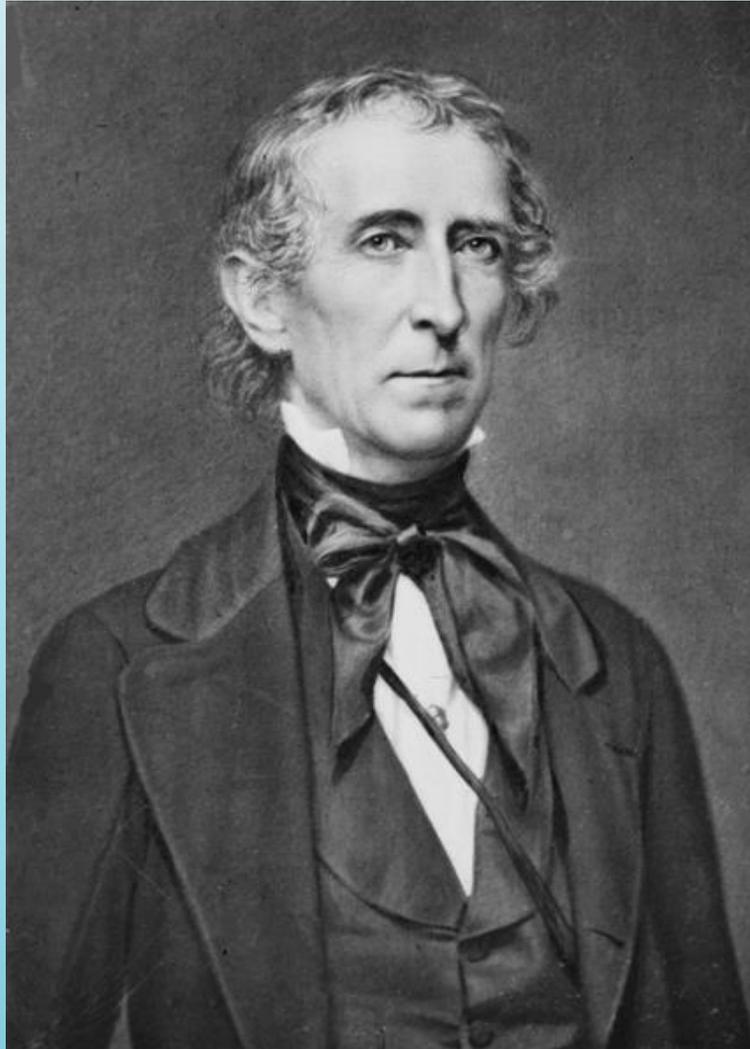




Manifest Destiny & Its Legacy

American Pageant – Ch 17

The Accession of “Tyler Too”



- ▶ 1840's territorial expansion dominated politics, diplomacy
- ▶ War with Mexico, gained territory from Texas to California and questions of status of slavery
- ▶ 1841 William Henry Harrison (Whig) elected and died in office
- ▶ Real leaders of Whigs Clay, Webster tried to push agenda, thwarted by John Tyler (VP, now president)
- ▶ Tyler supporter of states rights
- ▶ Clay and others tried to push nationalistic political agenda
- ▶ Whigs pushed for new bank, tariffs; all vetoed by Tyler

John Tyler: A President Without a Party

- Whigs planned a strongly nationalistic program.
- Tyler vetoed 3 tariffs before finally signing the protective tariff of 1842.



War of Words with Britain



- British looked down on Americans = increased tension with America
 - Why?
 1. Memories of 2 wars
 2. British press attacks on US
 3. 1837 – short insurrection in Canada
 4. *Caroline* attack

Manipulating the Maine Maps

- Issue: Road from Halifax to Quebec
- Road would go through “no-mans” land (Disputed territory)
- Aroostook War
- Resolution: America = 7,000 miles of the 12,000 mile area.
 - Britain acquired the territory needed for the road.
 - Britain also surrendered 6,500 west, which held priceless Mesabi iron ore (Minnesota)



The Lone Star of Texas: Shines Alone

- Mexico refused to accept Texas's independence.
- Regarded as the "Lone Star Republic"
 - Had to maintain a costly military establishment.... Why?
- Connections with France & Britain
 - Why? Especially Britain?

