

## **BULLS OF WALL STREET**

### 3rd Grade Template & Requirements

#### **Background Information**

Born in Norwalk in 1820, LeGrand Lockwood made his fortune in New York City. As a young man, he started working at brokerage firm (where they buy and sell *stock*, or ownership of a company) on Wall Street. By age 23 he had become a partner in his own firm. The firm bought and sold railroad stocks, including the Michigan Southern Railroad of which Lockwood was vice-president. LeGrand was so successful on Wall Street, that in 1863 he was elected *treasurer* (someone who looks after the budget) of the New York Stock Exchange. During the Civil War, Lockwood made a trip to Europe to sell U.S. war *bonds* (an IOU from the government) to support the Union. The sale of government bonds and his involvement in the railroad businesses made him one of the richest men in the country.

**Theme:** *What would you do with 10 million dollars (\$10,000,000)?*

The time: 1869. The place: Norwalk, CT. Picture yourself as a son or daughter of LeGrand Lockwood. Imagine that you have just inherited a fortune of \$10,000,000. Remember that the value of money changes over time, and that the same amount would be worth at least 100 million dollars (\$100,000,000) in today's money. In addition to this, you have also inherited the Mansion.

**Using this information**, write a fictional story about your experiences as a son or daughter of the Lockwood family. Be sure to research what life was like in Norwalk and throughout the country during the 1860s.

Questions to answer include:

- Would you sell the Mansion or decide to live in it?
  - Would you use the Mansion for another purpose?
- What would you collect?
  - Art? What kind?
  - Books?
- How would you support your family?
- Where would you like to travel?
- How would you give back to the community?

#### **Requirements**

- 2 typed pages, double-spaced and 12-point font.
- Students are encouraged to research the topic on their own and to visit the Museum to gather information for their story.
- Papers due by Friday **June 9<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Awards and Prizes**

- First, Second and Third prizes will be granted to the writers of the best papers with cash and other prizes.
- The Awards Ceremony will be held on Sunday, November 19th.