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10. THE PRICE of FREE LAND

This Currier & Ives lithograph, from 1868, is based on a painting by Frances ("Fanny") Flora Palmer. Its title is: "Across the Continent: Westward the Course of Empire Takes Its Way."

As Indians lost their land, and their leaders, their lives forever changed as westward expansion continued.

Buffalo, once so important to Native-Americans as a source of food and clothing, were slaughtered by <u>the</u> <u>thousands</u> as "<u>hide hunters</u>" replaced Indian braves on the plains.

<u>Kit Carson</u>, who had once befriended the Navajo people, uprooted at least 9,000 of them and, in 1864, forced them to make "<u>The Long Walk</u>" to Bosque Redondo, desolate land in what is now New Mexico. Many, including elderly people and small children, died on the way.

In the Arizona Territory, <u>Indians dug</u> irrigation ditches after they were relocated to parched lands. Many of those lands are still parched.

<u>Geronimo</u> (the Apache medicine man) and his son (in matching shirts) were captured and sent to exile in Florida. Big Foot (leader of the Sioux) <u>died</u> on the Wounded Knee battlefield (in 1890).

The amount of land, lost by Native Americans, totaled around 1.5 billion acres between 1776 and 1887. Dr. Claudio Saunt, a professor at the University of Georgia, has created a time-lapse video depicting the impact of those losses on Native Americans over the years.

A very great price was paid, after all, for so much free land.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/THE-PRICE-of-FREE-LAND-Go-West-U.S.-Westward-Exp ansion

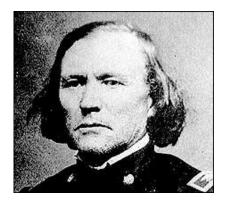
See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

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Media Stream



THE PRICE of FREE LAND



<u>Kit Carson</u>

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Navajo - The Long Walk, Part 1

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