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A GRAPHIC HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES.

BY

HENRY GANNETT.

This is not a history of the Government or of the people of the United States, but an outline, expressed mainly by means of maps, of the changes in the territory of the country as a whole and of the different States since it became one of the powers of the earth.

Upon the conclusion of the treaty of peace with Great Britain, at the close of the War of Independence, our home was limited on the south by the 31st parallel of latitude, and the present northern boundary of Florida. The western limit of our jurisdiction was the mid-channel of the Mississippi River, and from its source a line run due north to the Lake of the Woods. The area of our domain was then 827,844 square miles, or less than a fourth what it is at present.

At that time our territory consisted of the 13 original States, which then comprised, besides their present areas, those of Maine, Vermont and West Virginia. Between the western limits of the original States and the Mississippi River stretched a region practically unsettled, which was claimed by these States. Georgia claimed the territory between the 31st and 35th parallels, which now constitutes most of Alabama and Mississippi; North Carolina claimed what is now Tennessee; Virginia claimed what is now Kentucky, together with an extensive region in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. New York, Connecticut and Massachusetts also claimed territory in the region north of the Ohio, their claims, with those of Virginia, overlapping one another in a perplexing manner.

As the simplest method of settling these claims, the States ceded their western territories to the United States, with the single exception of the area which is now Kentucky, which, instead of being ceded, was erected into a State. These cessions were made by the several States between 1781 and 1802. The area north of the Ohio was in 1788 organized as the Territory Northwest of the River Ohio. The area now constituting the State of Tennessee, although never organized as a Territory, was known as the Territory South of the River Ohio. The State of Tennessee was created in 1796.

LOUISIANA PURCHASE.

Settlement at that time was confined mainly to the Atlantic coast and did not extend far inland, and when, in 1803, Bonaparte offered to sell us that great tract of land which lay west of the Mississippi for a song, no thought of the need of the land itself for our expand-

ing population was in the minds of our legislators when they closed with his offer. They thought of the free and unrestricted navigation of the Mississippi River from its head to its mouth, and it was mainly, if not entirely, for this that they paid the price and received the deed. The price paid was \$12,000,000, and the assumption by the United States of certain claims which its citizens had against the French Government, known as the French Spoliation Claims, the total amount of which was estimated at \$3,750,000.

Louisiana comprised all the basin of the Mississippi River upon the west side of the main stream as far south as the head of the Arkansas in Colorado. From this point the boundary line followed the Arkansas River eastward to the 100th meridian, thence south along this meridian to Red River, and down Red River to what is now the west boundary of Louisiana, which it followed to the Gulf. The area is estimated at 897,931 square miles.

With the acquisition of Louisiana came that of Oregon, which originally comprised not only the present State of Oregon, but Washington, Idaho, and a small part of Montana. Since we had, by purchase, acquired all the country east thereof, this region, which was practically without an owner, fell naturally into our hands.

The entire area thus acquired, including Louisiana and Oregon, comprised 1,171,931 square miles, an area much greater than our original territory.

THE FLORIDAS.

The east boundary of Louisiana, in the extreme south, was indefinite, and for many years after its acquisition was a bone of contention between this country and Spain, which at that time was the owner of the Floridas. This was settled in 1819 by their purchase from that country. The area thus obtained was 59,268 square miles, and the price was \$5,000,000.

TEXAS.

In 1845 Texas, which several years before had achieved her independence of Mexico, sought and obtained admission to the United States. At that time its limits west of the 100th meridian extended north to the Arkansas River and west to the Rio Grande, and this accession of territory increased our area by 375,239 square miles.

FIRST MEXICAN CESSION.

Then followed the war with Mexico, one result of which was the acquisition by the United States in 1848 of what is known as the First Mexican Cession, which comprised the present areas of California, Nevada and Utah and parts of Wyoming, Colorado, New

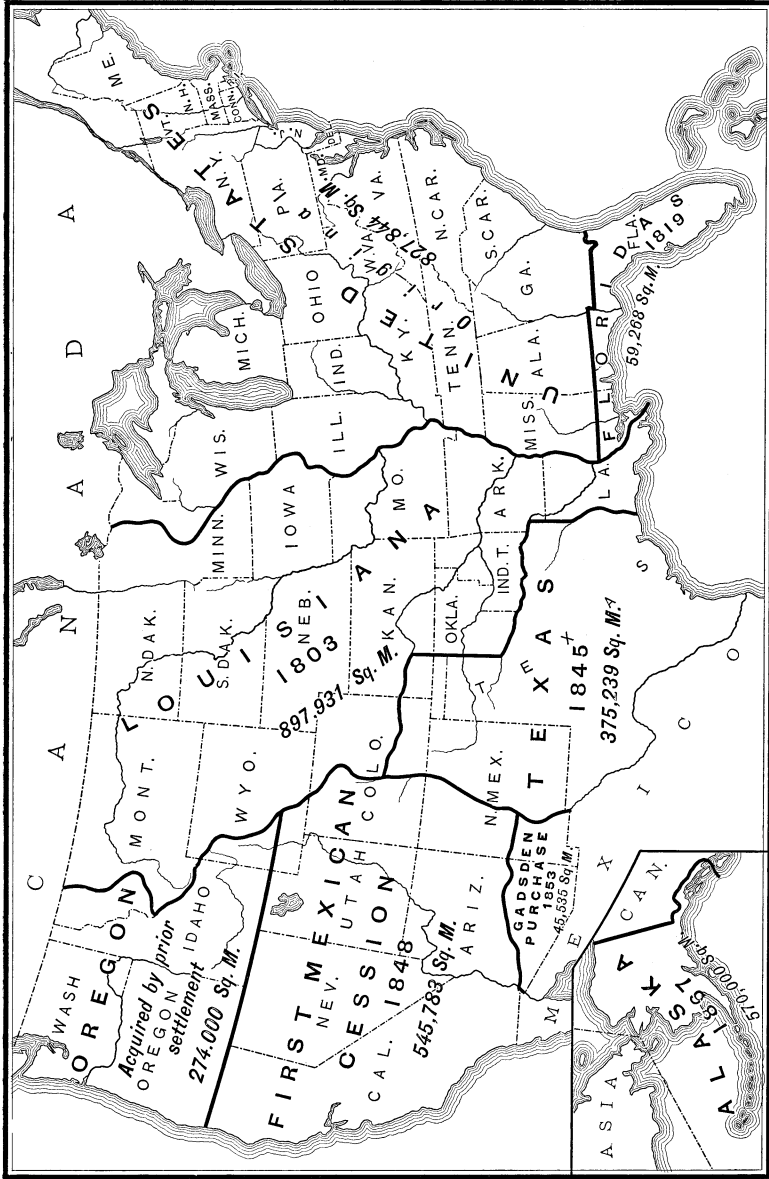


PLATE NO. 1. UNITED STATES, SHOWING ACCESSIONS OF TERRITORY.

Mexico and Arizona. The area of the cession was 545,783 square miles and the price paid therefor was \$15,000,000.

GADSDEN PURCHASE.

Five years later another addition was made, known as the Gadsden Purchase, which is now in New Mexico and Arizona. The area of this purchase was 45,535 square miles and the price paid was \$10,000,000. This purchase completes the main body of our country, the only other cession of territory being that of Alaska, which was purchased from Russia in 1867 for \$7,200,000.

The above facts are summarized in the following table, showing the cessions of territory, with their dates, areas, and the prices paid therefor, and the limits of these different cessions are shown graphically on the map constituting Plate No. 1.

