

**Chapter 1 : Book Review - LeMenager, Manifest and Other Destinies**

*Manifest and Other Destinies critiques Manifest Destiny's exclusive claim as an explanatory national story in order to rethink the meaning and boundaries of the West and of the United States' national identity.*

**Images Definition** The idea of Manifest Destiny told Americans that they had a mission – a special job given only to Americans. This mission was to make the United States bigger so the "borders of freedom" could be open to even more people. Only they could make sure that people living in un-free countries across the world could learn how to govern themselves and live freely in America. Polk was elected President. Polk believed very strongly in the idea of Manifest Destiny. During his Presidency, the United States grew by a million square miles. At that time, Mexico controlled that land. President Polk sent the United States military to take over the area. The two sides fought for two years. On February 2, 1848, it signed the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, which ended the war. It also gave the United States all of the land above the Rio Grande. A belief in Manifest Destiny helped convince Americans to support the war. It told them it was all right to fight, kill, and take land from Mexicans or other non-Americans. This was all right because they were only doing what God wanted. They were doing what they were destined to do.

**Settlement of the west** The belief in Manifest Destiny was also important in encouraging people to go to other parts of the west, like Oregon and southern California.

**Growth of the country** Of course, there were many other reasons, besides Manifest Destiny, that people wanted the United States to grow. More and more people were coming to America, especially to the cities, which were getting crowded. People wanted land of their own, instead of having to work for other people. The more land a person had, the more money they could make. If a person had their own land, they were working for themselves, and they were free. If it was a mixture of all these things, and many more, along with Manifest Destiny that caused the United States to grow this quickly in just 40 years: Hover over each photo to view its label. Click on the picture to make it bigger. Unfortunately, the parts of North America they wanted were not empty. They were places that Native Americans had always lived. The United States government wanted these tribes to move outside the United States, to what is now Oklahoma. The government was able to convince some of these Native American tribes to sign treaties saying they would leave their lands. When some tribes refused to leave their lands, the United States government committed an ethnic cleansing against them. In an ethnic cleansing, ethnic or religious groups are forced to leave an area by a more powerful ethnic group. When the Cherokee Nation refused to leave their homes, United States President Martin van Buren ordered the military to make them leave. About 15,000 Cherokee were forced to walk to Oklahoma and Arkansas. Most historians think that about 4,000 of them died on the way. This was one out of every four people in the Cherokee population. Because so many people died, this forced migration is now called the Trail of Tears, and it is considered an ethnic cleansing.

**Images American Progress**, by John Gast, is an allegorical representation of the modernization of the new west. Columbia, a personification of the United States, is shown leading civilization westward with the American settlers. She is shown bringing light from the East into the West, stringing telegraph wire, holding a school textbook that will instill knowledge, and highlights different stages of economic activity and evolving forms of transportation. The first Fort Laramie as it looked prior to the title of the painting, from a poem by Bishop Berkeley, was a phrase often quoted in the era of manifest destiny, expressing a widely held belief that civilization had steadily moved westward throughout history. Norwegian settlers in North Dakota in front of their homestead, a sod hut Across The Continent, an lithograph illustrating the westward expansion of white settlers Annexation of the Republic of Hawaii in A cartoon of Uncle Sam seated in restaurant looking at the bill of fare containing "Cuba steak", "Porto Rico pig", the "Philippine Islands" and the "Sandwich Islands" Hawaii.

**Chapter 2 : Manifest Destiny**

*Manifest and Other Destinies: Territorial Fictions of the Nineteenth-Century United States.* By Stephanie LeMenager. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press,

Here was the first use of a phrase that would come to loom large in antebellum America and subsequently. Better than any other slogan, Manifest Destiny expressed the powerful expansionist drive of the s. In a mere four years, the expansionist movementâ€”led by the Democratic administration of James K. Polk â€”â€”achieved its goal of making the United States a continental power. American territory approximately doubled as a result of Texas annexation , the settlement of the Oregon boundary dispute with Britain , and the Mexican cessation The continental United States as it exists today came into being. That expansionist drive, however, was not dead: Alaska was purchased in A large body of scholarship has been devoted to uncovering and revealing the multiple meanings and contradictions of Manifest Destiny, a phrase that brilliantly conflates matters of national self-interestâ€”here territorial acquisitionâ€”with a divine mission for America to lead and serve other nations. The ideas that form the basis of Manifest Destiny go back to a time even before British settlement on the continent, and, as reflected in President George W. For we must consider that we shall be as a city on a hill. The eyes of all people are upon us" p. The test for the not-yet-created nation is that others come to emulate its behavior. Slightly earlier, in the A True Declaration of the Estate of the Colonie of Virginia, the Virginia Company invoked a set of related ideas to promote migration, asserting that the same God who had joined England, Scotland, and Ireland "wil not be wanting to adde a fourth" nation in North America. The phrase *translatio imperii et studii* refers to the destined transfer westward not only of power and rule but of knowledge and discovery. Yet, such visions had to contend with the reality that the American continent already was occupied. It is a contest, a collision," as Myra Jehlen has put it p. With the introduction of slaves of African origin at Jamestown in , the white settlers added a tragic complication to the myth that the unoccupied North American continent had been destined solely for those in the vanguard of the Anglo-Saxon movement westward. Even Jonathan Edwards â€” , the great American exponent of Calvinism, spoke in visionary terms of the American destiny. In America alone is the spirit of God poured forth upon the common people, in plain New England churches" p. Just as America was supplying the Old World with material resources, so too, Edwards predicted, "the course of things in spiritual respects will be in like manner turned" Miller, p. Seventy years ago we escaped from thrall; and, besides our first birthâ€”embracing one continent of earthâ€”God has given to us, for a future inheritance, the broad domains of the political pagans, that shall yet come and lie down under the shade of our ark. God has predestinated, mankind expects, great things from our race. The rest of the nations must soon be in our rear. We are the pioneers of the world; the advance-guard, sent on through the wilderness of untried things, to break a new path in the New World that is ours. And let us always remember that with ourselves, almost for the first time. As John McWilliams puts it, these poets deployed "a form variously called the prospect poem, the vision poem, or the rising glory poem," enabling them to speak with "an authority both secular and spiritual. For such leaders as Thomas Jefferson â€” and John Quincy Adams â€” , the achievement of independence meant that it was time to give substance to the concept of *translatio imperii et studii*. In *Race and Manifest Destiny*, Reginald Horsman quotes Jefferson as asserting that Anglo-Saxons were destined to "cover the whole northern, if not the southern continent, with a people speaking the same language, governed in similar forms, and by similar laws; nor can we contemplate with satisfaction either blot or mixture on that surface. Acting as secretary of state in the Monroe administration, Adams in acquired Florida from Spain and convinced President James Monroe â€” to assert in his annual message the principles that came to be known as the Monroe Doctrine. Yet, as a member of the U. House of Representatives until his death in , Adams would oppose the Mexican-American War as an attempt to spread slavery. In November , John L. In its magnificent domain of space and time, the nation of many nations is destined to manifest to mankind the excellence of divine principles; to establish on earth the noblest temple ever dedicated to the worship of the Most Highâ€”the Sacred and the True. We have a still better title than any than any that can ever be constructed out of all these antiquated materials of old black-letter

