



13.1 - The Oregon Country

THIS SET OF NOTES IS INTENDED TO SERVE AS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IN A FORMAT THAT YOU ARE FAMILIAR WITH.

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO WRITE DOWN THESE NOTES.

THEY ARE SIMPLY HERE FOR YOU TO REVIEW IF YOU NEED ADDITIONAL REVIEW MATERIAL.

I. Rivalry in the Northwest

A. The Oregon Country

1. Land located north of CA between the Pacific Ocean & the Rocky Mtns.
2. Land known today as Oregon, Washington, & Idaho
 - Plus parts of Montana and Wyoming
3. FOUR nations held this land in the early 1800s:
 - The United States
 - Great Britain
 - Spain
 - Russia



B. Adams-Onís Treaty

1. 1819
2. Secretary of State John Quincy Adams
3. Spain approves treaty = set limits of northern border to CA and give up OR
4. Florida territory ceded by Spain



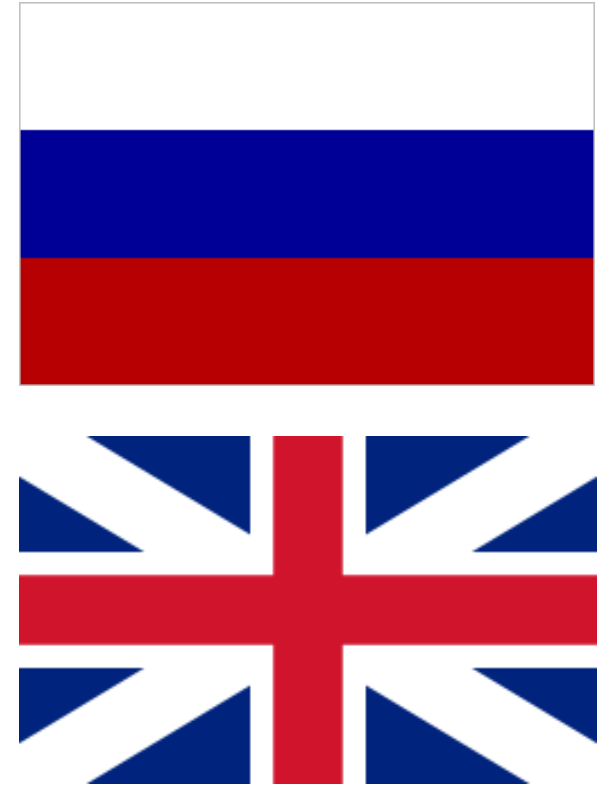
C. Russia & Great Britain

1. Russia

- 1824
- Gives up claim to land south of AK

2. Great Britain

- 1818
- Adams works out joint occupation agreement
- BOTH US & British could settle on same land





D. Mountain Men in Oregon

1. First Americans to live in Oregon Country = Fur Traders

- Came to trap beaver (demand in Europe)

2. John Jacob Astor of NY

- 1808, est. The American Fur Company
- Traded on the East Coast, the Pacific Northwest, and in China