ACCESSIONS OF TERRITORY.

	YEAR.	AREA.	COST.
Original area.....	....	827,844	.....
Louisiana.....	1803	897,931	\$15,750,000
Oregon.....	....	274,000	.....
Florida.....	1819	59,268	5,000,000
Texas.....	1845	375,239	,.....
First Mexican Cession.....	1848	545,783	15,000,000
Gadsden Purchase.....	1853	45,535	10,000,000
Alaska.....	1867	570,000	7,200,000
Total.....		3,595,600	

HISTORY OF THE STATES.

The Government was organized by 13 States. Since then 32 others have been formed and admitted, and these 45 States, with 4 Territories, the District of Columbia and Indian Territory, make up the entire country. Of the 13 original States, 9, namely, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and North and South Carolina, have not been changed since the adoption of the Constitution, excepting perhaps to a trifling extent by reason of adjustment of boundary lines, or, in the case of Maryland, by the formation of the District of Columbia and of Pennsylvania by the addition of what is now part of Erie County. The other 4, namely, Massachusetts, New York, Virginia and Georgia, have been greatly changed, Massachusetts by the loss of the District of Maine; New York by being shorn of Vermont; Virginia by the formation of West Virginia and Kentucky, and Georgia by the formation of Alabama and Mississippi.

Of the 31 States which have been admitted, 8, namely, Florida, Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado and California, have not been changed in area since they first

appeared, whether as States or Territories. All the others have been changed in area since the organization of the Territory, and many of them have sustained numerous changes of area, so that their history is somewhat complex.

Of these 32 States, 4, namely, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio and California, never were organized as Territories, at least under those names. Louisiana was a Territory under the name of Orleans, and North and South Dakota under the name of Dakota.

The following table summarizes the above facts and gives the years of the organization of the Territories and the admission of the States:

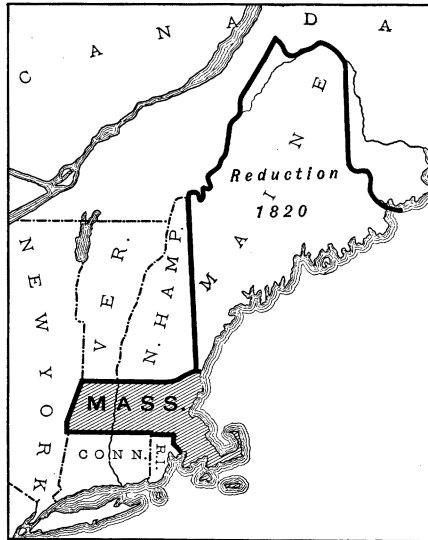
	ORGANIZATION OF TERRITORY.	ADMISSION OF STATE.	AREA.
1. Alabama	1817	1819	Unchanged.
2. Arizona	1863	....	Changed.
3. Arkansas	1819	1836	"
4. California.....	....	1850	Unchanged.
5. Colorado.....	1861	1876	"
6. Connecticut .....	....	Original	"
7. Delaware .....	....	"	"
8. District of Columbia	1790	....	Changed.
9. Florida	1822	1845	Unchanged.
10. Georgia .....	....	Original	Changed.
11. Idaho.....	1863	1890	"
12. Illinois	1809	1818	"
13. Indiana	1800	1816	"
14. Iowa	1838	1845	"
15. Kansas	1854	1861	"
16. Kentucky.....	....	1792	Unchanged.
17. Louisiana.....	1804 (Orleans.)	1812	Changed.
18. Maine .....	....	1820	Unchanged.
19. Maryland .....	....	Original	"
20. Massachusetts .....	....	"	Changed.
21. Michigan	1805	1837	"
22. Minnesota	1849	1858	"
23. Mississippi	1798	1817	"
24. Missouri	1812	1821	"
25. Montana	1864	1889	Unchanged.
26. Nebraska.....	1854	1867	Changed.
27. Nevada.....	1861	1864	"
28. New Hampshire.....	....	Original	Unchanged.
29. New Jersey .....	....	"	"
30. New Mexico.....	1850	....	Changed.
31. New York.....	....	Original	"
32. North Carolina.....	....	"	Unchanged.
33. North Dakota.....	1861 (Dakota.)	1889	Changed.
34. Ohio.....	....	1803	"

	ORGANIZATION OF TERRITORY.	ADMISSION OF STATE.	AREA.
35. Oklahoma	1889	....	Changed.
36. Oregon	1848	1859	"
37. Pennsylvania.....	....	Original	Unchanged.
38. Rhode Island.....	....	"	"
39. South Carolina.....	....	"	"
40. South Dakota.....	1861 (Dakota.)	1889	Changed.
41. Tennessee .....	....	1796	Unchanged.
42. Texas.....	....	1845	Changed.
43. Utah.....	1850	1896	"
44. Vermont.....	....	1791	Unchanged.
45. Virginia .....	....	Original	Changed.
46. Washington.....	1853	1889	"
47. West Virginia.....	....	1863	"
48. Wisconsin	1836	1848	"
49. Wyoming	1868	1890	Unchanged.

In the following pages is given the history of each of those States whose area has been changed since its organization as a Territory. The main facts of the history are expressed by the maps which appear as cuts. In each one the shaded area is that of the present State, while the original area is surrounded by a heavy outline. The additions and reductions in area are so indicated upon the maps.

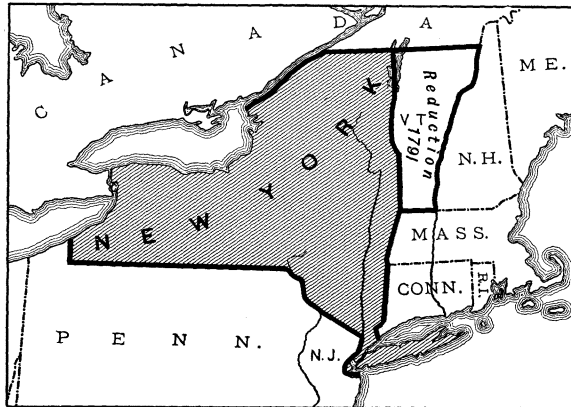
MASSACHUSETTS.

This State originally included Maine, which was cut off from it and made an independent State in 1820.



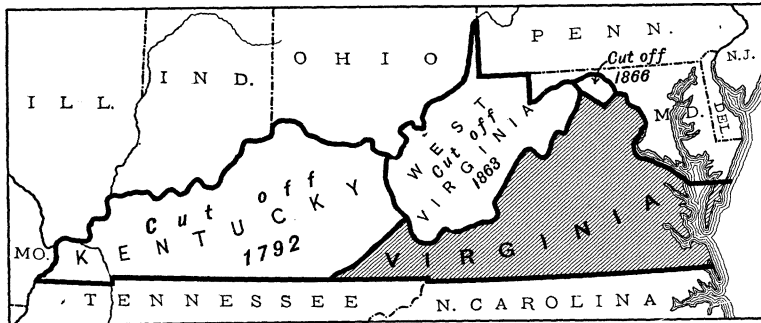
NEW YORK.

New York originally included Vermont, which was separated from it and made a State in 1791.



VIRGINIA AND WEST VIRGINIA.

Virginia originally included the areas of Kentucky and of West Virginia. In 1792 Kentucky was taken from it and made an independent State, and in 1863, in the midst of the civil war, West Virginia was cut from Virginia and admitted by itself. Three years later two counties more were taken from Virginia and added to West Virginia.