international law. Away, away with all these cobweb tissues of rights of discoveries, settlement, continuity, etc. And that claim is by the right of our manifest destiny to overspread and to possess the whole of the continent which Providence has given us for the development of the great experiment of liberty and federative self-government entrusted to us. Quoted in Weinberg, pp. Speaking in the House of Representatives on 16 January, Charles Goodyear of New York scornfully characterized "manifest destiny" as the sort of claim that "has ever been used to justify every act of wholesale violence and rapine that ever disgraced the history of the world. Winthrop of Massachusetts, speaking in the House on 3 January of the same year, had condemned claims made by "right of our Manifest Destiny! I suppose that the right of a manifest destiny to spread will not be admitted to exist in any nation except the universal Yankee nation! Such attacks brought the phrase into the national discourse. When it became clear that the Mexican government would not accede to American demands, Polk ordered American troops under Zachary Taylor "into the region between the Neuces and Rio Grande. The Mexicans responded by killing some sixteen American soldiers and capturing others. Claiming that the Mexicans had "shed American blood on American soil," Polk pushed a war resolution through Congress, passed on 13 May So politically skillful was Polk"and so widely shared were the ideas of Manifest Destiny"that critics of "Mr. Frederick Douglass "observed on 21 January, that Mexico seems a doomed victim to Anglo-Saxon cupidity and love of dominion. The determination of our slaveholding President to prosecute the war, and the probability of his success in wringing from the people men and money to carry it on, is made evident, rather than doubtful, by the puny opposition arrayed against him. No politician of any considerable distinction or eminence, seems willing to hazard his popularity, or stem the fierce current of executive influence, by an open and unqualified disapprobation of the war. Quoted in Graebner, p. The Oxford Companion to American History concludes that "in a small way, America had become an imperialist nation, the control of the South in national politics was reinforced, and the slavery issues were revived in deadly earnest" Johnson, p. In a diary entry made most likely in March, about the time that he delivered his "The Young American" lecture in Boston, Emerson writes that he was prepared to accept even questionable "methods" so long as territorial aims of the American race were realized: It is a secular question. We claim those lands. Although Henry David Thoreau "famously spent a night in jail in, there is no evidence that he did so to protest the Mexican-American War. But he strongly felt the westward pull, as he wrote in the posthumously published "Walking" And that way the nation is moving, and I may say that mankind progress from east to west" p. Over the course of the twentieth century and into the twenty first, Americans have continued to search for ways to reconcile the sometimes conflicting meanings of Manifest Destiny. The Journals and Miscellaneous Notebooks. Edited by William H. Harvard University Press, " Library of America, Edited by Thomas Wortham. Northern Illinois University Press, Northwestern University Press, Collected Essays and Poems. Edited by Elizabeth Hall Witherell. Edited by Herbert Bergman et al. Secondary Works Cheyfitz, Eric. The Poetics of Imperialism: Translation and Colonization from The Tempest to Tarzan. University of Pennsylvania Press, Race and Manifest Destiny: Harvard University Press, Cambridge University Press, Oxford Companion to American History. Oxford University Press, Columbia University Press, American Expansionism and the Empire of Right. Hill and Wang, Johns Hopkins Press, Scholnick Pick a style below, and copy the text for your bibliography.

Chapter 3 : Talk:Manifest destiny/Archive 2 - Wikipedia

*Priced at \$50, Manifest and Other Destinies: Territorial Fictions of the Nineteenth-Century United States is not a book that most Twain scholars will want to rush out to buy for their personal collections. It is a book that many scholars will find interesting and valuable, however.*

Manifest Destiny - The Philosophy That Created A Nation This paper takes a philosophical view of the Manifest Destiny phenomenon and attempts to provide logical evidence that Manifest Destiny can be argued as the sole reason for why America itself has a history. Few Americans had ever assumed that the boundaries of the United States would stand forever unchanged. Manifest Destiny was the driving force responsible for changing the face of American history. It was the philosophy that created a nation. Manifest Destiny -- The Intangible Of American History American history was built on a chronological record of significant events, each event having a cause and subsequent effect on another event. Historical events are presented in history as being tangible, being tied to a date, or an exact happening. Manifest Destiny on the other hand, is a phenomenon. It can not be tied to a date, event or even a specific period of time. Manifest Destiny existed and still exists as the philosophy that embraces American history as a whole. Manifest Destiny is an intangible ideology that created American history. In its simplest form, Manifest Destiny can be defined as, "A Movement. Coining the Phrase In , a democratic leader and influential editor by the name of John L. It is right such as that of the tree to the space of air and the earth suitable for the full expansion of its principle and destiny of growth. The notion of Manifest Destiny was publicized in the papers and was advertise and argued by politicians throughout the nation. The idea of Manifest Destiny Doctrine became the torch, that lit the way for American expansion. For example, in Andrew Jackson, while taking a broad interpretation of vague instructions from President Monroe, led military forces into the Floridas during the Florida crisis. In a systematic and ruthless way, he punished the Seminal Indians for taking up arms with the Spanish, destroyed Spanish forces, and captured several cities and forts. Demkin , Chapter 8. Americans who had moral reservations about the rough tactics of Jackson, soothed their consciences with a familiar, but not yet named philosophy. Their reasoning, the Floridas were part of American territory; therefore, destiny intended that America should have them. The reason why Americans where in Florida in the first place, is yet another example of Manifest Destiny. The people of the deep South, wanting more fertile land, exercise what they considered to be their right. The planter class, without any political approval or permission, just took over and started settling and planting the Florida territories. This move was an example of the arrogance that the Americans had towards expansion. Americans believed that they had a right to any land they wanted. First used in , the term Manifest Destiny conveyed the idea that the rightful destiny of the US included imperialistic expansion. This idea certainly contributed to several wars. For example, in the United States declared war on Mexico and proceeded to win much of what is now the Southwestern United States. Manifest Destiny emerged naturally and inevitability out of fundamental want and need to explore and conquer new lands and establish new borders. With this growth came moral, cultural, social ideological and economical differences between people, states and countries. Were these differences not the reasons why America fought for their independence in the Revolutionary War? Were these differences not the primary cause for the American Civil War? The idea of Manifest Destiny is as old as America itself. The philosophy sailed with Christopher Columbus across the Atlantic. It resided in the spirits of the Jamestown colonist and it landed at Plymouth Rock with the Pilgrims. It also traveled with the fire and brimstone preachers during the Great Awakening and built the first national road. Throughout history there are numerous examples of Manifest Destiny. However, in early American history, synonyms were used to explain the not yet named Phenomenon. American history books are filled with words such as, Explorers, Frontier, Territories, Expansionism, Settlers, Idealism, Sectionalism and Immigration. A Disputed Philosophy Much of the talk about Manifest Destiny had many people suggesting that America should assume the role as a world power. James Monroe in echoed this idea in his famous Monroe Doctrine when he warned Europe and the rest of the world to "Stay out of the Western Hemisphere" Demkin Chapter 8. In the months following the Spanish-American War, the idea of

