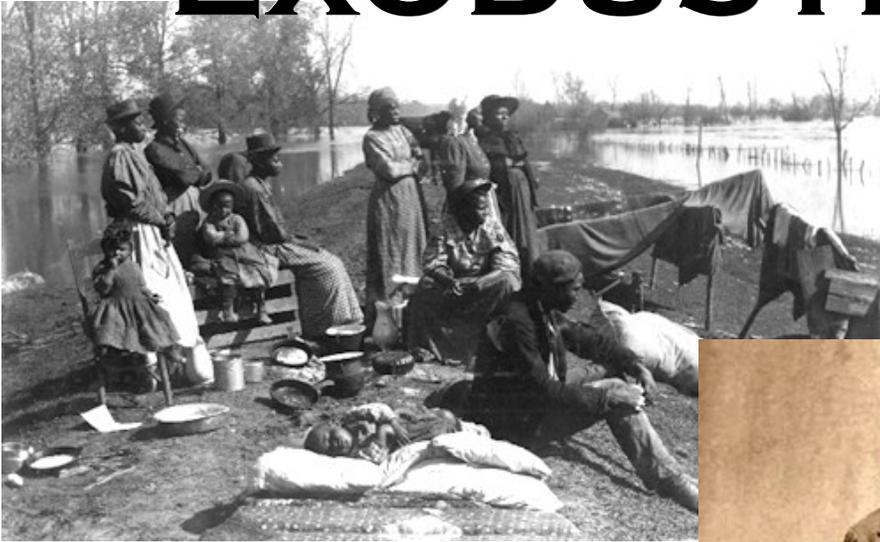
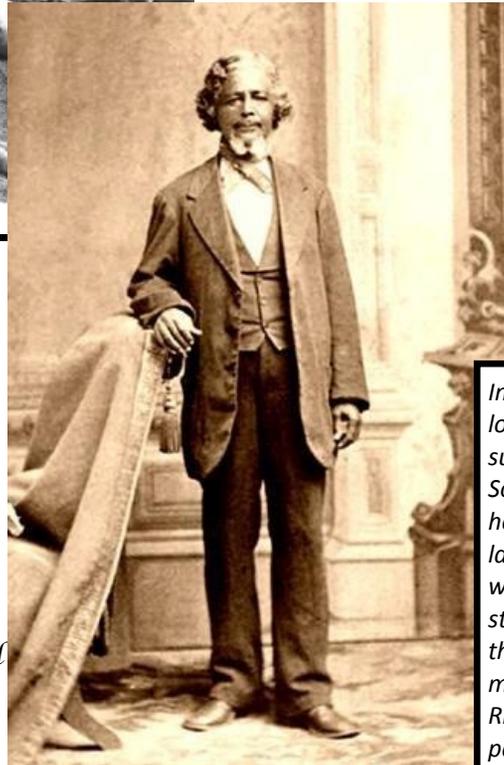


EXODUSTERS



A group of Exodusters on a levee in St. Louis



"Pap" Singleton led the movement of freedmen to Kansas

You see, I was in debt, and the man I rented land from said every year I must rent again to pay the other year, and so I rents and rents, and each year I gets deeper and deeper in debt. In a fit of madness I one day said to the man I rented from: 'It's no use, I works hard and raises big crops and you sells it and keeps the money, and brings me more and more in debt, so I will go somewhere else and try to make headway like white working-men.' "He got very mad and said to me: 'If you try that job, you will get your head shot away.'

"A Sharecropper Explains Why He Joined the Exodusters," *HERB: Resources for Teachers*, accessed November 20, 2017, <https://herb.ashp.cuny.edu/items/show/967>

Ho for Kansas!

Brethren, Friends, & Fellow Citizens:

I feel thankful to inform you that the

REAL ESTATE

AND

Homestead Association,

Will Leave Here the

15th of April, 1878,

In pursuit of Homes in the Southwestern Lands of America, at Transportation Rates, cheaper than ever was known before.

For full information inquire of

Benj. Singleton, better known as old Pap,
NO. 5 NORTH FRONT STREET.

Beware of Speculators and Adventurers, as it is a dangerous thing to fall in their hands.

Nashville, Tenn., March 18, 1878.

In the spring of 1879, thousands of colored people, unable longer to endure the intolerable hardships, injustice, and suffering inflicted upon them by a class of Democrats in the South, had, in utter despair, fled panic-stricken from their homes and sought protection among strangers in a strange land. Homeless, penniless, and in rags, these poor people were thronging the wharves of Saint Louis, crowding the steamers on the Mississippi River, and in pitiable destitution throwing themselves upon the charity of Kansas. Thousands more were congregating along the banks of the Mississippi River, hailing the passing steamers, and imploring them for a passage to the land of freedom, where the rights of citizens are respected and honest toil rewarded by honest compensation.

