

# Weekly Explorer

MAGAZINE



**IMPACT**  
CALIFORNIA  
SOCIAL STUDIES



**California**  
A Changing  
State



**Mc  
Graw  
Hill  
Education**





## Chapter 4

# The Golden State



What early events and people defined the state of California?

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# Not in Kansas Anymore!



- What do you notice about the pictures?
- Why might these people have come to California?



# THE MOTHER OF SAN FRANCISCO: JUANA BRIONES

Juana de la Trinidad Briones y Tapia de Miranda, known as Juana Briones, was born in 1802. She was an extraordinary woman. Sometimes called the “Mother of San Francisco,” she broke the traditional molds for women of the time. She was not born wealthy. She had no important family connections. In fact, she never even learned to read or write.

And yet, she was brilliant. In a time when many women never worked outside the home, she worked as a farmer, a rancher, and a business woman. As a young mother, she supported the family by selling milk and vegetables to sailors.

This historic marker stands where Juana Briones's home was.







# HELPING OTHERS TO A BETTER LIFE

Through her business, Juana learned how hard life was for sailors, especially those who worked on whaling ships. She started helping any of them who wanted to run away. She also saw that other people were suffering. California was changing quickly, and American Indian children were often left parentless and homeless. Juana adopted an American Indian orphan and raised her along with her own children.

Juana cared very deeply about the well-being of people around her. She **developed** medicines to help them when they were sick and cared for them as a *curandera* (healer). It is said that one of her medicinal teas was so well known that the area she lived in was called Yerba Buena (good herb) in its honor.

California grew in part because of Juana Briones. She owned and worked the land. She helped others make better lives for themselves, and she took care of the people around her. Her story shows that your future can be limitless—no matter what your background happens to be.

## WordBlast

Juana **developed** medicines. What is another word or phrase that means the same as **developed**?



# The End of the RAINBOW

## Chasing a Pot of Gold

In 1850, Stephen Chapin David was seventeen years old. He was eager to make his mark on the world—and to make some money. He and his older brother Josiah heard about people striking it rich in California. They went west, hoping to find their own pot of gold at the end of the rainbow.

As it turned out, gold was hard to come by. The brothers began cooking and working in shops. They soon realized that this, not mining, was their chance. In mining towns, goods like ham, flour, and sugar sometimes sold for double their cost! The brothers decided to buy a store, take in boarders, and let the money roll in.

Stephen and Josiah were not alone. Some of the wealthiest people came out of California not as miners but as merchants. In fact, Forty-Niners had a much better chance of striking it rich selling to miners than they did mining for gold.



In reality, San Francisco was not as glamorous as most miners imagined.

(bkgd)severija/iStock/Getty Images,  
(b)Archive Images/Getty Images



## The Very Lucky Levi Strauss

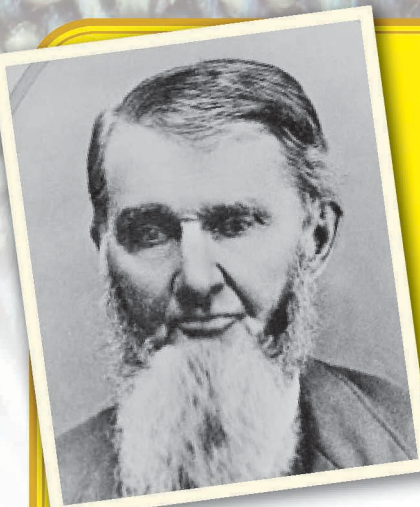
Levi Strauss was the child of poor immigrants. He made his living as a peddler. He walked the streets of New York selling kettles, blankets, sewing materials, and other **products**. In 1853, Strauss headed to California to sell goods to the booming population in the West. There he met Jacob Davis, who discovered that pants lasted much longer if made from sturdy cotton and held together by rivets. Together, the men went into business. They produced rugged work pants for the miners in California. Those pants became known as "Levi's"!



Levi Strauss

This image displays in the product.

an advertisement from about 1874



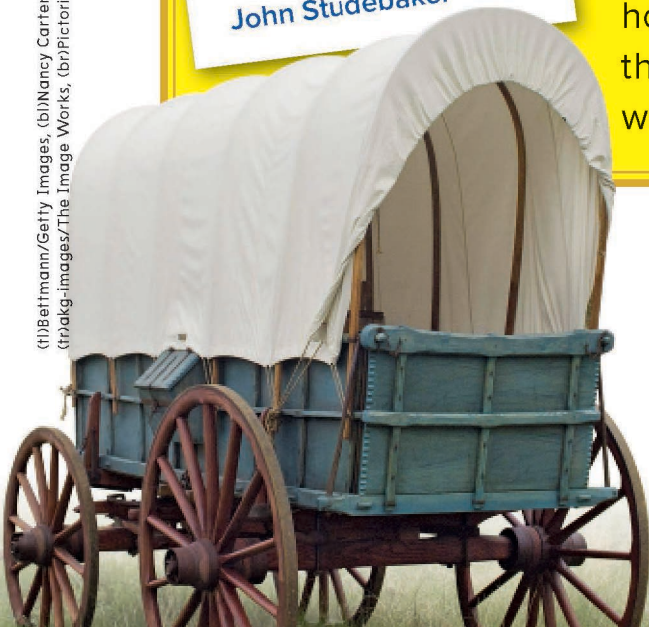
John Studebaker

## Studebaker Strikes It Rich!

When young John Studebaker arrived in California looking for gold, he had nothing but fifty cents and the wagon he had built at home in South Bend, Indiana. He was hoping to find gold. Instead, he found people begging him to build wheelbarrows! "Wheelbarrow Johnny" never found gold, but he did find his fortune. By 1857, he had saved \$7,000. He took his money back home, where he and his brothers started making the famous Studebaker wagons. By 1875, they were the largest wagon builder in the world.

