Territorial Utah and The Utah War

Chapter 9

Mormon and Natives Interaction

- When Brigham Young and the Mormons arrived in Utah the Natives welcomed them.

- The Natives were excited to have the Mormons in Utah because of the trade resources that they brought.

Walkara

- <u>Chief Walkara</u> was the most powerful Ute chief. He had a vision while hunting of the Mormons coming and was told to <u>welcome them</u>.

- He invited the Mormons to settle in Utah Valley and throughout Central Utah.

Relations

- Brigham Young instructed his followers to <u>treat the Natives well</u> and teach them Mormon Doctrine.

- He also wanted the Natives <u>taught how to be "civilized".</u>

- In order to educate and feed them <u>Young established Indian Farms.</u> This was a place where they <u>could learn to produce</u> their own <u>food.</u>

Causes of Conflicts

- Why would conflicts arise when all groups wanted to be friends?

Proposed State of Deseret

- Soon after arriving in Utah, Brigham <u>Young and other leaders wrote a constitution</u>

- Wanted the <u>State of Deseret</u>
  - "Deseret" meant honeybee – industry, hard work

- <u>Petition turned down</u> by federal government

State of Deseret (proposed)

Utah Territory 1851

Compromise of 1850

- Issue of slavery divided North and South
  - Evenly split in Senate – half of states were free and half were slave
- California asked to join as a free state
  - Would tip the balance
- Henry Clay (Great Compromiser) said to allow CA in, and create 2 territories – New Mexico and Utah – which could decide for themselves if they were free or slave territories. (The compromise also included the fugitive slave act)

Utah becomes a territory

State of Deseret (proposed)

Utah Territory 1851

- Voted to allow slavery
- Run by federal government
- President Fillmore appoints Brigham Young governor
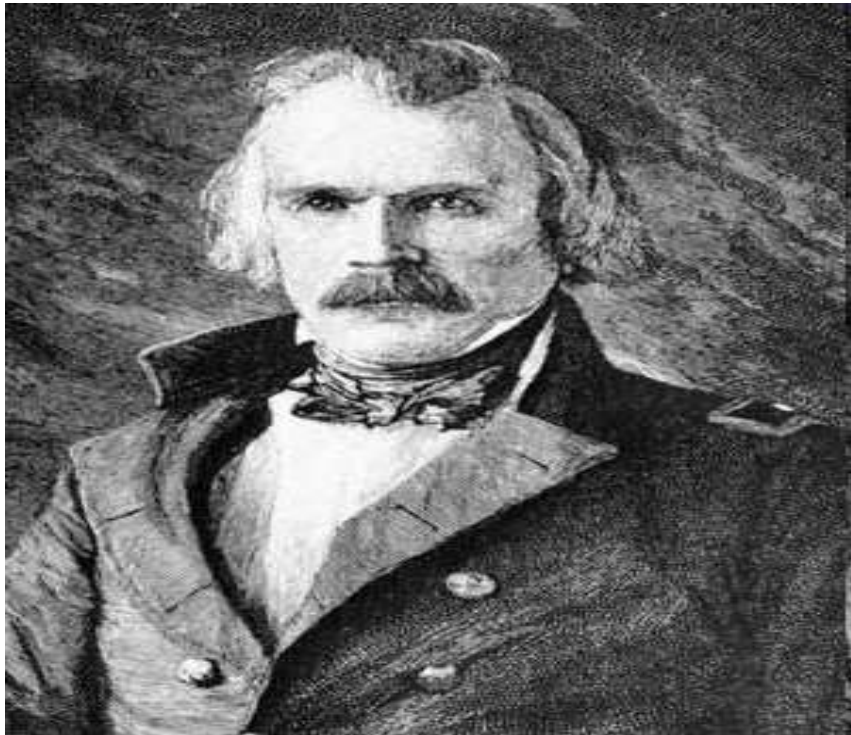- 3 judges appointed from the East
  - This makes people upset

The Utah War

- The 3 Judges return to D.C. and tell the president…
  - Mormons are killing non-Mormons
  - Mormons are destroying legal records
  - Mormons treat non-Mormons unfairly in court
- President Buchanan appointed a new governor and sent Johnston's army to escort him to the Utah Territory
- Brigham Young assumes it is an attack, so he calls out the militia
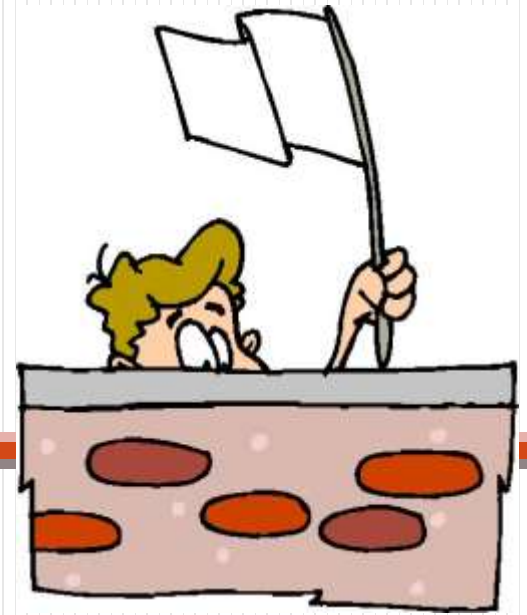
Utah War