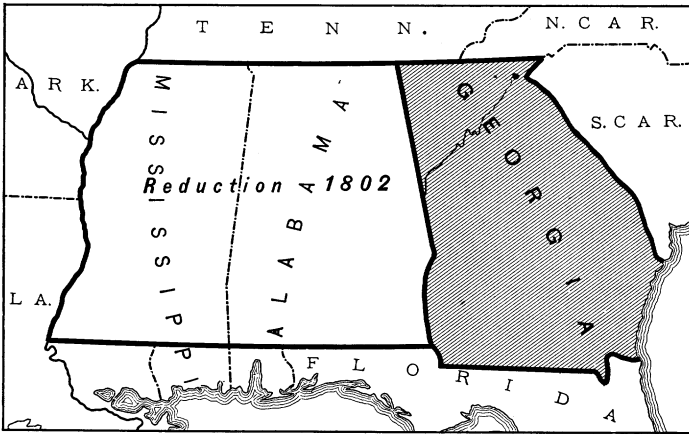


DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

This tract, the seat of the General Government, was originally 10 miles square, part of which was ceded by Maryland in 1788, and part by Virginia the following year. The Virginia part was re-ceded to that State in 1846. It was accepted by the United States and adopted as the seat of government in 1790.

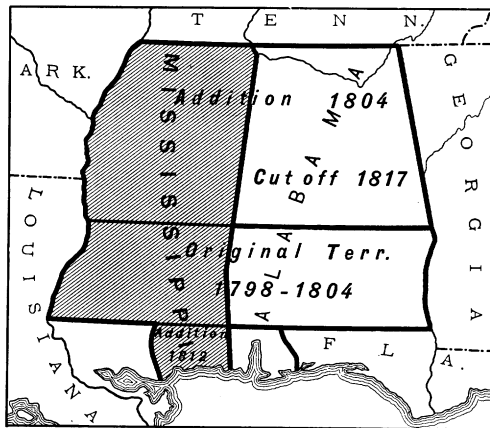
GEORGIA.

This State originally extended from the Savannah River to the Mississippi, and from its present southern boundary to the 35th parallel. In 1802 it ceded the country west of its present western limits to the United States.



MISSISSIPPI.

The original Territory of Mississippi was formed from a part of the lands ceded by Georgia to the General Government: It extended from the western boundary of Georgia to the Mississippi River, and from the 31st parallel to a parallel passing through the mouth of the Yazoo River. The limits of

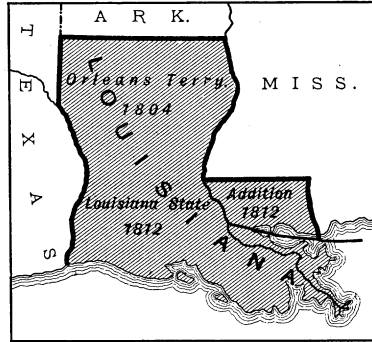


this territory were extended northward in 1804 to the 35th parallel, so that it then comprised the present area of Mississippi and Alabama, with the exception of those parts lying south of the 31st parallel. This territory was reduced in 1817 by the formation of Alabama Territory, which comprised the present area of the State of Alabama, and was increased at the same time by that portion of the present State of Mississippi which lies south of the 31st parallel.

This gave the Territory its present limits, and with these limits it was admitted as a State in 1817.

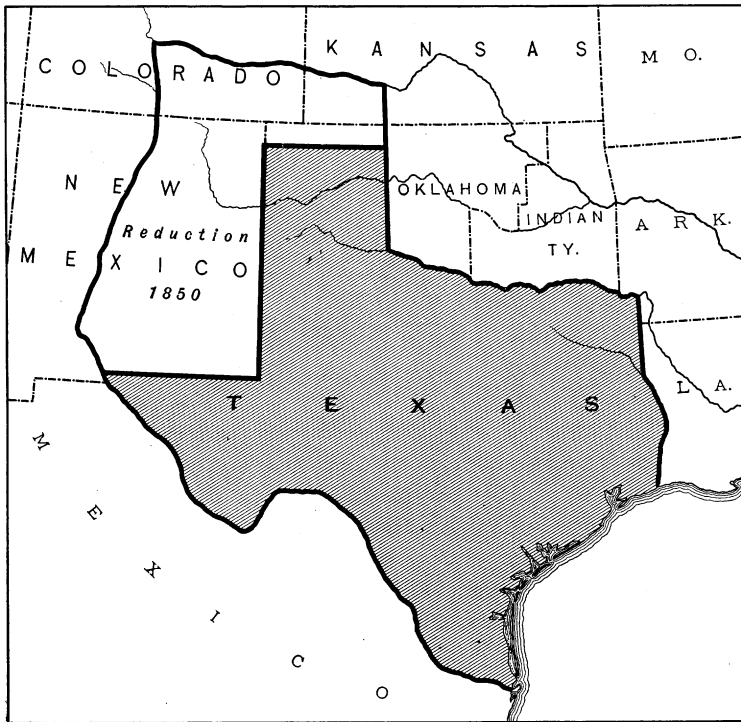
LOUISIANA.

In 1804 a portion of the Louisiana purchase, comprising the present State of Louisiana, with the exception of a small area in the southeastern part, was organized as a Territory under the name of Orleans. In 1812 it was admitted as a State under the name of Louisiana, and in the same year it was enlarged to its present limits.



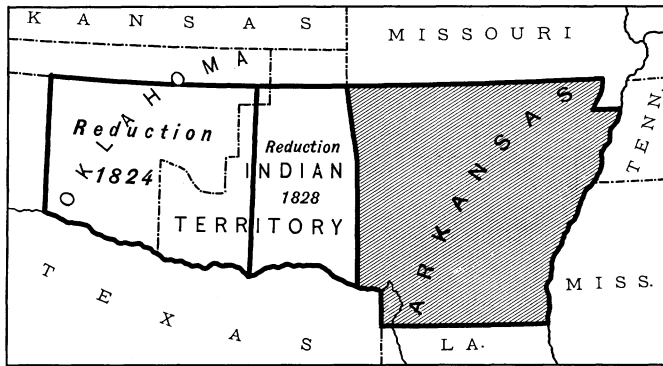
TEXAS.

This State declared its independence of Mexico in 1835, and ten years later was admitted into the United States as a State. When admitted it extended on the west to the Rio Grande, and on the north, west of the 100th meridian to the Arkansas. In 1850 it sold to the United States, for \$10,000,000, the regions north and west of its present limits, which are now in New Mexico, Colorado, Kansas and Oklahoma.



ARKANSAS.

Arkansas was originally a part of Missouri Territory, and was set off in 1819. The territory then extended west to the 100th meridian, our western territorial line. This area was reduced in 1824 and again in 1828, when the present limits were established. It was admitted in 1836.



OHIO.