The Belated Texas Nuptials

Texas was the leading issue of the 1844 Presidential Campaign.

1845 – Texas becomes the 28th state after 9 years of deliberations.



Oregon Fever Populates Oregon

Location

- ❑ West of the Rockies to the Pacific
- ❑ North of California to the line of 54 40

British Claims to Oregon

- Ties closest to the Columbia River in Oregon
 - Prior discovery & exploration
 - Treaty rights
 - Occupations
 - Hudson's Bay Company
 - Fur trading

History of Oregon Territory

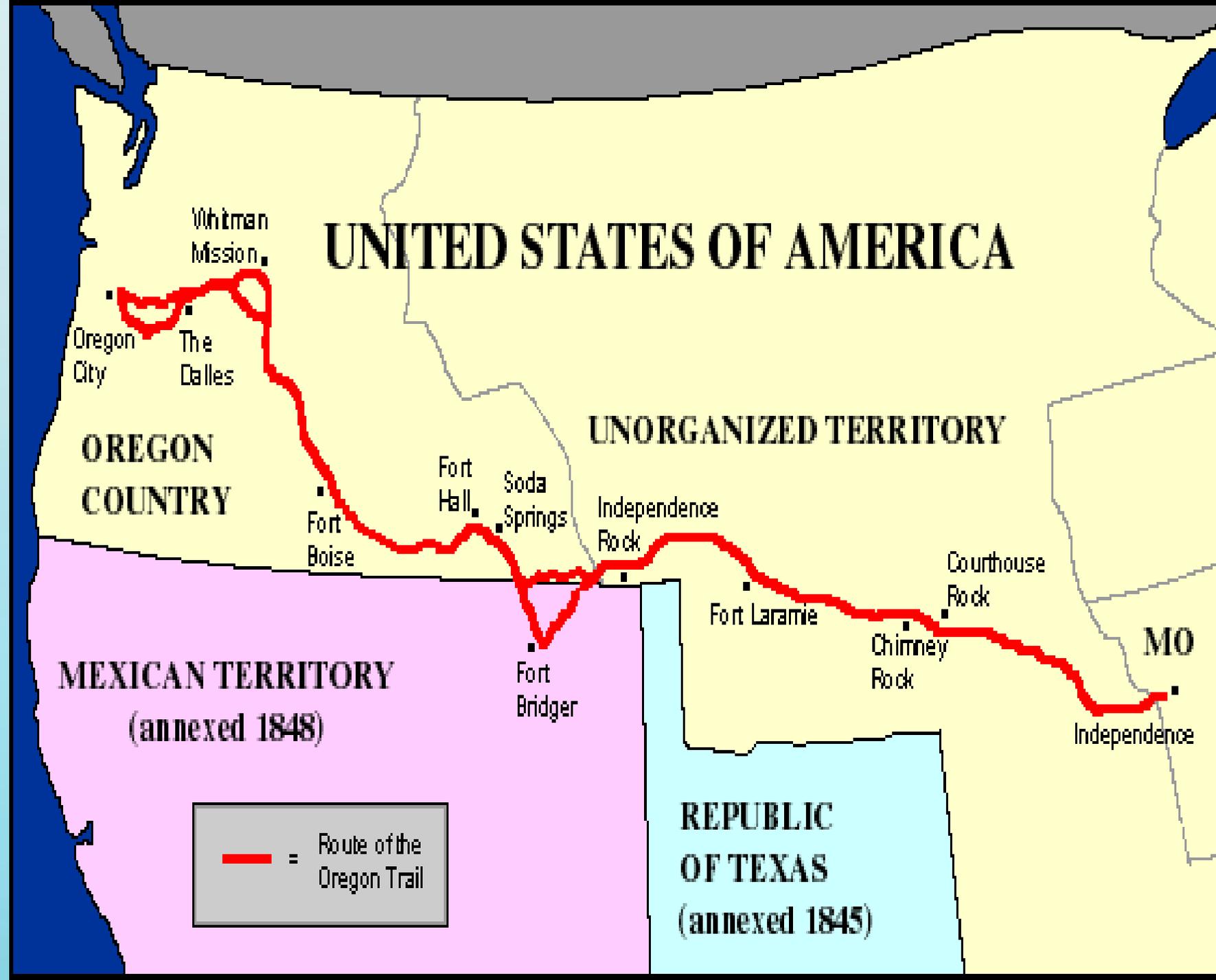
1. Spain - Florida Treaty of 1819 to US
2. Russia – Treaties with Britain moved them back to the 54 40 line.
3. Britain – FINALLY agreed to 49 and the Senate accepted under Polk in 1846.
4. US – Current Owner 😊

