

Section 3, continued

Stephen F. Austin, a land agent, set up a colony of American settlers in Texas. Soon Anglos, or English-speaking settlers, outnumbered Spanish-speaking Texans. There was conflict over cultural issues.

First, the Anglo settlers spoke English instead of Spanish. Second, the Anglos tended to be Protestant instead of Catholic. Third, many of the settlers were Southerners who brought their slaves with them. Mexico had outlawed slavery in 1829. They unsuccessfully tried to get the Texans to free their slaves.

Mexico tried to prevent more American settlers from coming to Texas, but the settlers came anyway. Austin asked Mexico for more self-government for Texas.

In 1836 a war broke out that became known as the **Texas Revolution**.

A small Texan force tried to defend **the Alamo**, a mission in San Antonio. When the Mexicans captured it, they killed all 187 of the Americans. “Remember the Alamo” became a rallying cry for Texas rebels. Under their commander **Sam Houston**, the Texans captured Mexican leader Santa Anna and won their independence.

James K. Polk was elected president in 1844. He was a slaveholder and favored westward expansion. In 1845, Texas was admitted to the union.

2. Name three conflicts between Anglo settlers and Mexico.

THE WAR WITH MEXICO

(Pages 135-137)

What did the United States gain in the Mexican War?

The United States and Mexico had a dispute over the northern region of

Mexico. President Polk sent the U.S. army to blockade the Rio Grande River.

War broke out between the United States and Mexico. New Mexico immediately asked to join the United States. American settlers in California declared their independence from Mexico. They set up the **Republic of California**. American troops won victory after victory.

The **Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo** gave almost half of Mexico’s land to the United States. The United States bought more land from Mexico with the Gadsden Purchase in 1853. This set the current borders of the lower 48 states.

3. Identify two states that became part of the United States as a result of the Mexican War.

THE CALIFORNIA GOLD RUSH

(Pages 137-138)

How did the Gold Rush change California?

In 1848 gold was discovered in California. People streamed into California in the rush for gold. These “forty-niners” came from all over the United States as well as from foreign countries. California’s population exploded. San Francisco became a boom town.

The Gold Rush brought thousands of people to California and spurred the development of farming, manufacturing, shipping, and banking.

4. How did the Gold Rush affect California?
