This thesis is a social history of Chinese immigration into Arizona Territory, specifically Yavapai County from 1860-1911. During this period Chinese immigration to the region peaked and then quickly declined for various reasons. This thesis rejects the usual notion that racism was responsible for the dramatic out-migration of Chinese from Arizona after 1900. The welcome influx of Chinese immigrants to the county transformed the regional culture. The focus of this thesis is not on the traditional discussion of racial inequalities and racism as the arbiter of social class. In the capital of Yavapai County, Prescott's Chinatown was a hub of activity for Chinese and non-Chinese alike. There was a constant cultural exchange between ethnic groups. This inter-ethnic sharing occurred between non-Chinese residents and Chinese residents in spite of attempted interference from the Federal government. The non-Chinese residents of Yavapai County and Prescott Arizona, through their continual encouragement and support of the Chinese residents, flouted the prevailing conventions of anti-Chinese racism. Chinese residents owned land and businesses, fought, gambled, sued and were sued, and fully participated in the cultural, social, and legal activities of the region before and after the Exclusionary Acts of the 1880s.
Like Native Americans, Mexican Americans and Chinese immigrants suffered harsh consequences due to relentless westward expansion by whites in the nineteenth century. Google Classroom. Facebook. The Chinese Exclusion Act was the first significant law restricting immigration into the United States. Why do you think the US government singled out Chinese immigrants in particular for exclusion? How does the experience of Mexican Americans in the West compare to the experience of African Americans in the South in the late nineteenth century? In what ways were their lives similar? In what ways were their lives different? The paper’s expanded version, The Frontier in American History, is constructed in two parts, with an introduction. As an effect of the environment into which it moved, the frontier’s chief characteristic is a process of reversion to savagery followed by a slow recovery of civilization that, because its chief influences are indigenous, cannot be an imitation of European life and must therefore be American alone. If the frontier is the maker of Americans, and they are the makers of their history, then the frontier holds the key to that history. The changes in the frontier were determined by the different geographical boundaries or “barriers” to the westward advance—American Indians, farm land, salt supplies, and the like. Native Americans Immigration in colonial times Immigration in the first half of the 19th century Immigration in the late 19th and early 20th centuries Immigration from the 1920s to the Present. Native Americans. In North America, the most sophisticated cultures emerged in Central Mexico and in the Yucatán peninsula: no high culture comparable to the Aztecs or the Maya developed in the territory of the present US. North American Indians lived in small communities called tribes which consisted of clans (group of related families).