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## Striking It Rich *(cont.)*

### Squeezed Out

Native Californios of Mexican ancestry often found their land grabbed by the newly arrived Americans. Although many Californios participated in the effort to achieve statehood, they often lost everything they owned.

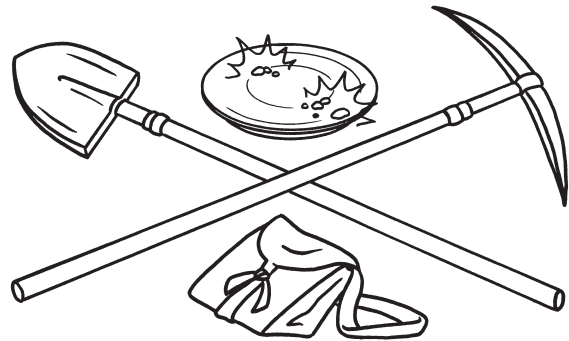
Native Americans were also pushed out of the mining fields. Their native hunting and fishing areas were destroyed, and thousands died from diseases brought by the whites. Native Americans of all ages were attacked, imprisoned, scalped, murdered, and driven from their lands. In 20 years' time, the Native American population in California dropped from 150,000 to 30,000.

### The Comstock Lode

Gold was discovered elsewhere, too. In 1859 gold was found in Gold Hill, Colorado, near Denver. The rush there did not last long because the strike required deep mining. A wild rush called the Comstock Lode did occur in 1859 and 1860 in Virginia City, Nevada, when both gold and silver were found on the eastern slope of the Sierra Nevada mountain range. Miners rushed to Nevada from the camps in California where there was very little gold being found, but unfortunately the most successful mining here also involved digging deep into the mountains. Only a few men struck it really rich.

### Other Strikes

A strike in Idaho from 1860 to 1862 was better for miners who washed gold out of streams. Gold was discovered in mountain valleys and gulches near Virginia City, Montana, in 1863. The Black Hills of South Dakota near Deadwood were the scene of a major gold rush in 1876. This rush caused major problems because the gold was found on land promised by a treaty to the Native Americans. Whites overran the area, and major conflicts broke out. The defeat of General George Custer and his troops at the Little Big Horn was a consequence of this gold strike.



The city of Tombstone, Arizona, had a silver strike in 1877 which lasted for several years, and rich ores were found near Cripple Creek, Colorado, in 1892. The last major gold rush occurred on the Klondike River in the Yukon Territory of Canada in 1897. More than 100,000 Americans set out in 1897 and 1898 for Dawson City in this desolate area. Gold discoveries were also made in nearby Alaska in 1899.



# Cattle Brands

Cowboys branded the symbol of their ranch into the hides of their cattle and horses so that everyone could tell whose animals they were. They used a hot, metal branding iron, which burned away the hair on the animal's hide and permanently imprinted the brand.

**Directions:** Pictured below are the brands for several ranches. Under each brand, write the name that it matches. The names are as follows.

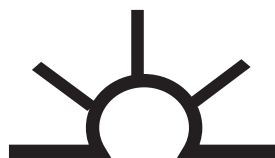
Bar 9	Diamond Bar	Flying V	Rocking Horse
Box L	Double 6	Lazy J	Rocking R
Circle T	Double Bar X	Rising Sun	Triple D



1. \_\_\_\_\_



2. \_\_\_\_\_



3. \_\_\_\_\_



4. \_\_\_\_\_



5. \_\_\_\_\_



6. \_\_\_\_\_



7. \_\_\_\_\_



8. \_\_\_\_\_



9. \_\_\_\_\_



10. \_\_\_\_\_



11. \_\_\_\_\_



12. \_\_\_\_\_

## Extension

On a separate sheet of paper, design your own brand. Include the meaning or significance of the symbol.