SS.912.A.2 - Civil War and Reconstruction – Example 7 Answer

The Homestead Act, the mass killing of buffalo, and the completion of the transcontinental railroad are most closely associated with the

a. rise of organized labor
b. building of the Erie Canal
c. northern migration of African Americans
d. decline of the Plains Indians

Answer

d. decline of the Plains Indians

The Homestead Act and the transcontinental railroad helped bring white settlers into the Plains. This infusion of settlers further created competition for land and resources amongst the Indians and settlers. One of the side effects of this mass movement of settlers into the Plains was the hunting and mass killing to the buffalo that the Plains tribes so heavily depended on as a staple of their food supply. With their disappearance, the Indians were forced to move on also.