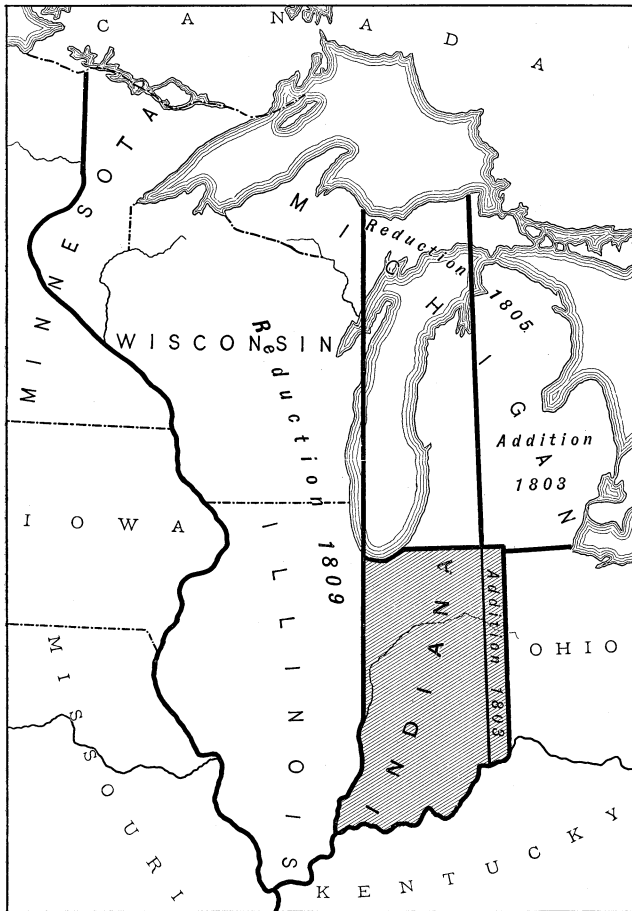
The territory northwest of the River Ohio was divided in 1800, the division line being a meridian through the mouth of Kentucky River. The western part became Indiana Territory, while the eastern part remained Northwestern Territory. In 1803 the part of this south of a parallel of latitude tangent to the south end of Lake Michigan and east of a meridian through the mouth of Great Miami River, was admitted as a State under the name of Ohio. The remainder of the Northwestern Territory was added to Indiana Territory.



Ohio was slightly increased in 1836, the northern boundary being changed to a great circle, running from the south end of Lake Michigan to the head of Maumee Bay. This change is too small to be represented on the map.

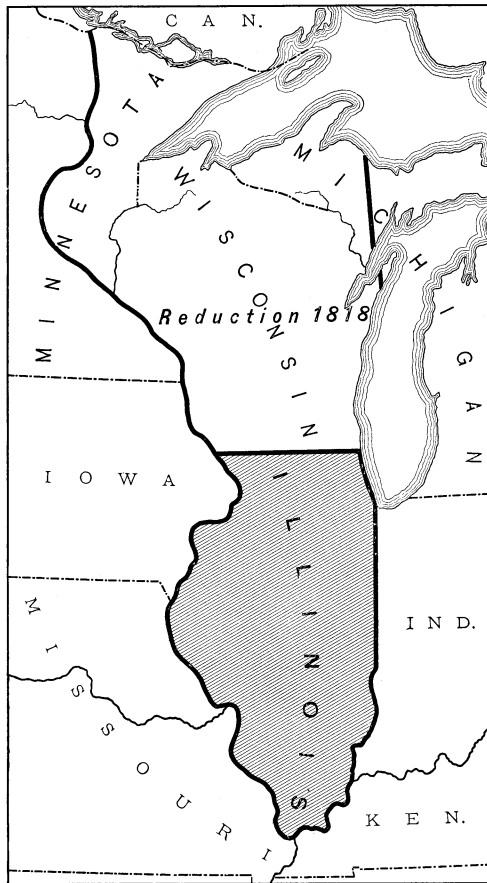
INDIANA.

The Territory of Indiana was created in 1800, and comprised that part of the Northwest Territory lying west of a meridian passing through the mouth of Kentucky River. This was increased in 1803 by the addition of that part of the Northwest Territory remaining after the formation of Ohio. In 1805 the portion north of its present northern boundary and east of its present western boundary prolonged northward was set off as Michigan Territory, and in 1809 all the remainder of the territory outside of the present limits of the State became Illinois Territory. It was admitted in 1816.



ILLINOIS.

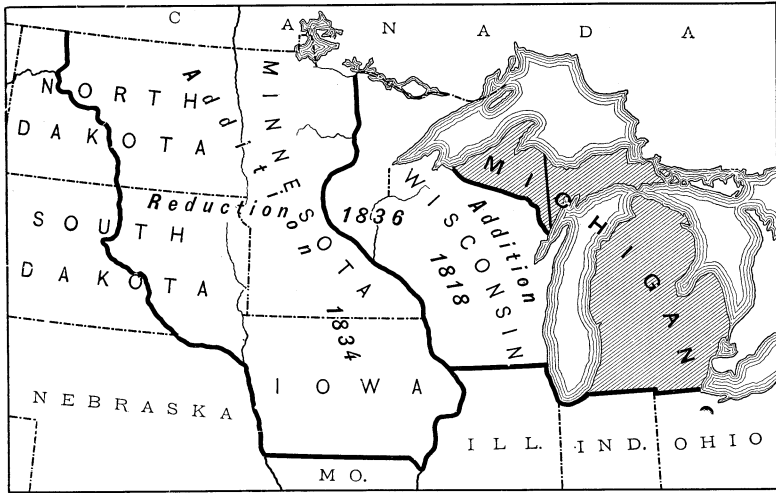
Illinois Territory, originally a part of Northwestern Territory and then of Indiana Territory, was organized in 1809. In 1818, upon its admission as a State, the portion north of its present limits was cut off and added to Michigan Territory.



MICHIGAN.

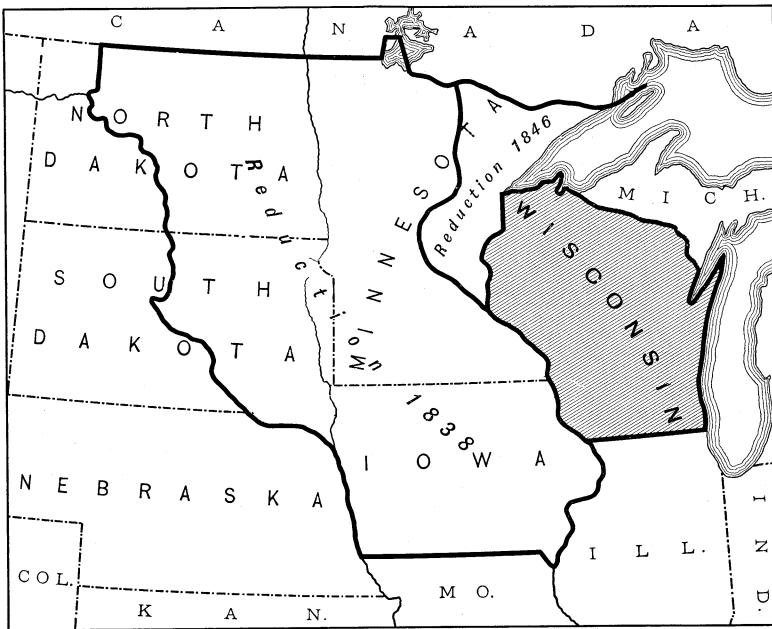
Michigan Territory was organized in 1805, and then comprised its present area, except the western portion of the upper peninsula. In 1818, its limits were extended westward to the Mississippi River, and in 1834 to the Missouri River. In 1836, it was reduced to its present limits, the portion cut off forming Wisconsin Territory,

and in 1837 it was admitted as a State. A trifling change was at the same time made in its southern boundary.



