

# Chapter 5 Industrialization

# Railroads

**Pacific Railroad Act-** The act that provides for the construction of a transcontinental railroad by two corporations.

**Grenville Dodge-** a former union general. The Union Pacific began pushing westward from Omaha, Nebraska, in 1865.

**Leland Stanford-** United States railroad executive and founder of Stanford University.

**Cornelius Vanderbilt-** United States financier who accumulated great wealth from railroad and shipping businesses.

**Jay Gould-** The most notoriously corrupt railroad owner.

**Crédit Mobilier-** a construction company set up by several stockholders of the congress



**James J. Hill-** United States railroad tycoon.

**Time zone-** to make rail service safer and more reliable, the American Railroad Association divided the country into four different time zones in 1883.

**Land grant-** To encourage railroad construction across the great plains, the federal government gave land grants to many railroad companies.

## Main Ideas

2. Describing- How did Grenville Dodge contribute to the economic growth of the United States in the late 1800s?

- By employing about 10,000 workers to construct Union Pacific Railroad. In-turn the railroad needed many supplies and these supplies had to be made



## Critical Thinking

4. Big Ideas- How did the railroad expansion lead to industrial growth?

- Railroad expansion increased the markets for many products and they stimulated the economy by spending huge amount of money on steel, coal, timber, and other materials. Railroad expansion also led to large integrated railroad systems that were more efficient than before. Railroads also linked people in different regions and changed American society.

## Critical Thinking

5. Theorizing- Why might politicians be tempted to accept gifts of railroad stock? Why did Crédit Mobilier become a scandal?

- Politicians might be tempted to accept gifts at railroad stock so that they can give those individuals land grants in return, which could lead to lodge sums of money being made and in return politicians would get a cut of the land grants when they were sold by the railroads.



The Political Cartoon explains that he depicted William Henry Vanderbilt, a successful American businessman who was in charge of New York Central and Hudson River Railroad. Jason "Jay" Gould, who was a leading railroad developer; Cyrus West Field, who led the Atlantic Telegraph Company; and Russell Sage, who held stock in the railroad industry and also was president of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway. All these successful men were affiliated with the railroad industry and this political cartoon depicts them as dividing up the country which portrays them in a negative way as it implies their immense power over the industry. This political cartoon was produced in 1885 and at this time these men had immense power in the railroad industry.

## Primary Resource

- "Everything-rails, tiles, bridging, fastenings, all railroads supplies, fuel for locomotives and trains, and supplies for men and animals on the entire work-had to be transported from the Missouri River."

-Quoted in the Growth of the American Republic

- Using railroads to transports everything is important to get it where it belongs and they needed to get things transported from the Mississippi river.

