is a painted studio backdrop depicting a natural landscape with trees and foliage.