America's Claim to Oregon

- Exploration & Occupation
- Captain Robert Gray – 1792 (Columbia River)
- Lewis & Clark – 1804-1806
 - Missionaries

The Oregon Trail

- 1840's – "Oregon Fever"
- Approximately 2 thousand mile trail
- 1846 – 5,000 new Americans



THE OREGON DISPUTE, 1818-1846

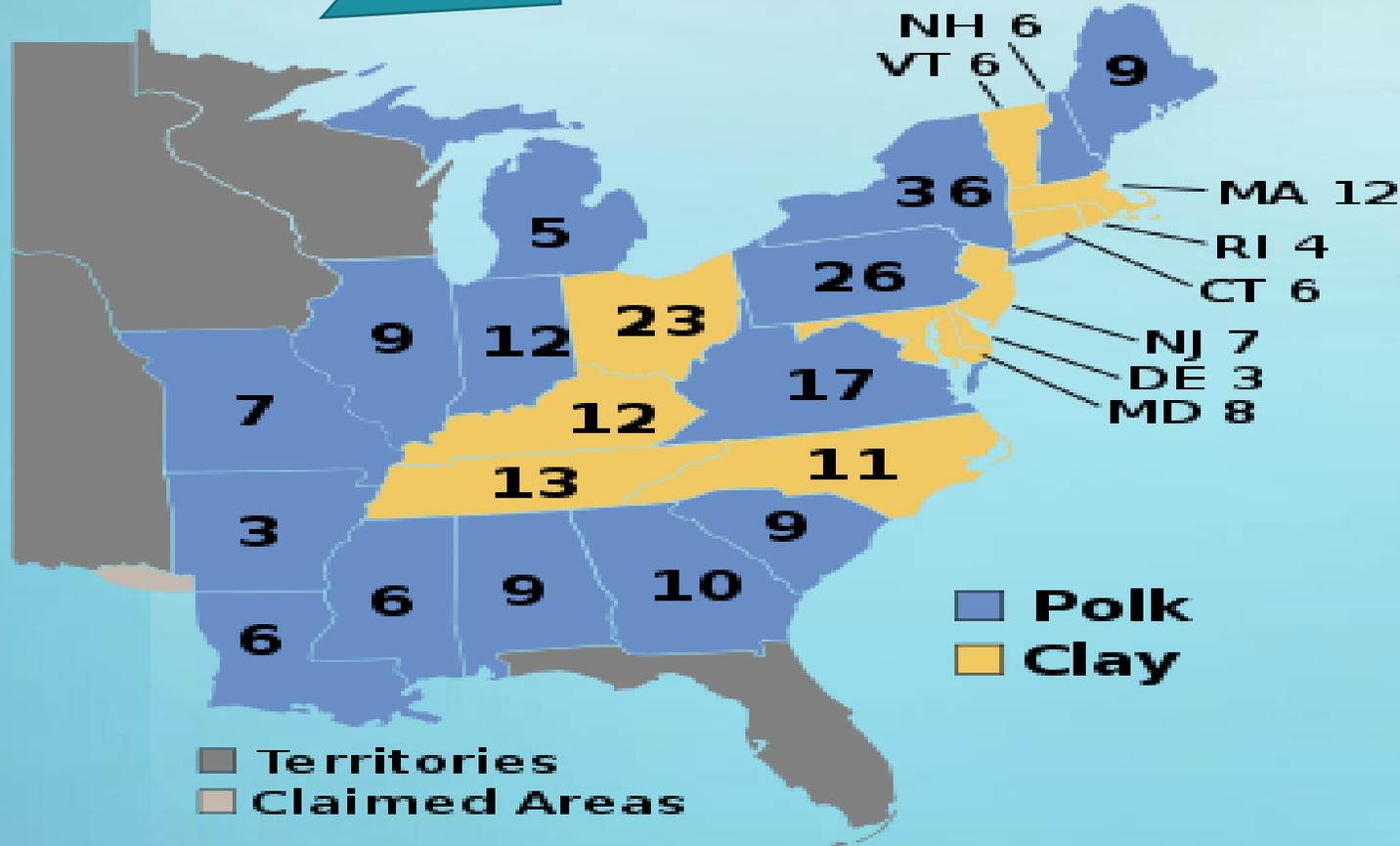


A Mandate (?) for Manifest Destiny