expansionism grew stronger across the United States. In Congress, legislators called for the annexation of all Spanish territories. Some newspapers even suggested the annexation of Spain itself. Manifest Destiny became a disputed philosophy. The following are two examples of the different views of the American people. This is evidence of the opposing attitudes towards the Manifest Destiny ideology. In a letter to Henry Clay, William E. We are a restless people, prone to encroachment, impatient of the ordinary laws of progress We boast of our rapid growth, forgetting that, throughout nature, noble growths are slow It is full time that we should lay on ourselves serious, resolute restraint. Possessed of a domain, vast enough for the growth of ages, it is time for us to stop in the career of acquisition and conquest. Already endangered by our greatness, we cannot advance without imminent peril to our institutions, union, prosperity, virtue, and peace It is sometimes said, that nations are swayed by laws, as unfailing as those which govern matter; that they have their destinies; that their character and position carry them forward irresistibly to their goal; Away with this vile sophistry! There is no necessity for crime. There is no fate to justify rapacious nations, any more than to justify gamblers and robbers, in plunder. We boast of the progress of society, and this progress consists in the substitution of reason and moral principle for the sway of brute force We talk of accomplishing our destiny. So did the late conqueror of Europe Napoleon ; and destiny consigned him to a lonely rock in the ocean, the prey of ambition which destroyed no peace but his own. It was disintegrated from Mexico in the natural course of events, by a process perfectly legitimate on its own part, blameless on ours California will, probably, next fall away from Imbecile and distracted, Mexico never can exert any real governmental authority over such a country The Anglo-Saxon foot is already on its borders. Already the advance guard of the irresistible army of Anglo-Saxon emigration has begun to pour down upon it armed with the plow and the rifle, and markings its trail with schools and colleges, courts and representative halls, mills and meeting houses. A population will soon be in actual occupation of California, over which it will be idle for Mexico to dream of dominion All this without agency of our government, without responsibility of our people- -in natural flow of events, the spontaneous working of principles, and the adaptation of the tendencies and wants of the human race to the elemental circumstances in the midst of which they find themselves placed.

### Chapter 4 : Manifest destiny - Wikipedia

*Manifest and Other Destinies critiques Manifest Destiny's exclusive claim as an explanatory national story in order to rethink the meaning and boundaries of the West and of the United States' national identity. Stephanie LeMenager considers the American West before it became a trusted symbol of U. S.*

Blog Manifest Destiny Manifest Destiny was a phrase which invoked the idea of divine sanction for the territorial expansion of the United States. The anonymous author, thought to be its editor John L. Other applications of the notion of manifest destiny were soon found. Various arguments against western expansion were put forward, particularly by those on the Eastern seaboard who feared a dilution of their influence on national affairs. It was suggested that a democratic government should not try to extend itself over such a vast territory. Polk responded to this in his inaugural address in In the earlier stages of our national existence the opinion prevailed with some that our system of confederated States could not operate successfully over an extended territory, and serious objections have at different times been made to the enlargement of our boundaries. These objections were earnestly urged when we acquired Louisiana. Experience has shown that they were not well founded. The title of numerous Indian tribes to vast tracts of country has been extinguished; new States have been admitted into the Union; new Territories have been created and our jurisdiction and laws extended over them. As our population has expanded, the Union has been cemented and strengthened. As our boundaries have been enlarged and our agricultural population has been spread over a large surface, our federative system has acquired additional strength and security. It may well be doubted whether it would not be in greater danger of overthrow if our present population were confined to the comparatively narrow limits of the original thirteen States than it is now that they are sparsely settled over a more expanded territory. It is confidently believed that our system may be safely extended to the utmost bounds of our territorial limits, and that as it shall be extended the bonds of our Union, so far from being weakened, will become stronger. The philosophical support for manifest destiny was based on the idea that America was destined to expand democratic institutions in North America, which gave the nation a superior moral right to govern areas where other interests would not respect this goal. This was particularly clear with respect to Texas, and the alternative of a Mexican dictatorship, but it was also applied in the Oregon territory. Britain itself might be democratic, but that was not its purpose in Oregon. The ill-fated Ostend Manifesto of , which advocating Cuba from Spain either by cash purchase or force, was quickly abandoned. It demonstrated that while Manifest Destiny was a powerful force in American thinking when oriented west, it did not yet extend beyond the shores and definitely if it involved a future slave territory. Manifest destiny was a popular and easily understood phrase, which was adopted by successive political parties. Originally the position of the Democratic Party, it was absorbed into the platforms of the Whig and later Republican parties. Even the Alaska Purchase of and acquisitions outside the continent, such as Guam and Hawaii, were promoted as examples of manifest destiny in action. Gradually, the phrase became seen as a cover for imperialism and political support has died out.

**Chapter 5 : Table of contents for Manifest and other destinies**

*Manifest and Other Destinies by Stephanie LeMenager, , available at Book Depository with free delivery worldwide.*