The Utah War

- Mormon Militia prepare for Johnston's army by…
  - Destroying supply wagons, animal feed, and driving off animals
  - Also burned Fort Bridger and Fort Supply
- Army forced to stop in Wyoming due to snow and lack of supplies
- Mormons abandoned Salt Lake City and other northern communities
  - Prepared their homes, food, and fields to be torched
  - Buried foundations of Salt Lake Temple

Mountain Meadows Massacre

- 1857: Mormons are preparing for Johnston's army
- 120 Arkansas and Missouri immigrants (the Fancher party) cross southern Utah on their way to California
- Mormons will not trade with the Fancher party
- A Mormon leader had just been killed in Arkansas, and these immigrants started bragging about the murder
- A rumor that the immigrants had poisoned a well, killing Paiutes and their animals
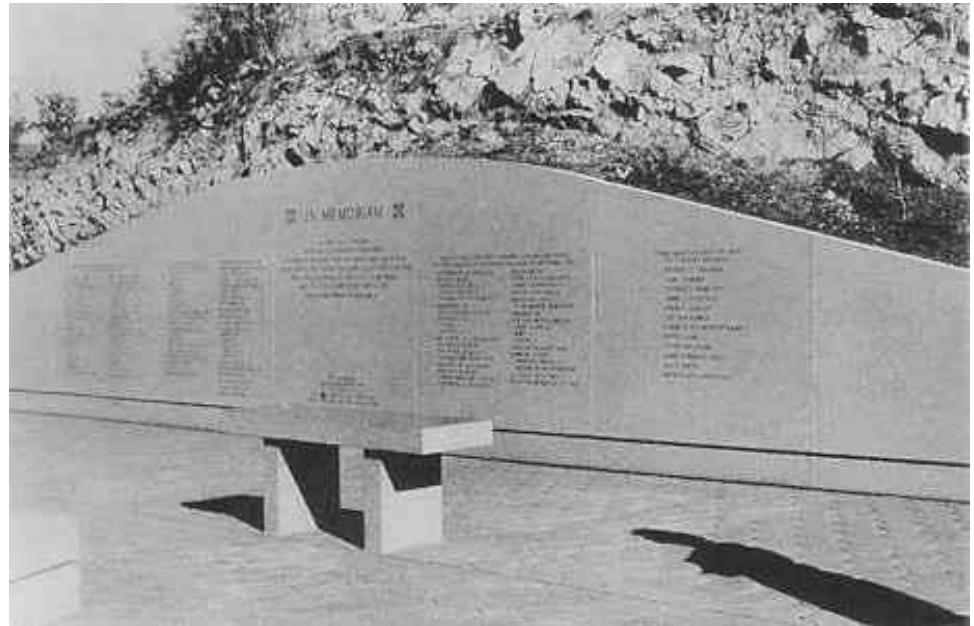 - Paiutes attacked but were driven back

Mountain Meadows

- Isaac Haight sent a rider to SLC to ask Young for advice

- Haight and John D. Lee decided to ally with the Paiutes and attack the immigrants

- Paiutes encircled the immigrants, and then Lee approached with a white flag of truce

- Mormons agreed to give the immigrants safe passage if they put their weapons away

- Sent women and children ahead of the men

Mountain Meadows

- Had one soldier next to each male immigrant

- "Halt, each man do your duty."
  - Turned and shot the immigrant, or stepped back and allowed the Paiutes to do it

- Killed all of the men, then went and killed all of the women, and any children old enough to report
  - Only 18 small children were left alive

Camp Floyd

- Army entered in spring of 1858 to find SLC deserted.
- Set up a military base in the Oquirrh Mountains; Camp Floyd
- Good things that Camp Floyd or the army brought to Utah
  - Strengthened Utah's economy, provided jobs, soldiers had to buy supplies from Utahans
- Bad things that Camp Floyd or the army brought to Utah
  - Brought the "Wild West" to Utah… gamblers, saloons, prostitution, cattle rustlers, etc.
  - Had to have a gun or didn't feel safe
- Johnston's army called back when Civil War started in 1860
  - War ended without a shot fired
  - Colonel Patrick Connor replaces Johnston's army

[Camp Floyd Video](#)

The New Governor

- Alfred Cumming, the new governor, tried to be fair to all people
  - Won more friends than enemies
- Abraham Lincoln sent Colonel Patrick Connor with a group of men to "protect overland mail route"
  - Probably to keep an eye on the Mormons
  - Cold War

Patrick Edward Conner

- Patrick Edward Conner was in charge of the California Volunteers. This was a militia established in California.

- During the Civil War the Volunteers were sent into Utah to maintain the Oregon Trail.

- Conner understood his duties as watching over the Mormons. He made no illusion to the fact he hated the Mormons and Indians.

  - Ex- Pointed cannon directly at Brigham Young's house, killing Indians as he marched to Utah, Bear River Massacre.

Political Cartoons:

Political cartoons communicate powerful ideas often in a humorous, enlightening manner, by incorporating the events of the period into an easily understandable format most people could relate to even with limited reading abilities. Symbols, caricature, drawings and exaggerations used by the cartoonist point out themes and problems of any given time period.

Defiant Attitude of Brigham Young and yᵉ Indians towards yᵉ Uncle Sam.

1. What characters, symbols and objects do you see in the cartoon?
2. What cues and details do you see that give further meaning?
3. Read the caption, put it in your own words, and then identify the main idea of the cartoon.
4. What bas might the cartoonist have?