WESTWARD EXPANSION

During the 1800's, the boundaries of the United States were extended westward.

**Louisiana Purchase**

The purchase of this land from France in 1803 doubled the size of the United States. **Meriwether Lewis and William Clark** were sent by President Thomas Jefferson to explore the Louisiana Purchase. President Jefferson wanted to find out more about the plants and animals in this newly-purchased land.

**Florida**

During the early 1800's, the United States acquired Florida from the country of Spain. Part of the area was purchased for $5 million.

**Texas, California, Nevada and Utah**

**Mexico** used to own the area now known as Texas. The **Alamo** in San Antonio, Texas, was the site of brutal battles between the Texans and the Mexicans. "Remember the Alamo" became the rallying cry for independence for Texas.

During the years that Texas was an independent nation, it was known as the Lone Star Republic. The war with Mexico over land in the southwest was known as the Mexican War. The Mexican War ended with the **Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo**. After the Mexican War, the Rio Grande was set as the boundary between Mexico and Texas.

Areas of land acquired from Mexico after the Mexican War are known as the **Mexican Cession**.
Oregon

The British formerly owned the Oregon Territory, in the northwest part of the United States. This territory was much larger than present-day Oregon.

Arizona and Southern New Mexico

Arizona and southern New Mexico were bought from Mexico. This purchase was known as the Gadsden Purchase. It was named after James Gadsden, the man who set up the deal.