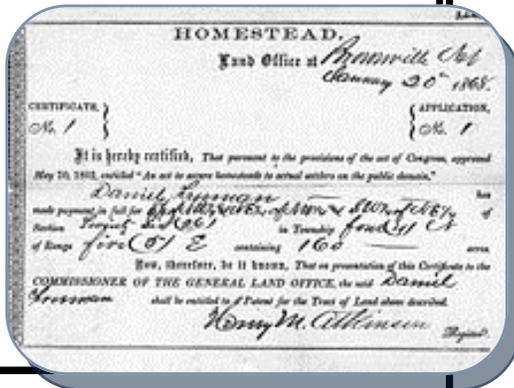
Report and Testimony of the Select Committee of the United States Senate to Investigate the Cause of the Removal of the Negroes from the Southern States to the Northern States,

Farmers faces many difficulties on the Great Plains. The land was flat and dry, covered in tall prairie grass that had deep roots. Prairie fires were a huge problem and they would spread quickly. Weather was another issue as farmers faced extreme heat in the summer and extreme cold in the winter. Dramatic thunderstorms also played out across the plains. The lack of wood and water was also an issue they faced.

FARMERS



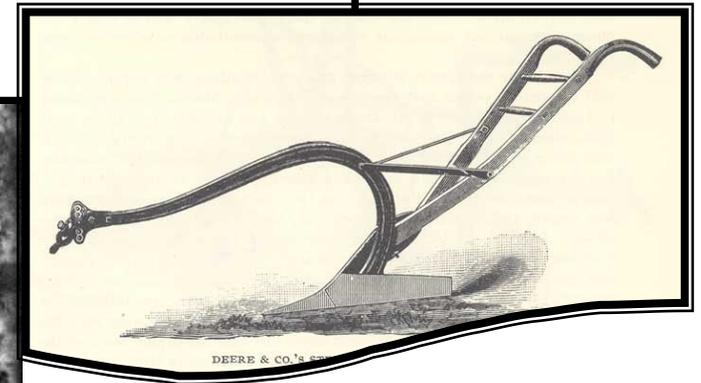
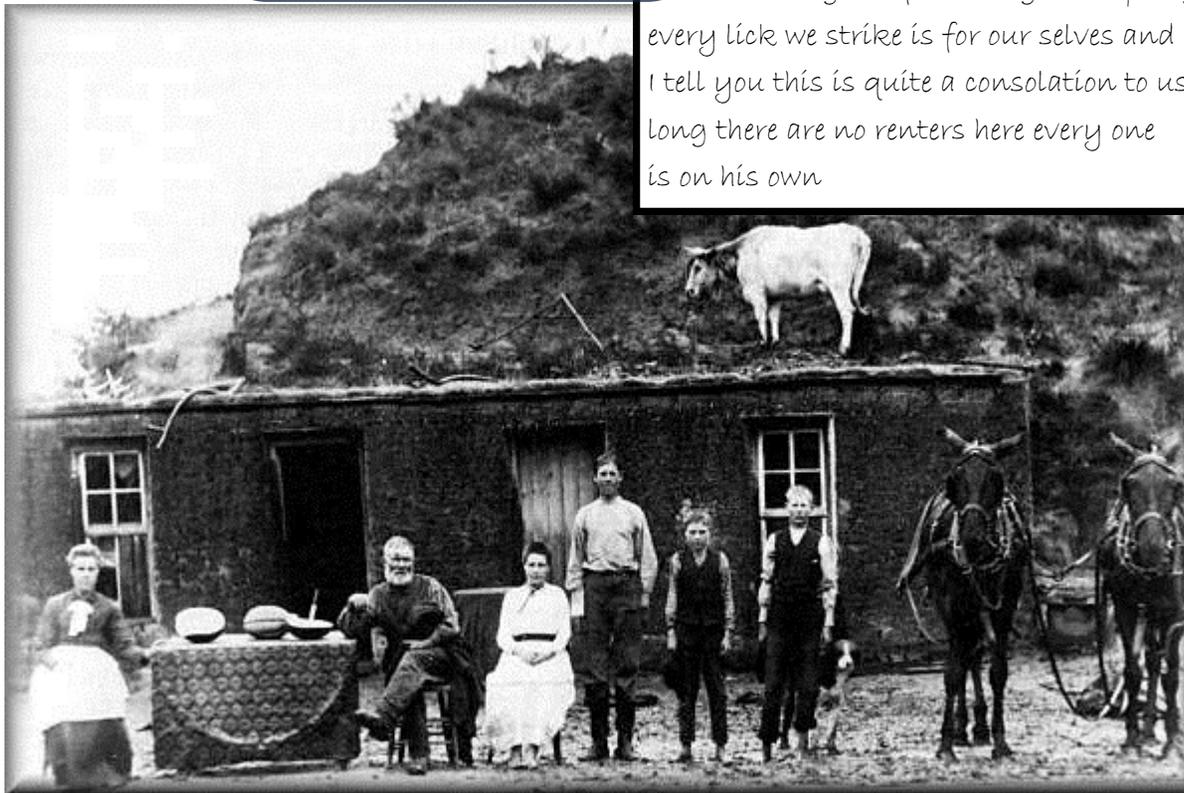
Windmills were used across the plains to water both crops and animals. The windmills helped pull water deep from underground. Barbed wire fencing also helped keep animals out of fields and contained.



