

Bellringer: D7

Why might the addition of Oregon or Texas have caused further conflict in the U.S.?

U.S. History I

Ch. 12.2a Independence for Texas: Clash of Cultures

Manifest Destiny encouraged many Americans to head to **Texas**, where lots of cheap land lay.

Goals for Today:

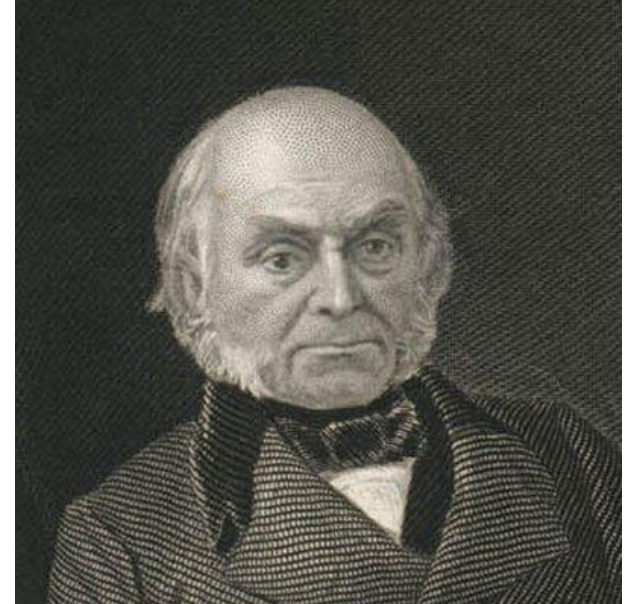
- *Investigate the reasons many Americans settled in Texas, and how it separated to become an independent country, then absorbed into the U.S.*

Clash of Cultures

Many Americans were heading to **Texas** for a new start! [Davy Crockett](#), famous frontiersman, adventurer and even Senator, was one of them, arriving in 1835.

Ever since 1803, many Americans believed that Texas was already part of the U.S. “The **Louisiana Purchase** guaranteed this!” they argued.

The **Adams-Onis Treaty** of 1819 said otherwise, and gave Florida to the Americans, but the Americans had to give up claims to Texas. Or did they...?





Land Grants

Spain wanted to keep Texas, hence the Adams-Onís Treaty. However, they also wanted it **populated** with people loyal to them.

So, they invited people to come settle the land, and they were given huge tracts of land, just to go there. Mexico gained **independence** in 1821, and continued the practice, with some adjustments.

One of the first people to take advantage of these generous terms was **Moses Austin**, whose son, **Stephen F. Austin**, ended up settling the land grant. That colony he started became known as [Austin, Texas](#).



Trouble Brewing:



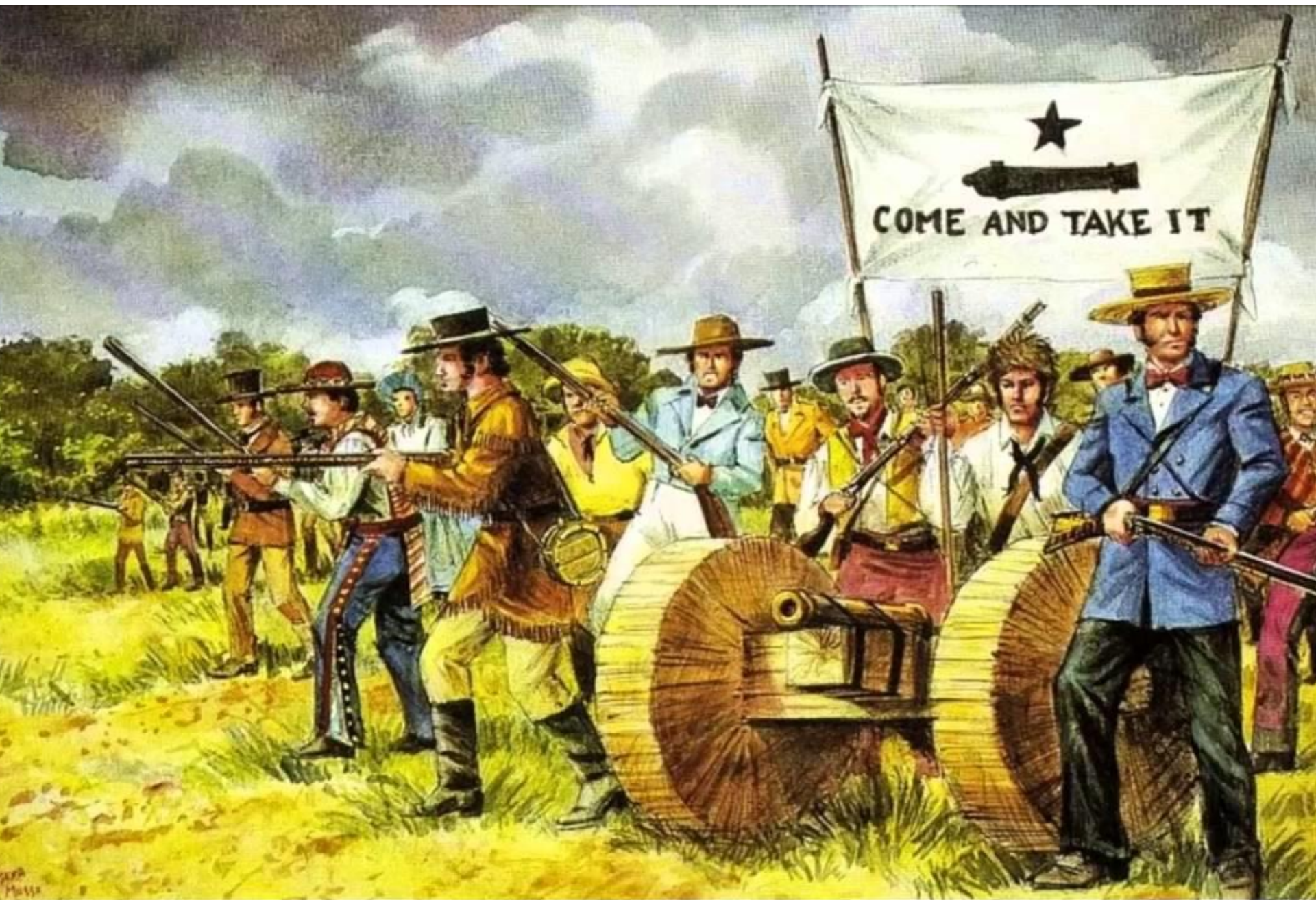
The Mexican government was **not thrilled** with the idea that Texas was basically a “**Little America**”, and so they began **limiting** Americans from coming to Texas, while **simultaneously** encouraging **Mexicans** and **Europeans** to keep coming. Taxes were also placed on any imported American goods.

This got Texans riled up, because more Americans wanted to come to Texas, and they depended in large part on trade with the U.S. Mexico also was threatening to end slavery, and this angered many Texans.

Meanwhile, Stephen F. Austin traveled to **Mexico City**, and he was arrested by **General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna**, who had taken over the government in a **coup d'etat**. General Santa Anna was not interested in doing any favors for the Texan-Americans. Many of them now decided that they would have to fight for their rights.

The first strike occurred at [The Battle of Gonzalez](#)





HW: Check out the Oregon Trail!

To give you a feel for the adventure, check out the old **Oregon Trail Game** that I used to enjoy as a young man!