



A M E R I C A N I N D I A N C O L L E G E F U N D

21 West 68th Street, Suite 1F, New York, New York 10023

WESTWARD
Ho The Wagons!

*"...The fulfillment of
our manifest destiny to
overspread the continent,
allocated by providence..."*
John L. O'Sullivan, July 1845

My Dear Friend,

I am forwarding to you a most unusual bookmark.

I hope you'll find it to be useful and I hope that from time to time you will turn it over and read the sad history of "manifest destiny."

You see, here at the American Indian College Fund we believe that there is only one answer to the tremendous social injustice of manifest destiny.

And that answer in a word is: education.

It's going to take more than just empty promises to right the wrongs that occurred when hundreds of tribes of Indian people were forced off their ancestral land as the U.S. expanded westward.

Was Westward Ho a "divine right?"

Certainly not if you were a Native American and forced to march, for example, in the deadly "Trail of Tears" in 1836.

Was it a "divine right" to restrict Indians to reservations barely inhabitable for human beings?

Please understand that when hundreds of Indian tribes laid down their arms and accepted life on these sparse reservations, they agreed to that surrender in exchange for federal guarantees for their well-being.

But is it a "divine right" to ignore, for all practical