U W O & M V Oblinger

Direct to Sutton Clay County Neb Excuse letter paper

Most all of the people here live in Sod houses and dug outs I like the sod house the best they are the most convenient I expect you think we live miserable because we are in a sod house but I tell you in solid earnest I never enjoyed my self better but George I expect you are ready to say It is because it is something new No this not the case it is because we are {Begin deleted text}own{End deleted text} on our own and the thoughts of moveing next spring does not bother me and every lick we strike is for our selves and not half for some one else I tell you this is quite a consolation to us who have been renters so long there are no renters here every one is on his own



The steel plow was a very important improvement that helped western farmers cultivate the land. The steel plow could cut through the thick prairie sod easily and would dull less quickly than a regular plow.



TO COLORED MEN!

FREEDOM,

Protection, Pay, and a Call to Military Duty!

On the 1st day of January, 1863, the President of the United States proclaimed FREEDOM to over THREE MILLIONS OF SLAVES. This decree is to be enforced by all the power of the Nation. On the 21st of July last he issued the following order:

PROTECTION OF COLORED TROOPS.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, July 21.

"General Order, No. 233.

"The following order of the President is published for the information and government of all concerned:—

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, July 20.

"It is the duty of every Government to give protection to its citizens, of whatever class, color, or condition, and especially to those who are duly organized as soldiers in the public service. The law of nations, and the usages and customs of war, as carried on by civilized powers, permit no distinction as to color in the treatment of prisoners of war as public enemies. To sell or enslave any captured person on account of his color, is a relapse into barbarism, and a crime against the civilization of the age.

"The Government of the United States will give the same protection to all its soldiers, and if the enemy shall sell or enslave any one because of his color, the offense shall be punished by retaliation upon the enemy's prisoners in our possession. It is, therefore, ordered, for every soldier of the United States, killed in violation of the laws of war, a rebel soldier shall be executed; and for every one enslaved by the enemy, or sold into slavery, a rebel soldier shall be placed at hard labor on the public works, and continued at such labor until the other shall be released and receive the treatment due to prisoners of war.

"ABRAHAM LINCOLN."

"By order of the Secretary of War.

"E. D. TOWNSEND, Assistant Adjutant General."

Buffalo Soldiers were African American members of military units formed after the Civil War with the purpose of patrolling the frontier, mapping the landscape, and building forts and roads. It is reported they received their nickname from the Native Americans due to their hair texture.



rebels soon began to find out, as witness the follow-

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON CITY, August 8, 1863.

ation of this Department to the cases of Orin H. Brown, William H. Johnston, boat Isaac Smith, has received consideration. This Department has directed my such in our possession, and if not, three others, be confined in close custody that the fact be communicated to the rebel authorities at Richmond.

ly your obedient servant,

"EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

now—man for man—to the bitter end.

CHARLES SUMNER,

oughkeepsie, July 15th and 16th, 1863, to promote Colored Enlistments.

BOSTON, July 15th, 1863.

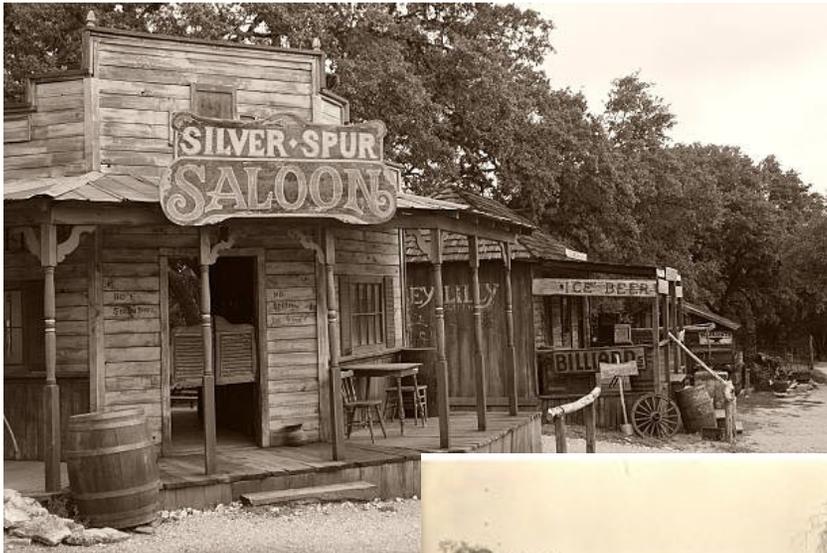
pected from colored men any patriotic service. Such service is the return for ce should begin also. Nor should relative rights and duties be weighed with sense of justice, seeks to enrol colored men among its defenders.