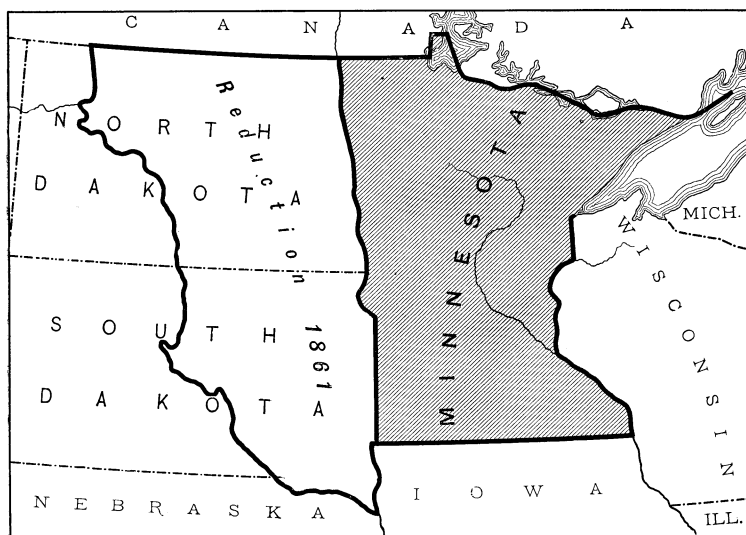
WISCONSIN.

The Territory was organized in 1836 from part of Michigan Territory. It was reduced in 1838 by the formation of Iowa Territory, and again in 1846, the area cut off at that time becoming a part of Minnesota in 1849. It was admitted as a State in 1848.



MINNESOTA.

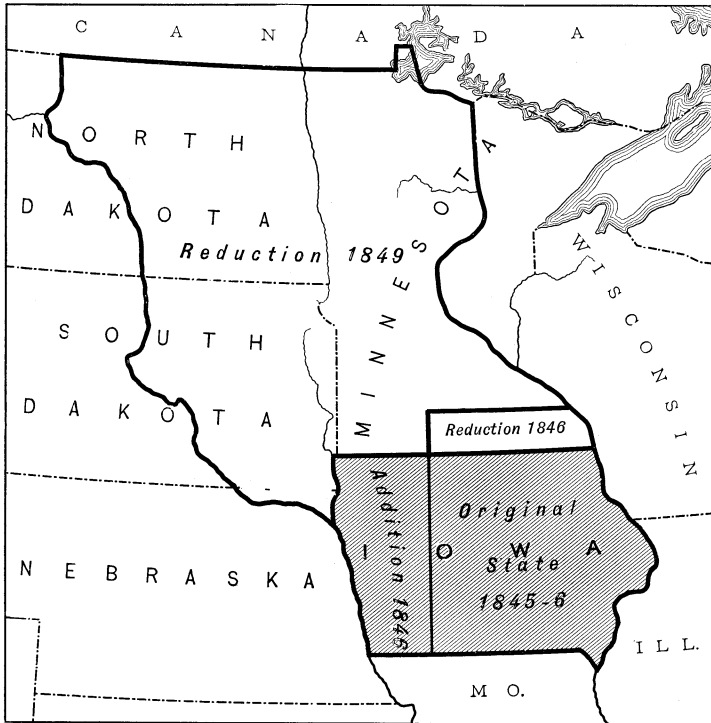
The Territory was organized in 1849 from parts of Iowa and Wisconsin Territories. It was admitted in 1858 with its present limits, and in 1861, the area outside these limits was included in Dakota.



IOWA.

This Territory was organized in 1838 from a part of Wisconsin Territory. In 1845, it was admitted as a State, but with limits very different from those at present, as it extended northward to the bend of Minnesota River, while its western boundary was much farther east than now. In 1846, its boundaries were changed to

those which it has to-day. In 1849, the remaining portion of Iowa Territory was annexed to Minnesota Territory.



MISSOURI.

In 1812, upon the organization of Orleans Territory, the remainder of the Louisiana purchase became Missouri Territory. Out of this great area, the Territory of Arkansas was carved in 1819, and in 1821 the State of Missouri was formed and admitted, with the limits as at present, excepting that the northern part of the western boundary was then a meridian through the mouth of Kansas River, instead of following the Missouri River. The change to its present boundaries was made in 1836.

Meantime, the name Missouri Territory continued to be applied to the remaining area. In 1834, the part of it lying east of the Missouri and White Earth rivers became a part of Michigan Territory, and in 1854 other parts became Kansas and Nebraska Territories, absorbing the remainder, with the exception of a narrow strip lying between Kansas and Indian Territory, which had been

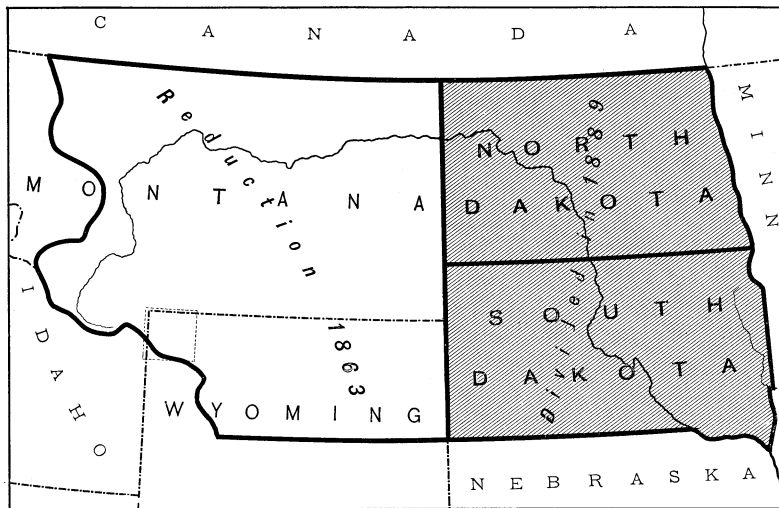
assigned to certain Indian tribes, and became part of Indian Territory and subsequently Oklahoma.



NORTH AND SOUTH DAKOTA.

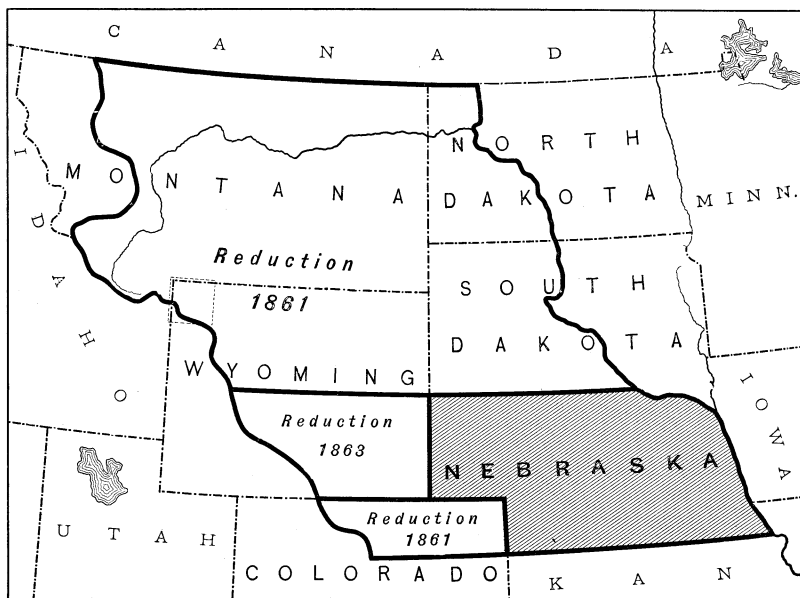
Dakota Territory was formed in 1861 from parts of Minnesota and Nebraska Territories. The formation of Idaho Territory in 1863 reduced it nearly to its present dimensions, and in 1882 a small area in the southeast was transferred to Nebraska, completing

the reduction. In 1889 it was divided into North and South Dakota, and they were admitted as States.