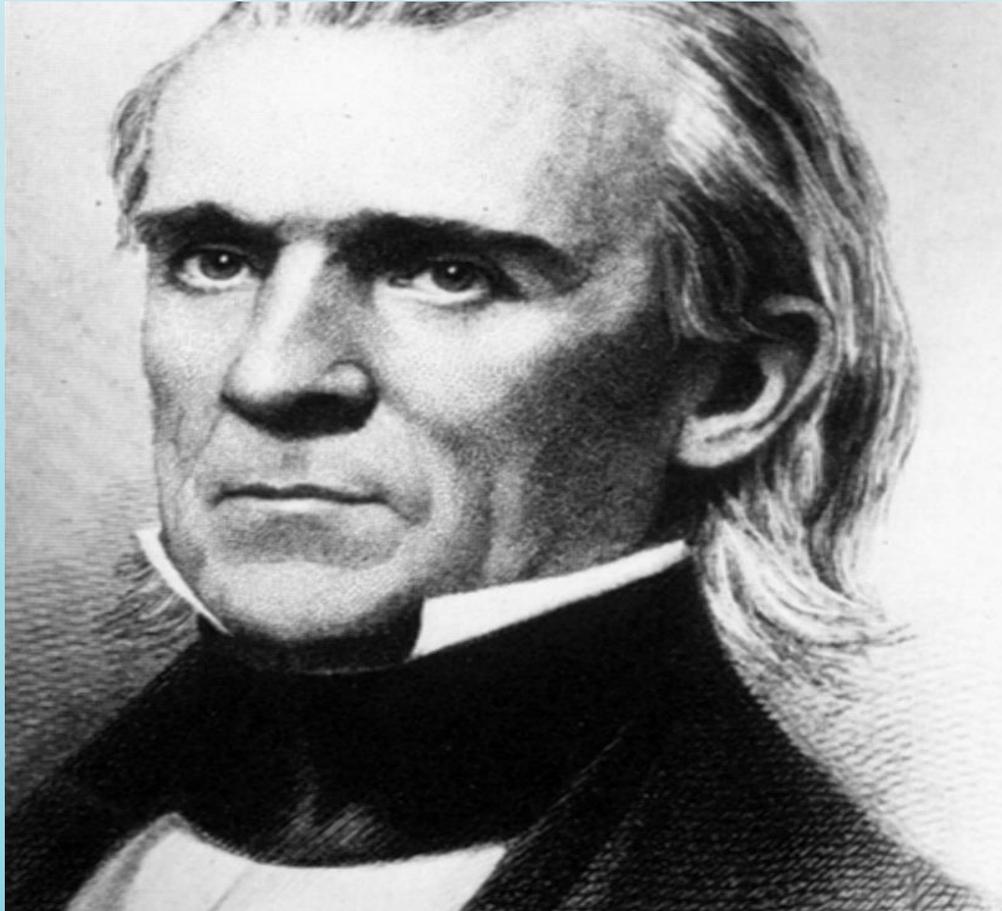
The 1844 Presidential
Election

- Whig Candidate – Henry Clay
 - You know all his accomplishments already. 😊
 - Plus, we know he didn't win...
- Democratic Candidate – James K. Polk
 - Speaker of the House for 2 years
 - Governor of Tennessee for 2 Terms
 - Nicknamed “dark horse” & “young hickory”