ly: enlist at once. Now is the day and now is the hour. Help to overcome in this way you will surely overcome those other enemies hardly less cruel, not the time to hesitate or to hizzle. Do your duty to our country, and you conquer prejudice and open all hearts.

very faithfully yours,

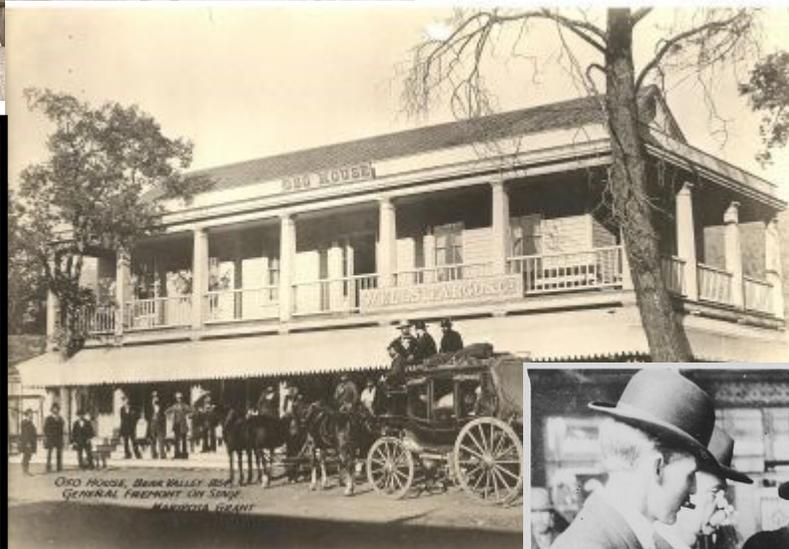
"CHARLES SUMNER."

BUFFALO SOLDIERS



The Saloon is an iconic image of the Wild West. It was the place where people gathered of all walks of life to drink, gamble, dance and make deals. Women often worked as servers and hostesses in these establishments. Saloons often started as hastily put up tents and as the population in the boom towns grew the saloon would become an actual wooden building.

"I bought two boards from a precious pile belonging to a man who was building the second wooden house in town. With my own hands I chopped stakes, drove them into the ground, and set up my table. I bought provisions at a neighboring store, and when my husband came back at night he found 20 miners eating at my table. Each man as he rose put a dollar in my hand and said I might count him a permanent customer. I called my hotel 'El Dorado'" - Luzena Wilson



SALOONS, INNS AND RESTAURANTS

"My venture was a success. I sold fruit pies for one dollar and a quarter a piece, and mince pies for one dollar and fifty cents. I sometimes made and sold a hundred in a day, and not even a stove to bake them in, but had two small dutch ovens." - Mary Jane Daples



When we first located on this stream, no more than six houses were built on it. Now, within a distance of ten miles, 150 dwellings are built.P.S. I have wafered in some samples of gold found on the main branch of the Feather River. The coarse is a fine specimen found on this fork, but gold found here is often as coarse as a hickory nut.

P.S. An onion in the mines is worth a dollar, and boots \$40 per pair. I have paid \$8 for a jar of pickles.—William Swain Letter



Irish immigrants pushed from Ireland because of the Potato Famine and pulled to the US for economic and social mobility, went west to work on the railroads and mine for Gold. Mining was the ultimate get rich quick scheme.



There are two major phases of mining in the American West after the Gold Rush of 1849. The first consisted of individual miners panning for gold that had made its way to the surface. As surface mining yielded less and less the big companies came in and began to lode mine or mine deeper in to the earth to harvest "seams" of precious metals etc.

Boomtowns often popped up around the location where gold or other precious metals were found. When the resource was exhausted the town dried up and became a ghost town.

MINERS

Chinese immigrants came east from Asia to mine for Gold. They also worked on the railroads and faced discrimina-