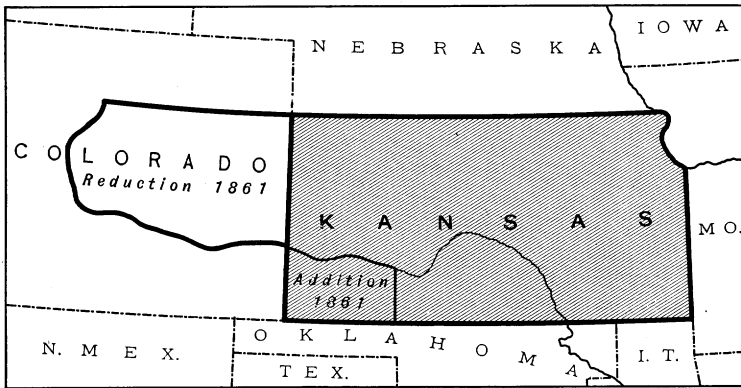
NEBRASKA.

The Territory was formed in 1854, from the northwestern part of Missouri Territory. In 1861 Colorado and Dakota Territories were formed, taking away most of its area and reducing it nearly to its present limits. It was admitted in 1867. In 1882 a small addition was made to it on the north by the transfer of a small tract from Dakota.



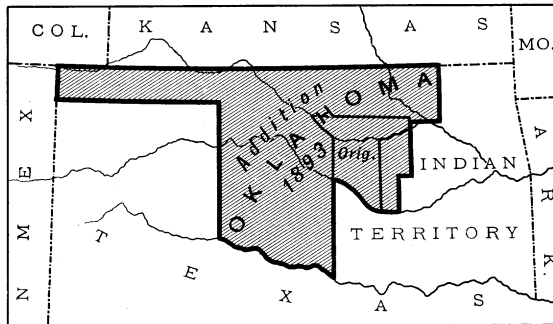
KANSAS.

Kansas Territory was organized in 1854 from part of Missouri Territory. Its western boundary was originally the 100th meridian, the Arkansas River, and the continental divide. In 1861 it was admitted as a State, its area being increased by the addition of the southwest corner, and reduced by the part now in Colorado.



OKLAHOMA.

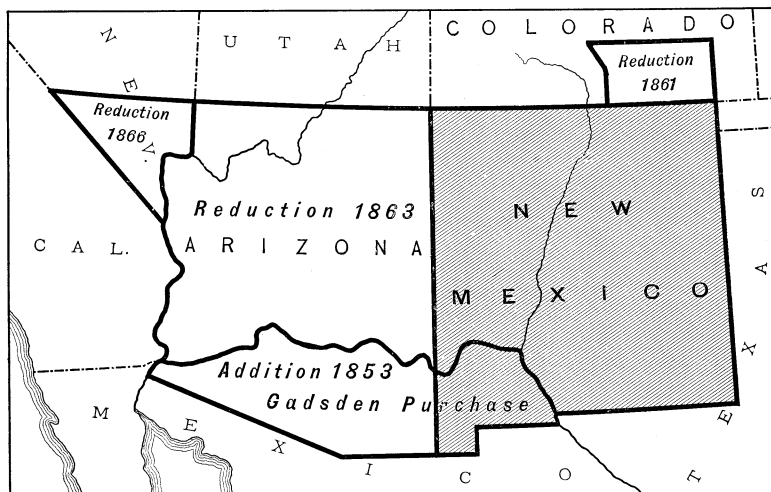
This Territory was organized in 1889. At that time it comprised only a small area in the heart of Indian Territory. In 1892 it was increased by the addition of the western half of Indian Territory.



NEW MEXICO.

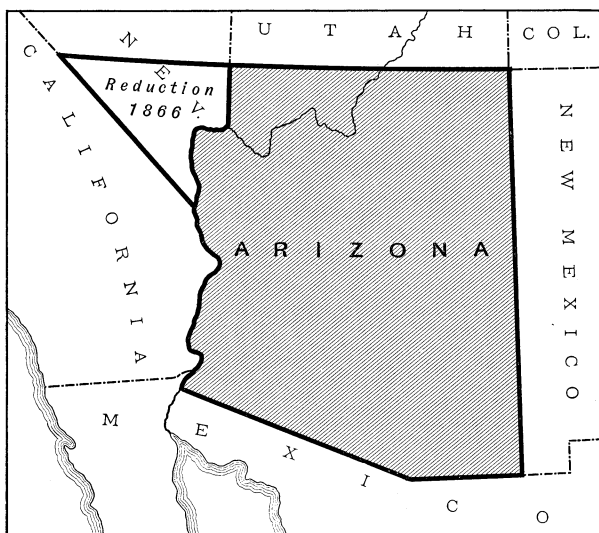
This Territory was organized in 1850, in part from the First Mexican Cession, in part from the Texas purchase. In 1853 the area of the Gadsden purchase was added to it. In 1861 the portion

north of the 37th parallel was added to Colorado, and in 1863 Arizona was cut off, leaving the Territory its present area.



ARIZONA.

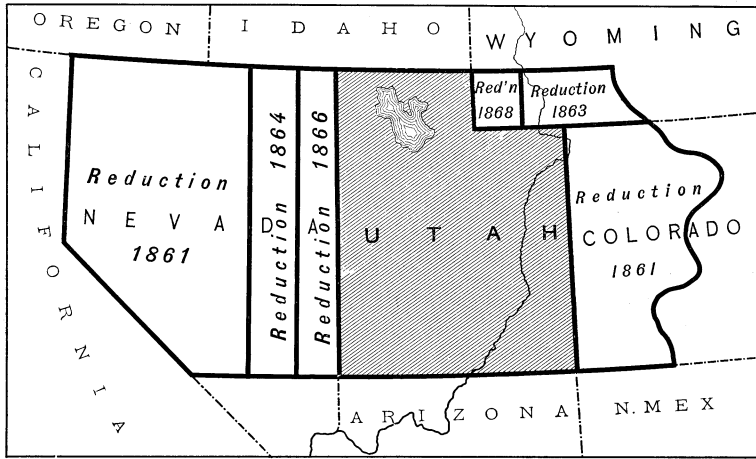
This was organized in 1863, being taken from New Mexico. Originally it comprised, besides its present area, a triangular tract now in Nevada, to which it was added in 1866.



UTAH.

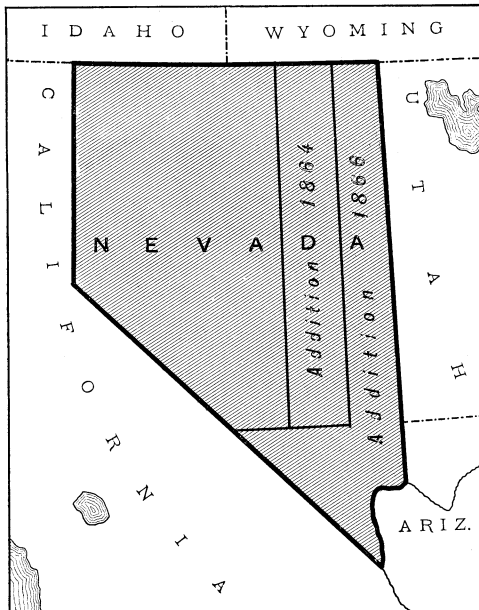
This Territory was formed in 1850 from part of the First Mexican Cession. It originally extended from the summit of the Rocky

Mountains west to the California boundary. In 1861, the formation of Colorado reduced it in the east and that of Nevada on the west. Further reductions were made on the west in 1864 and 1866, both being additions to Nevada, while from the northeast corner a tract was cut in 1863 to add to Idaho, and another in 1868, to increase Wyoming. These reduced the Territory to its present limits. It was admitted in 1896.