### WordBlast

How are the words **produce** and **product** related?





# ★ TOOLS OF THE TRADE ★

Gold! Yes, it was out there in California. But most of it was not simply sitting on the ground. Many Forty-Niners learned to mine stream beds. They looked for gold and gemstones hidden in the sand, gravel, and water. Miners used various tools and methods to separate the gold from the water and worthless mineral deposits.

## PANNING

Many of the first arrivals tried panning for gold. They filled a shallow pan with river gravel. Then they added water and swirled it around. When it was done correctly, lighter materials such as dirt would go over the side of the pan along with the water. Heavier materials, like gold, stayed in the bottom of the pan.

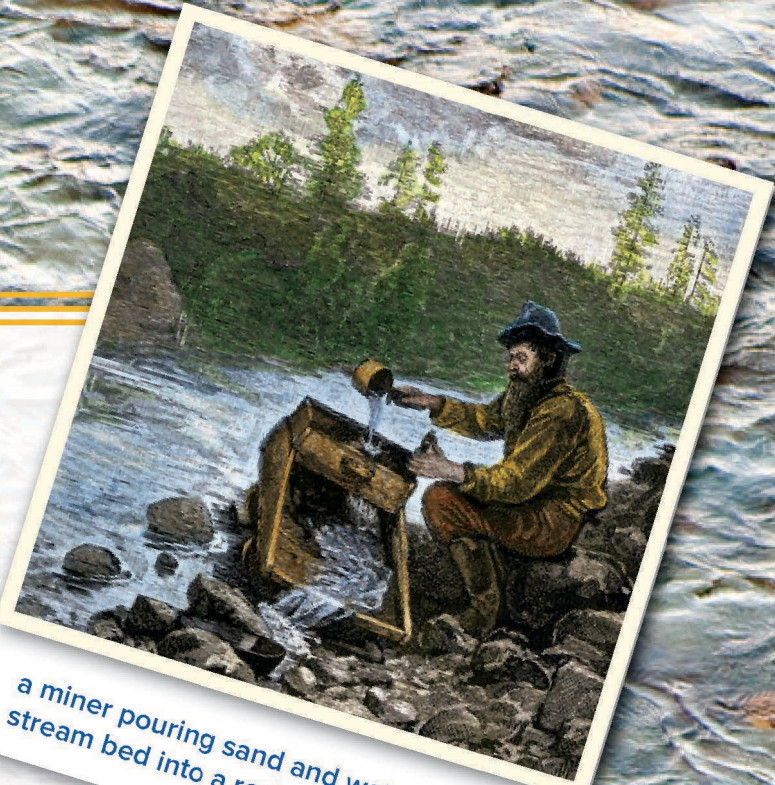
a pan full of gold





## ROCKER

Panning for gold worked, but it was slow. Even worse, you couldn't cover a lot of ground at one time. As a solution, miners developed a tool called a rocker. A rocker was a box with a sieve, or screen, on top. It was placed on curved pieces of wood, like the ones on rocking chairs. Miners dumped large buckets of water and sand and dirt through the sieve. Rocks, water, and waste were filtered. Gold was in the bottom of the box.

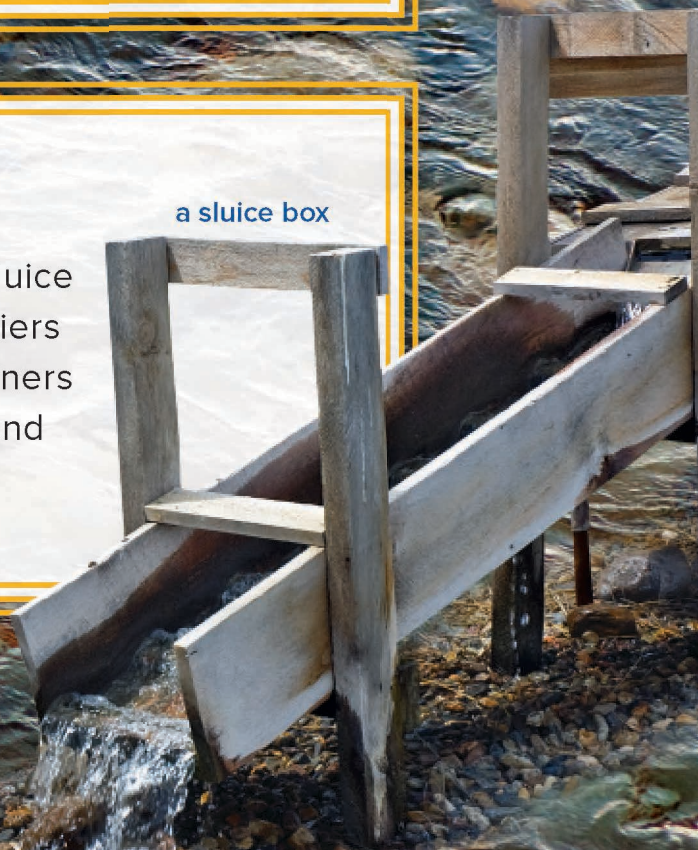


*a miner pouring sand and water from a stream bed into a rocker box*

## SLUICE BOX

A sluice box was another useful tool. Sluice boxes were long, open boxes with barriers along the bottom to trap gold. Many miners used these to filter large amounts of sand and water at one time. The sluice box combined elements of the other tools.

*a sluice box*





# The Miner's Ten Commandments

In 1853, James M. Hutchings wrote *The Miner's Ten Commandments*. Hutchings was an unsuccessful gold **prospector** who noticed that California miners lived by different rules than settlers back East. His *Ten Commandments*, first printed in the *Placerville Herald*, outlined the rules he thought the miners should live by. They were so popular that when they were reprinted as a letter sheet, almost 100,000 copies were sold!