Haynes University of Texas at Arlington The s were years of extraordinary territorial growth for the united States. During a four year period, the national domain increased by 1. So rapid and dramatic was the process of territorial expansion, that it came to be seen as an inexorable process, prompting many Americans to insist that their nation had a "manifest destiny" to dominate the continent. Yet, the expansionist agenda was never a clearly defined movement, or one that enjoyed broad, bipartisan support. Whig party leaders vigorously opposed territorial growth, and even expansionist Democrats argued about how much new land should be acquired, and by what means. Some supporters of Manifest Destiny favored rapid expansion and bold pursuit of American territorial claims, even at the risk of war with other nations. Others, no less committed to the long-term goal of an American empire, opposed to the use of force to achieve these ends, believing that contiguous land would voluntarily join the Union in order to obtain the benefits of republican rule. In an often-used metaphor of the day, these regions would ripen like fruit and fall into the lap of the United States. Thus the champions of Manifest Destiny were at best a motley collection of interest groups, motivated by a number of divergent objectives, and articulating a broad range of uniquely American concerns. Several factors help to explain why the United States embarked upon an aggressive program of expansion during this period. In the early decades of the nineteenth century, many Americans had dismissed as fanciful the idea of a transcontinental republic, convinced that the bonds of Union would weaken as the nation grew larger. But such vast distances were quickly being conquered by technological innovations. The telegraph, first used in , ushered in a modern age of long distance communication. An American dominion stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific now seemed within reach. Although the United States had no shortage of unoccupied lands, expansionists argued that the republic must continue to grow in order to survive. Echoing the political philosophy of Thomas Jefferson, they viewed an abundance of land as the mainstay of a prosperous republic, and warned against the concentration of political and economic power. Troubled by creeping urbanization and a rising tide of immigrants from Germany and Ireland, expansionists viewed Manifest Destiny as a means to obtain a new, long-term lease on the Jeffersonian ideal. Far from weakening the republic, they argued, territorial growth would actually serve to strengthen it, providing unlimited economic opportunities for future generations. Expansionists were also motivated by more immediate, practical considerations. Southerners anxious to enlarge the slave empire were among the most ardent champions of the crusade for more territory. For American commercial interests, expansion offered greater access to lucrative foreign markets. Washington policy-makers, anxious to compete with Great Britain for the Asia trade, had long been convinced of the strategic and commercial advantages of San Francisco and other ports on the Pacific coastline of Mexican-owned California. The disastrous Panic of , which had resulted in huge surpluses and depressed prices for American farm products, also focused attention on the need to develop new foreign markets. Most important of all, perhaps, was the growing sense of anxiety which Americans felt toward Great Britain. Americans had always been suspicious of British activities in the western hemisphere, but inevitably this fear had grown as the United States began to define its strategic and economic interests in terms that extended beyond its own borders. In addition, southern slaveowners were particularly apprehensive of Great Britain, which had abolished slavery in its West Indies colonial possessions in In , southern statesmen alleged, on the basis of little evidence, that Great Britain was actively engaged in a plot to abolish slavery throughout North America. These rumors provoked a frenzied outcry in the South, which called for the immediate annexation of the Texas Republic in order to secure the interests of the planter class in the cotton-growing regions of North America. Polk This fear of British designs, real and imagined, changed the face of Manifest Destiny, converting many advocates of gradual expansion into apostles of a new, more militant brand of imperialism. Elected on a pro-expansion platform in , Democrat James K. Polk moved quickly to annex Texas as the twenty-eighth state. Polk also threatened to disregard long-standing British claims to Oregon, convinced that he only way to deal with "John Bull is to look him straight in the eye. Although Polk insisted that the United

States was not waging a war of conquest, critics accused the president of manufacturing a war to seize California and New Mexico. In the months following the war, Polk also considered extending U. These initiatives received little support in Congress, however, and were abandoned shortly before Polk stepped down from office. In the s, having established itself as a transcontinental empire, the United States ceased to regard British activities in the western hemisphere with alarm. Preoccupied with the increasingly bitter sectional conflict over slavery, many Americans rejected Manifest Destiny. Although southern extremists would sponsor filibuster expeditions into Latin America with the objective of gaining new lands to extend the slave empire, the expansionist movement faded from the national agenda in the years prior to the outbreak of the Civil War.

### Chapter 6 : Manifest and Other Destinies : Stephanie LeMenager :

*Manifest Destiny, in U.S. history, the supposed inevitability of the continued territorial expansion of the boundaries of the United States westward to the Pacific and beyond. Before the American Civil War (), the idea of Manifest Destiny was used to validate continental acquisitions in the Oregon Country, Texas, New Mexico, and.*

Context[ edit ] There was never a set of principles defining manifest destiny, therefore it was always a general idea rather than a specific policy made with a motto. Ill-defined but keenly felt, manifest destiny was an expression of conviction in the morality and value of expansionism that complemented other popular ideas of the era, including American exceptionalism and Romantic nationalism. Owing in part to the lack of a definitive narrative outlining its rationale, proponents offered divergent or seemingly conflicting viewpoints. While many writers focused primarily upon American expansionism, be it into Mexico or across the Pacific, others saw the term as a call to example. This variety of possible meanings was summed up by Ernest Lee Tuveson: They are not, as we should expect, all compatible, nor do they come from any one source. And that claim is by the right of our manifest destiny to overspread and to possess the whole of the continent which Providence has given us for the development of the great experiment of liberty and federated self-government entrusted to us. He believed that the expansion of the United States would happen without the direction of the U. After Americans immigrated to new regions, they would set up new democratic governments, and then seek admission to the United States, as Texas had done. He disapproved of the Mexican-American War in , although he came to believe that the outcome would be beneficial to both countries. Whigs denounced manifest destiny, arguing, "that the designers and supporters of schemes of conquest, to be carried on by this government, are engaged in treason to our Constitution and Declaration of Rights, giving aid and comfort to the enemies of republicanism, in that they are advocating and preaching the doctrine of the right of conquest". Winthrop was the first in a long line of critics who suggested that advocates of manifest destiny were citing "Divine Providence" for justification of actions that were motivated by chauvinism and self-interest. Despite this criticism, expansionists embraced the phrase, which caught on so quickly that its origin was soon forgotten. Themes and influences[ edit ] Historian William E. Weeks has noted that three key themes were usually touched upon by advocates of manifest destiny: We have it in our power to begin the world over again. A situation, similar to the present, hath not happened since the days of Noah until now. The birthday of a new world is at hand Thomas Jefferson, in a letter to James Monroe , wrote, "it is impossible not to look forward to distant times when our rapid multiplication will expand itself beyond those limits, and cover the whole northern, if not the southern continent. He described the United States as "the last, best hope of Earth". Clinton Rossiter , a scholar, described this view as summing "that God, at the proper stage in the march of history, called forth certain hardy souls from the old and privilege-ridden nations Americans presupposed that they were not only divinely elected to maintain the North American continent, but also to "spread abroad the fundamental principles stated in the Bill of Rights". Most Democrats were wholehearted supporters of expansion, whereas many Whigs especially in the North were opposed. On the other hand, many Democrats feared industrialization the Whigs welcomed This view also held that "inferior races were doomed to subordinate status or extinction. Many began to see this as the beginning of a new providential mission: If the United States was successful as a " shining city upon a hill ", people in other countries would seek to establish their own democratic republics. For example, many Whigs opposed territorial expansion based on the Democratic claim that the United States was destined to serve as a virtuous example to the rest of the world, and also had a divine obligation to spread its superordinate political system and a way of life throughout North American continent. Many in the Whig party "were fearful of spreading out too widely", and they "adhered to the concentration of national authority in a limited area". As more territory was added to the United States in the following decades, "extending the area of freedom" in the minds of southerners also meant extending the institution of slavery. That is why slavery became one of the central issues in the continental expansion of the United States before the Civil War. Lincoln opposed anti-immigrant nativism , and the imperialism of manifest destiny as both unjust and unreasonable. Late in life he came to regret his role in helping U. The