170 to 105 Vote
Count



Polk the Purposeful



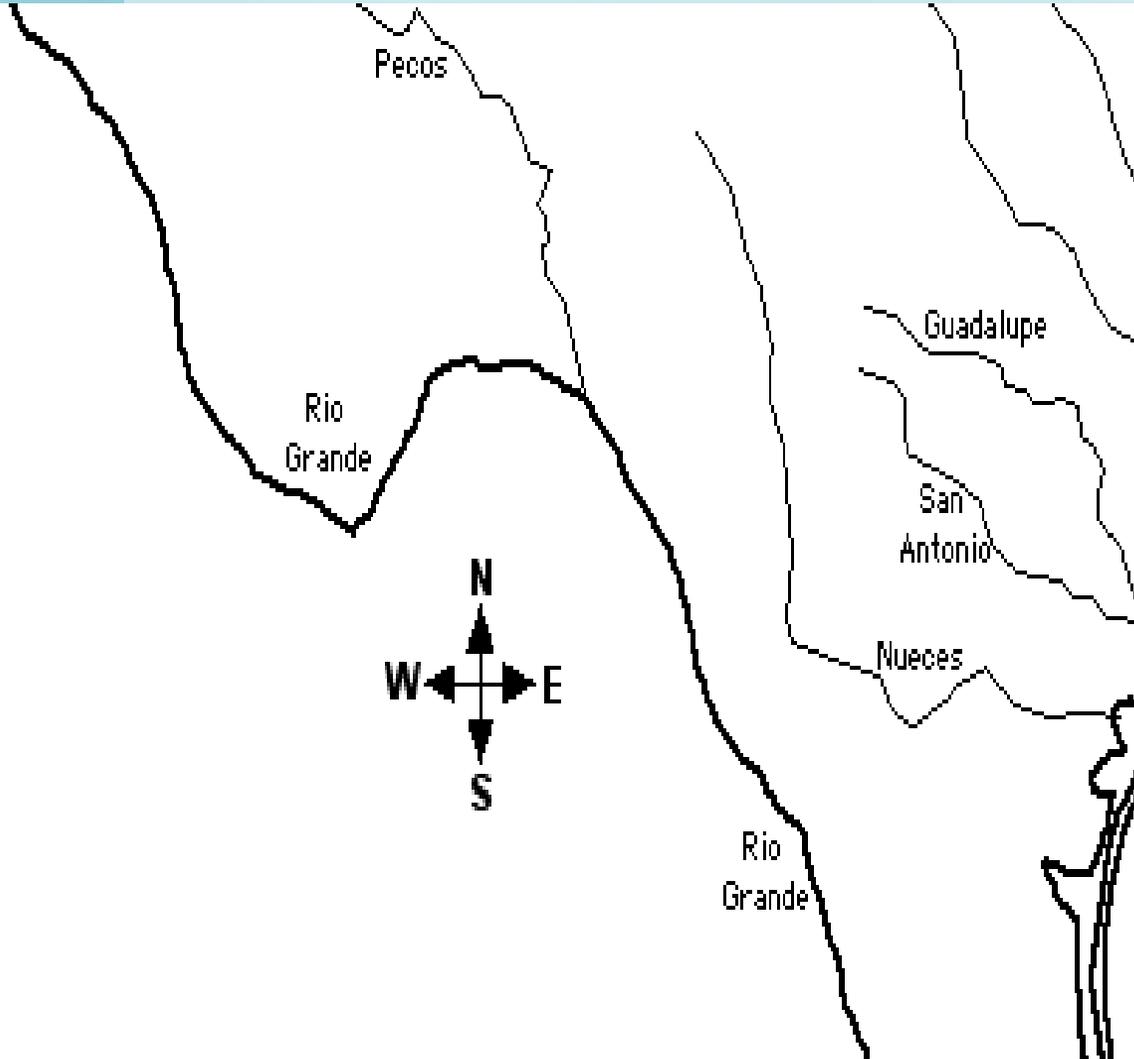
4 Point Plan

- Lower the Tariff of 1842
 - Reduced it from 32 to 25 %
- Restoration of the independent treasury.
 - Accomplished in 1846
- Acquisition of California
- Settle the Oregon Dispute

Why all of Texas but not all of Oregon?