## WordBlast

If a **prospect** is something that might happen, what is a **prospector**?

You may only have one claim.

You may not lie about claims or steal them from other men.

You should not leave your claim before all the gold has run out.

Do not compare your Sunday activities in the mines to Sunday activities back home; you will only feel bad about yourself.

Spend more time thinking about how you will use your gold than how you can get more gold.

Do not kill anyone.

Do not give up and go home before you get rich.

Do not steal.

Do not tell people there is gold where no gold exists.

Do not neglect your wife.





## PRIMARY SOURCE

### In Their Words...

Here is the original text of one of the *Miner's Commandments*. Can you match it to the version on page 48?

Thou shalt not think more of all thy gold, and how thou canst make it fastest, than how thou will enjoy it after thou hast ridden rough-shod over thy good old parents' precepts and examples, that thou mayest have nothing to reproach thee, when left ALONE in the land where thy father's blessing and thy mother's love hath sent thee.





# GOLD RUSH CHILDREN

FOR CHILDREN WHOSE PARENTS TRAVEL TO CALIFORNIA IN SEARCH OF GOLD, THIS NEW PLACE IS STRANGE.

I WANT TO GO HOME!

INDIANA'S A LONG WAY AWAY, ANNIE.

EVEN THE HOUSES ARE UNFAMILIAR. MANY CHILDREN FIRST LIVE IN TENTS OR BRUSH HOUSES.

MA? HOW CAN I HELP YOU?

LIFE IS DIFFERENT HERE, ESPECIALLY FOR GIRLS. THEY LEARN QUICKLY!

GIRLS CAN'T GATHER WOOD!

IT LOOKS TO ME LIKE MY PILE IS BIGGER THAN YOURS.

THEY ARE OUTSIDE MORE OFTEN.

AND SOME CHORES ARE THINGS THEY NEVER DID BACK EAST.

SEE YOU THIS AFTERNOON!



SOME PIONEER CHILDREN  
MEET CALIFORNIA INDIAN  
CHILDREN.

I CAN SHOW  
YOU WHERE TO  
FIND WILD  
ONIONS.

THAT  
SOUNDS LIKE  
FUN.

WE CAN  
SELL THESE  
ON MARKET  
DAY!

MA'S GOING  
TO BE SO  
HAPPY.

CHILDREN IN MINING TOWNS ALSO FIGURE  
OUT ANOTHER WAY TO MAKE MONEY!  
MINERS PAY FOR THEIR GOODS IN GOLD  
DUST--DUST THAT SPILLS EASILY.

THE CHILDREN LEARN THEY CAN RUN  
WET PINS THROUGH CRACKS IN THE  
WOOD. GOLD DUST STICKS TO THE PINS.

I THINK WE  
MIGHT HAVE FOUND  
MORE GOLD THAN  
PA TODAY.

SHH! DON'T LET  
THEM HEAR YOU!

DESPITE THE CHALLENGES OF A  
MINING LIFE, MANY CHILDREN  
FIND HAPPINESS IN THE WEST.

DO YOU STILL  
WANT TO GO  
HOME?

I AM  
HOME.

ART:  
EUREKA  
COMICS



# Shipwrecked Gold!

## THEN

Successful California gold miners faced a problem: how could they move their gold to New York, the business capital of the country? The answer was in the ocean. The easiest way to get gold from California to New York was by sea. Miners sent their precious cargo from the coast of California to Panama City, then to Aspinwall, and finally to New York, where it could be sold and **exchanged** for paper money.

The system worked so well that it became routine. The September 1857 trip of the *SS Central America* from Panama to New York was supposed to be smooth. The ship was supposed to deliver its estimated 580 passengers and 21 tons of gold to New York without any problem.

At first the voyage went well. But three days after leaving Panama, the *SS Central America* sailed into a hurricane. The ship never landed. Instead, the giant steamer sank, taking many of its passengers and all of its gold to the depths of the ocean.

No one knew where the ship lay, but legends of the “Ship of Gold” were passed down from generation to generation.



These illustrations show the sinking of and survivors from the *SS Central America*.

## WordBlast

What do you think **exchanged** means? What clue helped you?



## NOW

The ship stayed lost at the bottom of the sea for over one hundred years. Then, in 1987, a team of researchers and treasure hunters found the shipwreck. It lay just 160 miles off the coast of South Carolina.

The group had been mapping and scanning the ocean floor for years. After discovering the debris from the shipwreck, a team used a remotely-operated robot to find treasure at the site.

While researchers watched on screens, the robot eventually brought up more than \$40 million in gold from the shipwreck. The *SS Central America* was a true storybook treasure come to life.



This image displays in the product.

The ship carried gold bars, nuggets, and coins.



# TASTE OF SAN FRANCISCO

For many gold miners, sourdough bread like the kind sold in San Francisco was a new taste. It was one they soon came to love. You can try making sourdough bread at home.

## Ingredients

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ cups flour          | 2 tablespoons butter, softened         |
| 3 tablespoons sugar                 | 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups sourdough starter |
| 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons salt      | 1 extra large egg                      |
| .25 oz (1 package) active dry yeast | 1 tablespoon water                     |
| 1 cup warm milk                     | $\frac{1}{4}$ cup chopped onion        |

## Directions

1. Combine the sugar, salt, and yeast. Then add the milk and butter. Stir in the starter. Mix in the flour a bit at a time.
  2. Knead the dough on a floured surface for 8-10 minutes. Put the dough in a greased bowl and turn it once. Let it rise for an hour or until the dough has doubled in volume.
  3. Punch the dough down and let it rest for 15 minutes. Shape it into loaves and place them on a greased baking pan. Let them rise for another hour (or until doubled).
  4. Crack the egg, scramble it in a bowl, and brush it over the tops of the loaves. Then, chop the onion and sprinkle it on top.
  5. Bake your bread at 375° F for half an hour or until fully cooked through.
- Eat with your hands like a miner—but be careful not to burn yourself!