phrase "manifest destiny" is most often associated with the territorial expansion of the United States from to This era, from the end of the War of to the beginning of the American Civil War , has been called the "age of manifest destiny". War of One of the causes of the War of may have been an American desire to annex or threaten to annex British Canada in order to stop the Indian raids into the Midwest, expel Britain from North America, and gain additional land. The American failure to occupy any significant part of Canada prevented them from annexing it for the second reason, which was largely ended by the Era of Good Feelings , which ensued after the war between Britain and the United States. They rejected the British plan to set up an Indian state in U. They explained the American policy toward acquisition of Indian lands: The United States, while intending never to acquire lands from the Indians otherwise than peaceably, and with their free consent, are fully determined, in that manner, progressively, and in proportion as their growing population may require, to reclaim from the state of nature, and to bring into cultivation every portion of the territory contained within their acknowledged boundaries. In thus providing for the support of millions of civilized beings, they will not violate any dictate of justice or of humanity; for they will not only give to the few thousand savages scattered over that territory an ample equivalent for any right they may surrender, but will always leave them the possession of lands more than they can cultivate, and more than adequate to their subsistence, comfort, and enjoyment, by cultivation. If this be a spirit of aggrandizement, the undersigned are prepared to admit, in that sense, its existence; but they must deny that it affords the slightest proof of an intention not to respect the boundaries between them and European nations, or of a desire to encroach upon the territories of Great Britain They will not suppose that that Government will avow, as the basis of their policy towards the United States a system of arresting their natural growth within their own territories, for the sake of preserving a perpetual desert for savages. Till I came here, I had no idea of the fixed determination which there is in the heart of every American to extirpate the Indians and appropriate their territory. An early proponent of this idea, John Quincy Adams , became a leading figure in U. In , Adams wrote to his father: The whole continent of North America appears to be destined by Divine Providence to be peopled by one nation, speaking one language, professing one general system of religious and political principles, and accustomed to one general tenor of social usages and customs. For the common happiness of them all, for their peace and prosperity, I believe it is indispensable that they should be associated in one federal Union. Painting from memory by Alfred Jacob Miller Adams did much to further this idea. He orchestrated the Treaty of , which established the Canadaâ€”US border as far west as the Rocky Mountains, and provided for the joint occupation of the region known in American history as the Oregon Country and in British and Canadian history as the New Caledonia and Columbia Districts. And he formulated the Monroe Doctrine of , which warned Europe that the Western Hemisphere was no longer open for European colonization. The Monroe Doctrine and "manifest destiny" formed a closely related nexus of principles: Concerns in the United States that European powers especially Great Britain were seeking to acquire colonies or greater influence in North America led to calls for expansion in order to prevent this. In his influential study of manifest destiny, Albert Weinberg wrote: The Anglo-American Convention of had provided for the joint occupation of the Oregon Country , and thousands of Americans migrated there in the s over the Oregon Trail. The British rejected a proposal by U. Presidential candidate James K. Polk used this popular outcry to his advantage, and the Democrats called for the annexation of "All Oregon" in the U. The title of the painting, from a poem by Bishop Berkeley , was a phrase often quoted in the era of manifest destiny, expressing a widely held belief that civilization had steadily moved westward throughout history. When the British refused the offer, American expansionists responded with slogans such as "The Whole of Oregon or None! The latter slogan is often mistakenly described as having been a part of the presidential campaign. When Polk moved to terminate the joint occupation agreement, the British finally agreed in early to divide the region along the 49th parallel, leaving the lower Columbia basin as part of the United States. She concluded the article as follows: Yet, "what is to be, will be", as some realist has it; and we look for the restoration of that picturesque and rocky atom of our former territory as inevitable. The annexation of Texas was attacked by anti-slavery spokesmen because it would add another slave state to the Union. This unexpectedly led to Van Buren being dropped by the Democrats in favor of Polk, who favored annexation. Polk tied the Texas annexation question with the Oregon dispute, thus providing a sort of regional

compromise on expansion. Expansionists in the North were more inclined to promote the occupation of Oregon, while Southern expansionists focused primarily on the annexation of Texas. Although elected by a very slim margin, Polk proceeded as if his victory had been a mandate for expansion. Polk moved to occupy a portion of Texas that had declared independence from Mexico in 1836, but was still claimed by Mexico. This paved the way for the outbreak of the Mexican-American War on April 24, 1846. With American successes on the battlefield, by the summer of 1846 there were calls for the annexation of "All Mexico", particularly among Eastern Democrats, who argued that bringing Mexico into the Union was the best way to ensure future peace in the region. First, idealistic advocates of manifest destiny like John L. The annexation of "All Mexico" would be a violation of this principle. And secondly, the annexation of Mexico was controversial because it would mean extending U. Calhoun of South Carolina, who had approved of the annexation of Texas, was opposed to the annexation of Mexico, as well as the "mission" aspect of manifest destiny, for racial reasons. We have never dreamt of incorporating into our Union any but the Caucasian race—the free white race. To incorporate Mexico, would be the very first instance of the kind, of incorporating an Indian race; for more than half of the Mexicans are Indians, and the other is composed chiefly of mixed tribes. I protest against such a union as that! Ours, sir, is the Government of a white race We are anxious to force free government on all; and I see that it has been urged It is a great mistake. Identitarianism was used to promote manifest destiny, but, as in the case of Calhoun and the resistance to the "All Mexico" movement, identitarianism was also used to oppose manifest destiny. Like the All Oregon movement, the All Mexico movement quickly abated. A Reinterpretation, argued that the failure of the "All Oregon" and "All Mexico" movements indicates that manifest destiny had not been as popular as historians have traditionally portrayed it to have been. Merk wrote that, while belief in the beneficent mission of democracy was central to American history, aggressive "continentalism" were aberrations supported by only a minority of Americans, all of them Democrats. Some Democrats were also opposed; the Democrats of Louisiana opposed annexation of Mexico, [59] while those in Mississippi supported it. Some, such as John Quitman, governor of Mississippi, offered what public support they could offer. In one memorable case, Quitman simply explained that the state of Mississippi had "lost" its state arsenal, which began showing up in the hands of filibusters. Yet these isolated cases only solidified opposition in the North as many Northerners were increasingly opposed to what they believed to be efforts by Southern slave owners—and their friends in the North—to expand slavery through filibustering. Remond on January 24, 1846, delivered an impassioned speech at Warrington, England, that the connection between filibustering and slave power was clear proof of "the mass of corruption that underlay the whole system of American government". Originally filibuster had come from the Dutch vrijbouter and referred to buccaneers in the West Indies that preyed on Spanish commerce. While there had been some filibustering expeditions into Canada in the late 18th century, it was only by mid-century did filibuster become a definitive term. The eagerness of the filibusters, and the public to support them, had an international hue. Although they were illegal, filibustering operations in the late 18th century and early 19th century were romanticized in the United States. Mexico was a favorite target of organizations devoted to filibustering, like the Knights of the Golden Circle. As with Texas, Oregon, and California, American policy makers were concerned that Cuba would fall into British hands, which, according to the thinking of the Monroe Doctrine, would constitute a threat to the interests of the United States. Prompted by John L. Whigs presidents Zachary Taylor and Millard Fillmore tried to suppress the expeditions.