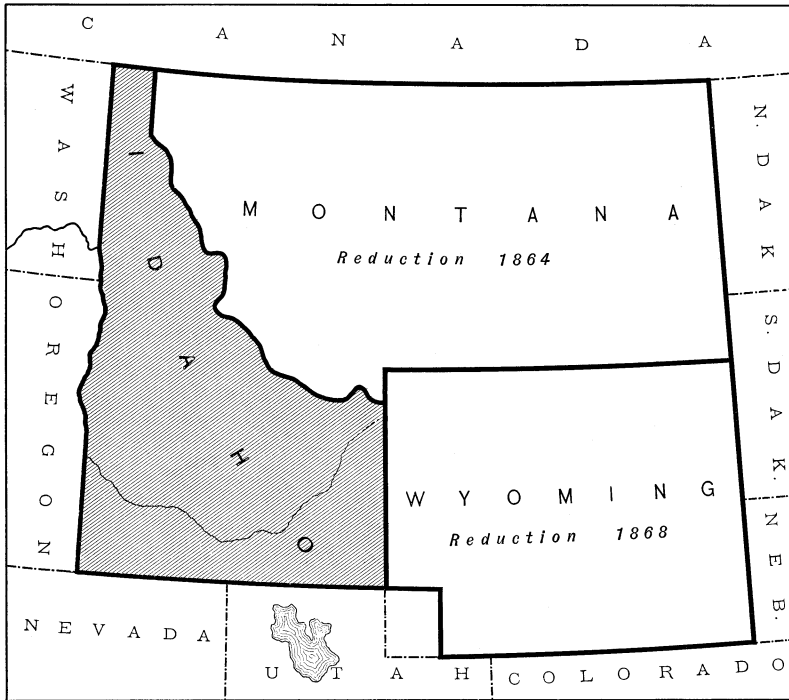
NEVADA.

Nevada Territory was formed in 1861 from the western part of Utah. In 1864 an addition was made to it from Utah, and in 1866 another addition, partly from Utah and partly from Arizona. It was admitted as a State in 1864.



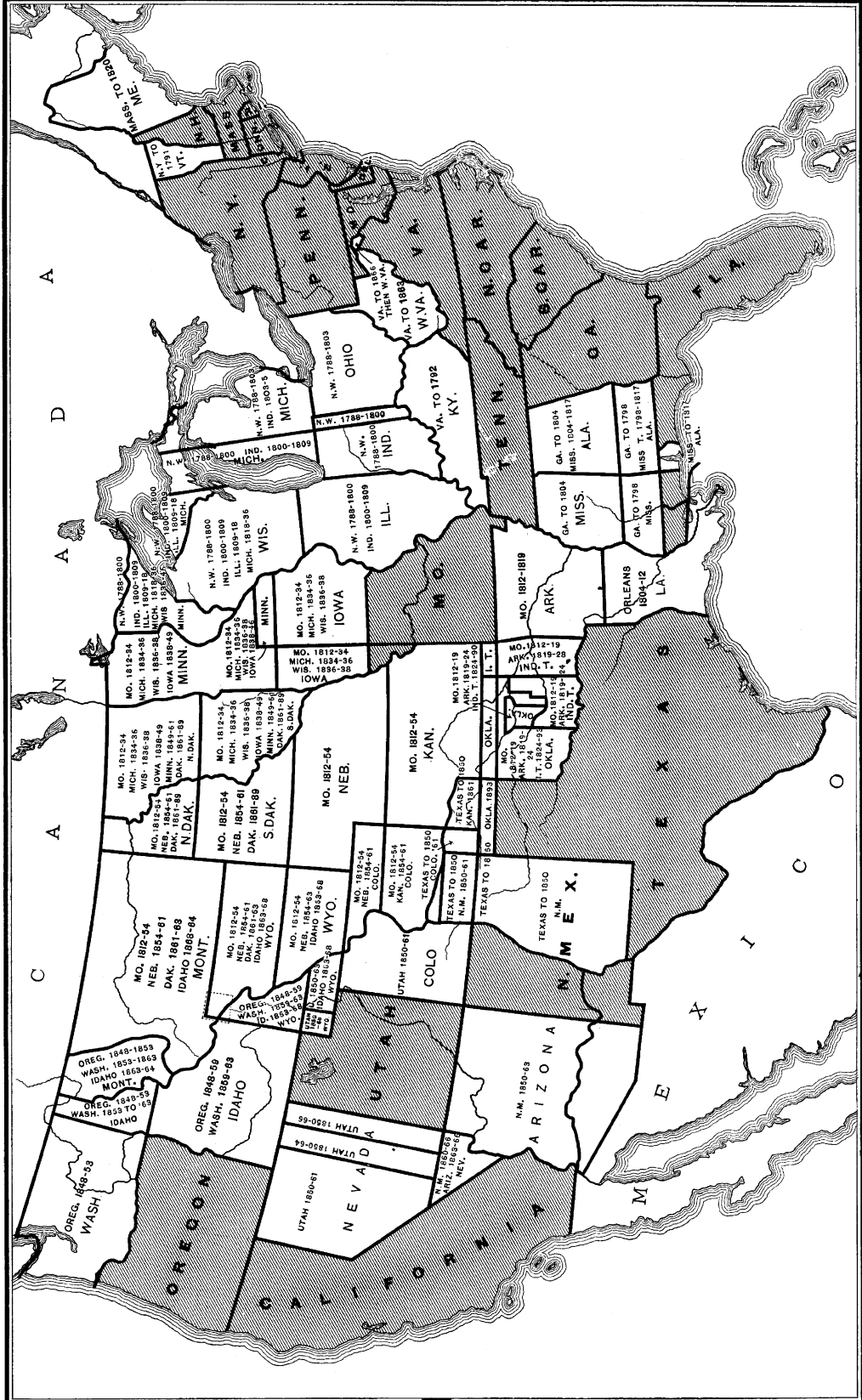
IDAHO.

The Territory was formed in 1863 from parts of Washington, Dakota and Nebraska, and included, besides the present area of the State, all of Montana and nearly all of Wyoming. In 1864, Montana was taken from it, and in 1868, Wyoming. It became a State in 1890.

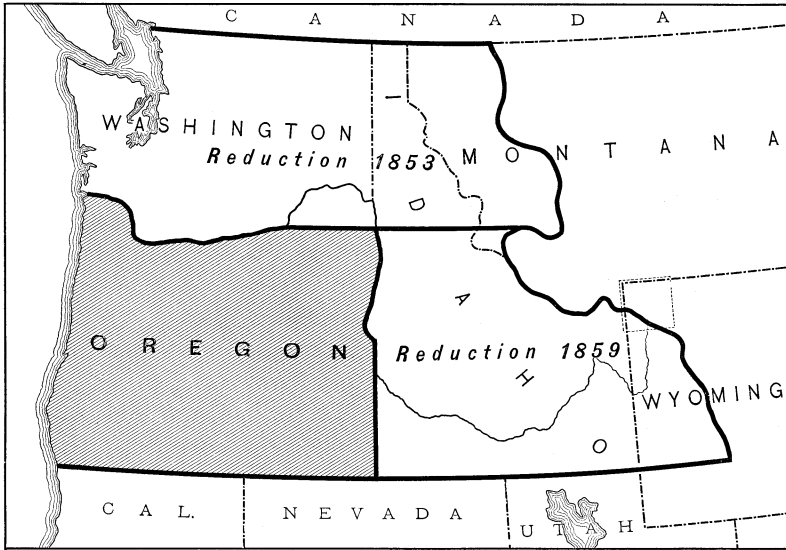


OREGON.