# Take Action!

## More to Explore

What else do you want to learn about? The questions below can guide you in further research and discussion.

Who are some other early Californians you would like to learn about?

How did the California Indians feel about the Gold Rush?

How did the mining towns change and grow into big cities?

### WordBlast

- What was **developed** in the 20th century that led to the discovery of the SS *Central America*?
- If a miner **exchanged** gold at a store, what might he get?
- What **product** did John Studebaker produce?
- What tool might a **prospector** have valued most? Why?



### Reflect

What early events and people defined the state of California?



## Chapter 5

# A GROWING STATE



How did California change after becoming a state?

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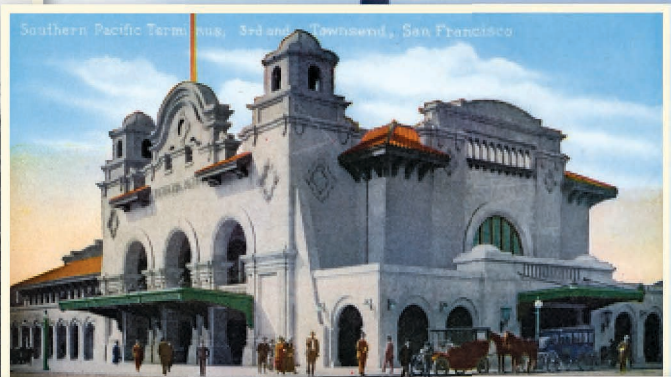
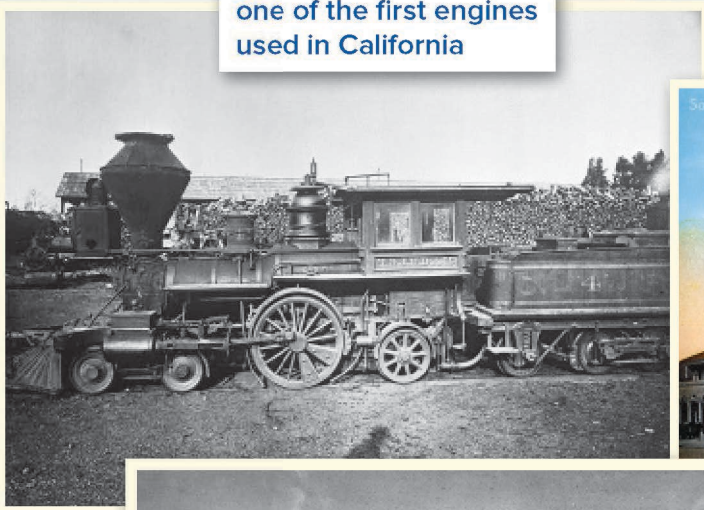




# CALIFORNIA RAILS

At first, people settled mostly in northern California because that's where the transcontinental railroad took them starting in 1869. Then other rail lines opened, going south and to other places in the state. California was on the move and growing.

one of the first engines used in California



the Southern Pacific station in San Francisco, built in 1914



building a railroad bridge in 1877

- What do you notice in the the pictures?
- How is the old engine different from train engines you see today?



# A CAPITAL IDEA



On September 9, 1850, California became the 31st state of the union. The first thing Californians did after statehood was throw a party! Banners and flags flew as the new citizens celebrated. The next step was to move their capital.

## Capitals and Capitols

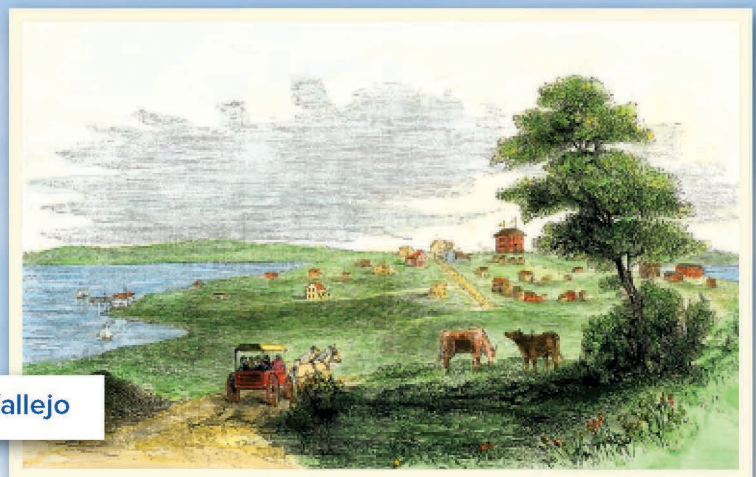
Monterey had been California's **capital** city under Spanish and Mexican rule. California lawmakers quickly adopted a new **capitol** building in a small hotel in San Jose. It was crowded, and the streets outside were thick with mud. So they made plans to build a new capital city.

## The Long Road to Sacramento

First, lawmakers moved the state government to Vallejo, where they stayed from 1852 to 1853. But governing was tough in a city under construction. So lawmakers made a temporary move to Sacramento. That city, however, had just suffered a huge flood. Lawmakers went back to Vallejo until the town of Benicia offered its city hall. They accepted, moved in, and stayed there—for less than a year! Benicia was too tiny to serve as the capital.

