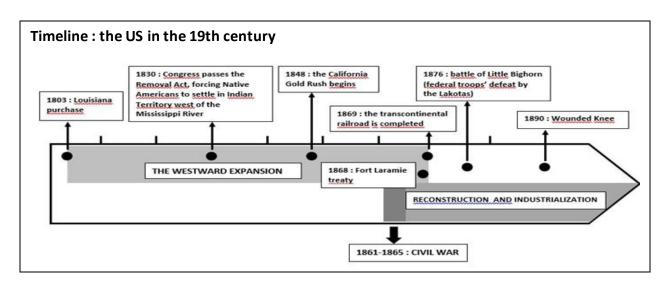
INTRODUCTION: The Manifest Destiny and the Westward expansion

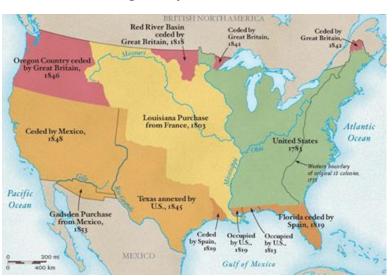
Doc. 1: John Gast, *American Progress*, 1872, oil on canvas, Autry Museum of the American West, Los Angeles

John Gast, a Prussian-born painter and lithographer, painted this picture in 1872 on commission for George Crofutt, the publisher of a popular series of western travel guides. It has since been frequently reproduced.





Doc. 2: Territorial gains by the US



Source: National Geographic website