Oregon Territory, organized in 1848, originally included the present States of Oregon, Washington and Idaho, besides the northwestern part of Montana. In 1853, by the formation of Washington Territory, that part of it north of Columbia River and the 46th parallel was taken from it. In 1859, upon the formation of the State of Oregon, it was further reduced by that part lying east

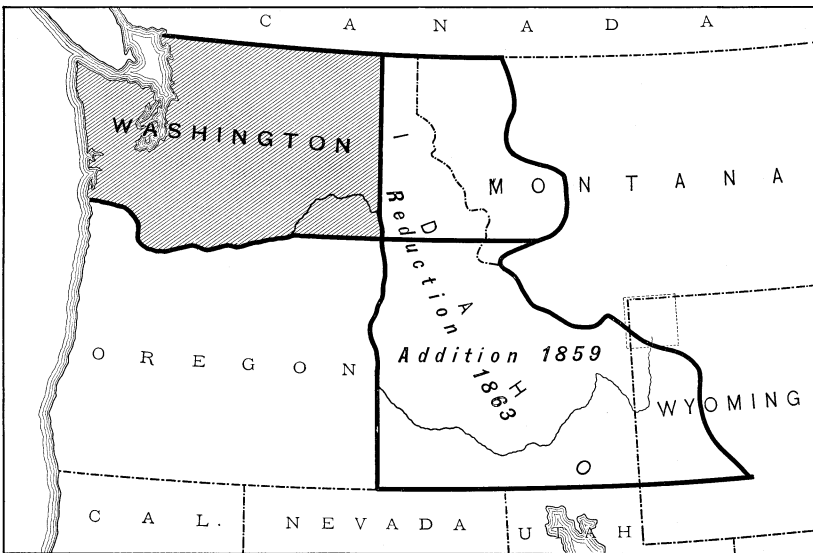


of Snake River and a meridian through the mouth of Owyhee River, which was also added to Washington.



WASHINGTON.

The Territory was formed in 1853 from Oregon Territory and then comprised the region west of the Rocky Mountains, north of Columbia River and the 46th parallel. It was increased in 1859, upon the admission of Oregon, by that part of Oregon Territory which lay east of the present limits of the State. In 1863, Washington was reduced to its present limits by the formation of Idaho Territory. It was admitted as a State in 1889.



Upon the map which constitutes Plate 2, all these changes are assembled. All the above parcels of territory into which the country has been divided by the different State and territorial lines, as they have been shifted from time to time, are here brought together, and the allegiance of each parcel at different times is shown, with dates. The shaded areas are those which have from the first been under the same jurisdiction. Thus the present area of Texas has always been Texas since it was a part of this country. The western portion of New Mexico has always been New Mexico. On the other hand, Kentucky was a part of Virginia up to 1792. Kansas was a part of Missouri Territory from 1812 to 1854. Illinois was part of Northwestern Territory from 1788 to 1800, and of Indiana from 1800 to 1809. A more complicated case is seen in the northeastern part of North Dakota, which has been under many different jurisdictions; Missouri Territory from 1812 to 1834, Michigan from 1834 to 1836, Wisconsin Territory from 1836 to 1838, Iowa Territory from 1838 to 1849, Minnesota Territory from 1849 to 1861, Dakota Territory from 1861 to 1889, when it became a part of the State of North Dakota. These illustrations will enable one to read the map. A study of it will show that a few small areas were apparently for years without jurisdiction. Of these, three small tracts north of the Panhandle of Texas, now in Oklahoma, Kansas and Colorado, are cases in point, and the triangular tract between the Arkansas River and the 38th parallel is another such case.

There are no fewer than 86 parcels of territory represented on this map, besides several which are too small to be shown. Each of these parcels has a different history.

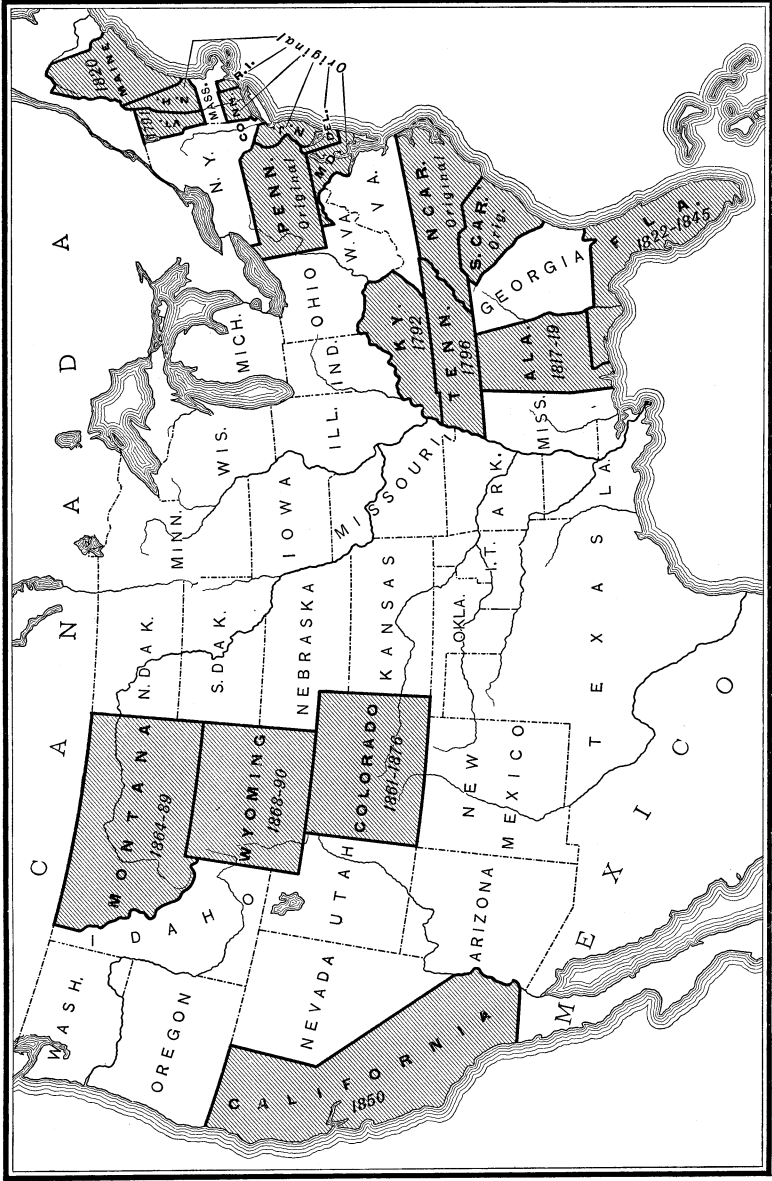


PLATE NO. 3. UNITED STATES, DISTINGUISHING BY SHADING THOSE STATES, WHOSE AREAS HAVE NOT BEEN MATERIALLY CHANGED SINCE THEIR FORMATION.