### WordBlast

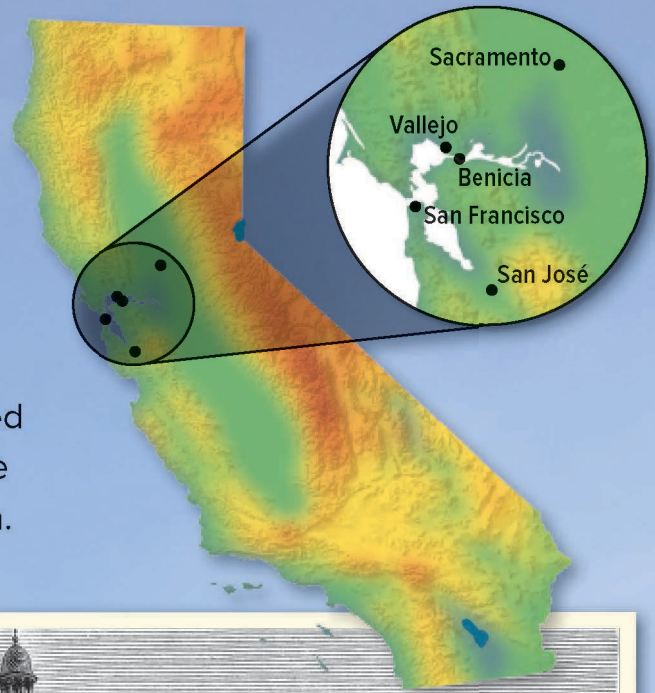
**Capital** can be a slang word for “good,” or it can be a kind of city. What’s the difference between a **capital** and a **capitol**?



Vallejo



Lawmakers moved back to Sacramento and built a new, permanent capitol building there. Soon after it was completed, the capitol burned to the ground, requiring a temporary move to San Francisco. But within six months California moved its government back to Sacramento. After all, the city had endured both flood and fire. It had earned its place as the permanent capital city of California.



the Capitol in Sacramento, 1877





# TRAVELING BY STAGECOACH

TEXT:  
STEPHEN KRENSKY  
ART: EUREKA COMICS

FAMILIES GOING WEST IN THE 1850S AND 1860S OFTEN TRAVEL BY STAGECOACH. THE DIFFICULT TRIP FROM ST. LOUIS TO SAN FRANCISCO CAN LAST ALMOST A MONTH.



INSIDE THE COACH, THREE PEOPLE SQUEEZE TOGETHER ON EACH SEAT. THERE IS BARELY ROOM FOR ALL THE FEET!



THE RIDE IS VERY BUMPY. THE COACH SWAYS FROM SIDE TO SIDE.



MANY STAGECOACHES TRAVEL DAY AND NIGHT. THEY STOP ONLY BRIEFLY AT STATIONS SET ABOUT TWELVE MILES APART.





PASSENGERS OFTEN SLEEP SITTING UP. IT IS CONSIDERED RUDE TO LEAN ON THE STRANGER NEXT TO YOU.

USUALLY I COUNT SHEEP TO HELP ME FALL ASLEEP.

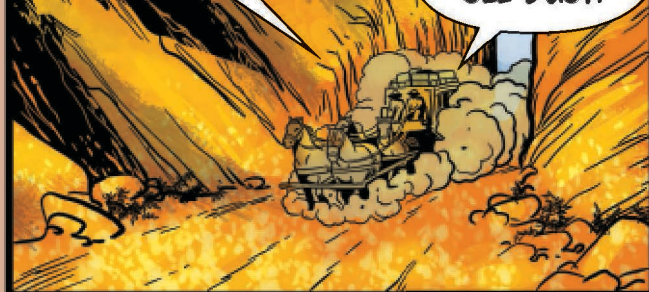
HERE YOU CAN COUNT THE SNORES.



THE SCENERY IS BEAUTIFUL-- WHEN YOU CAN SEE IT.

IS THIS CALIFORNIA?

I DON'T KNOW. I JUST SEE DUST.



SOMETIMES THE PASSENGERS HAVE TO GET OUT AND WALK IF THE TRAIL IS TOO STEEP.

ARE WE THERE YET?

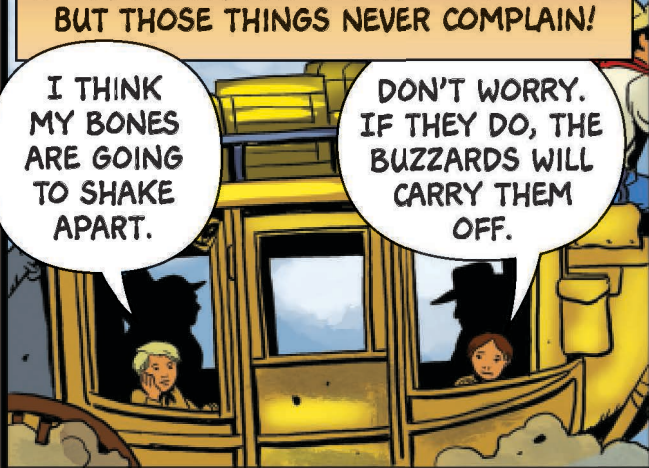
NO.



STAGECOACHES ALSO CARRY MAIL, GOLD, SILVER, AND COMPANY PAYROLLS. BUT THOSE THINGS NEVER COMPLAIN!

I THINK MY BONES ARE GOING TO SHAKE APART.

DON'T WORRY. IF THEY DO, THE BUZZARDS WILL CARRY THEM OFF.