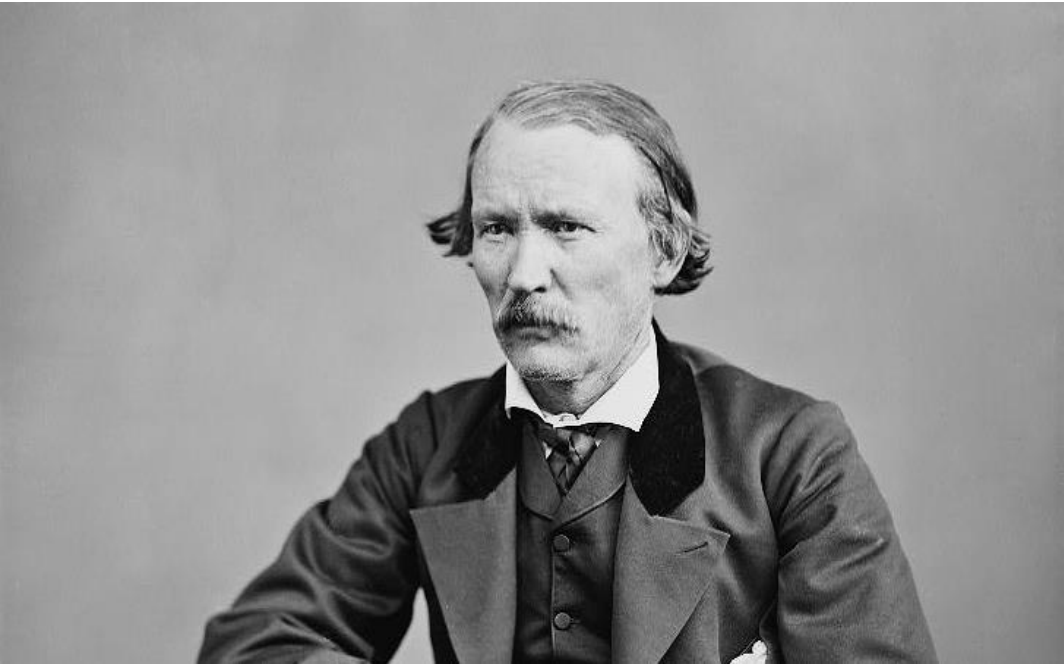


3. Traded with Native Americans
then others

4. Those in Rocky Mtns. =
Mountain Men

5. Limited fur & fashion changes
reduced business

- Many moved to Oregon & settled
on farms



6. Jim Bridger & Kit Carson

- Mtn. Men
- Guides for Western settlement
- Oregon Trail, California Trail, Santa Fe Trail

II. Manifest Destiny



A. Why settle West?

1. Economic troubles in the East
2. Reports of Oregon's fertile land
3. Religion
4. Land and new opportunity



B. Missionaries

1. Organized effort to spread Christianity

2. Dr. Marcus & Narcissa Whitman

- 1836, Oregon
- Built mission among the Cayuse people
- Wanted to provide medical care and convert Cayuse to Christianity
- New settlers brought measles = epidemic killed Cayuse children
- Cayuse attacked & killed Whitman's and 11 settlers



C. Emigrants

1. People who leave their country
 - People who left the United States to go to Oregon
2. 1843 = ~1,000 emigrants go West (2,000-mile journey!)
3. Moved with Prairie Schooners
 - A canvas-covered wagon used by pioneers in the mid-1800s
4. Started Oregon Trail from Independence, Missouri traveling through:
 - The Great Plains
 - The Platte River
 - The South Pass
 - The Rocky Mountains
 - The Snake & Columbia Rivers

D. Manifest Destiny

1. Belief = nation's mission to spread freedom by settling the entire continent

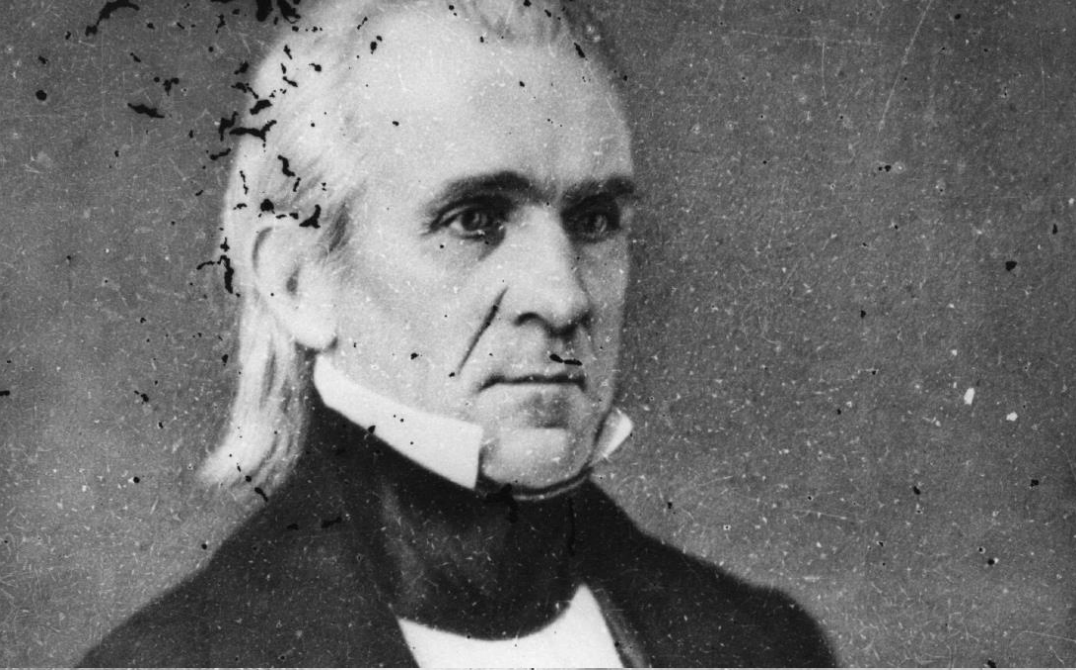
2. John O'Sullivan

- 1840s
- Newspaper Editor
- Coined the name "Manifest Destiny"

3. Manifest Destiny = The belief that the United States was destined by God to extend its boundaries to the Pacific Ocean.



III. Borders



A. "Fifty-Four Forty or Fight"

1. 1844 presidential election

- James K. Polk (Dem.) supports US taking ALL of Oregon
 - a. Slogan "Fift-Four Forty or Fight" referred to line of latitude for northern border of Oregon
- Henry Clay (Whig) did not take a strong position on the issue
- Polk wins
 - a. Focused on border
 - b. British would not accept 54° 40' N border at 49° N latitude