### Chapter 7 : Manifest destiny | Define Manifest destiny at [www.nxgvision.com](http://www.nxgvision.com)

*Manifest Destiny, a phrase coined in , expressed the philosophy that drove 19th-century U.S. territorial expansion. Manifest Destiny held that the United States was destinedâ€”by God, its.*

In the 19th century US, Manifest Destiny was a belief that was widely held that the destiny of American settlers was to expand and move across the continent to spread their traditions and their institutions, while at the same time enlightening more primitive nations. And the American settlers of the time considered Indians and Hispanics to be inferior and therefore deserving of cultivation. The settlers considered the United States to be the best possible way to organize a country so they felt the need to remake the world in the image of their own country. Many Americans believed that God blessed the growth of American nation and even demanded of them to actively work on it. Since they were sure of their cultural and racial superiority, they felt that their destiny was to spread their rule around and enlighten the nations that were not so lucky. The settlers firmly believed in the virtue of American people and the mission to impose their virtuous â€” mainly Puritan â€” way of life on everybody else. This rhetorical background served to explain the acquisition of territories or reasons to go to war, such as the war with Mexico in s. This was an expansion of U. The author, John L. Flanked by Spanish batteries on the islands of Caballo and El Fraile and tense with fear of mines thought to litter the channel, the American sailors were grateful for the darkness and the clouds that blocked moon and starlight. Then, just as the ships passed El Fraile, flames flared from the funnel of the revenue cutter Hugh McCulloch. Soot from the soft coal accumulated in the funnel and periodically burst into flame. Sailors cursed McCulloch as muzzle flashes marked a Spanish battery on El Fraile, and shell splashes stirred the waters of Boca Grande. Four of the American warships opened fire and quickly smothered the enemy battery with shells as the column broke from the passage into the bay proper. Asiatic Squadron and leader of the column, Commodore George Dewey watched. Orders already given, he spent long minutes waiting for gun flashes or dawn to reveal an enemy squadron. Born in Montpelier, Vt. Julius and Mary Perrin Dewey, George was the youngest of three boys. Mary died before George turned 6, so his upstanding and hardworking father became the central figure in his life. Other male figures also shaped Dewey, from public school teacher Z. Pangborn to his teachers at Norwich University and the professors and officers of the U. Naval Academy, to which he received an appointment in George appeared to love neither the discipline nor the academics at Annapolis, as he piled demerits atop poor grades in his first year. Despite ranking just two places from the bottom of his class, he survived for a second year. Then, somehow, Dewey found a measure of maturity. Perhaps it was in the Bible classes he taught to local youths, in the letters he exchanged with his father or in the growing threat of civil war that haunted his nation. Whatever the reason, in June George and 14 others all that remained of the 59 appointees of graduated. He, proudly, stood fifth in his class. Following a two-year cruise on the steam frigate USS Wabash, flagship of the Mediterranean Squadron, Dewey took his examination for lieutenantcy and was commissioned in the dark month of April Mere weeks later, he paced the deck of the steam frigate Mississippi, a year-old executive officer untested in battle and assigned to blockade a rebellious Gulf coast. Protected by a large garrison, the heavy guns of two forts and other batteries, and a small Confederate fleet that included the ironclad ram CSS Manassasâ€”plus the Mississippi River currents, twists and treacherous snagsâ€”New Orleans seemed impregnable. He also learned the import of decisive action when Manassas tried to ram Mississippi. Only a quick command from Dewey to the helmsman turned a potentially deadly direct hit into a glancing blow. Over the course of the Civil War, Dewey was executive officer on six ships, eventually reaching the rank of lieutenant commander. But he did learn well the skills of command: Unfortunately for Dewey, three decades would elapse before he could employ these skills to prove himself an outstanding fleet commander. Fortunately for the United States, Dewey persevered in his chosen career across those 30 years, despite the best efforts of his nation to virtually eliminate its own Navy. As the years of fratricide ground toward Appomattox, the ship U. Navy blockaded the Rebel coast, patrolled rivers, supplied Union forces and combed the high seas for the remaining Confederate raiders. Its ironclad monitors, designed only for coastal and riverine operations, followedâ€”some sold for scrap but most laid up to be reactivated if war threatened.

More ships met their end as Congress focused on Reconstruction, the Western frontier and internal expansion. By only 52 vessels including auxiliaries remained for sea and coastal duties, and those were far from the state-of-the-art warships then sliding down the ways in Europe. The Navy returned to its overseas stations in the late s. From those stations established in and dependent upon foreign ports , lone ships cruised distant waters to show the flag and assist American merchantmen and civilians. Furthermore, the penny-pinching Congress relegated steam to secondary propulsion. Naval regulations permitted the use of coal only under extreme conditions. Research into armament, armor and ship design languished. The state of strategic thinking matched the deterioration of warships and tactical capability. In essence, the United States returned to the outmoded doctrines of , relegating its ships to coastal defense and commerce raiding. This does not mean the Navy was inactive after the Civil War. These were invariably small affairsâ€”or at least incidents that did not threaten to escalate into war with major powers. Such was not the case in when Spanish authorities seized *Virginius*, a former Confederate blockade-runner supplying guns to Cuban rebels under a false American registry see story this issue. American sympathies lay with the rebels and gunrunners, but cooler heads in Washington and Madrid avoided escalating tensions into war. However, the *Virginius* Incident was a wakeup call for the naval establishment. In preparing for war, it found many of the mothballed monitors decayed beyond use. The following year, maneuvers incorporating reactivated vessels revealed a top fleet speed of less than five knots. Consensus held that one modern cruiser could sink the entire American force. Still, reaction from Congress proved slow and less than satisfactory. In Congress finally authorized construction of four steel-hulled vessels: From to , Congress authorized 30 additional warships, ranging from gunboats to the small battleships *Texas* and *Maine*. Building delays ensued when Congress mandated in that all naval vessels be built with domestic materials. At the time, American manufacturers could not provide the necessary guns, armor or steel plating. Other warships, increasing in size and potential, followed the first As the new ships entered service, world events lifted American eyes from their own shores to blue waters. But imperial ventures required a rethinking of naval strategy, and in Captain Alfred Thayer Mahan, then-president of the U. His treatise not only supported trade-based imperialism, it provided a naval theory and strategy that guided industrialized seafaring nations for several generations. Naval officers worldwide welcomed this concept of firepower projection and, of course, the many ships required to carry that firepower , while the eyes of statesmen glistened at the thought of colonies to be gained and raw materials to be exploited. Cuba and the remaining Spanish possessions in the Caribbean attracted American interest for a variety of reasons. Some pointed to Spanish cruelty and the brutalized people who desperately sought the caress of democracy and the guidance of Republican values. Navalists sought an American base in the Caribbean from which to enforce the old Monroe Doctrine. Industrialists desired sugar and markets. Last, the American press wanted to sell newspapersâ€”and greedy publishers did not hesitate to juggle facts to ensure those sales. As the Navy evolved, George Dewey quietly persevered. Many officers abandoned the slow promotion schedule and other frustrations of service life, turning their talents to the civilian world and its monetary rewards. But something drove Dewey, likely the desire to make his mark on history in the names of his heroes, Dr. Julius Dewey and Admiral David Farragut. Civilians seldom garnered such fame. No one hearing his words could imagine their prophetic nature. A full captain by , Dewey served in various capacities before becoming head of the Bureau of Equipment and Recruiting in , followed by stints as president of both the Lighthouse Board and the Board of Inspection and Survey. His energy, efficiency, professionalism and skillful leadership amidst the often-confused rush to build modern warships did not go unnoticed. Yet, Dewey felt some degree of despair when he reached the permanent rank of commodore in , only four years from forced retirement. No war seemed in the offing, and should war break out, he knew that other deserving officers waited for fleet and squadron commands. Roosevelt expected war with Spain and felt that the Asiatic Squadron, operating some 7, miles from homeports, needed a strong, aggressive hand at the helm. Fate waited to present Commodore Dewey with his chance for greatness. Dewey did not wait on fate. Gathering every available scrap of information on the Philippines to supplement a file provided by the Navy, he ordered ammunition rushed to his squadron in Yokohama, Japan. Dewey arrived in Yokohama in late , and his men loved him from the beginning. Extremely fit, handsome, and always neatly dressed, their commodore seemed as comfortable with