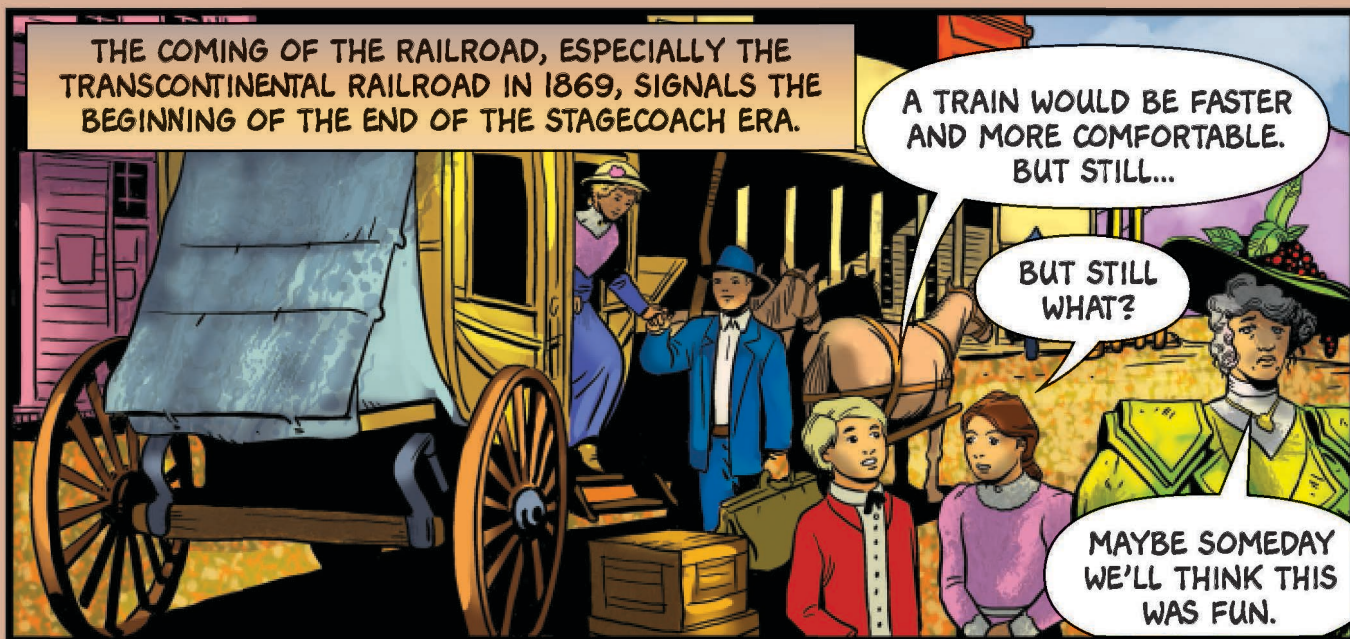


THE COMING OF THE RAILROAD, ESPECIALLY THE TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROAD IN 1869, SIGNALS THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF THE STAGECOACH ERA.

A TRAIN WOULD BE FASTER AND MORE COMFORTABLE. BUT STILL...

BUT STILL WHAT?

MAYBE SOMEDAY WE'LL THINK THIS WAS FUN.

