TEAM MEMBERS _____

_____

Comprehension Check #2 Bonus Question

Read the quotation below. As a team, use and cite text sources to answer the questions that follow.

"Foreign immigration prior to 1860 was necessary in order to supply the country with a laboring class which should be able and willing to perform the lowest kind of work required in the upbuilding of our industrial and social structure, especially the making of railroads and canals … But when the country was flooded with ignorant and unskilled foreigners, who could do nothing but the lowest kind of labor, Americans instinctively shrank from the contact and the competition thus offered to them. So long as manual labor, in whatever field, was to be done by all, each in his place, there was no revolt at it; but when working on railroads and canals became the sign of a want of education and of a low social condition, our own people gave it up, and left it to those who were able to do that, and nothing better."

— Francis A. Walker, *Restriction of Immigration*

In your own words, describe why Francis Walker thinks that foreign immigration prior to 1860 was necessary. According to Walker, what changes to the labor force occurred with the influx of immigrants? Why did these changes happen?

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