War with Mexico



- ▶ Americans wanted San Francisco and San Diego Bays as ports on Pacific and to expand American trade to Asia
- ▶ Americans saw weakness in Mexican control of borderlands
- ▶ Polk eager to buy California, Mexicans would not sell
- ▶ Wanted California to balance admission of Texas with a free state
- ▶ US/Mexico issues over boundary of Texas
- ▶ Mexican claim was boundary at Nueces River, American claim was Rio Grande
- ▶ Rumors of British wanting to purchase California, could not be tolerated under Monroe doctrine
- ▶ **1846** Polk sends troops to Texas, march from Nueces River to Rio Grande
- ▶ **April 1846** US soldiers killed and Polk asks for war, Congress overwhelmingly supports it

American Blood on American (?) Soil

- 1/13/46 – Polk orders General Zachary Taylor to march from the Nueces to the Rio Grande with 4,000 men.
- 5?/9/46 – Mexican forces had not moved on US forces so Polk proposed the Congress to declare war.... Reasons?
 - Unpaid claims
 - Slidell's rejection
- Congress rejected his claim.
- 4/25/46 – Mexican troops crossed the Rio Grand and attacked
 - 16 were killed or wounded.
- Both Sides were “boiling for a fight”. Why?



The Mastering of Mexico



- Polk wanted California – not war!
- Enlisted the help of Santa Anna – the dethroned Mexican dictator
 - Exiled in Cuba
 - Polk allowed him to slip into Mexico for American alliance but Santa Anna double crossed him and rallied his countrymen.
- Influential figures:
 - Zachary Taylor
 - Winfield Scott

Why were they influential?

Fighting Mexico for Peace

Why the rush to get this resolved?

- Polk sends chief clerk of the State Dept, Nicholas Trist to negotiate.
 - Trist arranged an armistice with Santa Anna and gave him 10,000 dollars.
 - Santa Anna pocketed the bribe and went back on the arrangement.
- Polk requests Trist come back but he refuses until he has completed his job.
- He signed the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo 2/2/48.
 - Confirmed American title to Texas
 - Gave area stretching westward to Oregon
 - 15 million dollars and claims of citizens against Mexico forgiven.
- The Senate finally approved it 38 -14 with those against it being those that wanted all of Mexico or none of it.



UNITED STATES WAR WITH MEXICO

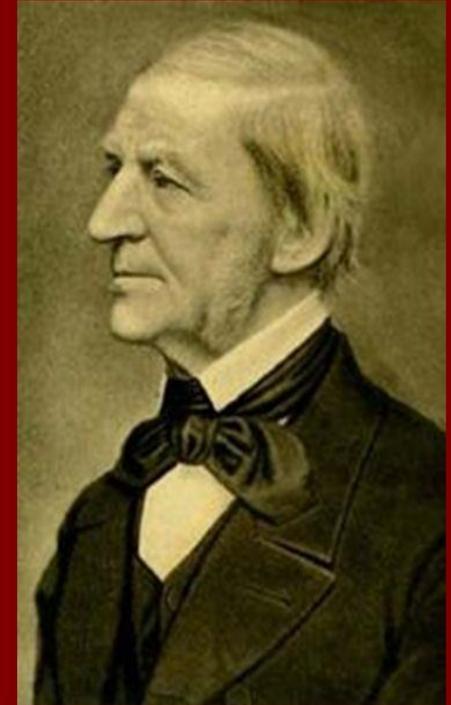
TERRITORY OF MEXICO LOST TO THE U.S.

- The Mexican War is considered small in historians eyes.
 - 13,000 Americans died, mostly to disease
- America increased in size by 1/3.
- Considered the “schoolroom” of the Civil War..... Why?
- Bitterness between Mexico/Latin America and the US
- Further ignited the issue of slavery..... Why?
 - Wilmot Proviso
 - Never became federal law
 - Stipulated that slavery should never exist in any of the newly acquired Mexican territory.
 - Endorsed by all but one state.

The Crisis of Union

“The United States will conquer Mexico, but it will be as the man swallows the arsenic...Mexico will poison us.”

- Ralph Waldo Emerson



Profit and Loss in Mexico

Expanding westwards