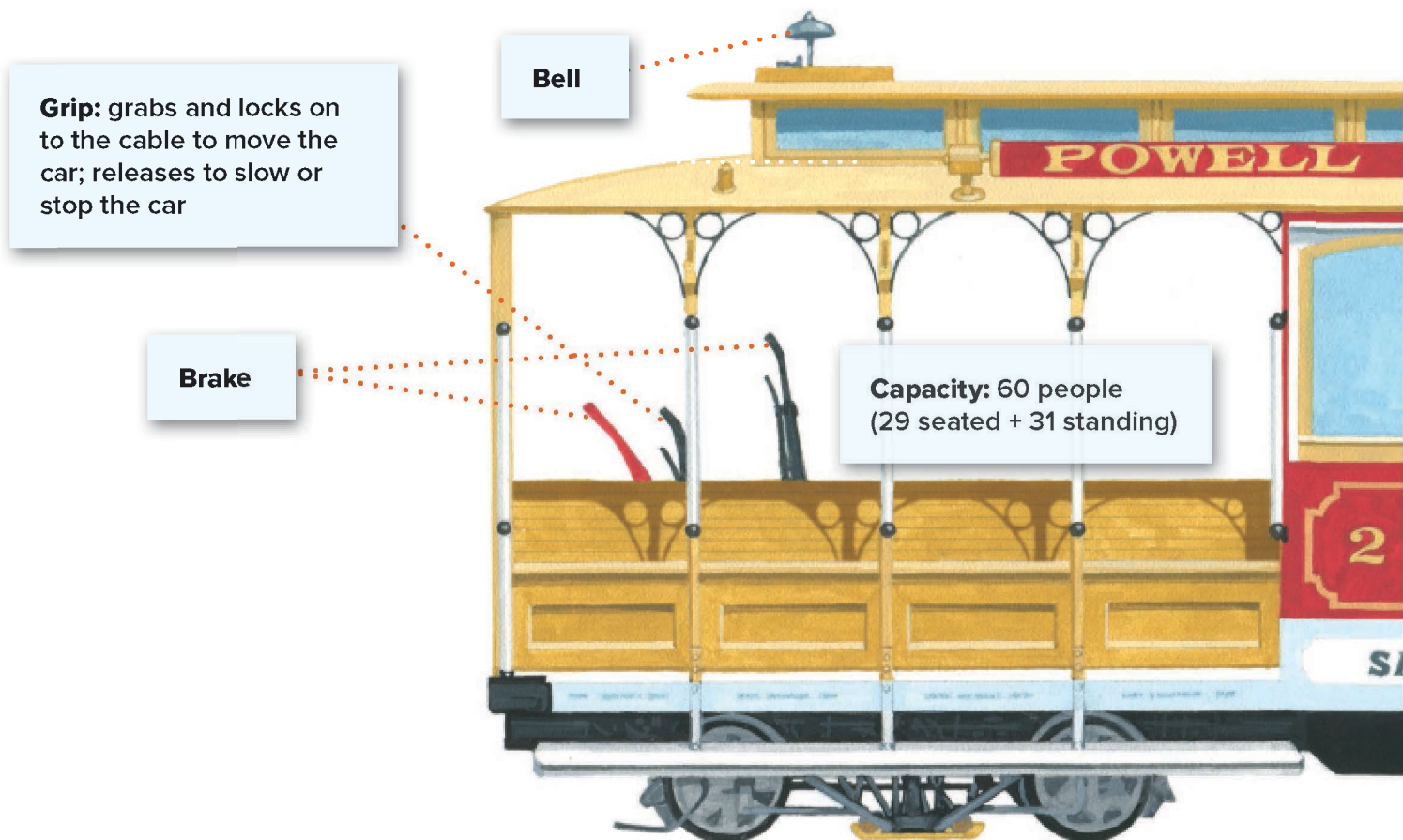




# A CITY TRADITION CABLE CARS

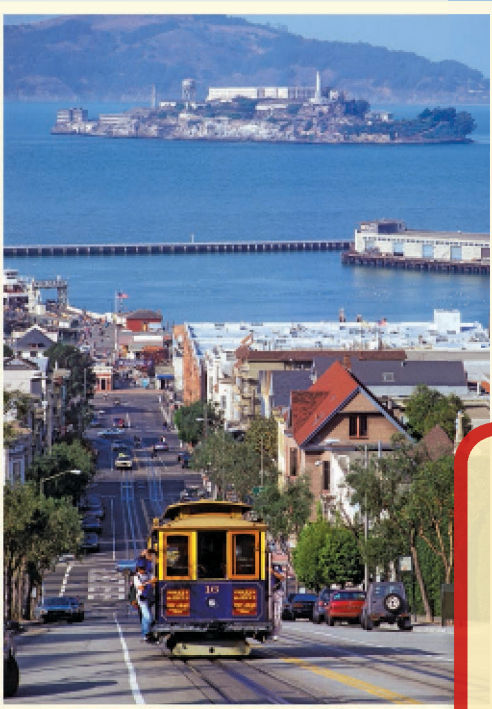
San Francisco is famous for its steep hills—and its cable cars. The cable car system was started after its creator saw a terrible accident in 1869. Andrew Hallidie watched a horse-drawn street car loaded with passengers slide backwards and out of control down a hill. He knew his wire-rope could be the way to stop these accidents. The wire-rope, or cable, could hold the heavy weights of loaded cars. In 1873, the first cable car line in San Francisco opened. Many of the historic originals are still in use today.

## POWELL STREET CABLE CAR



**Cable:** 1.25 inches in diameter; 6 steel strands wrapped around a rope core; runs in a shallow channel below the car and moves the car





## EXPLORE the Diagram

With a partner, look closely at the diagram.

- How long is a Powell Street cable car?
- Why is the grip important?
- How fast do the Powell Street cable cars travel?



**Size:**

Length = 27ft 6in (8.4 m)

Height = 10ft 5in (3.2 m)

Width = 8ft 0in (2.4 m)

**Cable speed:** 9.5 mph (15.3 kph)



# The Citrus Pioneer

Some people thought Eliza Tibbets was kind of unusual. She and her husband Luther both believed that slavery should be ended and that women had a right to vote. They were very active in national politics—until they suddenly moved to California in the 1870s.

In California, Eliza became interested in agriculture. She learned that farmers had been growing oranges in California for years, but that California's orange crops were **unpredictable**. Sometimes the trees grew well. Sometimes they didn't. Sometimes the oranges were tasty. Sometimes they were awful. Eliza had heard about a new kind of Brazilian orange tree that produced beautiful, sturdy, and tasty oranges. As an added bonus, these navel oranges didn't have seeds!

## WordBlast

If you can predict something, you can make a good guess about what will happen. What does it mean for something to be **unpredictable**? Use clues in the paragraph to help you.



(bkgd)Rich Reid/National Geographic/Getty Images,  
(b)sanmal/Stock/Getty Images



Eliza was determined to grow these oranges. She asked a man she knew at the Department of Agriculture, William Saunders, to send her navel orange trees from his greenhouse in Washington, D.C. He sent her two. He sent many more to Florida.

The Florida orange trees all died. But Eliza Tibbets tended her trees with the greatest care. The little trees thrived and bore their first fruit in just a few years. Settlers who tasted them marveled at the new orange. It was large, sweet, and easy to peel.

By 1882, half a million navel oranges were growing in California. A booming new industry was born. Everyone agreed: Eliza Tibbets might be a nut—but she produced great fruit.



Eliza Tibbets



illustration from an old postcard  
showing California oranges



# THE QUESTION OF HETCH HETCHY

Naturalist John Muir happened upon Hetch Hetchy in 1871. He was delighted by the U-shaped valley and its streams and waterfalls. He saw nature at its most wonderful. Other people saw water. Drinking water. California's population had exploded. By 1870, more than 150,000 people lived in San Francisco.

Muir and other **preservationists** wanted Hetch Hetchy to remain untouched. But in 1913, President Woodrow Wilson signed a law that allowed a dam to be built. In 1923, the O'Shaughnessy Dam flooded the entire valley and created the Hetch Hetchy reservoir.

Today, the reservoir at Hetch Hetchy holds 117 billion gallons of water and supplies drinking water to 2.4 million Californians. So far, San Francisco and its surrounding areas have not found a way to do without it. Preservationists still hope to restore the valley one day.

This image displays in the product.

means "the act of keeping safe from harm." The suffix *-ist* means "one who." Use the word parts to tell the meaning of **preservationist**.