the common Jack as with his officers. His white walrus mustache and piercing blue eyes seemed to dominate the decks of his flagship. Within days of his arrival at Yokohama, this outstanding leader had gained the full support of his gathering squadron—and well that he did, for much hard work remained to ready his people and ships for war. As soon as sufficient ammunition arrived in Yokohama, Dewey ordered his squadron to make for Hong Kong. An alert from Roosevelt followed news of the sinking of Maine in February. As Dewey waited for his remaining ships to concentrate in Hong Kong, he plumed the American consul in Manila for information. He left no stone unturned, even dressing an aide as a civilian to wander the docks and solicit information from incoming vessels. As his warships arrived, Dewey purchased the freighter Zafiro and the collier Nanshan from British sources and registered them as American merchant vessels, so they could enter neutral ports should war be declared. The closest American base lay 7, miles away. He then dry-docked each of his ships for last-minute scraping, repair and a coat of dark gray paint. Finally, on April 25, Dewey received a telegram confirming the declaration of war. Within hours the British invited his squadron to leave neutral Hong Kong.

**Chapter 8 : Manifest Destiny Facts for Kids**

*Anders Stephanson examines the consequences of this idea over more than three hundred years of history, as Manifest Destiny drove the westward settlement to the Pacific, defining the stubborn belief in the superiority of white people and denigrating Native Americans and other people of color.*

Articulations of this belief and project were prevalent yet widely contested in the nineteenth century; they persist into the twenty first century. Accordingly, this manifest destiny belief conveys the idea that expansion and possession were ordained by God, fulfilled by Christian settlers, and not established by rifles, soldiers, and atrocities. Significant to US history and contemporary life, it is a nationalist ideology that combines distinct forms of racial and religious thoughts to produce particular state, economic, and cultural forms of genocide, assimilation, and other racial projects. Manifest destiny is not discussed only in relation to continental expansion. It is also associated with US colonialism, military interventions, and economic imperialism in Mexico and Latin American countries. Neo-Marxist sociology focuses on the class struggles and property conflicts entrenched in the earlier US economy. These economic, political, and racialized struggles transformed an early nineteenth century semi slavery and semi feudal society into a global capitalist super power after World historians and historical sociologists examine the social processes by which white settlers such as in South Africa and the US , explorers, and soldiers annexed land, acquired property rights, and dispossessed indigenous and other non white communities. They delve into the cultural and economic relationships among frontier violence, shifts in rural land ownership, and subsequent growth of industrial capitalism. Theoretically, they provide new ways to understand power, imperialism, gendered nationalism, states and legal sovereignty, and colonial and postcolonial wars. The second series of sociological inquiries follows from the first. Racial and ethnic studies and the sociology of racism explore the racialized making of economic, cultural, gender , and sexual subordination and the related demographic changes in racial composition as another direct impact of the manifest destiny belief and the conflicts over land and resources. This belief and set of conflicts shifted political and economic power among racial groups and altered racialized residential patterns such as through extermination, forced removals, and relocation , territorial sovereignty, and everyday ways of life. These studies also delve into the new expressions of racial and cultural superiority proliferated as white settlers moved westward. This is in contrast to a variety of racialized narratives of white settlers and immigrants that highlight their rugged individualism and persistence in overcoming the seemingly natural brutality and savagery of the frontier. Newer inquiries focus on recent continuation and transformation of the manifest destiny narrative as associated with new racial projects, imperialist conquest, and institutional articulations of empire, exceptionalism, and ethnic nationalism. These newer studies place greater analytical importance on culture , religion , and human agency than before. Analytically, they explore new patronizing relations for instance, between the US and Iraq during the s as well as the associated moral sense of political, economic, cultural, and religious superiority for instance, during the US-Vietnam War. Researchers are scrutinizing elite forms of art and popular cultural forms in everyday life to understand how they reflect, mediate, generate, and resist new nationalist articulations in identities and practices of manifest destiny. Sociology and Religion Manifest Destiny or National Dishonor? If Not an Empire, Then What? Journal of World History 5: Filipinos and the American Other s. Gender and Sexuality in the Making of California. A Theoretical View from Latin America. Ethnic and Racial Studies

*American Progress, () by John Gast, is an allegorical representation of the modernization of the new west. Columbia, a personification of the United States, is shown leading civilization westward with the American settlers.*

