Student # 3 - Reflection

Social Studies

Reflection #5

Although we will only be having Social Study class two times this week, I learned a lot about U.S's history. Today, we reviewed what the push and pull factors of immigrants are. A push factor is when immigrants leave a country and a pull factor is immigrants living in another country. Some immigrants leave their country because of economic instability, political reasons, expulsion, family hardships, disease, political/religious instability, overpopulation, war, and poor living conditions. On the other hand, immigrants settled in the U.S because of economical opportunities, personal choices, educational opportunities, political stability, freedom, more land, and advanced medicines. Speaking of economic opportunities, one big example is the Industrial Revolution. This was a time period from 1760 to 1840 where new ways were invented to manufacture products. Products went from hand production to using machines, chemicals, and iron production processes improving water power and more steam power. In other words, inventions were being made changing the way products are produced.

There were 2 parts of the Industrial Revolution. The first Industrial Revolution was from 1750 to 1775 in England. The first invention from England was the steam engine. The 2nd invention was the powered loom for cloth, the 3rd was the furnace for steel, and the 4th was the cotton gin which picked cotton seeds. Then came the 2nd Industrial Revolution from 1870 to 1914 in the United States. Some inventions were the railroad, telephone, electricity, lightbulb, subways, and oil wells. In addition, we did more research. I read the book called. "The Early American Industrial Revolution, 1793-1850." I learned that in 1851, the Great Exhibition was the first world fair. The U.S won most prizes. Therefore, people began doing to the U.S to study

American manufacturing methods. By 1900, U.S was the leading industrial nation in the world. The United States started to gain industrial power during the American Industrial Revolution. At first, Americans copied British methods but started to invent their own ideas make their own products. Some people became wealthy from owning factories or mills. People worked long hours in dangerous environments. Mill workers worked 12 or 13 hours each day for low wages. Children got payed less than adults and received little to no education. The Industrial Revolution began in Great Britain in the late 1700's. There were new sources of power, new machines for cloth, and new ways to iron ore into metal. The first invention was the steam engine in 1698 by Thomas Savery. They provided engines to burn wood, coal and other fuel for water to turn into steam.

James Watt improved it in 1760's. He added a part to cool the steam and change in back into water. This used much less fuel. Next were textile inventions. For example, one was the Spinning Jenny. This helped produce cloth much faster and made Britain the World's top producer of cloth. African American slaves were forced to work on the cotton plantations. The iron industry was also important to Great Britain's growth since it was rich in iron ore deposits. The northeast and Midwest developed most of the industry. The south remained agriculture. However, the Industrial revolution did not have a positive effect on the environment since all the factories and mills polluted the earth. Overall, the Industrial Revolution changed from farming to life in cities and factories. As a result, the U.S starts to grow as more and more people immigrate here for more economic opportunities.

Additionally, on Friday I learned how New York City's Chinatown became Chinatown from the article called, "The Chinese in New York." Before 1847, there wasn't any Chinese living in the area. A man named Ah Sue was the first Chinese to settle in New York in #62

Cherry St. He was a sailor and opened a tobacco/candy store and kept a small boarding house for the Chinese. Ah Sue married an Irish-American girl named Murphy and this was the first inter marriage with a Chinese race in the country. He was successful and popular. He introduced his men to American trades and manufactures. Therefore, about 40 Chinese were already living in New York when Ah Sue died in 1864. A small Chinatown has begun to form. After Ah Sue died, things did not end there. Ko Lo Chee toke over his boarding house and wrote to the Chinese in California and China of the business advantages in New York to try to encourage more Chinese to settle in the area. However, no one replied him. So, Ko Lo Chee turned the 2nd floor of his house into a Chinese bed and advertised it on newspapers. He imported Chinese books, groceries, and other goods. This attracted more people to come. Based on the article entitled, "The Chinese in New York," is states that "In 1869, the colony numbered about 150…the first Chinese grocery was opened at No. 34 Mott St. in 1872 by Wo Kee. The Chinese colony had increased to 500." In other words, the group of Chinese living in New York has increased to 150 in 1869 and by 1872, the number went up by 500.

Throughout the years, more and more Chinese immigrated to live in New York and this contributed to the growth of a bigger Chinatown. On the other hand, even though they start to settle in, they were being treated poorly by the nativists, as well as the Irish immigrants. The nativists included the English, Dutch, British, and Spanish Portuguese. They thought that the Chinese and Irish were inferior to them and said that they were filthy, uneducated, and poor. Both sides often got into fights which were why gangs were being formed so they could protect themselves.

The industrial revolution contributed to U.S history. The inventions improved the technology and started to change the way of life for the people from farming into a more city like

life. This also improved the economy of the United States which attracted more immigrants into settling here. Based on the treatment of the Chinese and Irish immigrant by the nativists back then, I wondered when and how they stopped being treated like this. Furthermore, I can infer that they were more respected and gained better treatment by others when they started to show their abilities to do certain things maybe by inventions or new ways in doing things. For example, many Chinese people opened shops or stores that were very successful. They brought the Chinese culture into America contributing to what America is like today because of the variety of Chinese dishes, clothing, and more. Another possibility how the nativists treated the Chinese immigrants with more respect is when more races of different kinds also started to immigrate here. I predict this because when I did additional research, the article called "Immigration to the United States," shows the top ten countries that immigrants come from and are living in the U.S today which is "Mexico, India, China, Philippine, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Vietnam, South Korea, El Salvador, and Iraq." Furthermore, when more races come here to make a living together, the nativists would start accepting the fact that it's not just the Irish or Chinese who want to live here, they have to adapt and be able to live with anyone no matter their race. However, many did not want them to be equal to their level so a lot of whites starting forcing African Americans into slavery.