# from “THE HETCH-HETCHY”

by Harriet Monroe

*Harriet Monroe was a poet and author. She was the founder and editor of Poetry magazine. She was also a supporter of preserving the Hetch Hetchy valley. These verses from her longer poem, published in 1910, describe the valley and her feelings about it.*

Have you found the Happy Valley?

No? Then follow—I have seen

Where it lies....

\* \* \*

There slim waterfall dash madly,

Breaking, foaming, thundering

As they pass

Into blue-eyed brooks that gladly

Trail their gauzy gowns and ring

Bells of glass.

\* \* \*

Come, friend, pass the frowning portals!

'Tis the Magic Valley—stay—

'Tis your quest.





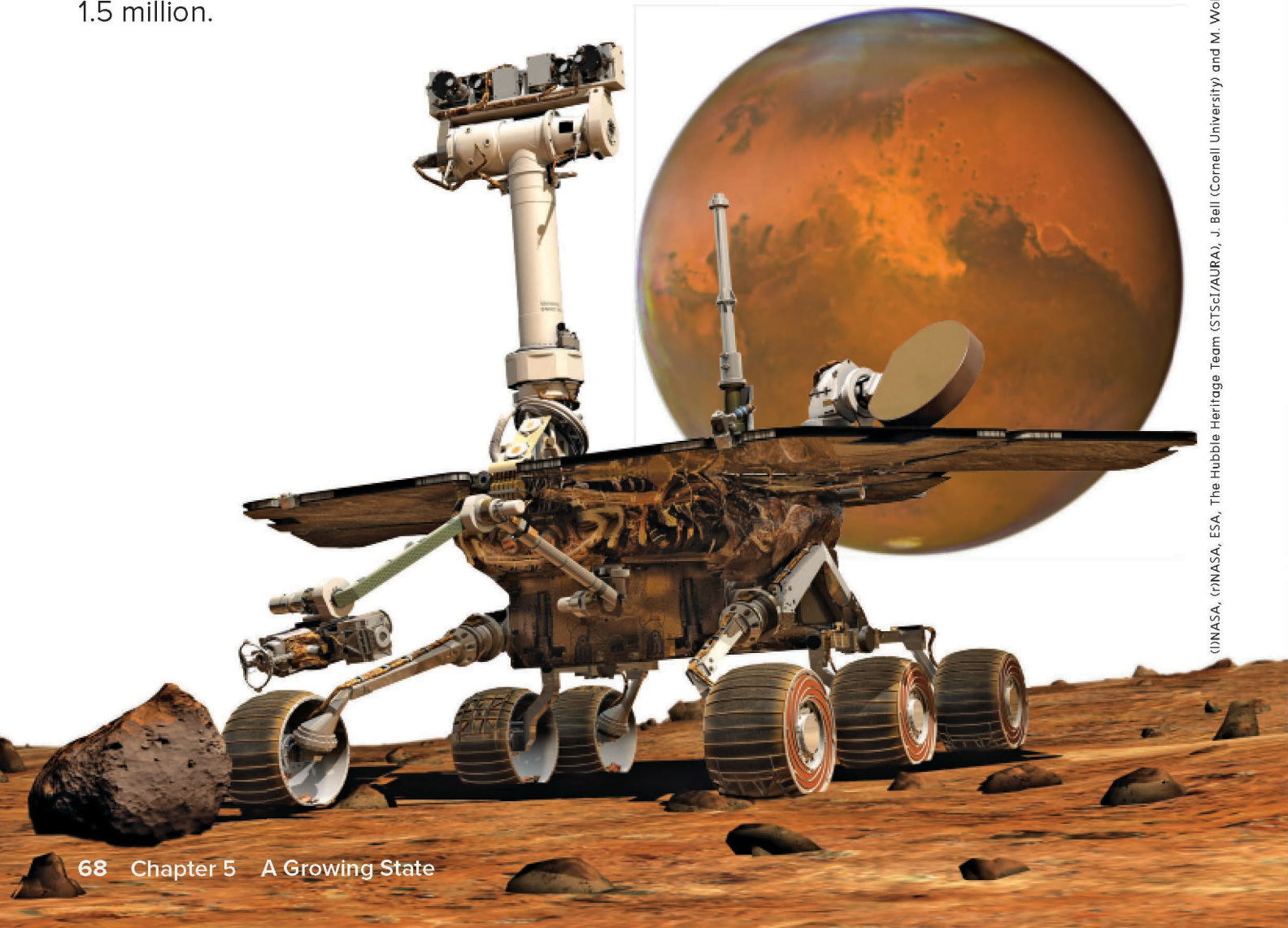
# NEW FRONTIERS

## THEN: GO WEST

*Go West, young man!* No one knows for sure who first coined the phrase. Most people think it was Horace Greeley, a newspaper man in the 1860s. Greeley and others were excited to see the country expand into the West. And many young men did indeed go west! Between 1850 and 1900, the population of California grew from about 92,000 people to almost 1.5 million.

## NOW: GO TO SPACE

After California was settled, many people wished for new lands to explore. Then came the Space Age! Today, astronauts from the United States and other countries live and work in space. We have landed a rover on Mars and explored the red planet. Maybe someday we will send people to Mars—and maybe they will launch from California!



(i) NASA, (r) NASA, ESA, The Hubble Heritage Team (STScI/AURA), J. Bell (Cornell University) and M. Wolff (Space Science Institute)



# Take Action!

## More to Explore

What else do you want to learn about? The questions below can guide you in further research and discussion.

How did the railroads affect the stagecoaches?

What do people think about Hetch Hetchy today? Be sure to research all sides.

What other frontiers are there still to explore?

### WordBlast

- What are some things you might see in a **capital**?
- What does the California **capitol** look like?
- If you were a **preservationist**, what place would you try to save?
- Describe something you think of as **unpredictable**.



### Reflect

How did California change after becoming a state?