That book is not previewable online, though, and I have no access to a dead tree copy. Could someone please check this, add the missing full citation, and do whatever related cleanup is needed? Wtmitchell talk earlier Boracay Bill It effectively asserts that all supporters of MD were "unified" in their belief of supernatural justification for the doctrine. Secular supporters of MD did exist. The prior idea, of "building a new heaven" is justified, in the metaphorical not necessarily Christian sense of the word. I could split the difference and say "The unity of the definitions ended at expansion based on American ideals", or something similar. I just think the assertion that MD was uniquely based on religious beliefs cannot be justified. Many--perhaps most--religious leaders probably opposed Manifest Destiny because they were Whigs or anti-slavery. The RS do not mention any prominent religious leaders who spoke out for Manifest Destiny. I apologize if this topic is unnecessary as I did not read the whole article, but I would think that the origin of the phrase would be in the introduction to the article or at least in an "origin" section. I believe the origin of the phrase is from "New York Morning News" from an article. However, the origin of the phrase is discussed partway through the context section towards the beginning of the article. In the United States in the 19th century, manifest destiny was the widely held belief among Democrats. Moreover, many white Americans believed that their ethnicity, the Protestant religion, and the republican system of government made them superior to every other people. James Monroe was neither Democrat nor Whig. A Reinterpretation discusses the beginning of expansionist thought as starting with James Monroe. Pages 9 through Westward Expansion, page 13, discusses how manifest destiny "encompassed several beliefs. These were expansionism, nationalism, American exceptionalism, and, in some cases, the idea of racial superiority. Shmoop US History Guide, page Shmoop points out that presidential candidate and explorer John C. Fremont was an expansionist and a believer in manifest destiny, and he was a Republican. A Historical Encyclopedia, page , says that manifest destiny came from the Puritans, that it "influenced how Anglo-Saxon men saw themselves, their society, and their nation. Carroll says that there were many men who "opposed the bravado" of manifest destiny, and that it "nearly split the nation apart" by polarizing men in the s. Horsman casts manifest destiny in racial terms; he shows that its adherents came from all walks of life. Certainly he says that the Free-Soilers and other abolitionist parties were not racist, that there were white men who believed in racial equality, but they were few. The majority of white American men felt that their race was superior. Economic expansionism"an element of manifest destiny" gained a wide variety of adherents, including businessmen from all political parties. Presley Ewing said he would be a Young American a radical Democrat if he were not a Whig because he believed in the religious aspect of manifest destiny: Geoffrey Golson write in Manifest Destiny and the Expansion of America that manifest destiny "dominated American culture" in the s, with most men interested in the matter. It seems clear to me that we must tell the reader that manifest destiny was a major political tool used by the Democratic Party, but before that happened the concept was embraced by almost all white American men. In other words, I do not believe that we should put "Democrats" in the first sentence. The Whigs were opposed to expansion and Manifest Destiny, the Democrats were all in favor. No one actually says "the concept was embraced by almost all white American men" Did Washington support it? Merk p says "In the South had shown only a limited enthusiasm for Manifest Destiny. The reason I think is that Man-Dest was the opposite of modernization, which Whigs promoted heavily. As for the Puritans, Monroe etc they had small fragments of the idea, but the genuine article, historians agree, became a force from about [Merk p 41] Rjensen talk Tuveson said that if any moment can be shown to have been the start of American millennialist feelings it would be when young Timothy Dwight IV wrote his poem, "America", which presented a vision of expansion and glory, establishing a national myth. Greenberg says that "even in the early years of the republic, many Americans accepted continental expansion as both natural and inevitable. You have ignored the non-Democrats I mentioned previously, each of which dissolves the basis for an absolute statement of the sort

you prefer. You have ignored Tuveson saying that the various elements of manifest destiny do not "come from any one source. It was a political issue and the political lines were pretty sharp. As for expansionist ideas, look at the battle over the Louisiana Purchase in , in which Federalists were largely opposed to this expansion. You need to read up on the Whigs. It is not simply a Democratic Party talking point from the s. You need to release this article from ownership impulses and instead let the reliable sources define it. You added "Democrats" to the lead section with this change four weeks ago and I disagree with it strongly as an overstatement. Previous versions of this article vary widely but none of them state flatly that the concept was only from the Democratic Party. Two years later, this version let go of the Madison origins and said instead that the concept "always a general notion rather than a specific policy". It goes on to say in the third paragraph that the phrase itself was first used by Jacksonian Democrats. Later it emphasizes that Republicans picked up the concept in the s. This is the kind of treatment that I picture being best for our article. Then continue with the use of the concept post-Civil War. Everyone agrees that expansion was a party issue with the Jeffersonians and Jacksonians on one side and the Federalists and Whigs opposed. The notion that large majorities believed in expansion or Man-Dest is false. You will need to show very solid proof in reliable sources if you want to have an absolute statement in the first sentence. Tuveson says manifest destiny did not come from one source but you have written it as such. Greenberg casts the concept as being held by "many Americans", not as solely a Democratic Party plank. Carlisle and Golson say that manifest destiny was a dominant concept in America in the s before the Democratic Party formed. He says many old threads came together quickly in the mid s , were given a name in , and became a major political issue esp in debates on war. The expansion theme was indeed a key position for Jeffersonian Democrats as well as Jacksonian Democrats. The term is most important in the s when the Dem-Whig rivalry was most intense. The precursor ideas of Manifest Destiny were NOT called anything like "Manifest Destiny", and the great majority of people who promoted the earlier versions were also promoting early versions of the Dem party--such as Monroe, who was selected for president by the Dem-Rep party caucus in when he defeated the Federalists. The title needs changing. Thanks for working on that. Historically, it was seldom capitalized. As the article points out, "The phrase itself meant many different things to many different people. War of section, Albert Gallatin Albert Gallatin should not be cited as a "leading anthropologist" in this section. He was mainly a US diplomat and statesman, especially in his roll negotiating the Treaty of Ghent. Varro Reatinus talk On a sidenote, someone seems hellbent on having the US wanting to annex Canada. I would list the historians "hellbent" on the same thing, but my fingers would get tired. French Canadian students escaped the indoctrination. S, France, Britain and Japan. Unfortunately many of our editors learned their history in high school and are repeating what they heard one clue is they do not cite recent scholarship the way university-trained historians know how to do. I noticed the title of the page is "Manifest destiny" but most of the content refers to it as "Manifest Destiny" - notice the D. Westward Expansion by Shane Mountjoy - , etc etc. This edit request has been answered. The belief in an American mission to promote and defend democracy throughout the world, as expounded by Thomas Jefferson and his " Empire of Liberty ", and by Abraham Lincoln , Woodrow Wilson and George W. Bush , continues to have an influence on American political ideology. Thomas Jefferson warned against foreign entanglements. The entire paragraph is a contradiction filled opinion It should be deleted. Truly does look like this paragraph needs improvement. There are many discussions in the scholarly literature-- see for example Rjensen talk Page is no longer protected. Since I disagree with that assessment, I suggest anyone who disagrees with the addition explain their objections so we can work it out. Your addition had said, "However, Canadian historian George F. A citation of the book containing the text of what Stanley tells us is, of course, sufficient to support an assertion that Stanley told us that. A fuller citation would be Stanley, George Francis Gillman The War of I would hope it could be restored in modified form. I also assure you that the book does say said sentence where I said it does. Rjensen which removed it said, "Reliable Secondary source on American diplomacy or politics--he tossed in a sentence without sources". The expunged text, however, seems consistent re feelings about annexation by some American players described in the paragraph where it would have appeared and with other supporting sources cited there. This expungement still looks to me like if flouts WP: Just because his book did not focus specifically on " American politics" does not preclude its use in the article. But what

does it mean?